

Front Disc Brake conversion for the 1500 cc MGA

By Steve Gyles

(First published on the MGA Register website in 2005)

The MGA brake calliper adaptor is available from Moss UK. It solves the problem that had faced owners of 1500 cars wishing to convert to front disc brakes when the only option was to adapt MGB suspension and brake callipers followed by adjustments to the camber and tracking. This plate mates an MGB calliper with a 1600 MGA brake disc and a 1600 MGA front hub. The work can be completed in a couple of hours at a cost of around £500.00 including the price of a pair of reconditioned MGB callipers. Most of the detail is covered in an MGA workshop manual.

Shopping List:

2 adaptor plates

2 MGA 1600 brake discs

2 MGA front hubs

2 MGB front callipers with pads

2 MGA front hub oil seals

2 MGA front hub bearings (if needed)

Bolts

The following pictures show the stages of the conversion on an MGA 1500 fitted with wire wheels.



All the parts required to convert an MGA 1500 with wire wheels to front disc brakes



Existing drum brakes



Stripped down to the
basic MGA front axle



Calliper adapter plate
bolted on



MGA 1600 brake disc and hub bolted together ready for assembly



All items bolted in place. Check that the disc runs central in the calliper slot (may need to shim).

Check that the flexible brake hose does not overstretch at the limits of steering lock and does not foul any moving parts.

Job done. Now the other side then bleed the hydraulic system.