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How to modify & fit US Rear clusters (Red/Clear) onto a UK Ford Focus.. (Red/Orange)

In my opinion the US style rear clusters with red & clear lenses look much cleaner than those fitted to the UK model.

The US lights obviously have a slightly different light arrangement, therefore the clear lenses that would normally be the reverse light becomes the indicators, the red lenses normally brake/tail & indicator becomes just the brake/tail light.

I'll start by showing some pics of the UK & US clusters, the UK & US bulbs and holders.
Click for larger images..



This pic illustrates the difference between the rear of the clusters and size of the holes that accommodate the bulb holders. Both are from 2001 models (Top - UK, Lower - US).



UK

US

UK Cluster:



Top Bulb - UK Stop/rear light
3 pins, Ground, Major & Minor



Lower Bulb - Indicator
2 pins Ground & Major

US Cluster:



Top Bulb - Stop/indicator/rear lights
3 pins Ground, Major & Minor



Lower Bulb - Reverse
2 pins Ground & Major

How to:



Holder including 3 rubber seals



Wires soldered onto bulb holder



Transparent glass paint - £1.20

As you can see the Top Bulb & holder is the same diameter, therefore the original UK item can be used, the only thing you need to add are 2 additional rubber seals to make a nice tight fit. Pic shows additional seals.

However not quite as easy for the lower bulb, you can see the US bulb holder is much smaller, almost half the diameter of that for the UK. An orange side repeater bulb, as shown can fit into the holder, but the repeaters flash twice the normal speed. This is due to the difference in resistance, normally used to detect a blown bulb and warns you one needs changing. Side repeater bulb = 14ohms (approx), the correct bulb = 8ohms (approx).

Now, I didn't spend time playing about with the resistance to correct this, you can if you like (bank holiday, the pub & Saints game were calling). I took the easy option and painted the original bulb with orange transparent glass paint.

To connect into the loom I soldered two wires onto the pins in the holder, and rubber sleeved them. These just need to be spliced into the original indicator wires. Done this way the job is easily reversible.

Costs:

Well, I picked my lights up second-hand, condition practically new from the [foc](#) forum. Expect to pay approx \$40 to \$50 (£25 to £30).

Note, postage will most likely be extra, look to pay around \$30 from US for ground, this will take 4 to 6 weeks. Air will be quicker but can be double the cost. You won't need to pay import duty if they are second-hand goods.

Might be worth posting wanted ads on the US forums as they change their rears for euro spec... Here's one forum based in the US - [Focus Fanatics](#)

The finished look:



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