

Headrests in Volvo Amazon

WITH MODEL YEAR 1965* VOLVO introduce several significant changes on the 120-series, including the so called *Volvo seat* which has been developed together with medical expertise. This seat is prepared for headrests, which have shown to be a popular and common aftermarket accessory on the earlier model years. From model year 1967 the seats on the export cars to North America are fitted with factory installed guide sleeves, which allows headrests to be easily retrofitted by the resellers without first having to remove the upholstery.



For the same market, headrests become factory installed standard equipment with model year 1968 (other markets, including Sweden, in 1970). Headrests for the rear seat have never been available on the 120-series, but ambitious owners can retrofit rear headrests from the Volvo 140 or 164 (some remodeling of the rear seat backrest is needed). There are two kinds of headrests for the Volvo Amazon, 680126 and 277911. The most common one is 680126 with the wide, straight and clean shape. It is found as factory installed standard equipment from model year 1968 and also in the 140-series model years 1968-1971 as well as in the sports car P1800. The other kind, 277911, was sold as accessory. Headrests are an excellent safety detail as it eases the effect of whip lash injuries.



680126



277911

Retrofitting headrests in a Volvo Amazon is relatively easy and straightforward, but requires some time and some patience. It is not a reversible process since holes are cut in the seat upholstery. The parts needed are listed in the table on the last page.

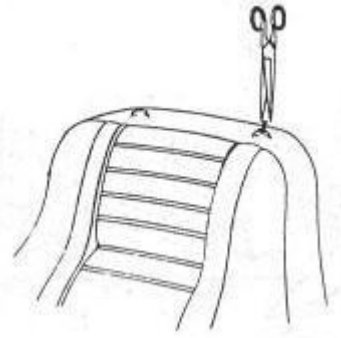
Guide

Work with one seat at a time and start with taking out the backrest. It is fastened with two screws in the fitting on each side. Also remove the knob for the adjustable sway-back support (model years 1968-1970 only). Take the backrest out of the car to have more room to work with. On the lower part of each side there are metal clips that keep the upholstery tight over the backrest (they were hidden behind the fitting). Carefully remove these on both sides without damaging neither clips nor upholstery. Turn the backrest upside down and carefully bend the rails apart using one or two (flat) screwdrivers. Be very careful not to damage the upholstery – it's easily

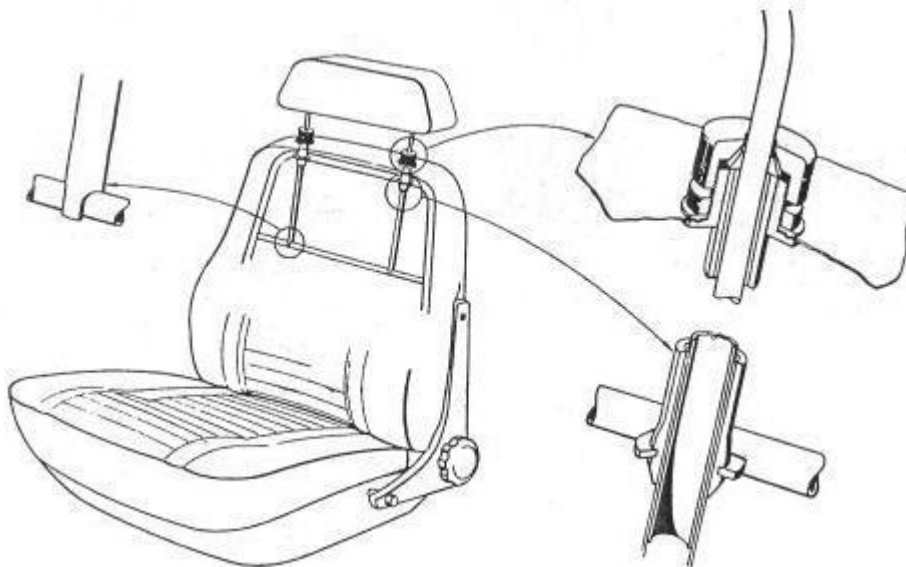
* P 120 from ch.-no. 166400, P 130 from ch.-no. 84600, P 220 from ch.-no. 17950.

done! The leatherette upholstery lies in two layers inside the bar with the two rails keeping it in place. If you got your head rests off of another car, use the old seats to practice on first.

Carefully pull the upholstery downwards and up. Use a sharp knife or scissors to cut through the foam at the top so that you have room to fit the two inner guide sleeves (the long ones made of metal). Once you have those in place, follow with the two outer guide sleeves (those in plastic). Carefully pull back the upholstery and mark with a pen on the inside of the upholstery where the sleeves will end up. Pull off the upholstery again and glue a reinforcement of leatherette around the circles you made with the pen (use textile glue and leatherette from the old seats). This will prevent the upholstery from being teared around the holes you are about to make. Also pay attention to the function of the sway-back support knob while you have the upholstery removed. Now is the perfect time for some maintenance on that.



Carefully pull the upholstery back in place almost the whole way until you see the guide sleeves push against the leatherette. Make sure that the upholstery is placed exactly right and hasn't slipped sideways while you worked with it. Use the pen to mark the sleeves and use a knife, scissors or a razor blade to cut the holes needed in the upholstery. Flip the backrest over and pull the upholstery back all the way. Use a pair of pliers to secure the rails in the bar. Put some cloth or a towel in between the pliers and the upholstery to make sure you don't damage the upholstery. Be careful! If you have a P 130 it will be very apparent if you cheated or did a sloppy job when the seats are folded. Fit the clips on the sides back in place.

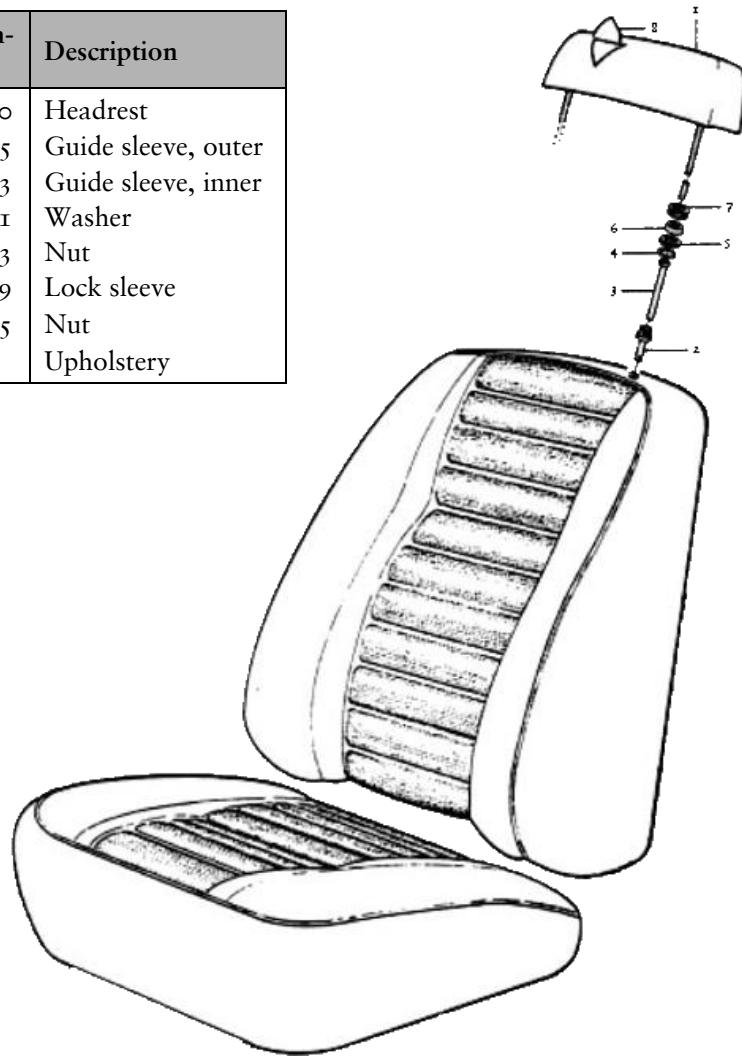


On the top of the backrest, put washer 672017 with the pegs down and secure it with nut 672016 on both sleeves. If the upholstery of the headrests doesn't already match the rest of the upholstery in the car, now is the time to put the new upholstery on the headrests. They are fastened underneath with a similar construction as found on the backrests, only in plastic.

Secure nut 672015 and lock sleeve 672018 on each of the bars on the headrest and fit these into the sleeves on the backrest. Lock them tight in the desired level by tightening the nut and start all over with the next seat. Put the two backrests back into the car and don't forget the knobs.

Parts needed

| Pos. | Qty. | Part number | Description |
|------|------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 680126-0 | Headrest |
| 2 | 4 | 672020-5 | Guide sleeve, outer |
| 3 | 4 | 672021-3 | Guide sleeve, inner |
| 4 | 4 | 672017-1 | Washer |
| 5 | 4 | 672016-3 | Nut |
| 6 | 4 | 672018-9 | Lock sleeve |
| 7 | 4 | 672015-5 | Nut |
| 8 | 2 | | Upholstery |



Waiver. The text in this summary has been prepared with uttermost care but is, despite of this, strictly a guide to be used in conjunction with normal and cautious vehicle shop practice, including the safe operation of electric equipment. I cannot accept liability for your actions. Work smart! Work safely!