

Genuine Corvette Accessories Carbon Fiber Radio Surround Installation Instructions for 2005-2007 Corvettes.

Difficulty: 3 out of 5.

Time: Plan on about 1 hour.

The tools used are:

- A small flashlight
- A small flatblade screwdriver
- A T15 Torx bit
- A T25 Torx bit
- A Phillips head screwdriver
- A 7mm socket

? The original OEM surround to replace.



? The shift knob comes off with a T25 torx screw. Just pull down the top of the old boot to expose it.



? The next step is to remove the console cover. This requires the removal of 4 T15 Torx screws.



? Next, take your flat blade screwdriver and a rag and carefully pry off the "tombstone" at the base of the console to expose the two 7mm bolts under it. If you have an F55 equipped car this will be your opportunity to disconnect the F55 switch. If your car is a 2005 you should also disconnect the passenger airbag light.



? Once that is done, here is what you should see.



- ? There are two more 7 mm bolts that are under the front of the emergency brake boot. You don't need to remove the handle or the boot. Just grasp the boot at the front and back and pull straight up towards the roof. This should pull the boot frame out of the side trim pocket and give you access to the two screws.



- ? Here is a shot with the boot removed. As I said, you don't need to do this but it gives you a better idea of where the two bolts are that you need to remove. You can see them to the right of this photograph just before the silver of the console starts. You can also see the right most retainer for the emergency brake boot.



- ? Here is what your removal should look like. This is with the boot lifted and rotated clockwise out of your way. The first bolt is fairly easy to reach. For the second bolt you will need to pull back the carpet.
- ? Once those two 7mm bolts are out you will need to loosen the trim plate that is beside the center console and goes into the dash panel beside the glove box. You only need to loosen it from the first six inches or so beside the console.



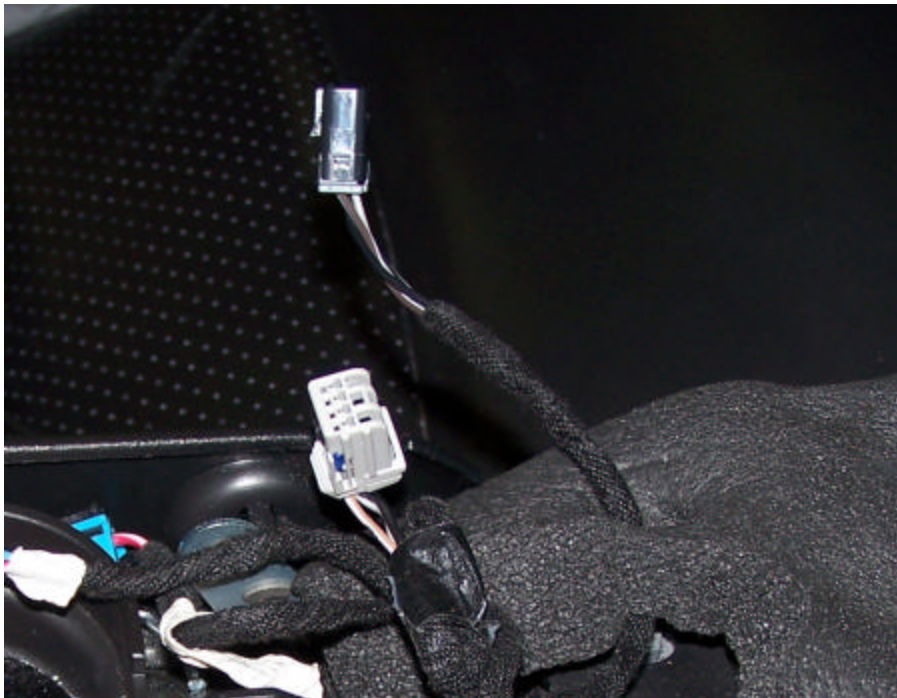
- ? To remove the surround now that it is loose. Start at the back near the center console. Start to lift up the on the part as if you were rocking it up towards the dash. There are

no clips that hold it along the bottom. You just need to lift it off the insulating foam and disconnect the electrical connections as you go.



? There is a connector at the bottom of the traction control switch and this will be the most difficult to remove. There is a triangle shaped detent at the front of the connector that must be pried loose with the small screwdriver. Don't tug on the wires. The detent is shown in close up (black connector) near the top of this picture.

? Next you will need to disconnect the accessory plug that goes inside the center console.



? There are three connectors near the ash tray if you have the seat heaters. Only one if you don't. They each have a press clip to loosen the connector. It should be on the top

of each connector. The last connector in this area will be the cigarette lighter socket. You can see the three connectors in this picture.



- ? Keep tugging at the surround and one by one you will get it out of the clips that hold it in to the dash. There are six total, three on each side of the radio and climate control unit.



- ? Once you have all the connectors pulled free you just need to remove the surround from the AC vent area. These are just extensions that enter the dash and mate with the foam

insulation that you see below. There is also one additional connector that needs to come out. This is the plug for the hazard flasher switch in the center of the AC vent.



- ? The instructions will vary at this point. If you purchased a completed assembly skip down past the next instructions to the shift boot..



- ? Once you have the console out and depending upon what console you have purchased for replacement you may or may not need to transfer over your accessory parts. If you bought a GCA surround you will need to transfer over the ashtray assembly with or without the seat heater. You will need to transfer over the cup holder assembly. You will need to transfer over the hazard switch which simply snaps in place. You will need to transfer over the traction control switch and the accessory lighter socket from the center console. The accessory socket will be the most difficult component to transfer over. It requires pushing in two tabs from inside the barrel of the socket. Once those are pushed in you can remove the barrel from the base. Once the barrel is removed you

can then take the base out of the surround. It sounds easier than it is. You will need to work at these two tabs. The dealership has a special tool to remove the socket. It is shaped like a "T" and it will press both tabs and allow you to rotate the socket out of the base.

? The last item you will need to move is your shift boot.

- ? The shift boot is simply held in place by 5 tabs that snap into the sides of the boot location on the center surround. You will need to pull the tabs back in the following locations (you can expose these with a light pull upward on the shift boot).



- ? If you are transferring over an F55 switch you will need to remove the accessory tombstone and replace it with yours.



- ? To install the completed accessory surround assembly just reverse the steps from above. You should start at the top of the surround and insert the hazard switch connector. Next reconnect the cigarette lighter plug. Next connect the two seat heater connectors if so equipped.
- ? At this point lift your foam insulation and try to get it up and around the base of each of the cupholders. Slip the shiftboot over the top of the shifter. It is easier to do this if the shifter is in neutral at this point.
- ? Once that is done you need to connect the accessory plug. Reconnect the airbag light if you have a 2005 model with the airbag light in the surround.

** I would recommend that you test fit the console at this point to make sure that you have clearance to bolt it down with out interference. Do this before you connect the traction control switch. This will save you the trouble of having to disconnect it again if you have any problems pressing the console down in to place so that you can bolt it in. Once you are confident that you have everything in place go ahead and reconnect your traction control switch.

- ? Re-align the passenger side trim panel and insert and tighten the two 7mm bolts at the ebake location. Don't tighten them all the way and again make sure you have clearance for the two front 7mm bolts. If so, install and tighten the two front 7mm bolts. Now tighten the side 7mm bolts and your console is just about in place. Reinstall your surround tombstone with the airbag light and the F55 connector if so equipped.

? Reseat the emergency brake boot.

? Install the shift knob and pull the boot up around the base of the knob.

? Re-install the center console cushion.

Congratulations, you've completed the install of your new radio surround.

