

SPARE TIRE CARRIER MODIFICATION

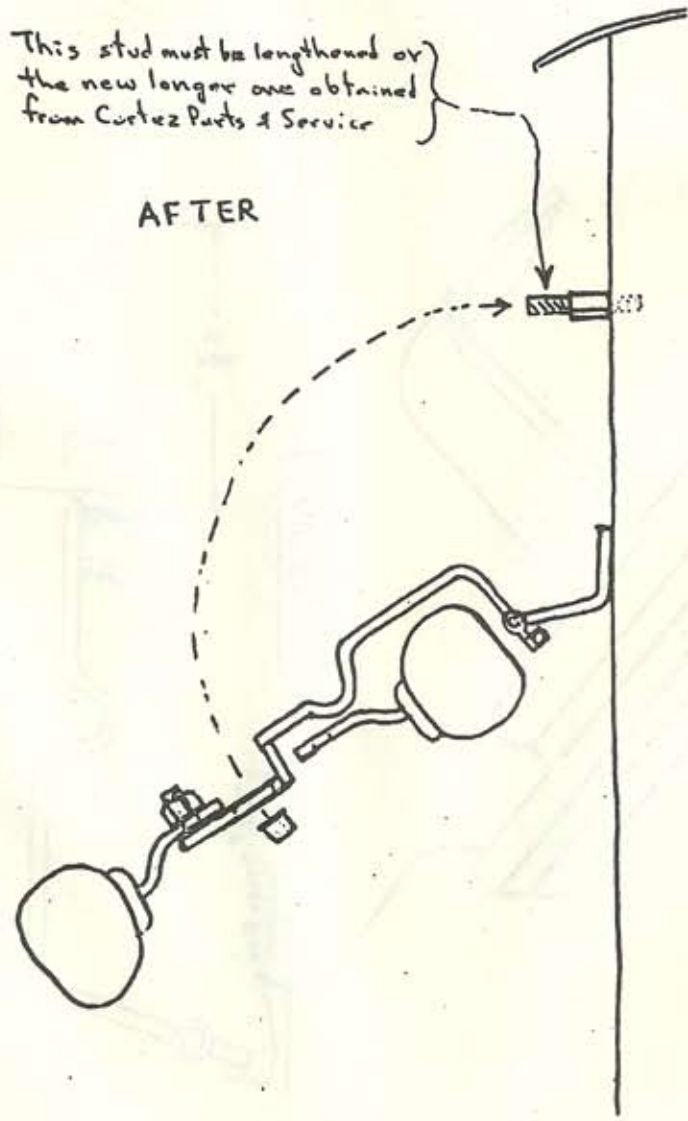
The Cortez Company has a new spare tire carrier designed for the 12R16.5 and it is available through Cortez Service Parts Co. However, this carrier creates an ungainly bulge in the vinyl cover and will soon cause it to tear. At the very least it destroys the smooth fit of the cover.

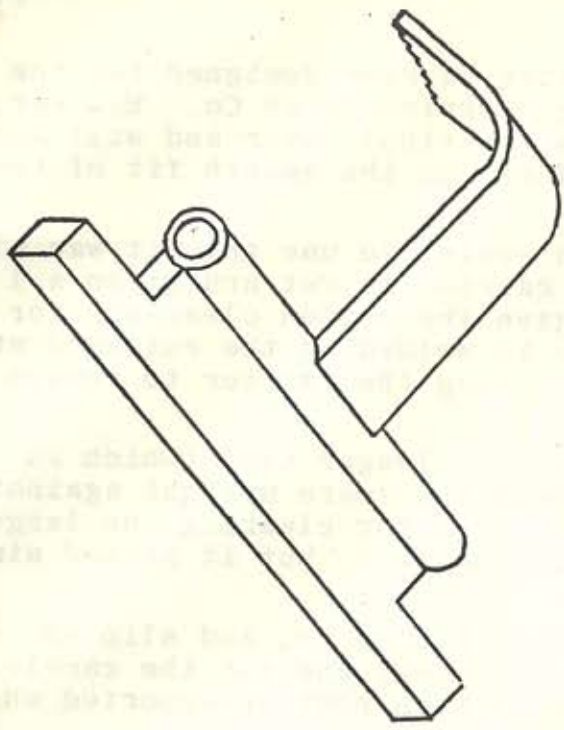
My modified carrier is actually much easier to use than it was with the old 10 x 17.5 wheels and tires. The carrier is cut and given a 1 3/8 inch offset as shown on the sketches to give the needed clearance for the larger tires. A 1/2 x 1/2 inch steel bar is welded on the existing stop giving the needed added clearance when lowering the carrier to remove the spare.

The only other modification is to use the longer stud (which is available from Cortez Service Parts) to hold the spare upright against the back of the coach. Again, this is required for clearing the larger tire. I am sure you could modify the existing stud, but it seemed simpler to get one from Cortez.

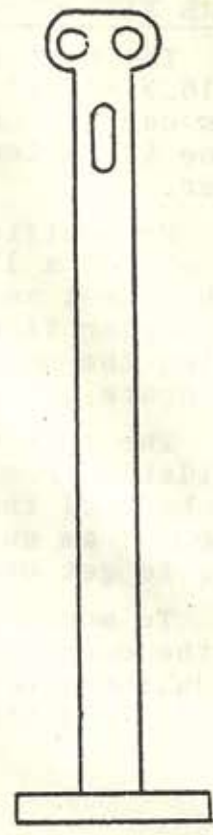
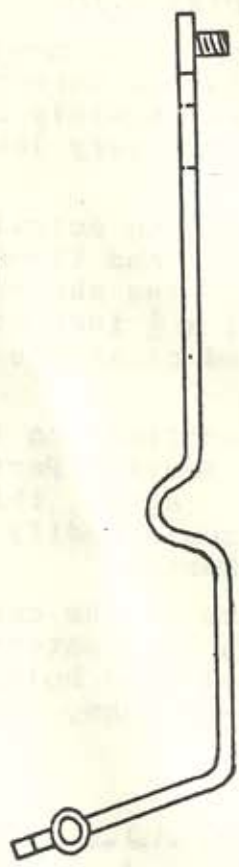
To mount the spare on the carrier, lift the spare, and slip the end of the carrier through the centerhole of the wheel and put the carrier studs through the wheel stud holes. It will then rest unsupported while you install the nuts--or lugs.

Don McCall, Drexel, No. Carolina





BEFORE



AFTER

