

## Making a Rear Seat Grab Rope for Model A

Following Nick's email about "stay at home" garage projects, one of mine was on my recent acquisition of the Town Sedan, the grab rope on the back of the front seat. The interior of this car is quite pristine except that the grab robe was falling apart. Attached are three photos; before, the removed rope, and after. I searched the internet for a week looking for replacements, none found. I spoke with the owner of Riggs Brothers (the interior company that did work on Rich Volkmer's and Dr. Kilburn's cars), no help, no ideas other than the "out of business" Lebaron Bonney. I went to Bratton's, Mac's and others, no help. The rope is actually strands of smaller rope braided around a 1/4" diameter spring core. You can see a little bit of the spring core in the middle picture, far left. The spring keeps the rope tight to the back of the seat and keeps it from sagging. I decided my only option was to re-fabricate this on my own. I found and ordered macrame cords of several diameters and types along with several Rit Fabric dye colors. I ordered cotton based cord stock so that it would dye easily. After trial and error and making adjustments to color chart mixing options, I was able to dye the white macrame cord to the desired color. I then braided four cords around the spring creating the finished grab rope. It's not a perfect match, but I think its quite good and only judges would notice.

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