

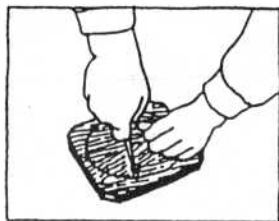
Making The Tailgate, Continued...

73



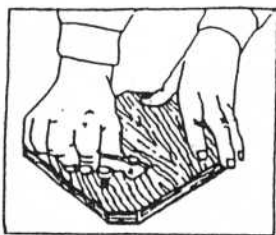
The bolt holes should be one sixteenth of an inch smaller than the bolts, so that the bolts will fit snugly.

74



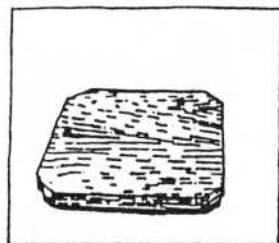
Screwing in the tailgate bolts. The bolts should be threaded right through the wood.

75



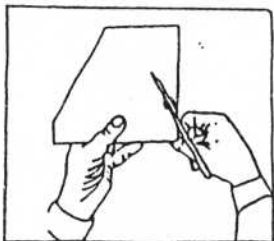
The bolts should be quite snug and difficult to turn.

76



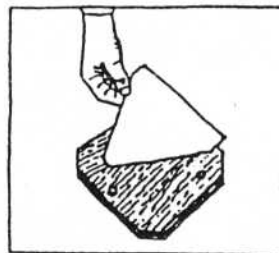
The view from the other side: tailgate bolts poking through the wood.

77



Now we cut a piece of thin (e.g. cereal box) cardboard into a triangle which will cover the protruding bolts.

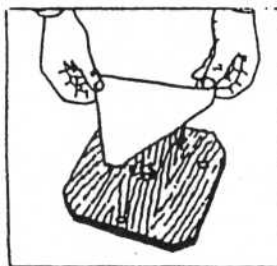
78



The cardboard should cover all three of the bolts where they come through the wood.

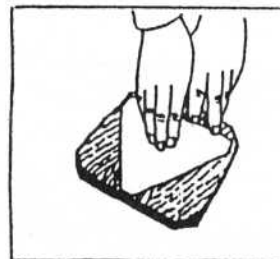
Making The Tailgate, Continued...

79



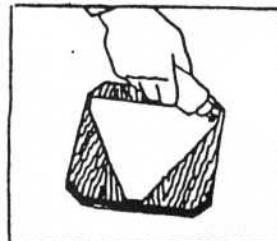
Gluing the cardboard in place. (Apply glue at the center of the cardboard only!!!)

80



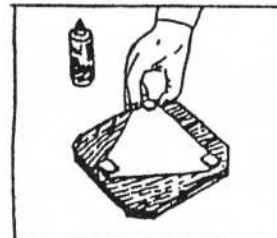
Letting the glue set.

81



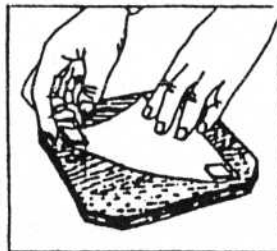
Now we apply glue to the cardboard at the three places where the bolts poke through the wood...

82



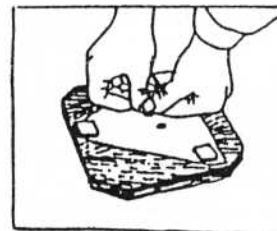
...and glue squares of Masonite (about 1" square) onto the cardboard directly over the protruding bolts.

83



This cardboard protects the mirror from the tailgate bolts if the telescope is dropped on its end. This cardboard must be floppy so as not to reposition the objective.

84



Fixing the position of the cardboard with two thumbtacks. (Double-check first to make sure each Masonite square covers its protruding bolt!)