



## **Body Repair Tech Note: Repair Guidelines for Parts, Fasteners, and Structural Adhesives**

*Body Repair Tech Notes provide information about Tesla-approved methods and practices for body repair. These instructions assume knowledge of motor vehicle and high voltage electricity repairs, and should only be executed by trained professionals. Tesla Motors assumes no liability for injury or property damage due to a failure to properly follow these instructions or for repairs attempted by unqualified individuals.*

Only new Tesla parts, Tesla-approved fasteners, and Tesla-approved structural adhesives must be used when performing repairs on Tesla vehicles.

**NOTE:** Tesla strongly recommends that all collision repairs be performed by a Tesla Approved Body Shop (TABS). Only technicians at TABS have the required knowledge, training, and equipment to repair Tesla vehicles to Tesla standards.

**NOTE:** TABS must use only brake fluid and coolant sourced from Tesla, as well as Tesla-approved workshop equipment.

**NOTE:** If a TABS fails to follow these guidelines, they will immediately lose their "Tesla approved" status.

### **Parts**

Tesla does not allow the use of any used, recycled, alternative, aftermarket, or third-party replacement parts. Use only new parts ordered directly from Tesla.

**⚠ WARNING:** The use of used, recycled, alternative, aftermarket, or third-party replacement parts might compromise vehicle integrity and occupant safety.

**NOTE:** Used, recycled, alternative, aftermarket, and third-party replacement parts are not covered under any warranty by Tesla. The use of these types of part might also cause other related components to not be covered under warranty.

### **Used or Recycled Parts**

Parts that were originally installed in another vehicle ("used", "recycled", or "like kind and quality" (LKQ)) might have been subjected to incorrect, improper, or inadequate disassembly or removal procedures, crash impact loads, exposure to the elements, excessive wear, high temperatures, or extreme forces during removal from the original vehicle. Model S and Model X body structures are assembled with structural adhesive at the factory, so structural parts cannot be removed without causing permanent damage to the parts themselves.

There are no approved field testing methods to verify that the safety, quality, compatibility, or durability of a used or recycled part has not been compromised. In addition, used or recycled parts are not traceable in the event of a recall. To ensure that safety is not compromised after repairs have been performed, Tesla requires that only new, undamaged OEM (original equipment manufacturer) parts be used in conjunction with approved repair methods.

## Alternative or Aftermarket Parts

Tesla only sells parts that have been tested for safety. Tesla vehicles are fully tested and certified as an entire assembly. Each part plays a role in the overall operation of the vehicle and is optimized for fit, function, safety, and structural integrity.

Tesla does not test alternative or aftermarket parts. Alternative and aftermarket parts are not subject to the same requirements of entire vehicle operation or function, and might not be manufactured to the same standards or design as OEM parts. This could compromise safety in the event of a collision. In particular, alternative and aftermarket parts such as fenders, hoods, bumpers, and doors might not provide proper operation or function of vehicle crumple zones or supplemental restraint system (SRS) sensors and airbags, or meet federal motor vehicle safety standards for vehicle collisions.

Because Tesla cannot confirm that alternative and aftermarket parts will not adversely affect safety, Tesla does not allow the use of alternative or aftermarket parts.

## Fasteners

Fasteners that have been worn, broken, or deformed during a collision, as well as any one-time use fasteners that are removed during the repair, must be replaced with OEM or Tesla-approved fasteners. Each structural collision repair is developed and tested using OEM parts and Tesla-approved fasteners, including rivets, screws, bolts, and all other fasteners. Non-approved fasteners, even ones that are seemingly identical to OEM or Tesla-approved fasteners, cannot be verified to meet the standards and specifications required for the repair. The integrity of the complete repair cannot be guaranteed with the use of aftermarket, damaged, or broken fasteners.

For a complete list of Tesla-approved fasteners for structural repairs, refer to [BR-16-92-001](#), "Approved Fasteners for Structural Repairs".

## Structural Adhesives

Tesla only allows the use of Tesla-approved structural adhesives for structural repairs. Tesla has carried out numerous tests to validate that the approved adhesives meet or exceed the specifications of the adhesive used during vehicle assembly. The use of other adhesive products not validated for structural repair of Tesla vehicles might compromise the safety and durability of the entire vehicle.

For a complete list of Tesla approved structural adhesive, refer to [BR-15-92-008](#), "Approved Structural Adhesives".

*For feedback on the accuracy of this document, email [collision-techinfo@tesla.com](mailto:collision-techinfo@tesla.com).*