

## **Cracker's Footrest:**

After complaints from Margaret that the carpet was 'slippery' and making it difficult to get in and out (funny that as my sides ok) I made her a simple removable footrest.

The first task was to select some material for the baseboard and in my woodpile was a suitable piece of OSB (Orientated Strand Board, often referred to, incorrectly, as 'Sterling' board). I started with a piece 18" wide x 28" long x 12mm thick. Measuring the distance between the front bulkhead and the seat I reduced the board to 28" long which left room for operation of the seat sliders.

The angle between the left side of the transmission tunnel and the forward bulkhead was set on a woodworking bevel gauge, transferred to the board and the board trimmed at its forward end. Next a waste strip of wood was pushed up against the left hand front corner of the footwell and the different footwell widths were marked on it with a felt tipped pen. These dimensions were then marked on the OSB and cut out with a jigsaw.

With the board in the car Margaret got in and placed her legs in a comfortable position; her heel position was then marked on the board with a felt tip pen. She then positioned her feet for getting out and I made another mark, this was the location for the heel egress batten.

Measuring the footwell height I bent a piece of welding wire to the shape of the envisaged footrest. After measuring the length of the wire I cut out a piece of 1mm thick galvanised plate (I hadn't got any spare aluminium) and using the welding wire as a template it was bent to shape.

After taking the measurements (off the baseboard) for the footrest and heel egress batten, I covered the board with some lightweight carpet; this was simply stuck down with No-Nonsense Contact Adhesive from Screwfix.

The footrest and egress batten were then marked and drilled M6 before gluing ribbed rubber sheet to the footrest with contact adhesive.

The footrest and batten were then clamped to the baseboard and M6 holes were drilled through the baseboard. Using stainless steel button head screws (inserted from the underside so the fixings didn't dig into the carpet) the footrest and batten were bolted to the baseboard with stainless washers and Ny-Loc nuts.



**The completed footrest.**



**In position and ready for use.**

**Summary:**

The footrest has made it a lot more comfortable for Margaret when travelling and after placing her right heel behind the batten she no longer slides forward when getting in and out. The footrest is not permanently fixed and I can easily accommodate a taller passenger by simply lifting the footrest out.

The brown carpet was left over from my previous campervan build and doesn't really match the existing carpet but that's easily rectified at a later date (I intend to do a full re-trim including new carpets). The centre of the 'V' support is handy for extra storage.