

1960 Fiat 500 Giardiniera Restoration

1960 Fiat 500 Giardiniera was purchased by my cousin in 1997, with a view of restoring it.



After a year he realized he wasn't going to get it done and sold the Fiat to me. The Fiat was in poor condition but did run. The upholstery and soft top were renewed, as were the brakes and shock absorbers. After about a year the cam shaft and distributor gear failed to mesh and broke several teeth of both.

Unable to locate a cam shaft for the Giardiniera in Australia the Fiat went into storage for over 5 years until my father went to Italy for a holiday and whilst there found and purchased a Cam shaft for me. With no money to get the Fiat back on the road it stayed in storage until 2012, when my father finally got tired of seeing such a classic vehicle stay in storage and gave me the money to do a full restoration on the Giardiniera.







The Fiat got a full strip down and respray at the local TAFE where student panel beaters and spray painters worked enthusiastically on the Giardiniera (a vehicle they had never seen before) The Fiat needed a new front end but the other panels only needed repairs. The brakes and brake lines were once again renewed, the engine head was reconditioned as was the Carburetor. (Thanks to Parish Automotive)



Most replacement parts, seals, rubbers and fasteners for the restoration were purchased from Axel Gerstl. Thank you.

Finally after more than 15 years my 1960 Fiat 500
Giardiniera was fully restored.