

HOT

story by Trent Riddle photography by Trent Riddle & Courtesy of Flex-a-lite

time tonight

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Part of the romance and lure of a Jeep is the ability to remove the top and doors and feel the wind on your face. Anyone who's done this will tell you that there's nothing like running around in an open Jeep, nothing as fun, nothing as cool. The cool factor has a double meaning when the sun goes down or the weather gets bad. When this happens, the cooling breeze you enjoyed during the day can become a bone chilling wind. This is when you need a heater that works and works well. The trouble is, many old Jeeps and other 4x4s have poor or non-working heaters. Sometimes the parts to fix the stock heater are hard to come by or are expensive. Well, there is an alternative; it's the Mojave Heater from Flex-a-lite.

The Mojave Heater is a simple hot water heater with a built in blower fan that will heat your rig as well and most likely better than the stock heater. As long as you feed the heater with hot water from the motor, the unit can provide you with a warm feeling when needed. Since the Mojave Heater has a built in fan, with three speeds, you can adjust the output to suit your needs. When the fan is off, the Mojave Heater will only produce a small amount of radiant heat, and this can be eliminated by installing a cable or vacuum operated heater valve to shut off the water flow to the heater core. Truly, we think this would only be needed if you do a lot of desert 'wheeling in the summer.

In addition to its heater function, the Mojave Heater can be fitted with an optional Defroster Plenum. This piece simply slips over the front of the Mojave Heater. The two front facing heater vents swivel and pivot, allowing you to direct the heated air where you want it. Without the Defroster Plenum, the air will only flow straight back. A side opening in the Defroster Plenum provides a connection point for a defroster tube. This defroster tube can then be connected to any existing or custom-made defroster ducts. Heater air will always flow to the defroster, varying the front vent opening size will increase or decrease the amount of air flow the defroster sees.

One additional use to consider for a Mojave Heater is as an auxiliary heater. Even if your stock heater is working well, it may not be enough to warm your rear passengers. To keep those back seat drivers happy, you can install a Mojave Heater as a secondary, rear-mounted heater. If you want, you can install the switch within reach of the rear guests.

If you've ever wished for a warmer ride in your Jeep or 4x4, then consider installing a Mojave Heater. You can install one in an afternoon and it will keep you from shivering the next time you find yourself on the trail in cold weather.

Source: Flex-a-lite • P.O. Box 580 • Milton, WA 98354 • www.flex-a-lite.com

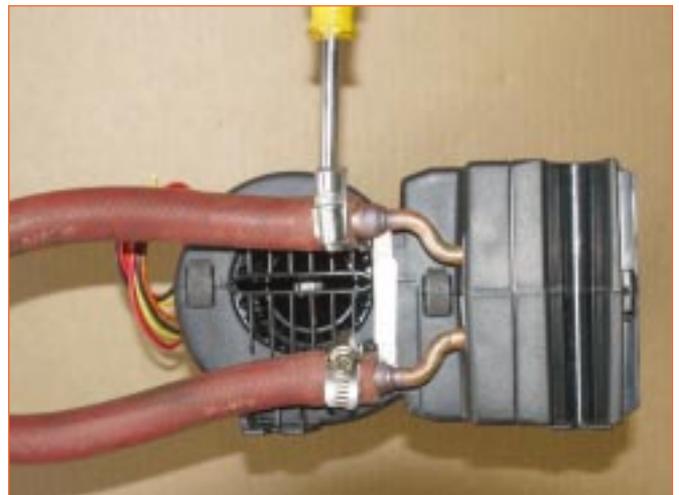
Flex-a-lite Mojave Heater Install



The Mojave Heater from Flex-a-lite is a simple hot water heater with a blower fan. It works well as a replacement heater or as an auxiliary unit.



Here you see the Mojave Heater, the factory Defroster Plenum, and all the other parts needed for the install.



1. Once you have determined where you want to mount the Mojave heater, you can connect the heater hoses to the water in and out fittings. These hoses will need to be routed to the factory heater fittings on the motor.