

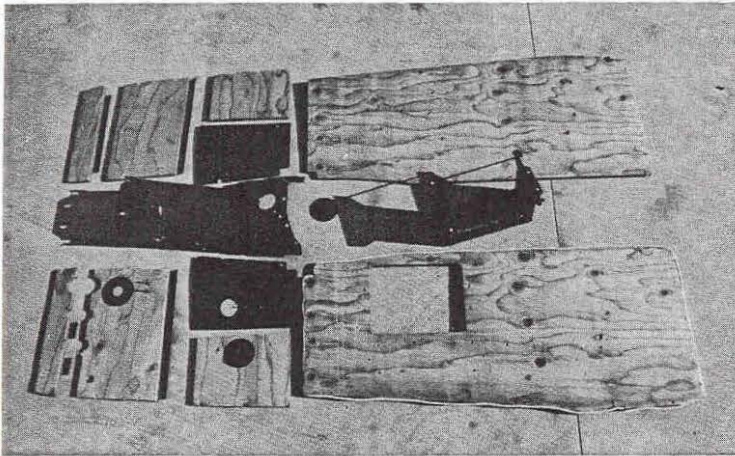
Using what was left of the old wood I made patterns out of butcher paper. I then cut the new floorboards out of 5/8" ACX plywood ("A" means it is nice on one side; "C" means it is so nice on the other side; and "X" means exterior glue). The original floor showed no signs of paint but it did have a fairly uniform brown color to it. I didn't know if this was age or due to a brown stain, so I simply applied clear "Spar Varnish" to each surface. I tried to keep the holes for the screws as small as possible so I drilled 3/8" holes like the factory did. Some of the holes were off so I had to file them larger. You may want to use a 7/16" or 1/2" bit and save a little work. Naturally, for my new floor I used all cad plated hardware. I even used clear "Varathane" on the washers as extra precaution against rust.

As shown on the Typical Details, the original wood had pieces of felt stapled to the edge. This helped to seal out water and air. Since the felt also absorbed moisture, it also made ideal conditions for rusting of the steel lip and contributed to the de-lamination of the plywood. When I installed the new floor I replaced the felt with 1/4" by 1 1/2" foam tape. This stuff is made to seal camper shells to truck beds, is sticky on one side and has slippery teflon on the other. It comes in 30' rolls; I used about 40'.

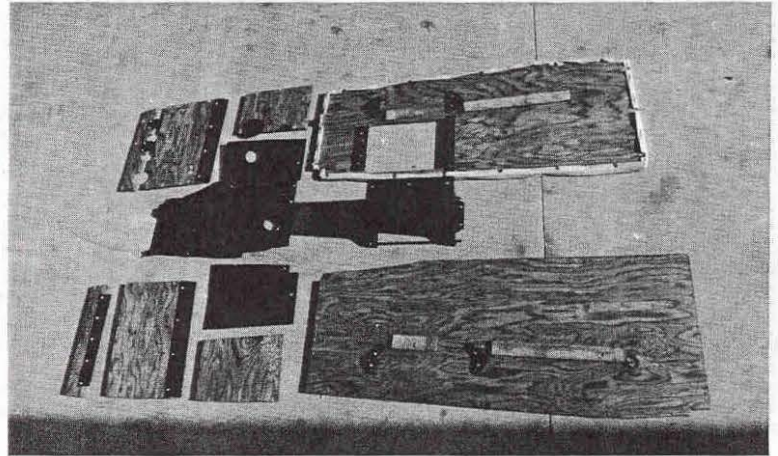
Accompanying this article are pictures of the finished flooring. All of the wood can be cut from one 4' by 8' sheet of plywood. All the metal supports and removable tunnel pieces were originally painted black. Cars with overdrives have

larger driveshaft tunnels than cars without overdrive so the floors are different. Coupe floors are different from sedan floors. Early '34s hung the battery from the floorboards; later cars had a bracket attached to the frame. I used a mudflap (for a big truck) for all my 1/4" rubber pads. I bought fender washers to go between machine screws and plywood. "California" Bill Young made a set of dies to produce the required countersink. Renee and a trusty hammer knocked out about 60 washers in no time (she sells them for \$5.00 each).

So there you have it! If you want a nice low-buck project to consume several weekends, try replacing those floorboards.



View of top of floorboards. Grain of boards is as shown. Finish is clear Spar Varnish.



View of bottom of floorboards. One has foam tape attached. Note metal braces for battery tray and four attaching points for seat legs.