

[Table Of Contents](#)

**Acknowledgments**

**Preface**

**Introduction**

**Chapter 1: Evolution of the Convertible Top**

Early Top Frames

Enclosed Cabs

Folding Tops

Modern Innovations

Convertible Top Components

**Chapter 2: Tools**

Specialty Tools

Rivet Tools

**Chapter 3: Suppliers of Convertible Top Parts**

The Haartz Corporation

Hydro-E-Lectric

Electron Top

Metro Moulded Parts

Al Knoch Interiors

Kee Auto Top

TopsOnline.com

Convertible Service

Online Searches

**Chapter 4: Open Cars**

Bolt-On Accessories

The Windshield

The BopTop

Carson Tops

## **Chapter 5: The Corvette**

What Makes a One-Piece Top?

Variations

Top Removal

Bow Measurement

Top Pad Removal

Inspecting the Frame

Top Frame Adjustment

Clean and Paint

Top Latches

Fitting a New Top

Prep the Top

Attach the Top

The Finished Top

## **Chapter 6: Retractable Tops**

Lowering the Top

Retractable Soft Top

Troubleshooting

Old Top Removal

Repair Damage

Adjusting the Frame

Installing the Top

Clean Up

## **Chapter 7: The Scissor Top**

Replacing a Scissor Top

Getting Started

Disassembly

Rear Assembly Removal

Removing the Old Top

Servicing the Frame

Installing the New Top and Components

Fitting the New Top

The Finished Top

## **Chapter 8: Two-Piece Tops**

Verify Correct Elements

Protect the Car

Disassembly

Make Repairs

Installation

Attach the Rear Curtain

Fitting the Top

Weather Seal

Installing the Top

## **Chapter 9: Scratch-Built Convertible Top**

Prep the Frame

Adjust the Top Frame

Measure for Materials

Pads

Rear Curtain

Top Lay Out

Sizing the Deck

Sewing

Window Opening

Binding

Pre-Fit

Hidden Fasteners

Wire-On

Tension Cable

Front Weather Seal

## **Chapter 10: Restoration Repairs**

Tacking Strip

Rear Tack Rail

Rear Bow

Header Bow

Aluminum Bow Repair

Adding Tack Strip

Third Bow Repair

Painting the Frame

Frame Adjustment

Weather Seal Adjustment

Stapling

## **Chapter 11: Power-Top Systems**

Hydroelectric Pumps

Hydraulic Cylinders

Hoses

Servicing the System

Replacing Components

Fitting the New Components

Connecting the Cylinders

## **Chapter 12: Taking Care of Your Convertible Top**

General Care of the Top

Biannual Inspection

Cleaning

Protecting a Vinyl Top

Protecting a Fabric Top

## **Glossary**

## **Source Guide**