

Hi

My Name is Alfonso Zambuto, I am a Fiat trained Mechanic & live in New Zealand.

My first car was a 500D my second was a 500F, many years had passed & in 1995 a friend of mine told me about a 1973 500L that was for sale but was badly damaged, L's are very rare here maybe only 10 in the country so I went to have a look & came back home with it.

It took me 10 years to find all the parts to rebuild the bodyshell, New Zealand was the only country in the world to build 500D&F's from CKD boxes from Fiat so we still had some on the road, I found a badly damaged 500F but the rear half was still in good order so began the rebuild,

I Stripped both cars completely, made a jig to keep them square, cut them in half through the original join at the rear of the floor, I removed all the rusty parts like sills etc & had both halves chemically stripped in a giant bath

A good friend of mine is a coachbuilder & he offered to put it together.

It took over a year but it finally got welded together & I finished it off with 2 coats of 2 pot primer.

I then got married & had a son, my beloved 500L was left in my shed for 10 years covered up.

Over the years I have collected many parts to put the rest of the car together, some original parts were still to be found here but I put in a large order with Gerstl last year & I have started the project again as time allows.

Thank you for your excellent service & large range of parts, years ago I thought it was going to be impossible to find everything I needed however the only part that seems impossible to find is the L plastic dashboard cover for RHD,

Regards

Alf Zambuto













