Cupboard material

The cupboard in the new California is made from Metawell®, a material that is mainly used in boat building and aeronautics.
This material is considerably thinner and lighter than the wooden laminated panels usually used and has a greater rigidity.

In comparison: The cupboard material in the California 1991 is 18 mm thick and only 5 mm in the California 2004. This creates more useful space.
At the same time, the new cupboard weighs a third of the previous one.

Metawell® is made up of two aluminium outer plates with a corrugated aluminium sheet glued between them. The plates and also the corrugated sheet are each 0.5 mm thick.
A wooden décor sheet is attached to the outside, and the plates are painted on the inside.

Metawell®

S329_060

Laminated wooden board

S329_061

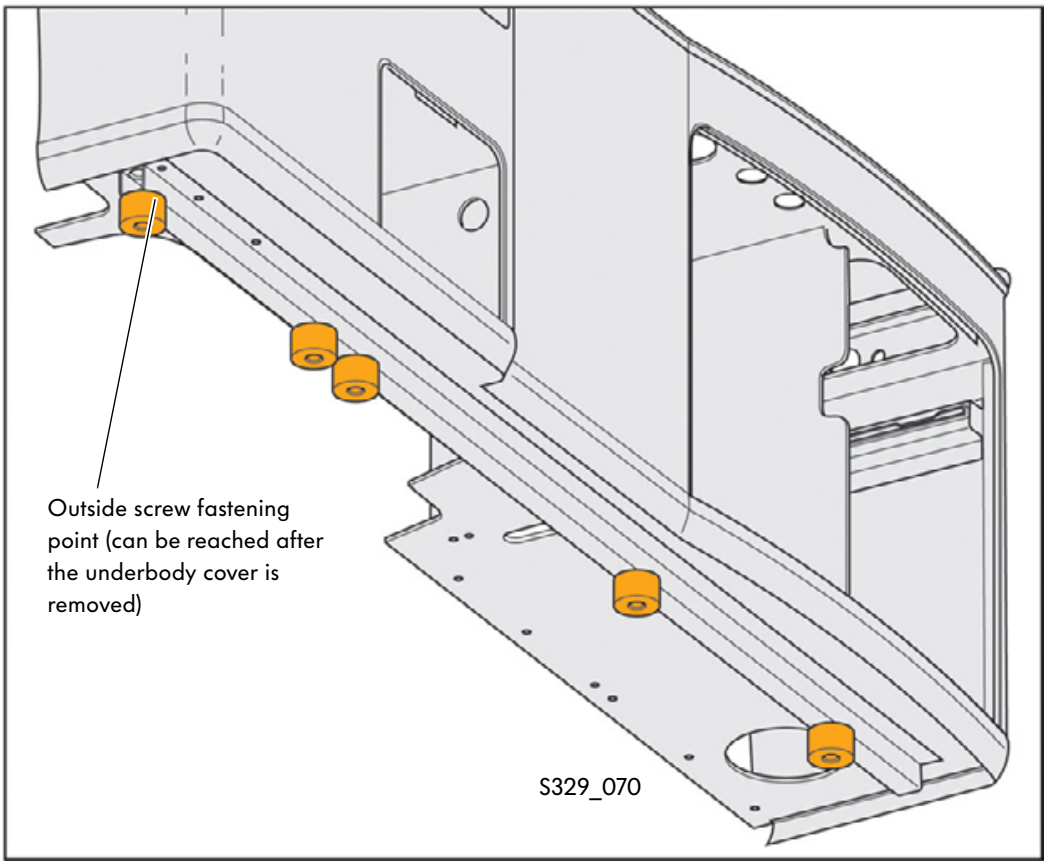
When you drill through the Metawell® material, e.g. to fasten accessories, the special material properties need to be taken into consideration.

Abrasive detergents and aggressive solvents (like Aceton or turpentine) are not suitable for cleaning the cupboard.

Cupboard mounting points to the body

The cupboard is screwed to the body floor at five points. Four screws are reached from inside and one from outside.

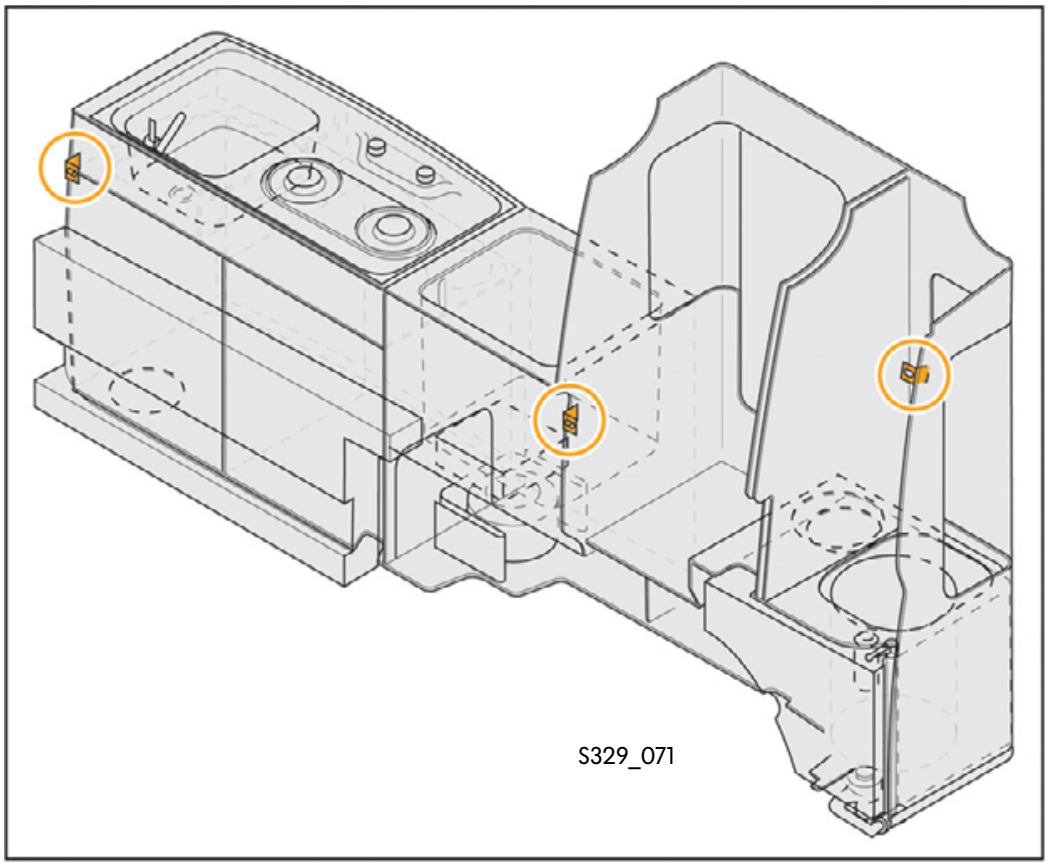
To reach the screw from the outside, the underbody covering needs to be removed.



You will find the instructions for removing the underbody panel in the latest repair guide for the Transporter 2004 Multivan.

The cupboard is screwed to the body side panel at three points using brackets.

To reach the rear brackets, the panels in the washing compartments need to be removed.



Equipment

Roof bed

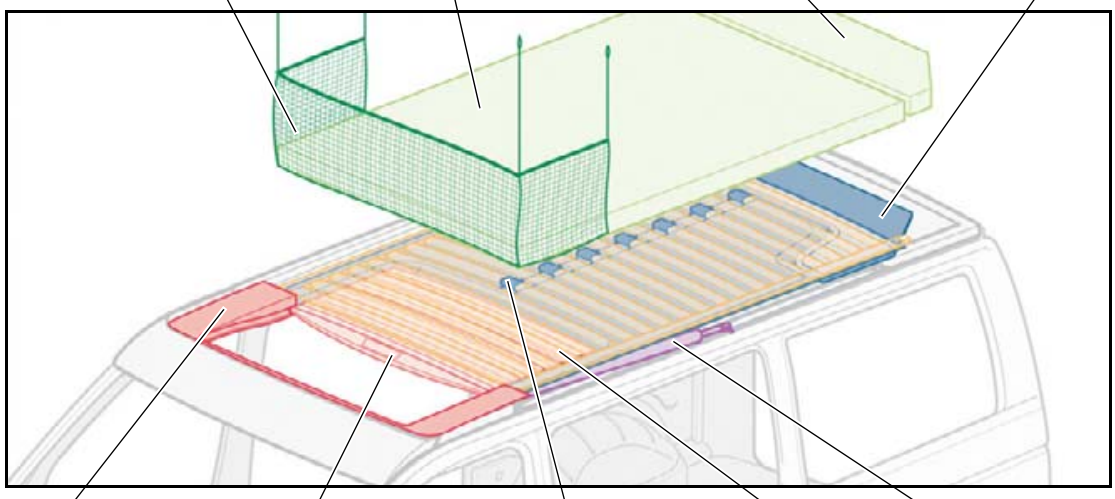
The roof bed is made from a slatted frame with an additional bed board and a front and rear bed support.

There is also a blind separating it from the driver's cab to prevent the bellows hanging into the interior when the roof is folded down.
The guides for the blind are underneath the slatted frame and in the front roof cut-out panel.

A safety net can be attached to prevent children or objects falling down.

The slatted frame is equipped with two gas props so it is easy to raise.

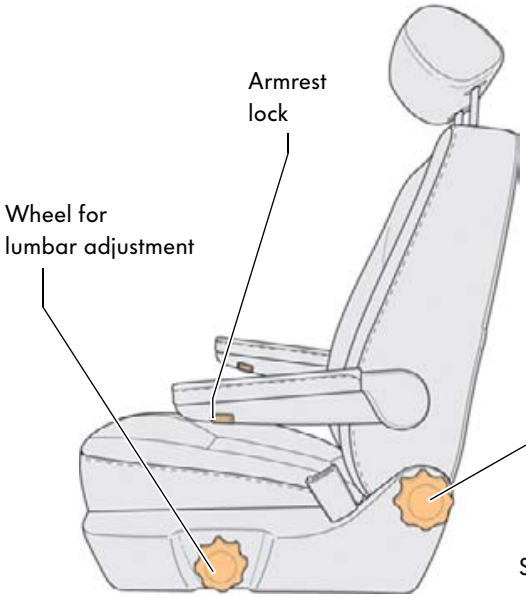
Underneath the slatted frame, there is a cover separating it from the interior.



Front seats

Both front seats can be turned approx. 180°.
To do so, the backrests need to be set to the vertical position. The longitudinal position also needs to be adjusted. The steering column needs to be pushed in as far as possible and set as high as possible.

S329_120

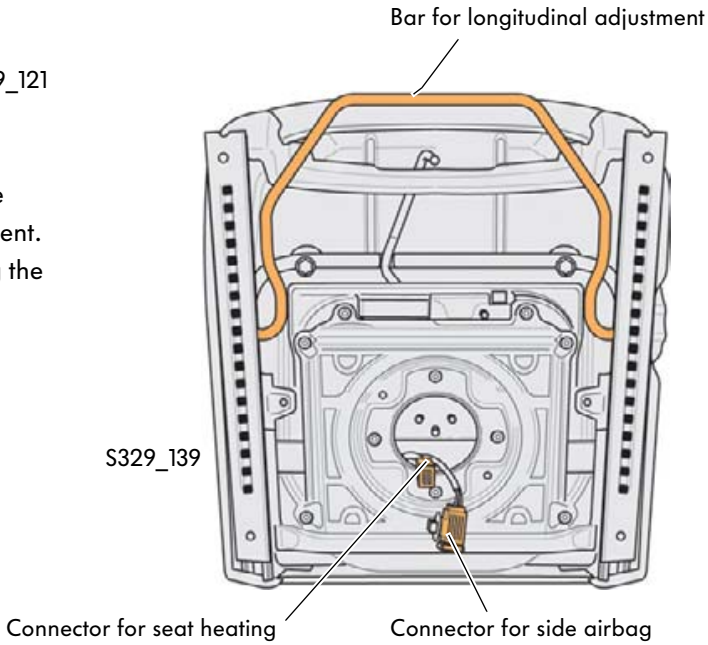


S329_121

The backrest, lumbar support and armrests on the front seats in the California 2004 are adjusted mechanically.

There are rails and a bar underneath the seats for longitudinal adjustment.

Underneath each seat there is a connector for the side airbags and the bar for longitudinal adjustment. There is also an optional connector for connecting the seat heating.



S329_139

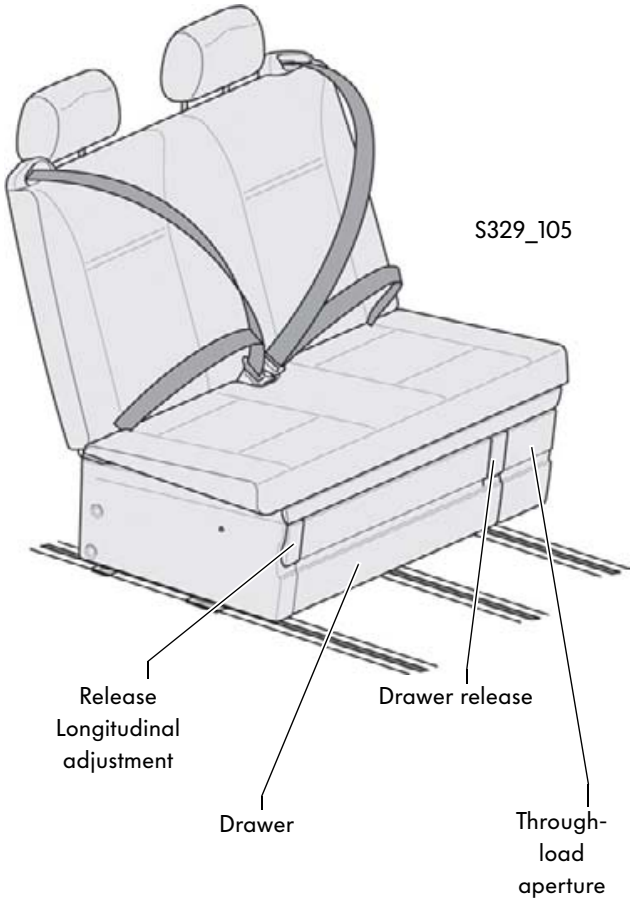
Equipment

Rear bench

The seat bench is anchored to the floor on the two outer rails and can be moved lengthways in 12-mm steps. It has been fitted with integrated three-point seat belts. The lock for the longitudinal adjustment of the seat bench is located underneath the seat base along with a spacious drawer with its own lock and a through-load aperture to the luggage compartment.

The drawer is connected to the bench subframe and can be removed when necessary.

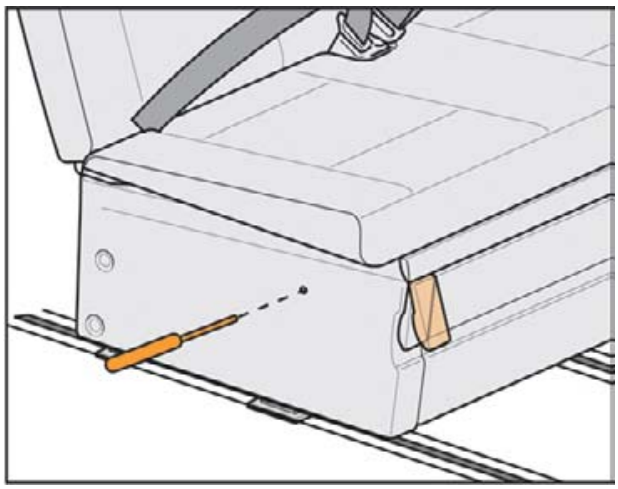
The two right-hand rails can also be used to install an optional fifth seat.



S329_105

Removing the bench

To remove the bench from the rails, the release lever should be held.
To make this work easier, a release mechanism can be accessed on the side of the bench:
You can insert a screwdriver to hold the release. You can then let go of the lever and push the bench to the furthest position forward and remove it.



S329_106

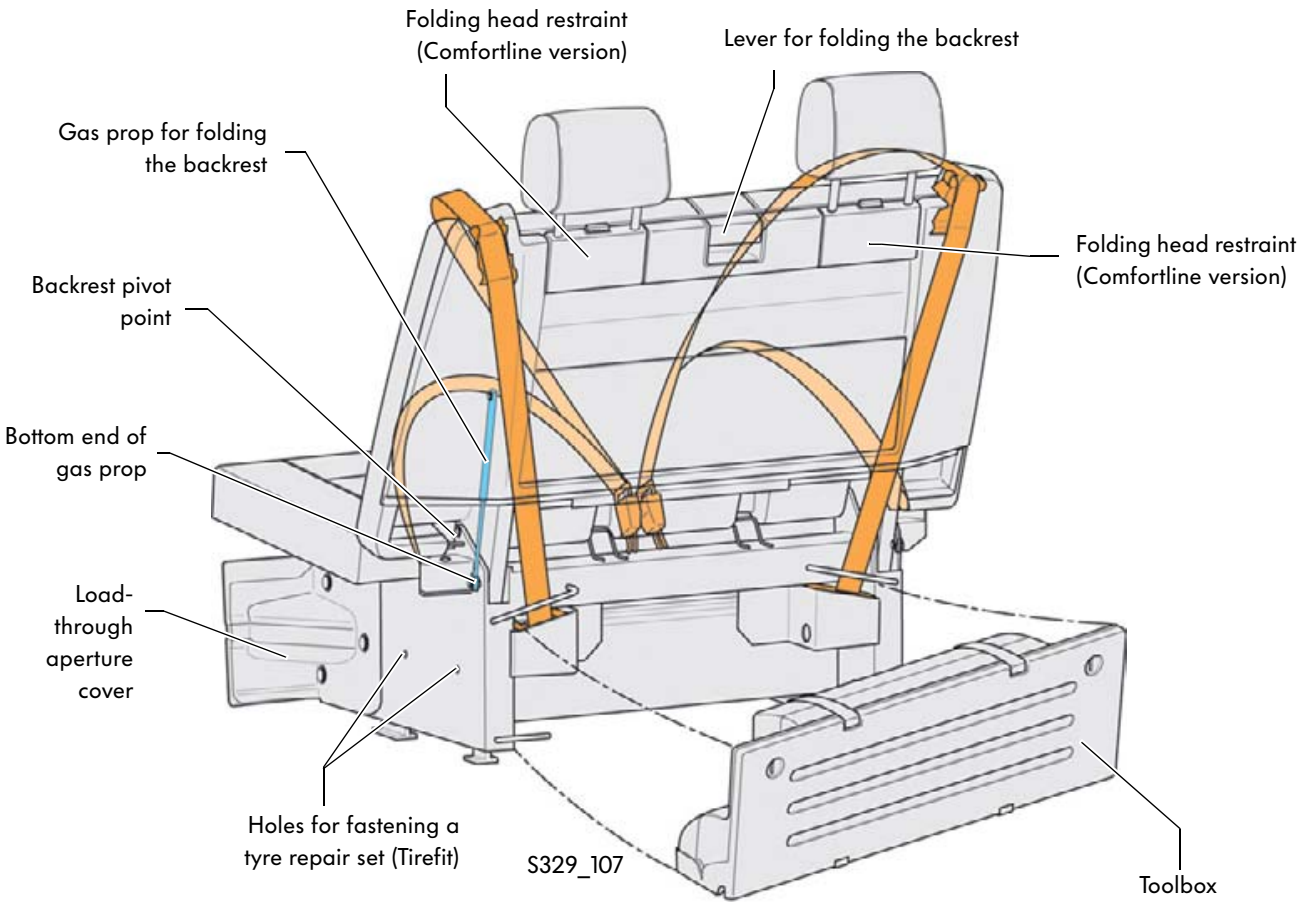
The lever for adjusting the bench backrest is located in the middle of the top backrest edge.
The backrest angle can be adjusted in three steps (15°, 20° and 25°) and folded down completely.
If you fold over the backrest, the seat base is tilted 5° to create a level surface. The belt locks attached to steel wires are then automatically moved downwards. When the backrest is folded up, they appear again or can easily be pulled out.

The backrest has a gas prop on the side next to the cupboard to make it easier to move.

A toolbox is attached to the back of the seat bench. It contains the standard tool set and has space for the removable tow bar (optional equipment).

In the Comfortline version, the head restraints can be folded down. The head restraints lock into the usage position. When folded down, the head restraints lock automatically due to the spring tension.

On the driver's side of the bench, two holes have been provided near to the through-load aperture to secure a tyre repair kit (Tirefit).



Water supply

Fresh water system

The fresh water system is made up of:

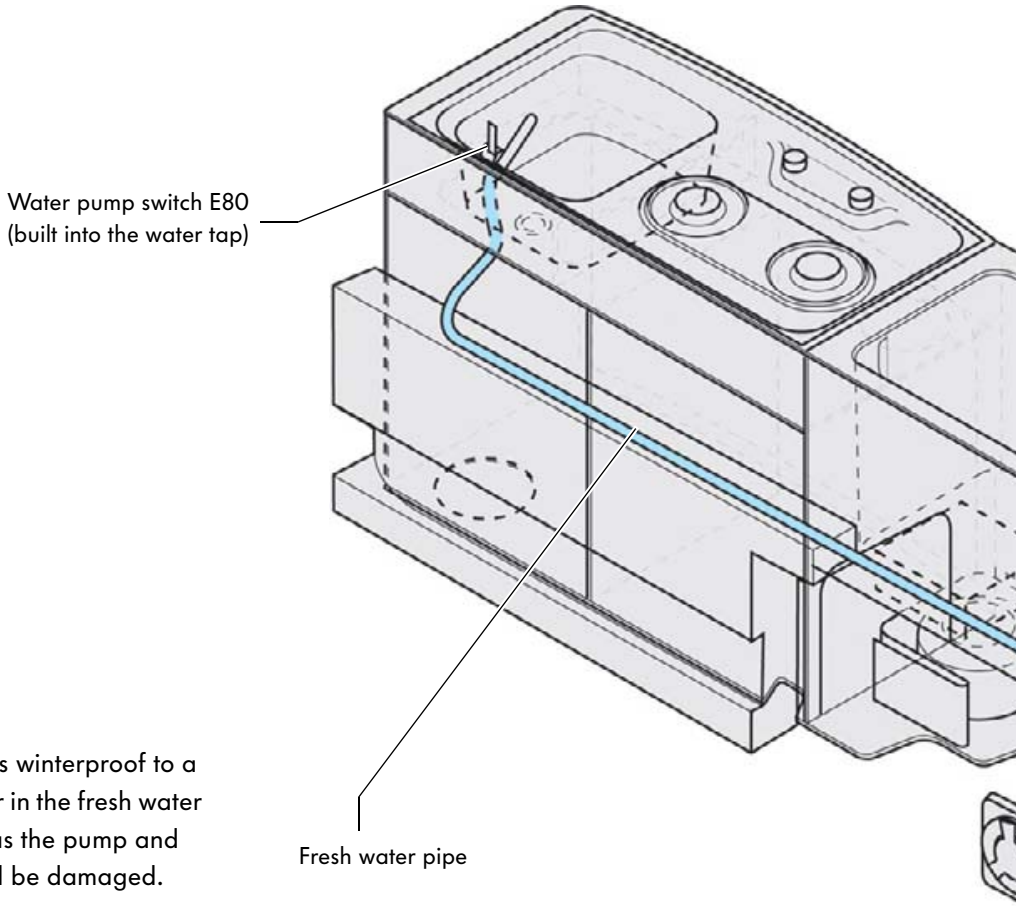
- the fresh water tank at the rear left
- water level sender G120
- the water pump V36
- the water pump switch E80
  (built into the water tap)

The pipe system also includes the supply line from the tank to the water tap a breather or overflow pipe next to the fresh water filler neck and a pipe for emptying the fresh water tank underneath the tank.

The fresh water tank holds 30l.

The water level sender has three steps and indicates the level of the fresh water tanks on the operating and display unit for camping equipment E153.

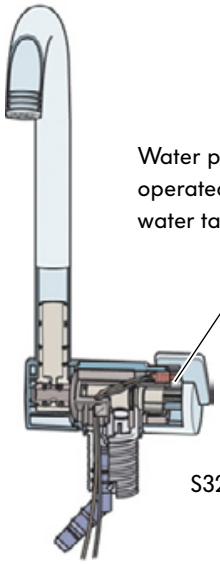
The tank and all pipes are made from plastic.



The fresh water system is winterproof to a certain extent. The water in the fresh water tank should not freeze as the pump and the electric system could be damaged.

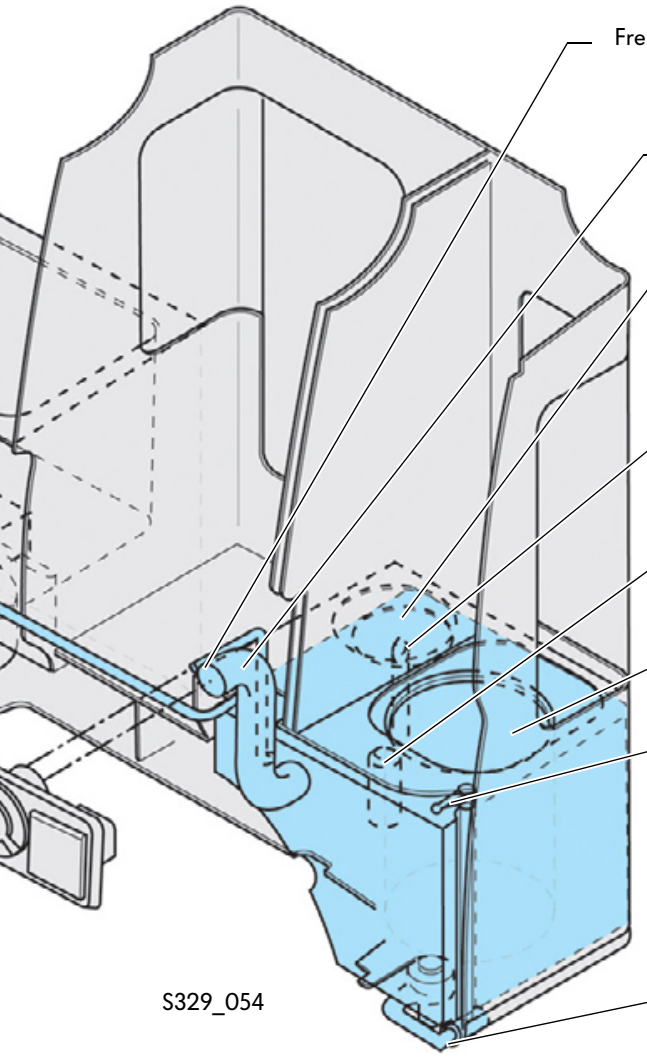
Non-pressurised water pump

Inside the fresh water system, pressure is not built up to transport the water from the tank to the tap.
A switch is built into the water tap that is activated when the water tap is opened and sends a signal to the water pump to start pumping.



Water pump switch E80 operated when the water tap is opened.

S329_104



Fresh water tank breather or overflow

Fresh water filler neck

Opening to reach the sender and the pump

Water level sender G120

Water pump V36

Recess in the fresh water tank for holding the gas bottle for the gas stove

Lever for emptying the fresh water tank

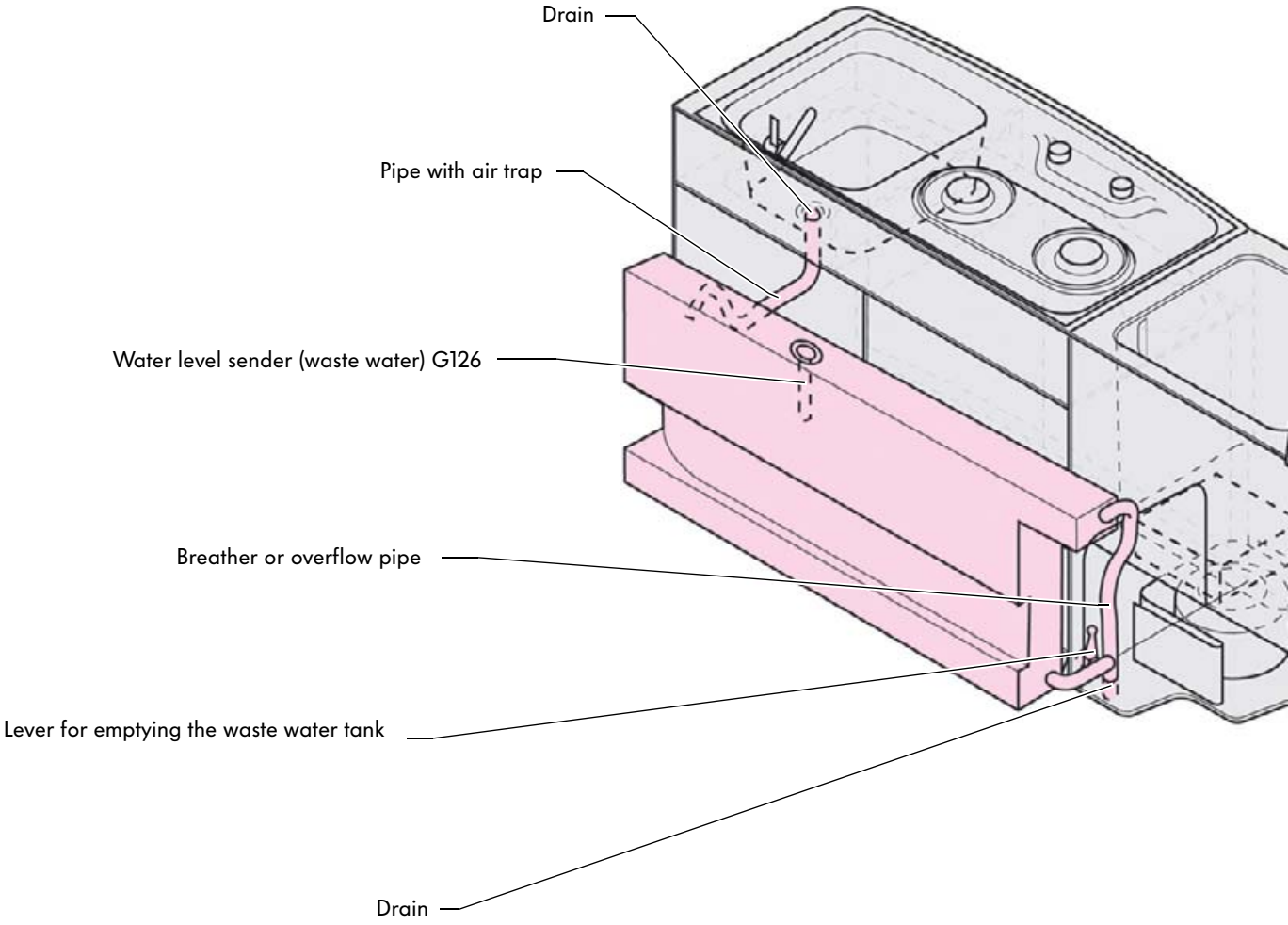
Pipe for emptying the fresh water tank

S329_054

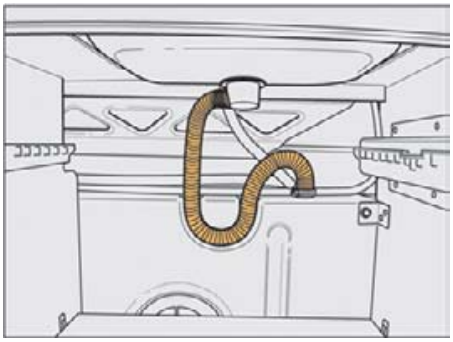
Water supply

Waste water system

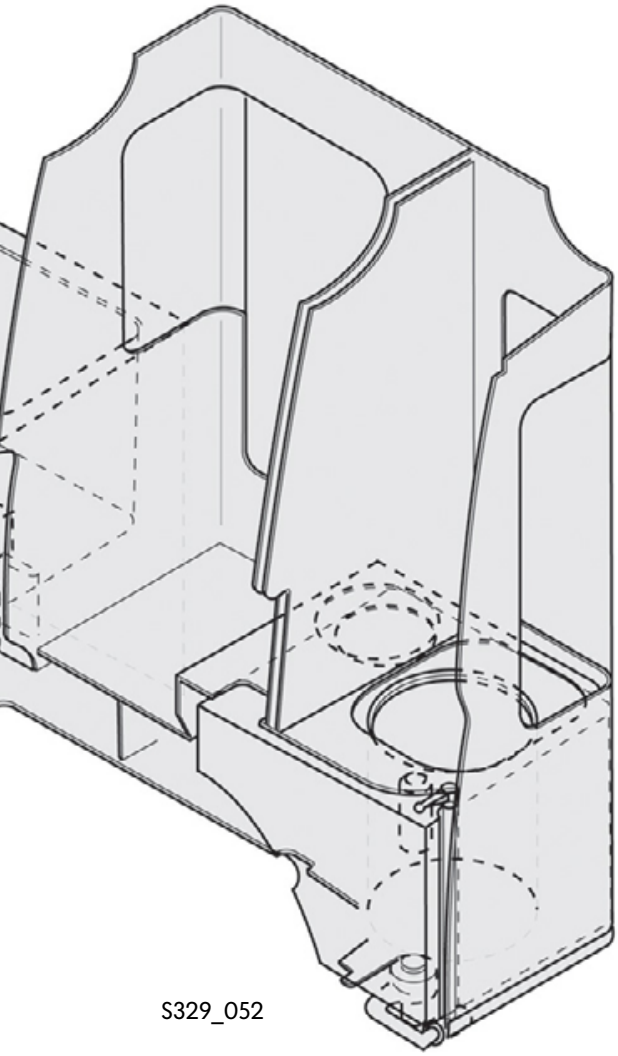
The water system is made up of the waste water tank as well as the sender for the water level (waste water) G126. In addition, the pipe system includes the pipe from the sink unit to the tank, the drain pipe and a breather or overflow hose. The waste water tank holds 30l.
The sender for the water level (waste water) signals the waste water tank level (full or empty) to the operating and display unit for camping equipment E153.
The tank as well as all pipes are made from plastic.



The waste water pipe from the sink unit to the waste water tank uses a siphon-type air trap. Water remains in the U-bend to prevent gases and odours getting from the tank into the interior.



S329_142



S329_052

Gas system

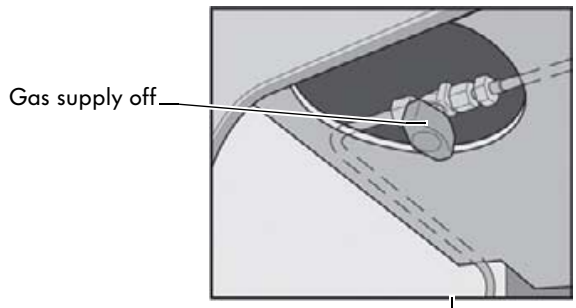
Gas system

Work on the gas system may only be carried out by authorised personnel.

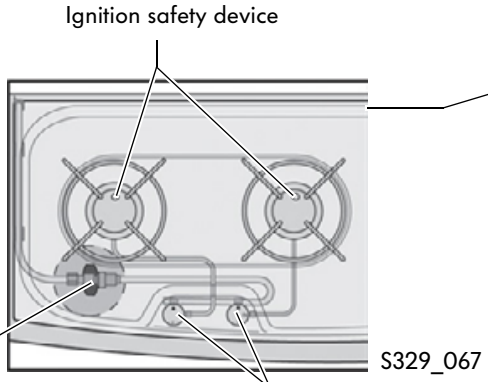
The gas system consists of:

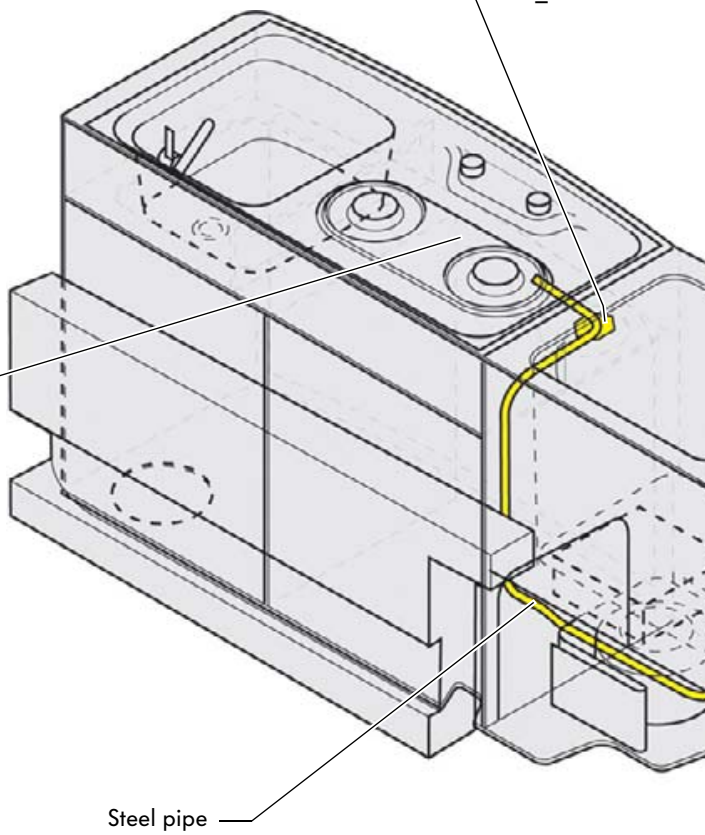
- the gas bottle (integrated in the water tank)
- the pressure regulator
- a flexible gas hose
- a steel pipe for the supply to the gas stove
- the gas shut-off valve
- the gas stove
- the gas vent

The gas shut-off valve is located in the storage compartment underneath the gas stove.



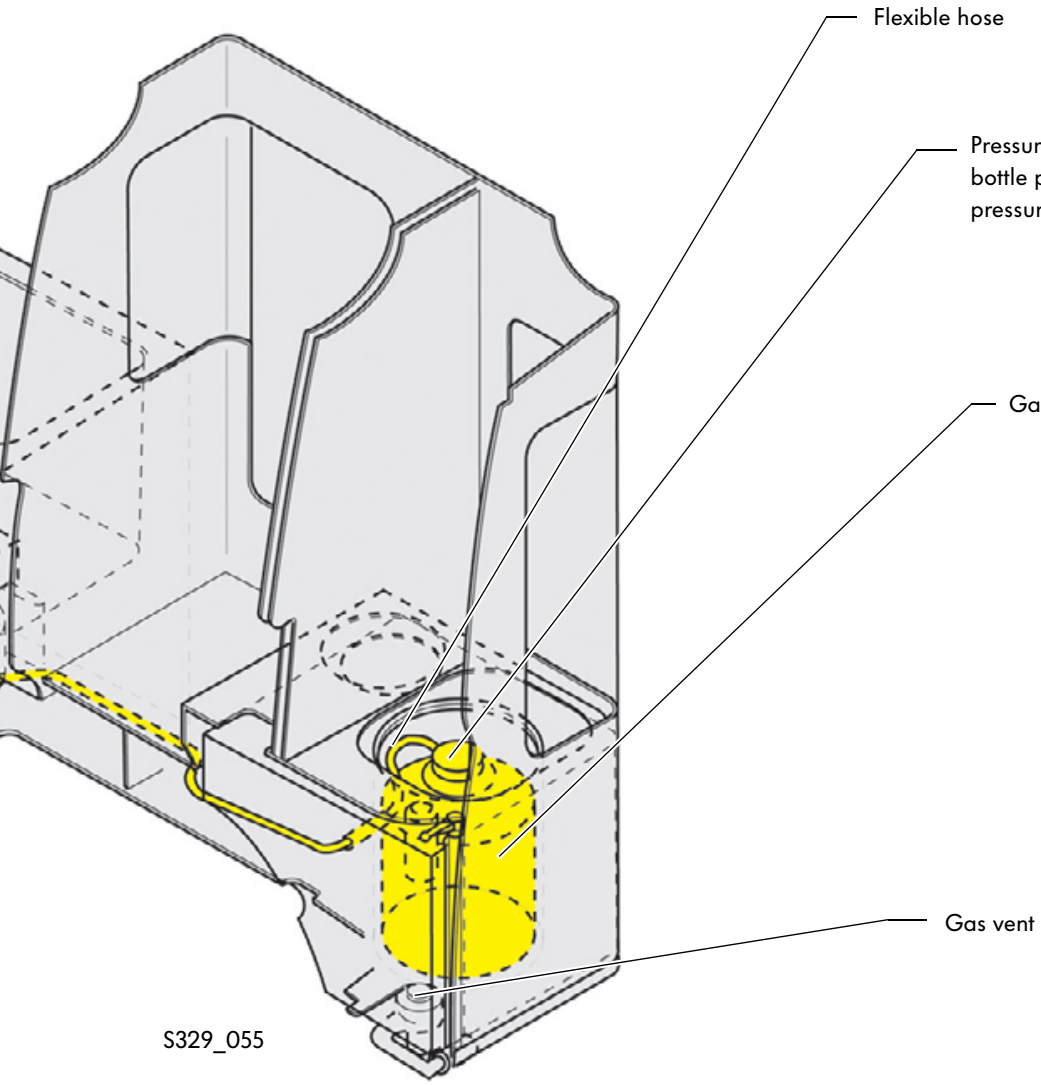
Gas stove





Please refer to the current repair guide for information on exchanging the gas stove components and the gas shut-off valve.

- If the liquid gas pipe system is opened when repair work is carried out, a leak test should always be performed before the system is used again.
- In Germany, this leak test may only carried out by a DVFG expert (DVFG = German Association for Liquid Gas) in accordance with “Work sheet G 607” and “DIN EN 1949” from “DVGW German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water ”.
- Local national regulations should be observed.

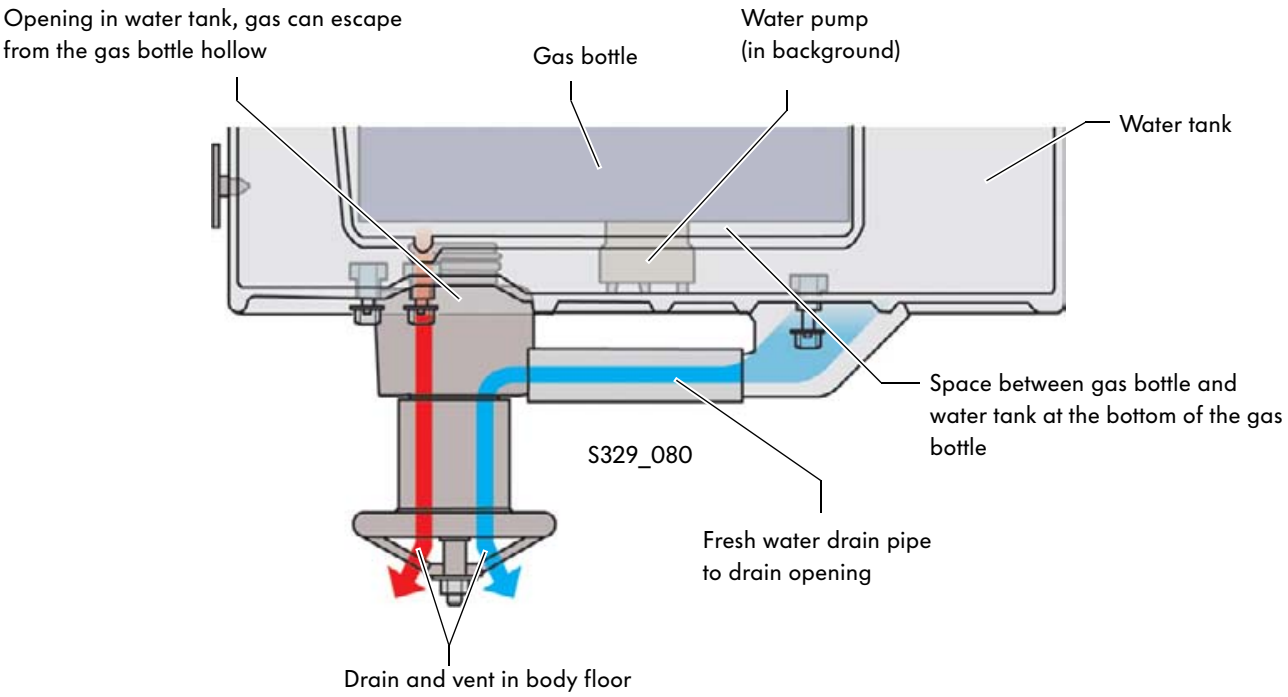


Gas system

Gas venting

If leaks occur around the gas bottle and gas escapes, a gas vent is necessary. This prevents the gas entering the vehicle interior.

As gas is heavier than air, it will sink downwards. Therefore the gas system will be vented at the same time as the fresh water tank is drained through the same opening in the body floor. A combined drain vent opening is also located on the bottom of the fresh water tank. It is designed so that gas can escape and water can drain at the same time.



To reach the gas vent, the underbody cover needs to be removed.
Please see the latest repair guide for the Transporter 2004 Multivan for instructions.