



We decided to address the rocker panel area with some carbon fiber side diffusers from Forbidden USA. This area tends to look a little “naked” or unfinished when left alone, due to the pinch welds underneath that are relatively visible from a lower side view when the car is not lowered significantly. This becomes especially apparent when a front diffuser and/or rear diffuser is added before side diffusers.





We chose these Downforce style, Forbidden side diffusers due to their subtle look. They aren't excessively large and don't stick out far enough to where it becomes an issue every time you and your passenger get in and out of a car that already isn't the easiest to do so with grace.



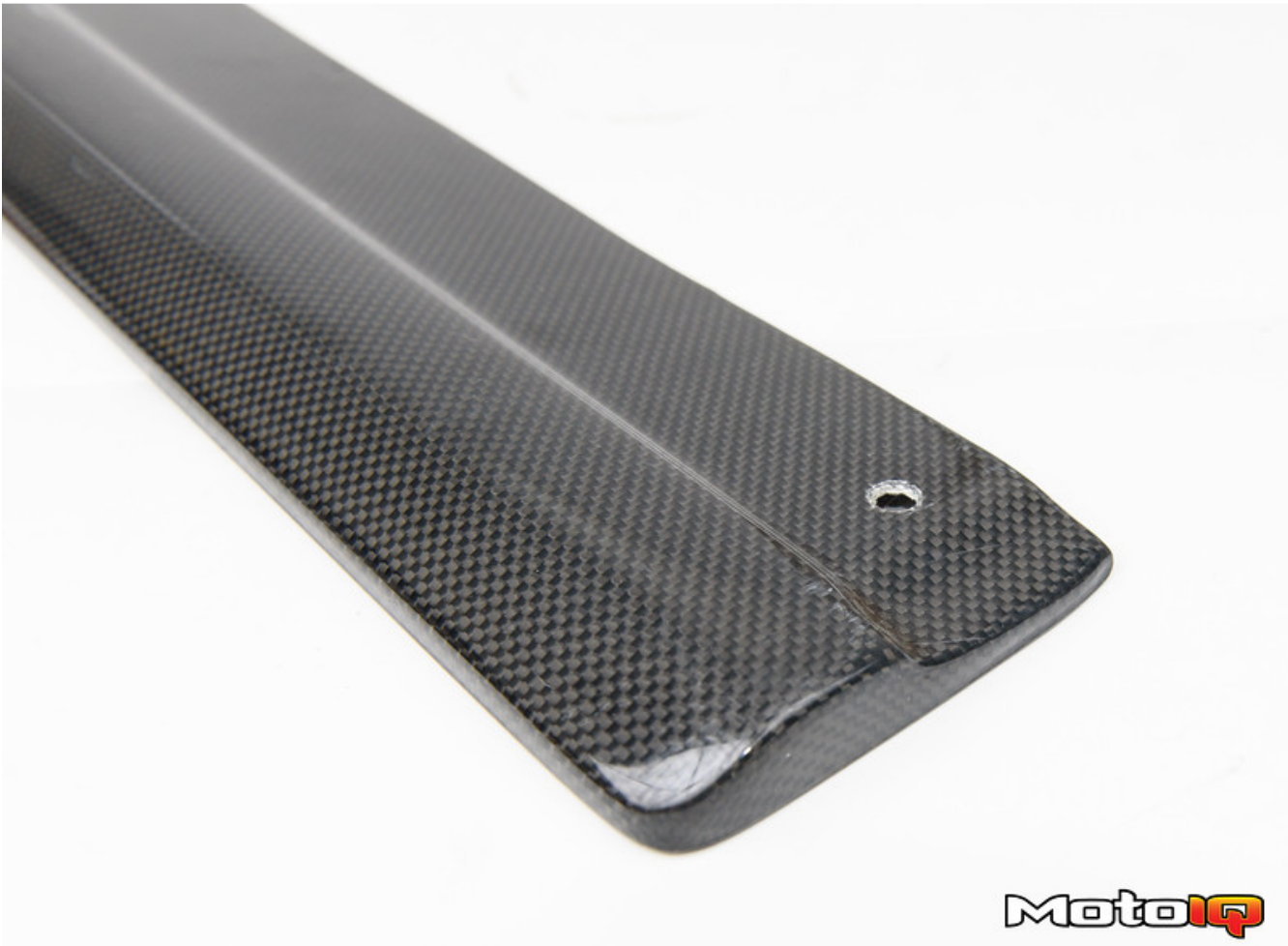
Each side skirt uses hand-laid carbon fiber that is vacuum-infused in a carbon matrix. This all happens at their facility in Long Beach, California.



Each side of the S2000 has three small protrusions located just in front of the pinch weld along the under side of the rocker panel, as pictured here. They typically make fitment poor from other side diffusers, as they cause small gaps between the surface level changes.



Not to worry, these diffusers cleanly accommodate space just large enough for the diameter of the round protrusions and actually help a lot for mounting perfectly, as we will mention shortly.



The edges are finished very nicely. This rear facing end lines up very nicely against the pinch weld and rear of the rocker panel. The rear of the rocker panel has a small bracket that hangs, which is a good reference point to utilize for mounting.



There is a good amount of margin of error with the provided hardware. The large fender washers combined with ample-sized drilled holes in the diffusers make it pretty easy to install.



We highly recommend using double-sided 3M tape for the install. This will make your life much easier when drilling. In order to get a good adhesion, wipe the area with alcohol first.





Don't forget to also wipe the underbody where the tape will be, otherwise, the tape will not adhere to the dirty surface. You won't be able to clean it perfectly, but a little bit can go a long way in this case.



Here, Vince lays the double-sided tape on the cleaned surface. Pro-tip: don't peel the backside of the tape completely. Peel the backing of the long strips just enough so that they will fold under the diffuser while mounting. This will give you a little margin of error to adjust the diffuser into the perfect spot before it completely adheres to the under body. If you rip all of the tape off right away, you won't have this margin of error, forcing you to get it exactly perfect the first time in a "one-and-done" fashion. Don't worry, if you peel the backing around 3-4 inches, it will self curl downwards while mounting, and you will still be able to pull all of the backing out while it is in place.



Now the taped diffuser is ready to be fitted into place. This step usually helps to have three people total: one per each end of the diffuser and one person as a “back seat driver” to instruct the two mounters which direction to move the unit for a perfect fit while drinking a cold beverage and/or taking photos for the car owner's social media accounts. Not to worry if you are working solo- the cutouts for the rounded protrusions and the pinch weld make it incredibly easy to line up the fitment. We were anticipating more of a struggle for the first side, but after the first half of the installation, we left poor Vince to line up the second side alone. The equal fitment for both sides can be proof that it can be done alone!



Remember the pro tip about not ripping off the whole backside of the 3M tape? Here, you can see that the backing of the tape casually folds downward while mounting. You can begin pulling the strips of backing once you are satisfied with the mounting location. They pull easily, and then firmly press the diffuser to fully set the adhesion of the tape.



Now that the diffuser is held in place with the double-sided tape, it makes it very easy to finish the installation by drilling the screws into place. Each side uses five mounting screws. Here, Vince uses a center punch to create a guide for the pilot hole.



There really isn't any science behind choosing the right drill bit for the job since our mounting screws are pretty small in diameter. We chose our best drill bit available that was smaller than the mounting screws, yet not broken and not too dull.



After drilling the pilot holes, Vince drills the five mounting screws to complete the installation of the first side.



A quick check on his work, and then Vince did the same process for the other side.





The completed look: a quick and easy installation for excellent results.

The fitment is actually very impressive, especially considering that these side diffusers are handmade. A subtle addition with a dash of hand laid carbon fiber provides a cleaned up finish to any S2000's rocker panel. Peace of mind also comes standard, as you won't have to be as worried about your passenger's clumsy exit and kicking your freshly installed side diffusers.