



## Brighter Reverse Lights

by Flopster843

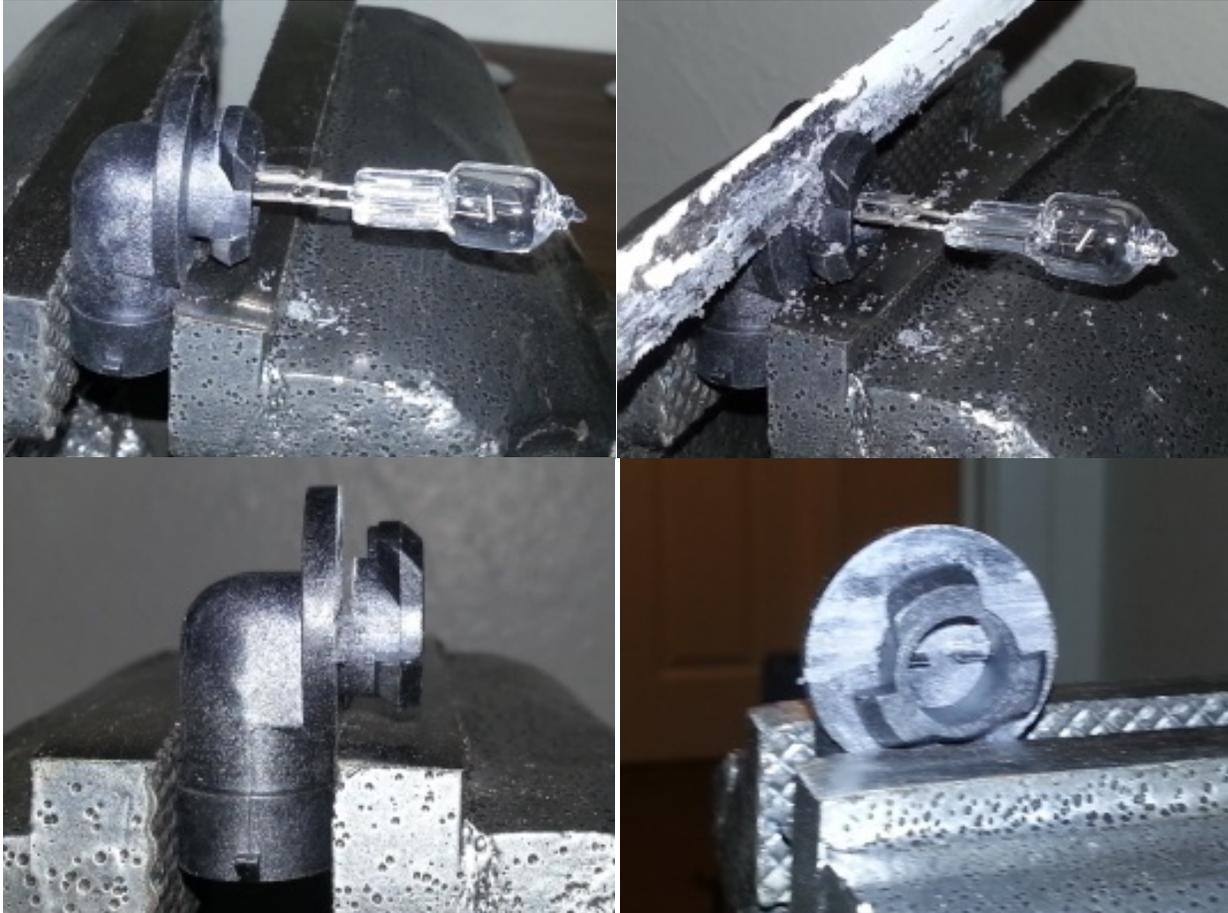
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The OEM reverse lights are pretty much worthless for lighting while trying to backup the truck. They are nowhere near bright enough to see behind you at night time. There are a few options to make the lights brighter, most cost a pretty good amount. Cheap LED lights aren't much better than what is currently installed, good LED lights cost quite a bit more, or even HID light kits that cost a lot and add a lot of complexity to the vehicle. In my opinion, HID lights cost too much and are way to problematic to even be a consideration, and LEDs vary so much in design that you never know what will work and what won't. I was browsing the internet and came upon a much simpler option for another vehicle and thought I would modify the original design to fit my truck.

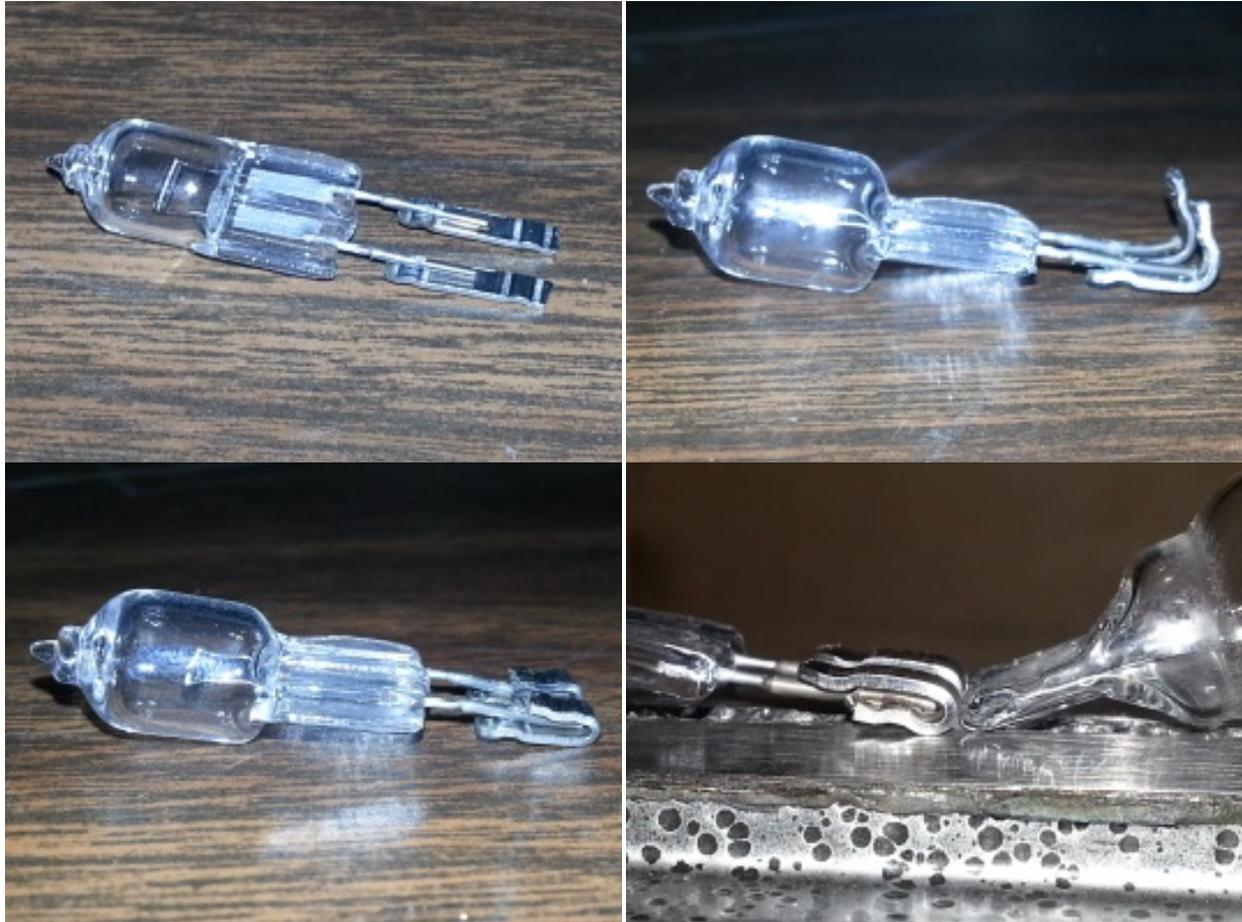
The idea was to replace the OEM model 921 incandescent bulbs with some model 886 50W halogen fog light bulbs. This increases the total light output from 33.6 watts (2 x 16.8w) to 100 watts (2 x 50w). It is a massive increase in light output without modifying anything on the truck itself. I personally prefer the light output of halogen over LED anyway. Both the front fog lights and the reverse lights utilize 18 gauge wiring, so there's no worry of overloading the truck's wiring utilizing these bulbs. The light bulbs will make the housing warm to the touch if they're on for an extended period of time, but normal light usage is limited to less than 30 seconds at a time anyway.



One at a time, take the 886 bulbs and lock them in a vise. Utilizing a hack-saw, a single cut is made through the housing to remove the glass bulb and metal poles from the plastic housing. Be sure to grab the glass part of the bulb with a rag instead of bare fingers. It's never a good idea to contaminate the glass with skin oil due to potentially creating hot spots on the bulb when it's illuminated.



After the bulb is cut from the housing, use a pair of pliers to wrap the flat part of the bulb post around the round part of the post. This will create a nice mounting location to hold the bulb in the reverse lamp socket. It should be about as thick as the original 921 bulb base that is currently in the truck.



Remove the tail light housing from the truck by taking out the two screws by the tailgate and pulling the housing outwards. Twist the reverse light socket to remove it from the housing. Pull out the original bulb and insert the new bulb in its place. It will be a tight fit. Reinsert the socket into the taillight housing and then reinstall the housing.





Comparison of new light bulbs (Left) to OEM light bulbs (Right)



Total light output from new bulbs.