

Changing the C6 Front DRL/Turn signal bulb DIY.

The Corvette C6 DRL/Turn signal bulb will eventually need to be changed. With the DRL bulbs on most of the time the bulb gets hot and over several hundred hours the filament will burn out. The symptoms for the need to change the bulb will be marked with a fast blinking turn signal (HINT: it will blink fast on the side that is burned out be it the left or right, and then it will be a matter of determining which bulb (front or rear) needs to be changed.

This DIY is specific to the front. The illustrations shown are for the driver's side but the procedure will be the same for either. The change can be done anywhere. You need to access a panel at the top center of the wheel well liner. If you are away from home and don't have access to a jack, simply turn your wheels away from the side you are turning as far as they will go. If it is your left signal bulb you are replacing, cut the front wheels as far to the right as they will go and vice versa for the passenger's side bulb.

Time to Complete: Expect the entire job to be about 15 minutes from start to finish. **It is a 2 out of 5 for difficulty**, only because you need to jack the car up to gain access to the bulb.

The OEM bulb is a 5702KA (2005-2010)

Sylvania makes a good replacement bulb in the 3157NA / 4157NA as pictured here:



The bulb is the outer most bulb as seen from outside of the car and it will be the closest to you as you are working on a particular side.



The flap that you need to access looks like this:

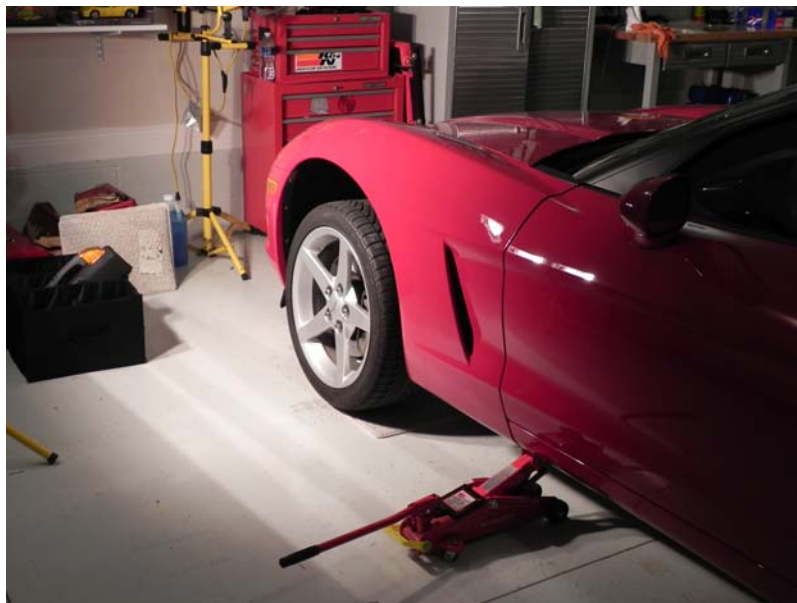


As you can see, you don't have a lot of clearance to get to it when the wheel is straight.



Turning the wheel is your only option if you don't have access to a jack. I would recommend a floor jack for any other change if you have access to one. You don't even need to remove the wheel. If you get the car jacked up off the ground so the top of the wheel is lower than the bottom of the panel you will have plenty of room to get the panel open, twist the socket out and change the bulb.

Start by jacking the car up. Take all normal precautions to jack up the car like blocking the rear tires to keep the car in place while you work on it.



Once the car is up in the air, you need to open the access panel for the bulb. The panel is a rubber panel cover that is held in place with push to lock pins. You need to pry the center of the pin straight out to release the lock mechanism and free the pin from the hole in the wheel well.

Here are the pins you are after:



Here are the pins in their open state which will allow them to be freed from the hole in the panel.



Getting them free can require a fair amount of force. You can start them with a small flat blade screw driver but you will need something around and behind the shoulder to get them pulled out all the way.

A trim tool with a small flat U shaped opening works great. You can improvise with a small flat wrench as well like the one pictured below:



You can get to the bulb with as few as the left two pins pulled open. As noted, the flap is rubber and it will just bend out of your way to access the bulb socket. The socket you are after is to the left side of the opening and just above the yellow wire terminal that you can see in this picture.



The socket is a twist to lock. There is a release on the top left (about 11:00) as you grasp it with your thumb and forefinger inside the opening. Using your right hand, grasp the socket, find the release and press it down. While holding the release you need to give the socket a quarter turn counter clockwise.



Once the socket is free from the latch you just need to pull (and wiggle) the socket and bulb assembly back out of the opening to get to the bulb. Here is a view of the socket out of the car and a better look at the release that you need to find and press.



The release will be to the top left of the socket assembly when the socket is installed in the car as the socket will be horizontal and parallel to the ground with the wires off to the right side of the opening.

Here is the socket assembly out of the light assembly and now it is just a matter of swapping the bulb.



Firmly grasp the bulb and pull it straight out. It is in a location slot in the socket but there is no release or detent that you need to press to remove the bulb from the socket.



All that is left is to insert the new bulb and button everything back up by following the previous steps in reverse.