

Transporting - Your Python Kit

RVD has developed a very strong chassis and body, which makes for easier transportation. RVD, like many other firms, has our bodies and other bits made outside the UK. What makes RVD different is that our bodies and other bits are made in our factory under our direction. We believe this can be seen in the quality of our cars.

WARNING: Always wear gloves when handling GRP bits.

Chassis Kit (max. 120 Kg.) - Only

The Python chassis weighs between 100 and 120kg. RVD recommends enough mates to allow you to load the chassis onto your truck or trailer. RVD recommends you place the chassis on at least 2 timbers and you place heavy carpet strips or other material between the timbers and the galvanized chassis for additional protection. Use several straps to secure the chassis. Any other bits can be secured or put in the cab.

Body Kit (105kg) - Only

RVD's unique foam sandwich body is made even stronger because RVD uses jigs to precisely bond the inner panels, in place, at the factory. When we move bodies at RVD, we have a person on each wheel arch of the body and we suggest the same. RVD recommends you place the body on at least 3 timbers (4 by 4) and you place heavy carpet strips or other material between the timbers and the body for additional protection. Use at least 2 straps across the body and one to secure the body from the front and rear. These straps should be snug, but not overly tight with a soft cloth between the body and the strap to protect it.

The boot, bonnet, doors and other bits should fit in the back of a normal car or a small truck or can be placed inside the cockpit and foot wells of the body. Use cardboard or carpet strips to protect all edges and between panels to prevent rubbing in transit. Make sure all body bits are secure and protected with one or two more straps.

Chassis and Body Kits (225 kg)

This is the most efficient method to order your Python kit. The body is secured to the chassis at the factory. The weight of the body and chassis is about 225 kg. Make sure you have enough mates or proper equipment to lift and load 225kg. RVD recommends you place the chassis and body on at least 2 timbers (4 by 4 or 2 by 4) and you place heavy carpet strips or other material between the timber and the body for additional protection. Use at least 1 strap across the body and one to secure the chassis from the front and rear. These straps should be snug, but not overly tight with a soft cloth between the body and the strap to protect it. The boot, bonnet, doors and other bits should fit in the back of a normal car or a small truck or as above, making sure they are properly secured and protected!

Removal of the Body from the Chassis And Storage

1. Place 3 to 4 timbers in a convenient area where the body can be stored safely. These should be no longer than 47 inches or 1200mm. Two timbers 2 x 2 or 4 x 2 and at least one 4 x 4 or 4 x 2 for the rear.
2. Have at least 3 to 4 mates to help you.
3. Locate and remove the four (4) 8mm bolts securing the body to the chassis. 2 are through the front inner wings to the radiator supports and 2 are through the boot floor bumper bracket holes.
4. A piece of metal 150 X 150 X 1mm (or any thing to stop the edge of the GRP floor pan from hooking under the tube for the hand brake) should be inserted between the floor upstand and the handbrake-mounting boss in the cockpit area.
5. Attach a rope or strap to the front of the chassis (the top 50 x 25 mm bar with the chassis number plate on is best, then down under the radiator support and out under the body). Secure it to a stationary object to keep the chassis stationary.
6. Position two mates on the front wheel arches, with 1 standing on the rope to resist upward movement of the chassis and 1 making sure the body clears the chassis. Lift the body until the front lip clears the front of the chassis. **NOTE:** You may have to use a screwdriver or small pry bar to free the body. **Note:** DO NOT LIFT HIGHER THAN 1 to 1 ½ ft (300-450mm) at the nose, as this will cause the body to jam on the top seat belt anchors and the rear bulkhead.
7. Lift the body carefully on all FOUR ARCHES, at this angle, straight up and towards the rear of the chassis, until it is clear of the chassis. IF IT DOES NOT COME AWAY EASILY, THEN LOWER BACK DOWN! You will need to trim the lower edge of the rear valance lip, as this can snag on the rear corners of the chassis, near to the bumper bracket boltholes where the transit bolts were fitted. Then repeat the lift as before, this time it should come away easily.
8. Walk the body carefully to the timbers or stands you prepared earlier.



9. The timbers **MUST** go under the front corner of the foot well bulkhead and across the rear bulkhead on the bottom corners, and not under the “flat” part of the floor pan.
10. Then place one piece of wood at the back edge of the boot floor to support the rear end of the body, to prevent distortion, and one piece under the oil cooler air intake to support the front. Make sure these are just supporting and not taking the weight of the body! You may have to pack with thin packers to obtain the correct support without lifting.
11. If stored outside, it is best to cover the body with a good weather proof sheet, but not essential. If you “do not” cover you may need to drill some small holes in the boot floor to let water out. If you “do” cover make sure you keep the cover tight and do not allow water to form puddles, as this can lead to the sheet splitting. Keep the cover well tied down to prevent flapping in high winds. If stored inside, RVD recommends you also cover the body to protect it from incidental contact that could damage the surface.
12. Your RVD Python body is now safe until it is required.