

# Step By Step: Emergency Brake Restoration

Over the years an emergency brake gets beaten up pretty good. Paint chipped, boot torn, handle worn, and handle bent out of shape. In this page you'll learn how to fully restore your e-brake to its original look & function.

**PREPARATION:** First be sure you're working on a flat surface and that you place stoppers behind the rear wheels. Next have one large zip-lock baggie to keep the parts together. Buy one can Anthracite (L469) spray paint from Wolfsburg West, one can clear coat, and one can gray primer. Get 180 & 600 grit wet-dry sandpaper.



**REMOVAL:** Remove the rubber boot by sliding it off the handle. Next unscrew the two 10mm nuts holding each brake cable. You may need two 10mm wrenches to loosen the nuts, then remove the cables from the handle holes. Lift the ebrake handle high and remove the long thin shaft & ivory button from the end of the handle. Now check to see if the handle is straight, going down the tunnel. If not, carefully bend the handle until it is straight.



Pry the C-clip off one end of the base stud (above), where the ebrake handle connects to the car. Push the stud out the other side and fit the C-clip again so it doesn't get lost. Now carefully remove the ebrake handle and separate (but attached) tooth'd part.

To remove the handgrip from the handle, lubricate the inner grip, turn the handle upside-down and push in on

the small white plastic button at the rear of the grip, then slide the grip off. Put all the loose parts in the baggie.



**CLEANING:** clean both the ivory push-button & hand-grip with 600-grit sandpaper first then buff to a shine with chrome polish. Wash the ebrake handle with hot soap & water to remove grease & grime.

**PAINTING:** sand the handle with 180-grit sandpaper first then 600-grit. Wash & dry well. Apply two thin coats of gray primer & let sit to dry for 30 minutes. Then apply two thin coats of Anthracite & let sit for 30 minutes. Finally apply two thin coats of clearcoat and let sit overnight.

**REASSEMBLY:** Slide the hand-grip over the handle. Insert the long thin shaft with the ivory button into the handle, lifting the inner tooth part to get the hook underneath. Slide the tooth'd part inside the rear handle while pushing in the ivory button, then release it to hold the tooth'd part in position. Make sure the brake cables go under the base of the handle in the grooves. Insert the base stud thru the hole and add the C-clip. Lower the ebrake handle and insert the cables thru the holes, then use pliers to lift-up on the cables to install the 10mm nuts as far down as possible. When adjusted properly the ebrake should only come up 5-6 clicks. Finally install the ebrake boot and tuck it underneath the carpet.

