

Technical Service Bulletin



61 Convertible top, cleaning exterior cloth

61 13 21 2010342/6 September 3, 2013. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 61 number 11-14 dated August 16, 2011 for reasons listed below.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
A4/S4 Cabriolet	2003 - 2009	All	Not Applicable
A5/S5 Cabriolet	2010 - 2015		
TT Roadster	2003 - 2015		
R8 Spyder	2011 - 2015		

Condition

REVISION HISTORY		
Revision	Date	Purpose
6	-	Revised header data (Added models and model years)
5	8/16/2011	Revised header data (Added models and model years) Revised <i>Required Part and Tools</i> (Updated materials)
4	6/25/2009	Revised header data (Model years) All sections reformatted
3	12/1/2008	Revised Title to include Repair Group

Convertible top exterior cloth appears soiled.

Technical Background

The convertible top is made of durable fabric that has been treated at the factory with a compound that helps repel dirt and water. With proper care, the cloth will retain its function and proper appearance for a long time. It is normal, however, for the fabric to change color somewhat as it ages. This is particularly true of lighter-color tops.

The cloth tension changes when the top is opened, which can cause kinks. When the top is closed, the kinks improve after a short time. However, these material-related kinks can never be completely avoided.

In addition, dirt and dust can deposit in the kinks. If these dirt and dust deposits are not properly removed in a car wash, they can contribute to poor appearance (Figure 1).

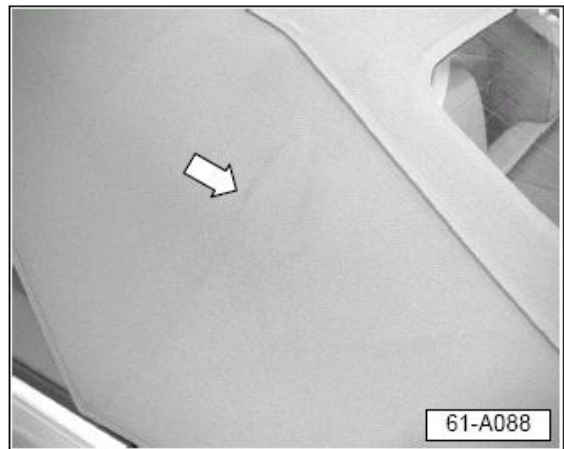


Figure 1. Dust and dirt deposits in the kinks of the top.

Customer care tips

Customers can keep their convertible top looking “like new” longer by following the care instructions below.

- Always open/close the top only when it is clean. Otherwise, particles of dirt can scratch the rear window when the top folds down. These particles can also chafe and damage the fabric over a period of time.
- Remove ice and snow before opening and closing the roof. When removing ice or snow, do *not* use sharp objects or any other tools which could scratch the fabric.
- Only open the top when the top is completely dry. If opened and stored when wet, unsightly marks or mildew can form. If left uncleaned for long periods of time, the top cloth may become permanently stained.
- Never leave the top open for long periods of time. It should be stored in the closed position to prevent discoloration in the folds of the fabric and to allow the creases to smooth out. This is especially important if the top has once been stored when it was not completely dry.
- Remove bird droppings as soon as possible since they contain corrosive chemicals that will cause the rubber impregnation in the top to swell and possibly allow the fabric to leak.



Note:

- Never use solvents on the fabric material.
- Never use a high-pressure power washer to clean the top.

Production Solution

Not applicable.

Service

Do not replace the convertible top for this condition. The top can be cleaned as follows:

For normal soiling:

Clean top with a soft-bristled brush and clear water from a garden hose. Always brush from front to rear in the direction of fabric weave (Figure 2).

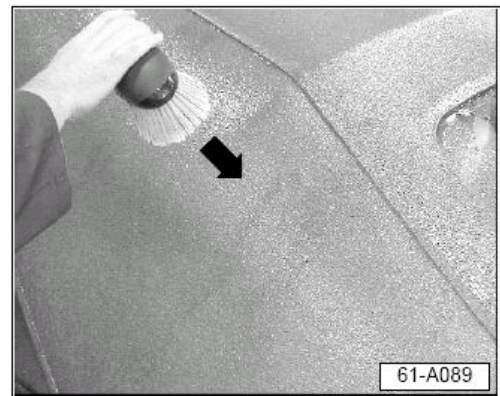


Figure 2. Cleaning top with a soft-bristled brush and clear water.

For very dirty tops with spotted areas:

1. With top dry, vacuum using a brush attachment.
2. Using a garden hose, rinse exterior top fabric thoroughly to remove soil and loose particles. This will prevent soil from re-depositing during the cleaning process.
3. Apply “Active Foam Cleaner” (part number: **00A096301A015**) evenly over entire cloth surface of the convertible top (apply directly to any spotted areas) (Figure 3). Let stand 10 to 20 minutes.



Figure 3. Applying convertible top cleaner evenly over entire vehicle.

- Using soft-bristled brush *only*, brush from front to rear in direction of fabric weave (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Using soft-bristled brush to brush in direction of fabric weave.

- Using a garden hose without attachments (normal water pressure only), thoroughly rinse top with clean water until no soap foam remains (never aim the hose at the same point for an extended period of time) (Figure 5).

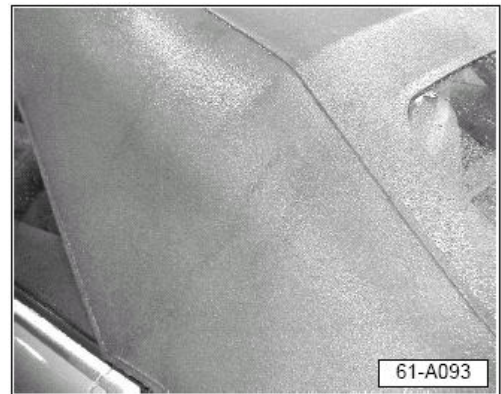


Figure 5. Thoroughly rinsed top.

- After rinsing, allow the top to air dry only. Do not use a chamois to dry the top.



Tip:

- This process may be repeated on very dirty tops.
- Cleaning may be more difficult in colder climates below 54 Degrees Fahrenheit.
- Customer should always refer to their owner's manuals for additional information.

Warranty

This TSB is informational only and not applicable to any Audi warranty.

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Required Parts and Tools

Part Number	Part Description	Quantity
00A096301A015	Active Foam Cleaner	1

Additional Information

All parts and service references provided in this TSB (2010342) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and service manuals for the latest information.