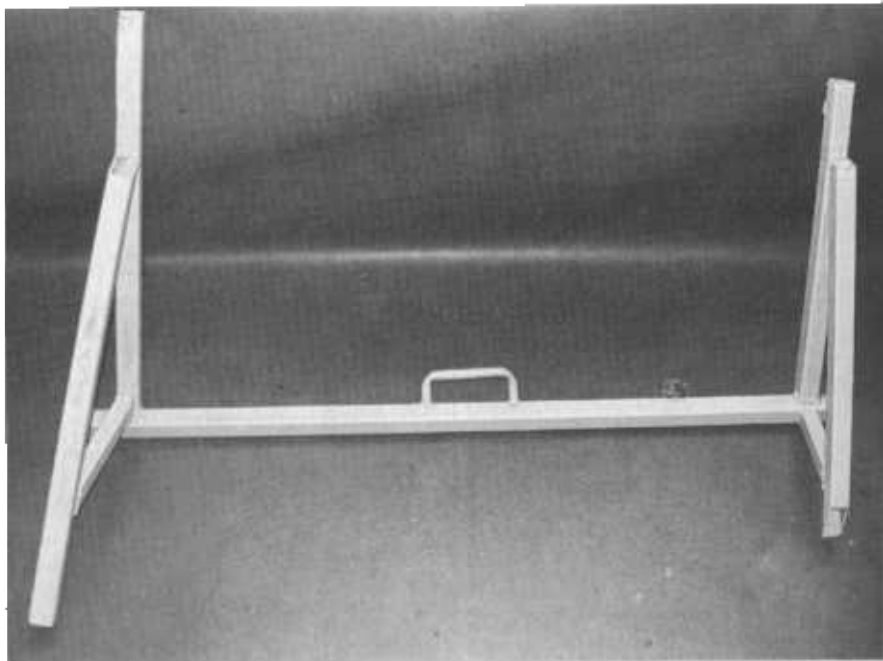


**A**s you've undoubtedly surmised by this point in our Rustoration series, Volkswagen rust repairs come in all shapes and sizes—running the gamut from simple backyard fixes, to complicated professional body shop surgery. The repair highlighted this month is the most involved we've tackled yet. In fact on a difficulty scale of 1 to 10, this one rates an 11.

Our rust repair series wouldn't be complete without delving into one of the most serious VW rust problems—heater channel corrosion and replacement. *Hot VWs* receives a fair amount of mail on this very subject, but to be quite honest, there aren't many shops around willing to handle the repair. Fortunately, Paul Suplizio, our resident rust virtuoso, was coerced into showing how heater channel repairs are handled in his shop. VW Restorations & Customs, 8223 Conner Drive, Manassas, VA 22111 (703) 361-3374, is all too familiar with the problem.

Volkswagen took a direct approach (though by no means a trouble-free one)



**ABOVE.** VW Restorations & Customs developed this special jig to hold the body rigid during replacement of the heater channel, and ensures proper door alignment.