

## AIR FILTER

The original air cleaner element for the Elan is a Purolator unit of British origin. Most owners discard this as soon as examining it in favor of the Fram unit which is available at your friendly dealer (Fram CA 120 PL). This is usually a special order as it is original equipment on one of the Harley Davidson line of motorcycles. Cost is probably \$3.00-\$5.00, depending upon your source (go to Globe Auto Supply, LA). The Fram unit is installed by press fit around the hubs on the two halves of the dismantled air cleaner housing. You need not use the rubber sealing gaskets found with the Purolator for the Fram unit (save them, though, for possible use in changeover to larger unit discussed below). These little filters seem adequate, and do the necessary job of filtering incoming air...but when you consider the fact that many high performance 500 cc motorcycles have units that large, it may be time for a better rig (remember the Elan engine is three times larger, with four times the carburetion).

Two club members are currently running bigger units, one in regular street use, the other in slalom competition. The modification necessary is minor. Fram makes a filter (Fram CA 101 PL) which is slightly larger in inside diameter, approximately the same wall thickness, and roughly half again taller than the CA 120 PL. This new unit is readily available and should improve your Elan's breath (This item should endear itself to us like our other favorite, the Elan fan belt, which also fits the John Deer Tractor and the Cushman Mailster. The bigger filter is readily accessible because it fits that people's choice, the Hudson Hornet). The minimum modification necessary for installation is to drill out the stock retaining bolt (holding the halves together) and replace it with one long enough to accept the additional height of the new filter. If you wish, you may stop here and the unit is ready to go. Due to slight slop around hubs (due to larger ID) this filter will not be a press fit. One way to proceed is to cinch down the two metal halves hoping for an airtight seal between the metal and the plastic filter body. Another is to use the two rubber seals from the Purolator to make the seal without extra pressure. With the element in the filter housing there will be an inch or so filter exposed due to the extra height. If this is not acceptable, or it is desired to protect the filter from water and goo, fabricate a sheet metal lip to make up the deficit, and mount it with sheet metal screws to the bottom half .

Another good idea would be to locate the equivalent cartridge in the low restriction poly foam style. The latter will pass 90% air while the paper will pass 75%.