



Installing Caddy Buckets and Tail Light Fillers

Tack weld the taillight filler into the bedside using the MIG welder, helmet and gloves. A tack weld is a short, quick weld where you hold the trigger on the welder for just a second, producing a weld that's secure but doesn't build up a lot of heat. If you build up too much heat, you'll warp the surrounding sheet metal and have to do more bodywork.

Work the welds around the panel as you continue tack welding the bucket into the bed sides. Allow the welds to cool in the process; you should be able to put your bare hand flat on the panel before you continue to weld in that area.

Place the Cadillac taillight bucket onto the rear of the bed sides, on the side where the tailgate is located. Trace the perimeter of the bucket onto the bedside using the permanent marker.

Cut out the marks using the cut-off wheel. Then slide the bucket into the hole you just made. You can choose any depth to mount these taillights, so place the bucket where you want it in the pocket, then tack weld on the top and bottom of the bucket to keep it in place. Cut off any excess metal sticking out of the bedside using the cut-off wheel and air saw.

Tack weld the perimeter of the bucket in the same manner as in Step 4. Then grind down all the welds flush with the body using the 80-grit disc on the angle grinder. Do not build up too much heat on the panel with the grinder.

Place a skim coat of the plastic body filler over any welded areas, and sand it down using the 80-grit sandpaper on the sanding block. Shape the filler so that it contours to the body of the truck; it should make the rear end appear like a stock S-10 but with different taillights. Do not apply more than 1/4 inch of body filler in any one spot, as it would be more likely to crack later.