

Changing to Head-light glass

Iss. 1

This is a user-guide how to replace the broken head-light glass on a BMW R 1200GS (Adventure). For sure there are other possible ways to do it.



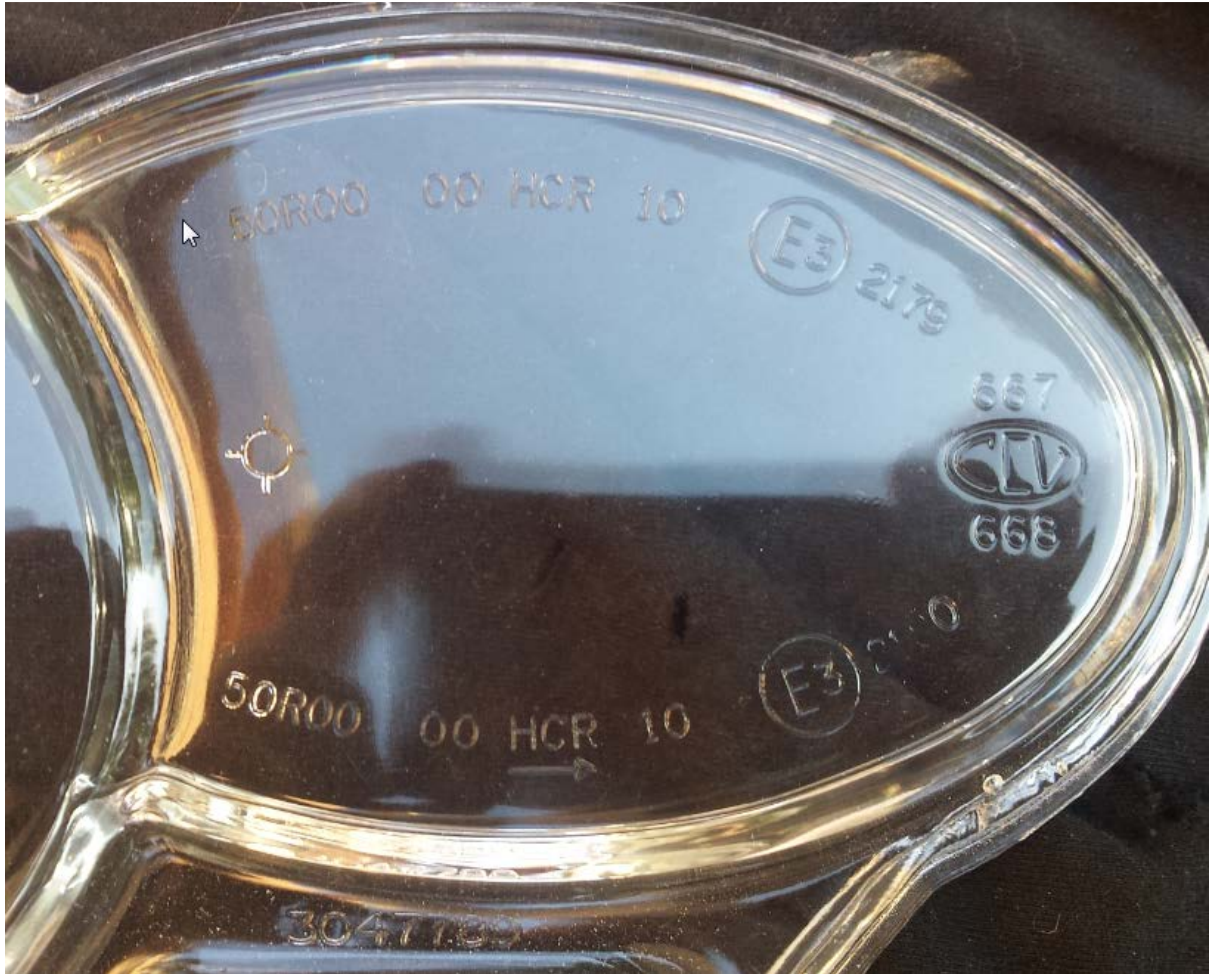
1. WHERE TO GET THE NEW GLASS?

I was trying to get the new glass from my local BMW dealer, but as most of you could imagine without any success. So I made a search on the internet and found some dealers in Italy, Canada and USA. Last but not least, I found a dealer on e-bay.com in China. I was very doubtfully, if the dealer is serious and how the product will look like in the end, not to get a "fake" part, which will not fit on the head-light housing.

Okay ignoring this risk, I have ordered the glass in china via e-bay. The price incl. shipping costs were at 85€ and I made the payment via PAYPAL and got immediately a response that the part is ready for shipping. It took seven working days and I was able to hold in my hands the parcel.

The glass was properly well wrap with air-foil and covered within strong cardboard box. After un-packing it, I was very surprised about the quality of the glass and the fact, that it was not broken at all.





Even the numbers and the figures inside the glass were exactly the same and matched with one of my broken head-light. I have cross-checked them at my friends BMW as well. No difference could be found.

So I thought, if this is fake-product, then it is very good one! But will it fit like the old?

2. HOW TO GET RID OF THE BROKEN GLASS?

SAFETY first I thought. If one little piece of the broken glass will come into my eye, I would not become eye-blind for the rest of my life and give up perhaps the motorbike riding.

So please, wear safety goggles and protection gloves

The tool I have used to get out the sealant and the glass.



- hot-air gun
- small slotted screwdriver
- cutter

and my personal protection equipment.

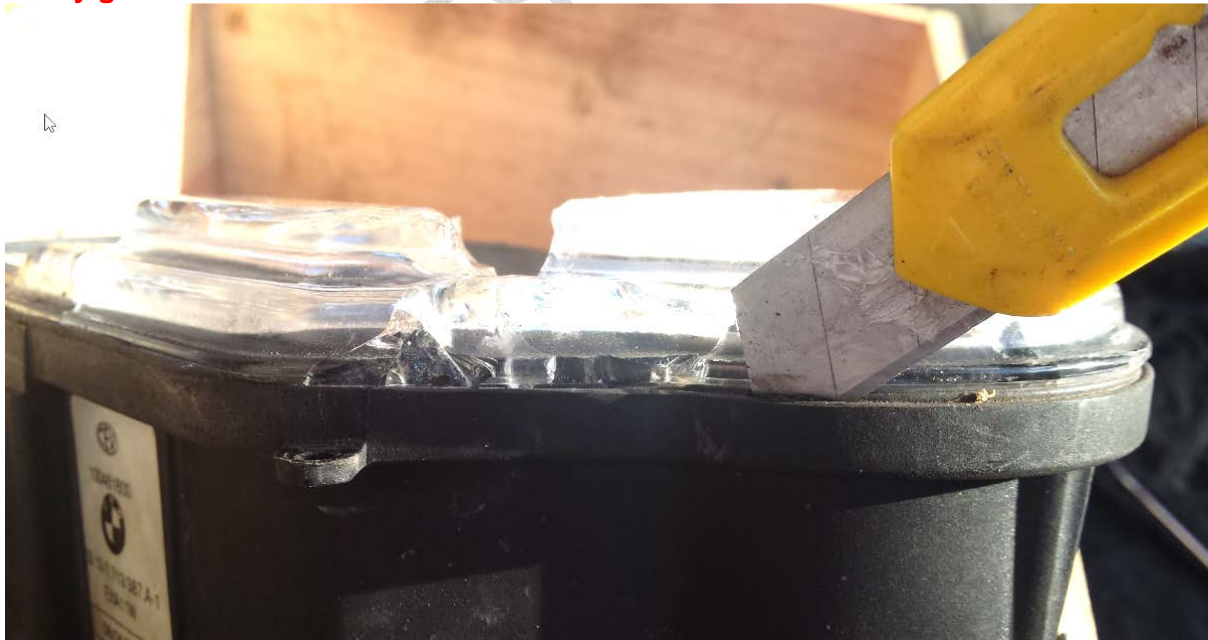
2.1 REMOVING THE SEALANT AND THE GLASS

Use only the min. heat of your hot-air gun which you may have on it. As glass is very good support medium for heat, you will warm-up the assembly within a few seconds. Heat-up the area where you want to start with at the edge of housing and glass. Just a few seconds are enough to get the sealant weak and flexible to start the removable of it.

Don't stay too long on the same position with the hot-air gun, as you will damage the plastic body of head-light permanently.



After the sealant is "weak" insert the cutter into the gap between glass and the notch/groove of the housing. Watch-out that the housing and the glass is very hot. **Please wear your safety gloves!**



Cut off the existing sealant and repeat it several times until the cutter slides through it and you do not feel any resistance from it. If the glass is already damage as mine, start removing piece by piece of the glass. You have to move the piece up-and-down and / or to move it form left to right and until you get it out the notch.

Be aware that the glass will crack and very small piece of it will fly around. Therefore again, it is mandatory to wear the safety goggles.

Once you have started with the remove of the glass / sealant the result should look like this. Continue on removing the sealant with the use of the slotted small screwdriver.



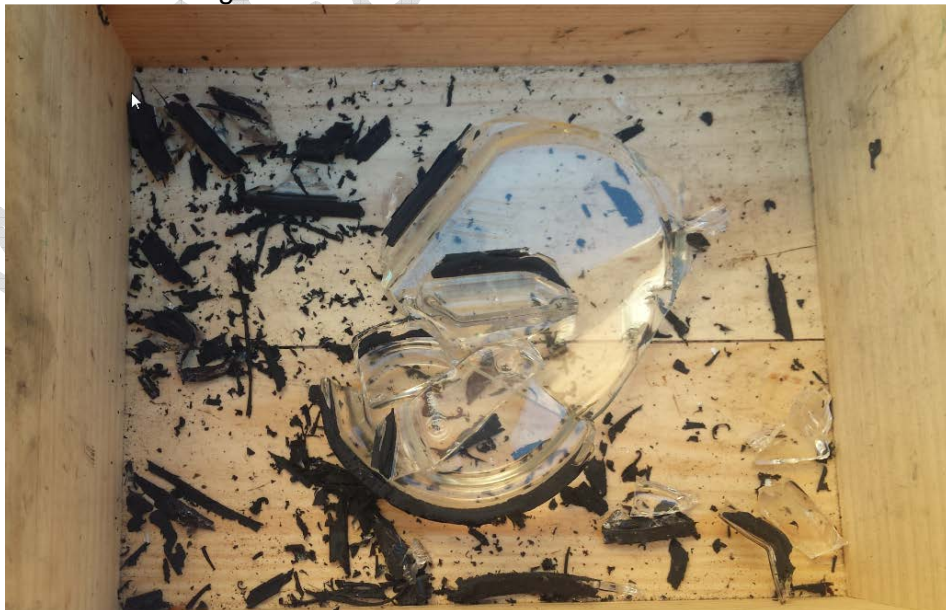
After sorting out all rest, it should look like this. For sure a little rest of the sealant will stay inside the notch and you have to remove by rubbing in out with cotton towel.



The notch has to be cleaned properly well before continue on.

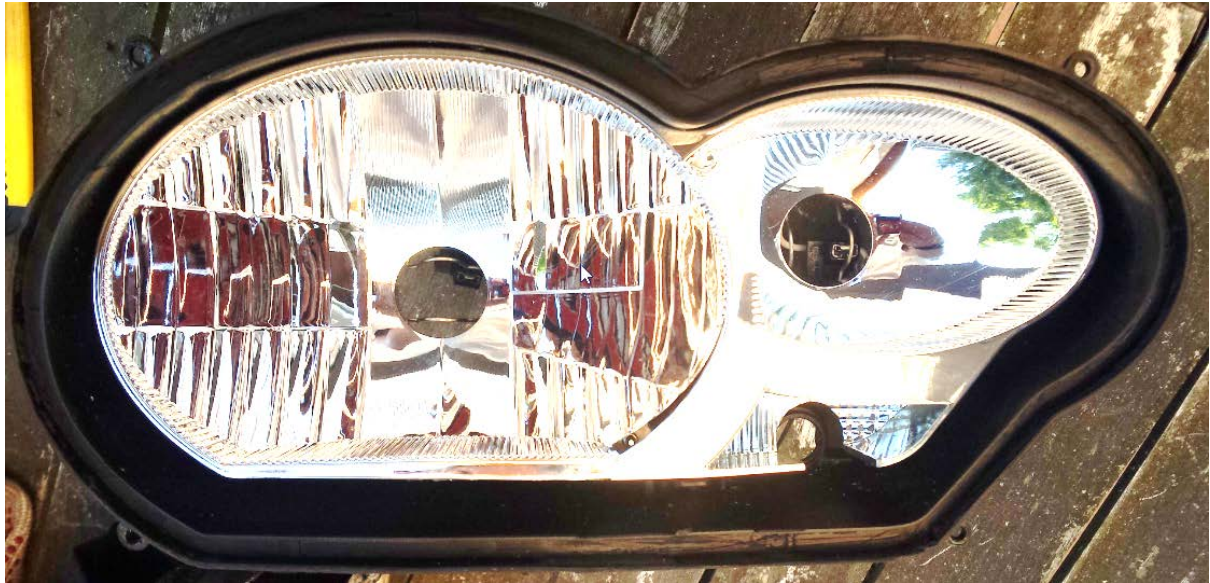


The removed sealant and glass.



3. INSERT THE SEALING AND PUT ON THE NEW GLASS

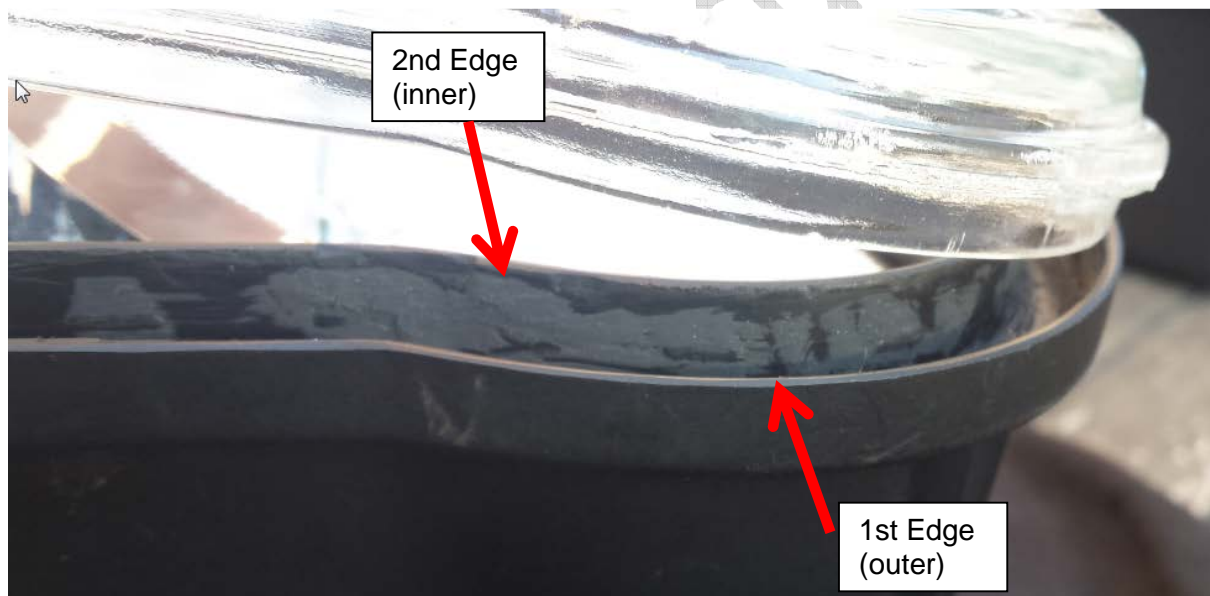
Cleaned notch / groove and so that it is ready to get sealed.



For the sealant, I have use the product from SIKAFLEX. I had this product already in-use for other “sealant” topics and it works fine for me there. You may be able to choose another product for sure. It is just a recommendation.



Please check-out if the new glass will fit onto the housing. Especially the tongue-and-groove joint needs to be checked very carefully, but as mentioned before, the glass and its quality was perfect, so that it fits.



Fill-out the notch/groove with the sealant up the height of the first edge. This will ensure that the sealant would not be able to be squeezed over the second one in the aft, close to the reflector.



Put the new headlight glass onto the pre-sealed housing and press it down, so that the sealant will ooze out at the 1st edge.



Wipe this “oozed” sealant with a cotton towel carefully away so that the rest of it will remain between the glass and the body of the head-light.

Let the sealant dry for min. 24h and assemble it together with bulbs and the little frame, which will put over the sealant as a cover.

I hope the user-guide could help to replace the head-light glass by your own.
I will be not reliable for any damages or injuries which may happen during this work or after when the re-worked head-light is back in-use.

You do it on your own RISK

Best Regards
Boris

4. HOW TO DO A SMART REPAIR ON A CRACK OF THE REFLECTOR?

During my work on the removing of the sealant, I have observed that the reflector has a small crack at the lower edge. I guess it was the result to get back the device for lights adjustment in it proper position.





I used the a special glue form the manufacturer UHU, which should be use for hard-plastics only



I only used the glue only for the aft side of the reflector. To fixate the crack, I have used a fabric tape.