

## **MGB 'B' Series Engine Water Pumps:**

The early MGB's were fitted with a cast iron elbow that was 1-1/8" OD on one end and 1-1/4" OD on the other end. The 1-1/8" OD end was connected via a 1-1/8" ID rubber hose to a water pump with a 1-1/8" OD inlet connection. The other end of the cast elbow was connected to a bottom hose of 1-1/4" ID.

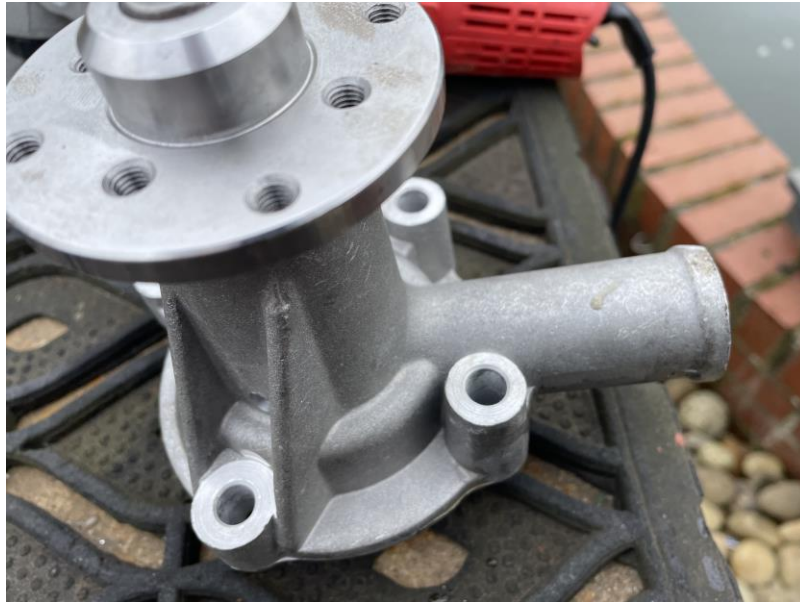


**The cast iron elbow is 1-1/8" on the end that goes to the water pump (top left) and 1-1/4" on the end that goes to the bottom hose.**



**This water pump has a 1-1/8" OD inlet and was fitted to my 18GG engine I also have a spare 18GG engine and an un-numbered spare engine with the same 1-1/8" pump.**

Apparently these early water pumps with the 1-1/8" OD inlet are no longer available and you have to use a replacement water pump with a 1-1/4" OD inlet. The suggested solution is to use a short flexible hose to join the 1-1/4" OD water pump to the 1-1/8" end of the adapter. The problem for me is that I spent over £100 upgrading my coolant system to silicone hoses and I did not want a short piece of normal rubber hose in my upgraded system.



**The raised bead on the new water pump increases the OD to 1-3/8" which is too large for a 1-1/8" ID silicone hose to fit over.**



**The connection made with a flexible rubber hose. It doesn't look right to me.**

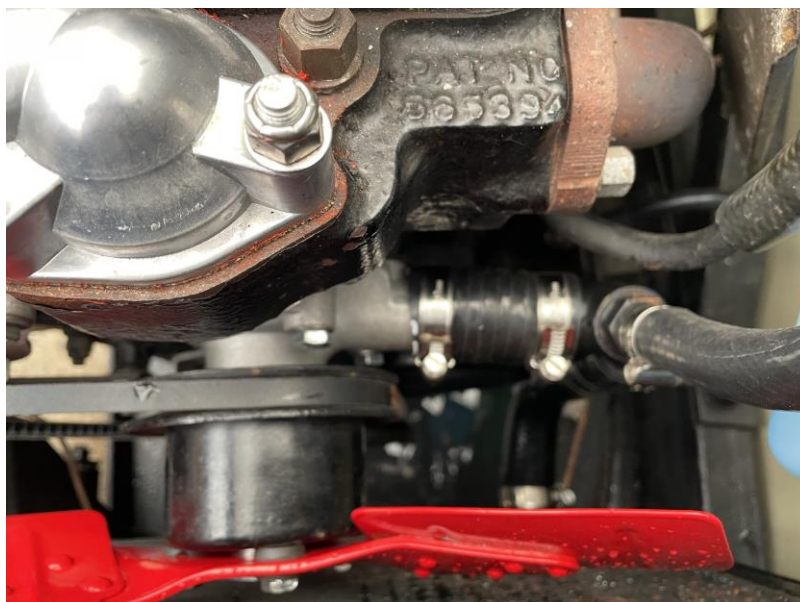
Experiments with a spare piece of 1-1/8" ID silicone hose revealed that it would stretch sufficiently to fit over a piece of 1-1/4" metal bar but would not stretch over the end of the new water pump inlet as the raised metal bead increased the diameter to 1-3/8". The answer was to grind off the bead.



**A Polystrip pad in an angle grinder made short work of removing the bead.**



**Removing the raised bead enabled the 1-1/8" ID silicone hose to fit over the 1-1/4" OD water pump inlet without undue distortion.**



**The new pump in situ on Cracker the TC. Removing the bead has taken away those unsightly bulges (and possible hose damage) in the previous photo.**

**Summary:**

Those owners with an early engine with a water pump that has a 1-1/8" OD inlet connection will need to upgrade to the later water pump with a 1-1/4" OD inlet connection. This effectively means that you are using a piece of 1-1/8" hose to connect a 1-1/4" OD water pump to a 1-1/8" cast elbow. According to the MGB Hive they sell a rubber hose that is flexible enough to do the job. The problem for me was having recently upgraded to silicone hoses all round I did not want to downgrade by inserting a piece of ordinary hose in the system. The silicone hose I used is flexible enough to go over a 1-1/4" water pump inlet but not flexible enough to go over the 1-3/8" raised bead. The answer is to remove the bead. Finally don't forget that water pumps come in two different lengths (forward projections from the block) and you can also buy spacer collars. For efficient fan operation the fan needs to be quite close to the radiator matrix but if possible allow enough clearance to change the fan belt without removing the radiator.