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Installing BMW E46 M3 Seats in K5 Blazer

<http://www.chevyk5.com/seats/installing-bmw-e46-m3-seats-in-k5-blazer/>

Parts List:

- Brackets
 - 3"x 1.x" channel 17 3/8" long, quantity: 2
 - 3"x 1.x" channel 18 3/8" long, quantity: 2
 - **Note:** the above lengths INCLUDE both ends of channel being boxed in. You can box in or not, but make sure the final length is as shown, or all other measurements will be off.
- Shims
 - 2" x 1.x" x 1/4", quantity: 22
 - 2" x 1.x" x 1/8", quantity: 6
 - These quantities are exactly what I ended up using, but I'd make extra so you can adjust as needed.
 - Obviously you could use 1/2" or even 1" thick shims and reduce the large number of 1/4" shims used, but drilling that would definitely require a drill press.
- Bolts, Grade 5 or 8
 - Bottom of Bracket (mounting to floor)
 - 3/8" 1.5" long, 16 thread pitch, qty: 4 (these are for use in the original holes)
 - 3/8" 2.5" long, 24 thread pitch, qty: 4 (outside)
 - Top of Bracket (mounting to seat)
 - 3/8" 1" long, 24 thread pitch, qty: 8
 - + Flat washers, Blue Loctite (I used Loctite vs. lock washers)

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Basic Procedure:

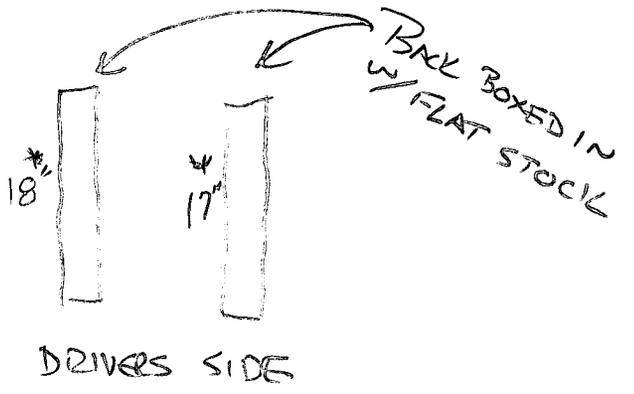
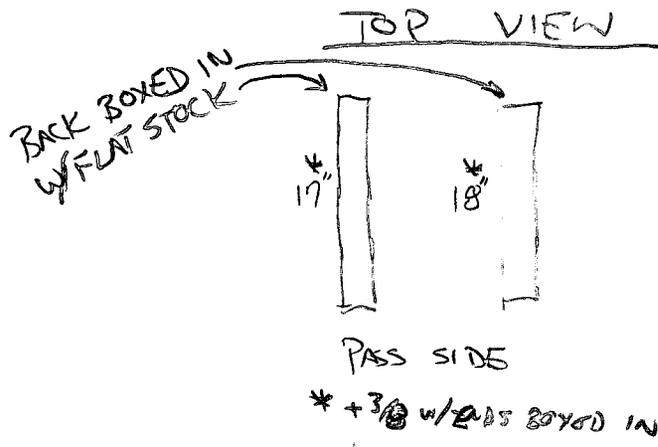
If you notice from the drawings, I tried to drill the holes in the bottom of the inside bracket offset to move the seats out a little (this was before I realize the issue with the driver's side). I don't know that this is really necessary. I was concerned that they'd be too close to the console. In reality, because of the curve of the metal on the inside of the channel brackets, I could only gain 1/2" at most.

I made 2 "jigs" from scrap wood (see photos) with holes the same distance apart as the left and right mounting holes from the bottom of the BMW seats. These I used to verify the distance between my brackets when marking holes for the outside brackets, and to help with leveling.

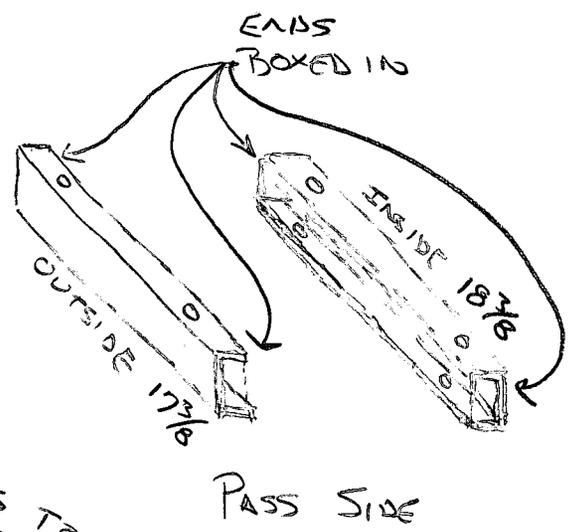
My work area (carport) is pretty level, so I could use a level and adjust the combination of 1/8" and 1/4" shims and get the brackets level and square (required patience!).

I cut the carpet and padding out from under the positions of the outside brackets so that I'd have good solid contact with the floor. The inside, since I used the original mounting position was squashed flat and hard from being compressed under the original brackets since 1988. I also think the padding was pre-cutout from under the original mounting brackets.

- I Drilled the holes in my brackets and shims (verify the spacing of original holes for bottom of inside brackets)
- Cleaned and painted all the steel
- I marked the center of the original seats on duct tape on the floor
- Removed the original seats
- Temporarily mounted the inside bracket on passenger side
- Used "jigs" and square to position outside bracket and mark hole positions
- Verify hole markings look square
- Drill outside holes
- Cut out carpet under shims on outside
- Play around with shims to get brackets level, etc.
 - Final shim configuration
 - Outside Front: 5 x 1/4"
 - Outside Rear: 4 x 1/4" + 1 x 1/8"
 - Inside Front and Rear: 2 x 1/4"
 - Under body Outside Bolts: 2 x 1/8"
- Mount brackets
- Mount seat
- Move to driver's side and basically repeat.



QTY	ITEM	LENGTH
2	3x1 CHANNEL*	17 3/8" w/ ENDS BOXED IN
2	3x1 CHANNEL*	18 3/8" w/ ENDS BOXED IN
28	1x1/4" FLAT STOCK*	2"
8	1x1/8" FLAT STOCK*	2"



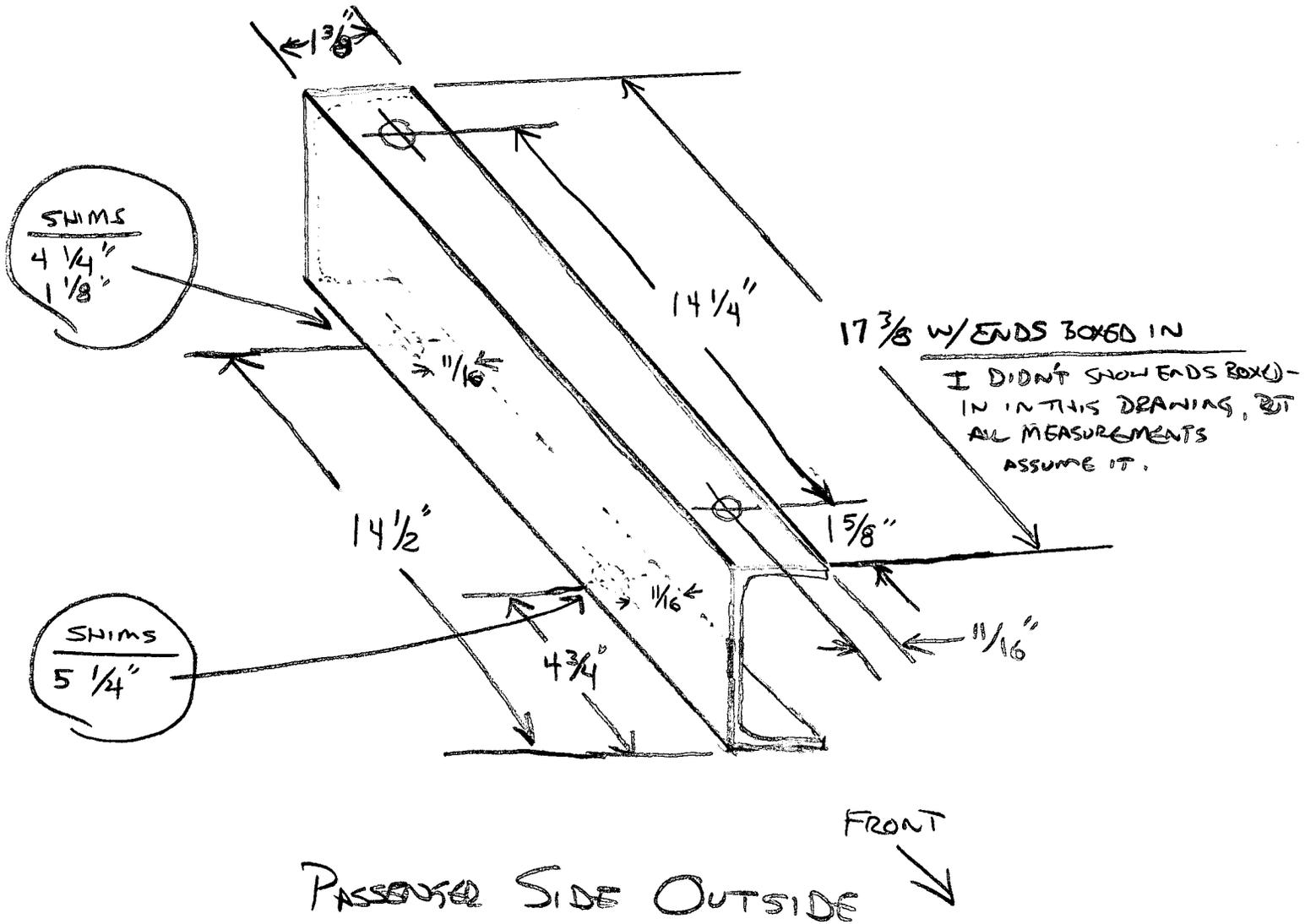
SHIMS TO USE BETWEEN BRACKETS & FLOOR AND AS BOLT HOLES SUPPORT UNDER TRUCK ON OUTSIDE BRACKETS AS THEY'RE NOT USING ORIG REINFORCED MOUNTING HOLES.

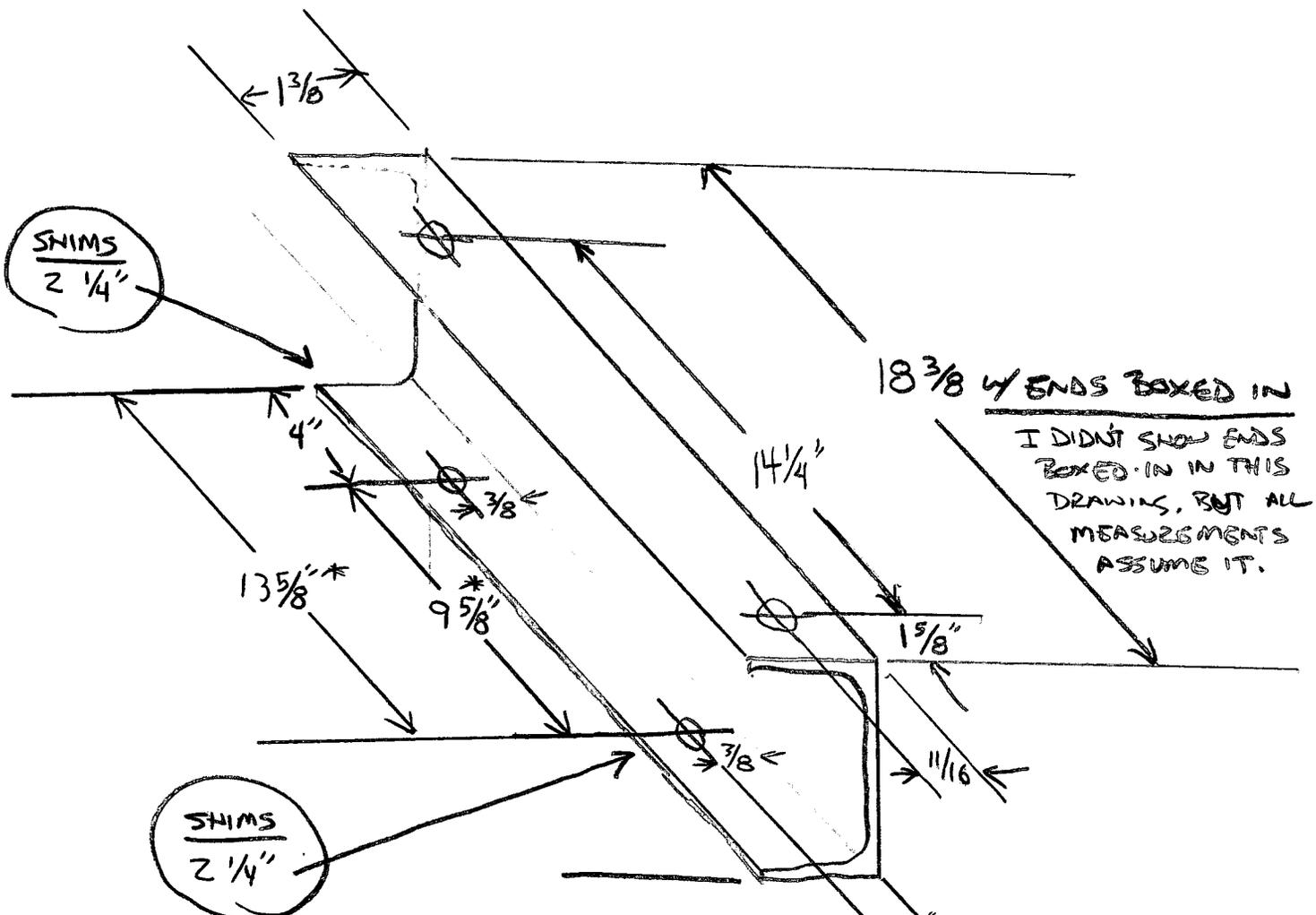
*IF 3x1.4" CHANNEL THEN FLAT STOCK SAME WIDTH

BOLTS

GRADE 5 or 8 3/8"

- 4 1 1/2" THREAD 16 ← FOR USE IN ORIGINAL HOLES
 - 4 2 1/2" THREAD 24 + NUTS, WASHERS, ETC
 - 8 1" THREAD 24 + NUTS, WASHERS, ETC
- + WASHERS, NUTS, ETC





18 3/8 4 ENDS BOXED IN
 I DIDN'T SHOW ENDS BOXED IN IN THIS DRAWING, BUT ALL MEASUREMENTS ASSUME IT.

* WHEN REVERSING FOR DRIVER'S SIDE DOUBLE - CHECK THESE MEASUREMENTS

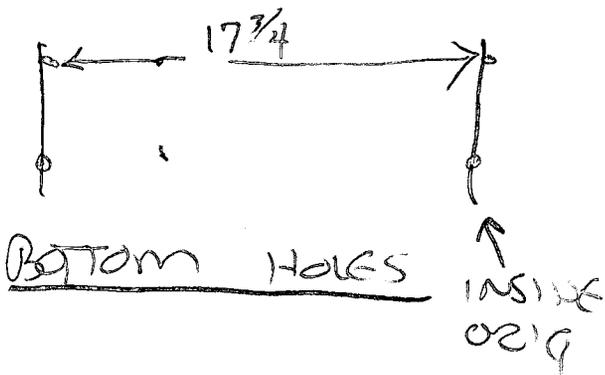
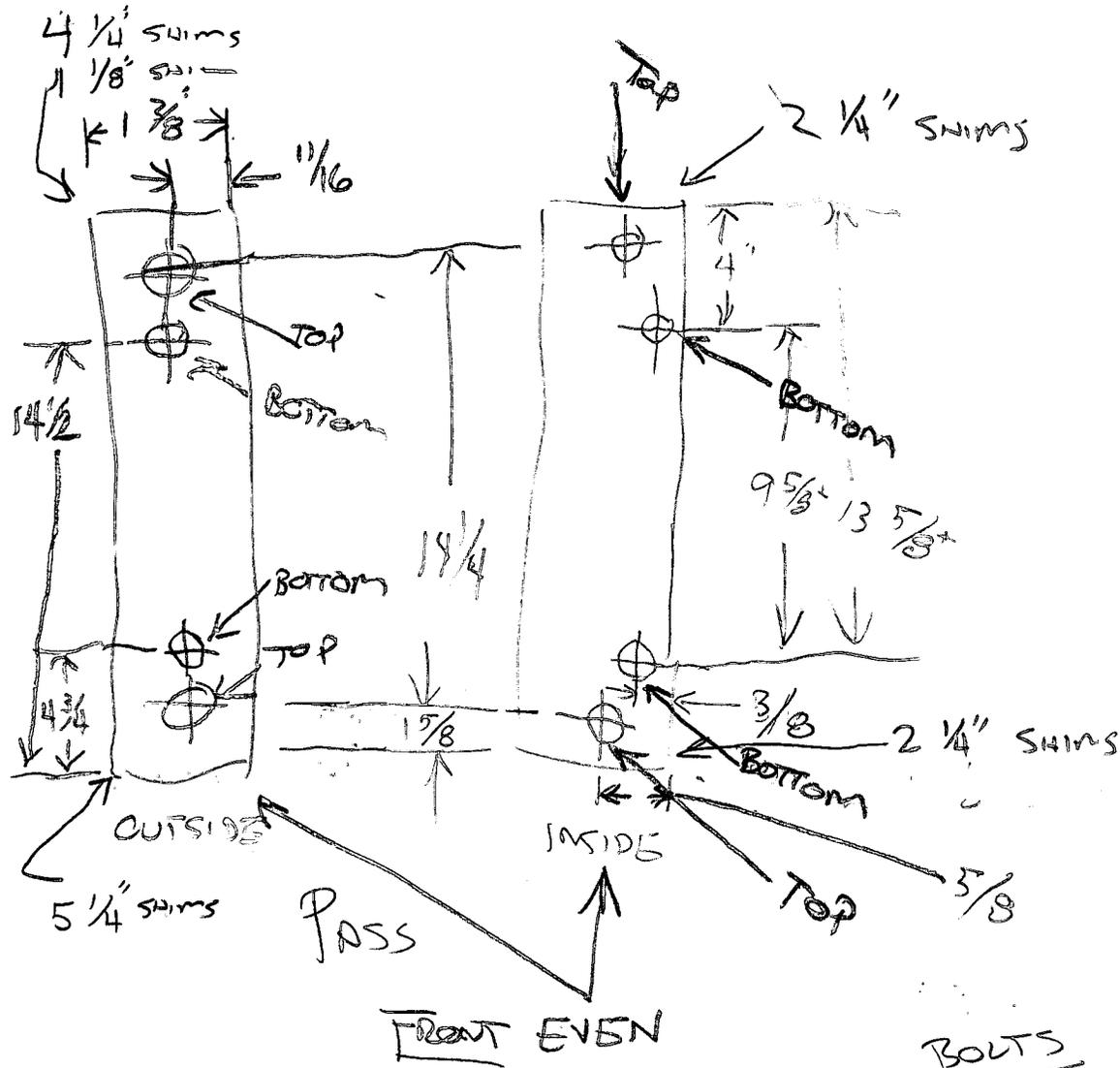
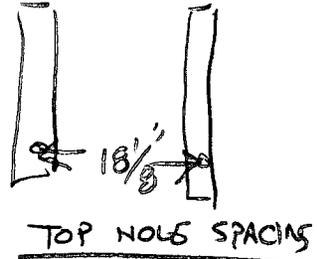
PASSENGER SIDE INSIDE FRONT

PASS SIDE

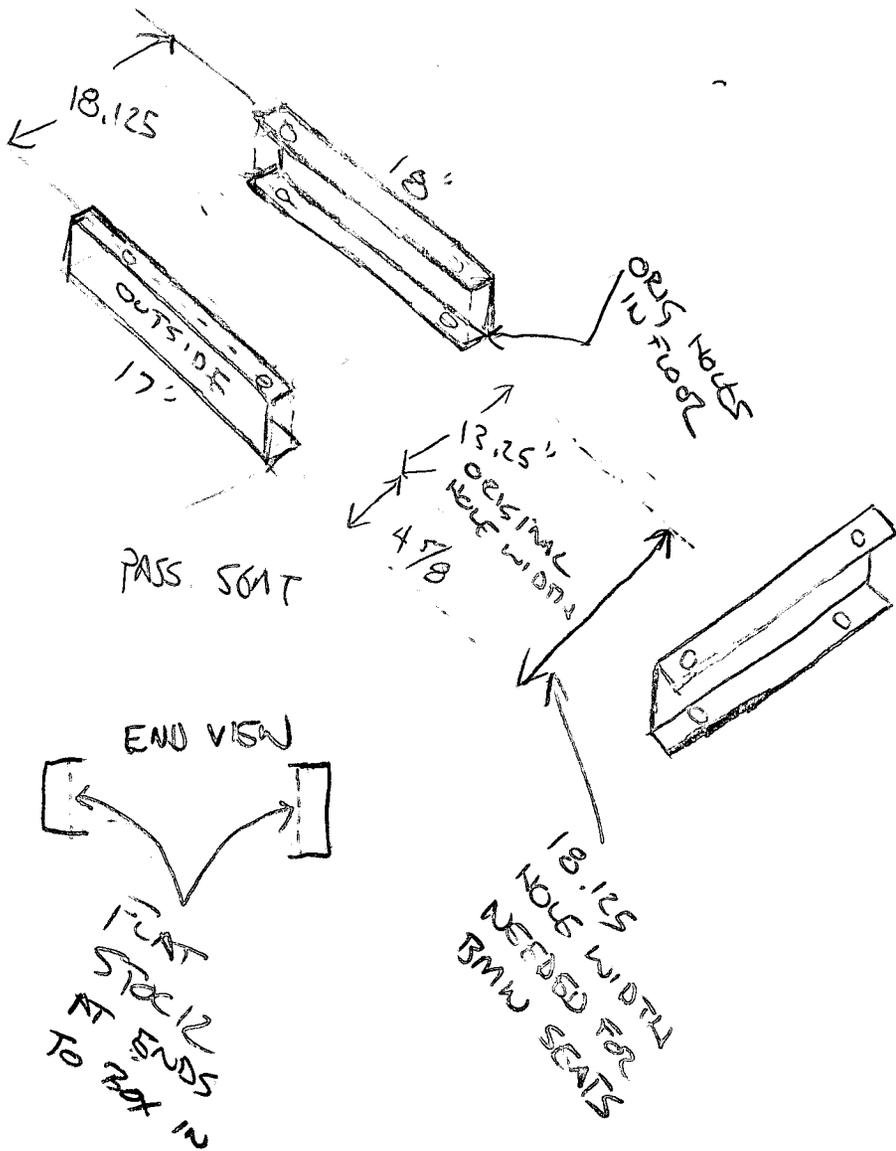
ALL WAY UP: BACK OF SEAT
TO G. BOX LOCK

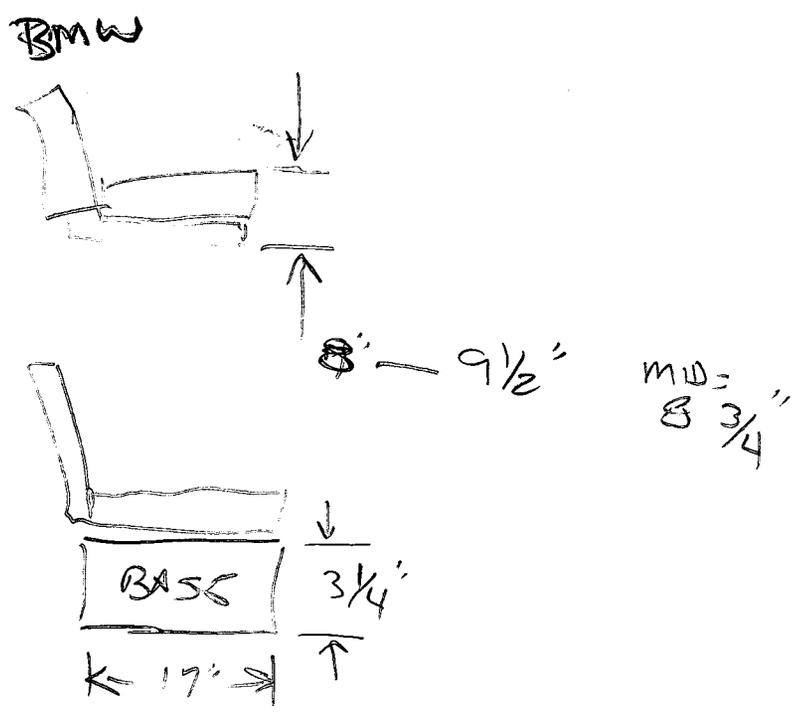
24 1/2" - 25"

ALL WAY BACK: 32"



		BOLTS			
BOTTOM	INSIDE	1 1/2"	3/8	16	} GRADE 5
	OUTSIDE	2 1/2"	3/8	24	
TOP	INSIDE	1"	3/8	24	} GRADE 5
	OUTSIDE	1"	3/8	24	





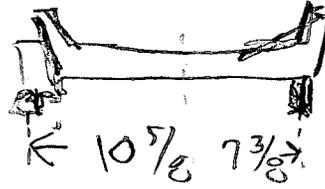
BMW HOLE WIDTH = $18\frac{1}{8}$ 18.125
 K5 HOLE WIDTH = $13\frac{1}{2}$

$$\Delta = 4.625$$

BMW SEATS

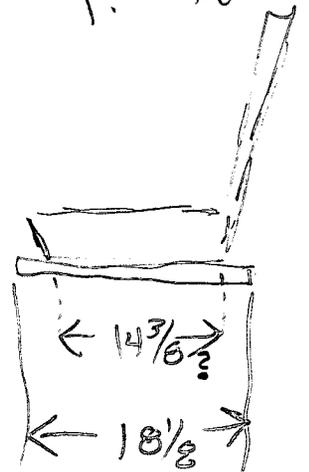
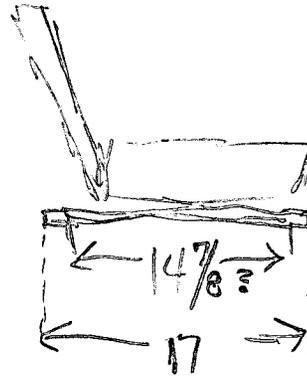
P. SIDE

BMW



P. SIDE

P. SIDE



OUTSIDE

INSIDE