

CABRIO REAR SEAT LIGHTS

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Supplies Needed

LED's (I used 2 white Onzium pre-wired Superflux)

Wire ~20ft. (I used 22 gauge speaker wire)

2 pin connector (to ease in removal, no need to cut wires)

Drill

5mm or 13/64 drill bit

1/8 drill bit for pilot hole

T-20 and T-25 screwdrivers - ratcheting if avail.

Philips head screwdriver

Adhesive (superglue)

Soldering iron or other means of attaching wires

Solder

Heat shrink

Electrical tape

Zip-ties

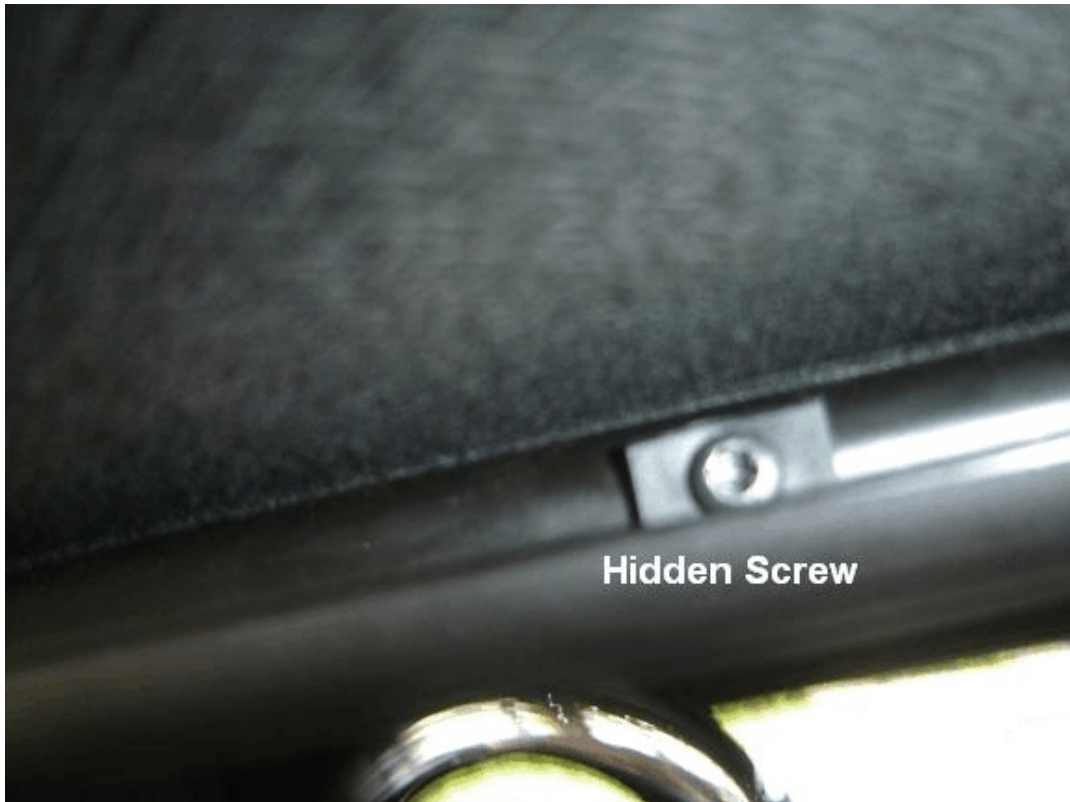
Double sided tape

Straightened metal coat hanger

Some time (took me about 3 hours to complete)

Step 1: Remove bow cover

To remove the bow cover, removed the 2 outer T-25 screws and 2 hidden T-25 screws that are accessed from the front.



Step 2: Drill mounting holes

With bow cover removed from vehicle, find the two casting marks on the back of the cover as outlined in the pictures. They were the only two casting marks on rear facing edge of my bow cover.

Use the 1/8 drill bit to drill the pilot hole then use the 5mm or 13/64 drill bit to drill the final hole. Drill from the finished side (side you'll see when mounted) to get a cleaner visible edge.

After drilling it's a good idea to clean the backside of the panel with rubbing alcohol to allow the adhesive to hold stronger and to help the electrical tape stick then taping down the harness.



Passenger Side



Step 3: LED/bow harness and mounting

Find where you want to mount you connector and cut the appropriate length of wire. Mine connector is mounted inside right above the fuel door and cut about a 4ft. length of wire. (Its always better to have to much wire then not enough)

Strip one end of the wire and solder to LED leads. Don't forget to string the heat shrink on before soldering. Test the LED's for proper operation then solder the connector to the other end of the wire.

I covered the entire length of wire with tape to help protect it and the give a little rigidity. You could use any type of wire protector but I wouldn't recommend convoluted tubing, it will make noise as the top opens and closes.





Mount the LED's to the bow cover using your adhesive. Let the adhesive cure then tape your harness to the cover so that the connector end will exit out the drivers side. The tape will also help prevent any rattles from the harness moving around.





Your now finished with the bow cover and now onto the body harness

Step 4: Body harness

Now that you know where you're going to mount the connector for the bow harness, you'll need to find where you want to get your power from. I used the driver's foot well light for my power source. I also left my wire on the spool then cut to length after I ran the wire.

The first thing to do is to remove the sill seal from the body. Just grab from the middle of the door sill and pull. The ends of the seal are not secured so they will just slide out.

There's no need to remove the plastic trim piece that's on the inside part of the sill because the wire will just fall right behind it anyways.

Sorry don't have a pic of this step, but it's pretty straight forward.

Step 5: Rear quarter trim panel

Once you get the wire to the rear quarter panel trim you'll need to either remove it entirely or just pull the front back enough so you can run the wire behind it.

Pull the rubber seal piece toward the front of the car to release the Christmas tree type clip. Then remove the Phillips screw that's behind it.



There's also a phillips screw that's in one of the windscreen mounting holes that needs to be removed.

Remove the rear seat bottom cushion then open the top all the way. Pull the front edge of the panel toward the center of the car to release the mounting clips holding it to the body. Once released from the body, lift up on the panel to clear the seatbelt assembly then pull again towards the center of the vehicle.

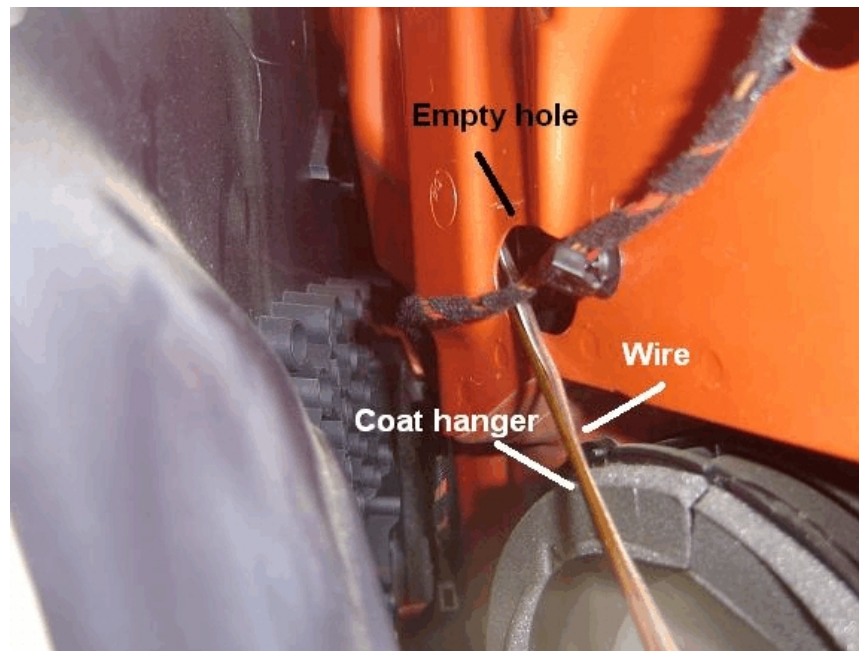
If your not going to remove the panel completely, then the rear seat backs will have tension on the center of the panel but you should have plenty of room to work. Also there's a lip at the top of the panel that has to be lifted over a edge. With the tension on the panel with the seats still mounted, it will deform the lip slightly but will not be visible once the panel is reinstalled if your gentle with the panel while it is in that position.

The lip will make it a little difficult to reinstall the panel but use a butter knife to gently pry up on the lip a little bit while moving panel back to its original position.

Step 6: Getting body harness to rear

Once the panel is free enough to work, you'll see 2 holes in the sheet metal above the speaker. One hole has the factory top harness running through it and the other one is empty.

Pick which hole you want to use then tape one end you're your wire to a straightened coat hanger and lead it gently through the hole till you can see it from above or from the boot.



Once through just zip-tie it to the factory harness and reinstall the quarter panel trim.



If your connector is small enough that it can fit while pushing the wire through the body hole, then solder it on before otherwise you'll have to solder it in the boot, and it's awfully small back there. Also make sure you solder the body harness connector properly (- to - and + to + when connectors are connected)

Step 7: Running bow cover harness

To run the bow harness through the top assembly you need to remove the 3 T-20 screw that attach the interior cloth trim piece to the sunroof motor cross member. To remove the 2 lower screws that are in the picture, it helps to open the top a little bit and access them from the outside. The top screw is easiest to remove with the top closed and just reaching inside the cloth trim cover.

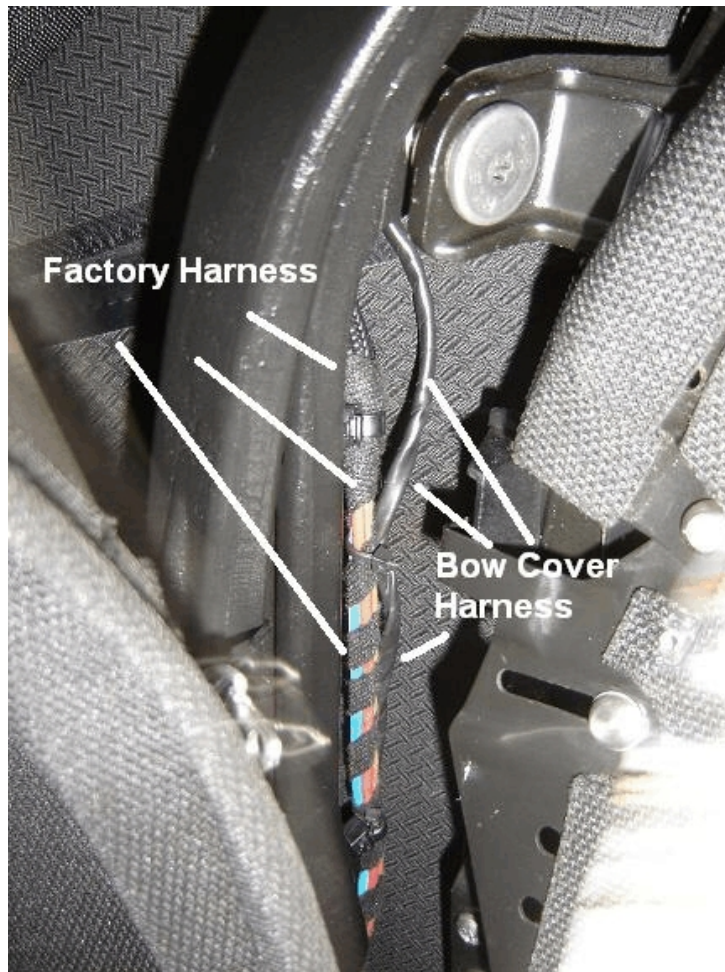
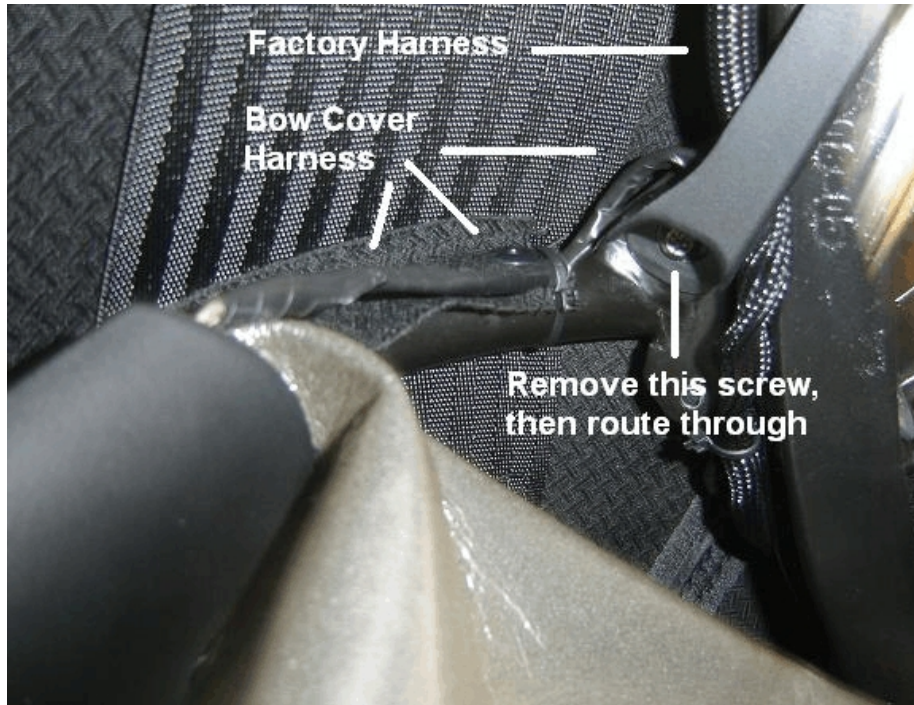


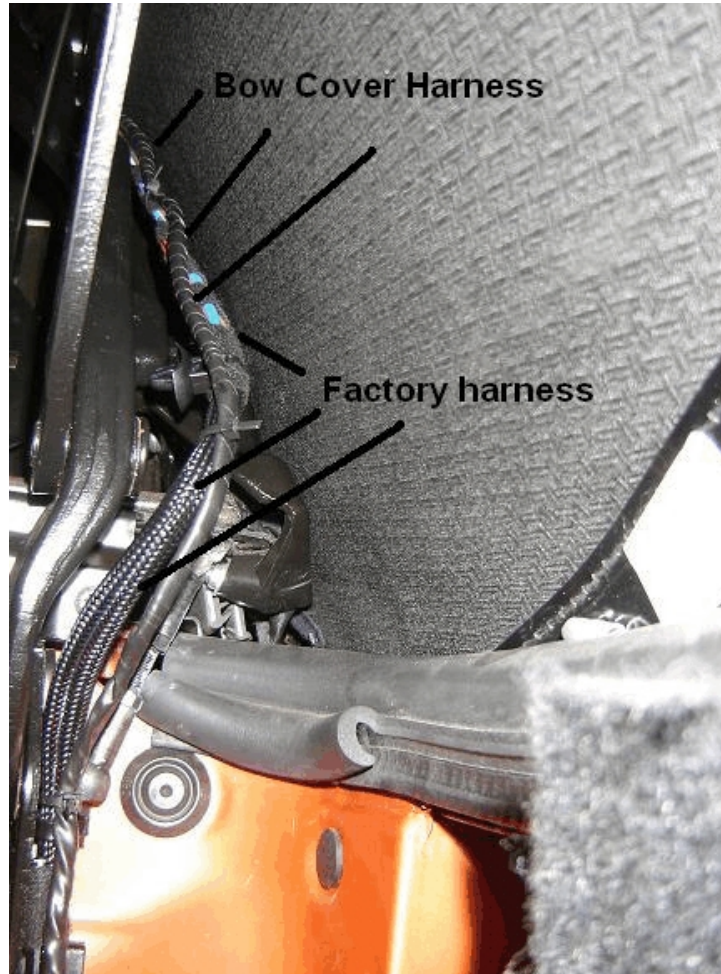
Next remove the T-20 screw that holds the tension cable to the side of top assembly. With the top open slightly there wont be any tension on the cable.



After removing the cloth trim cover screws you'll be able to see how the factory sunroof motor is routed and you'll want to route your box cover harness to follow the factory harness.

With the connector already attached to the bow cover harness its easiest to remove the screw that is the rear mount for a plastic trim piece. As seen in pic. Just route the cover harness to follow the factory harness and zip-tie in place.



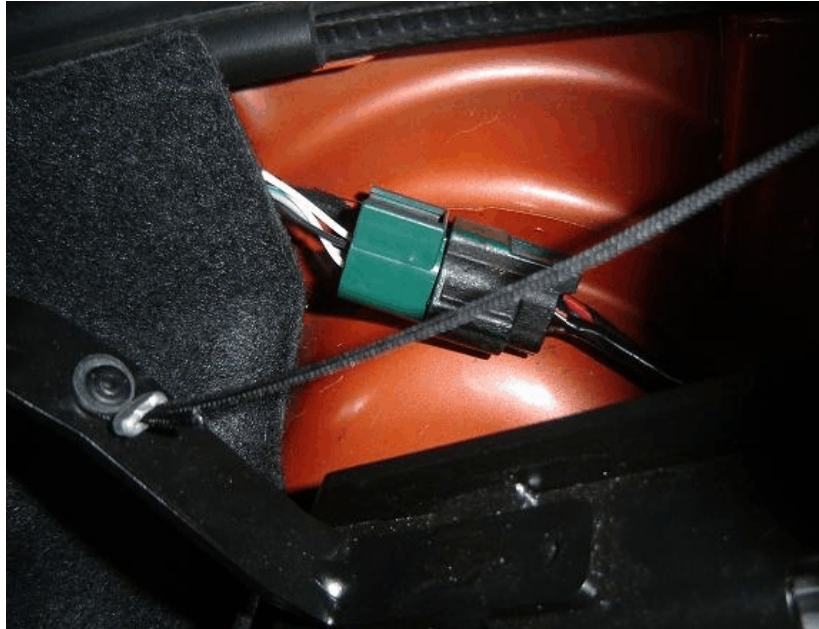


Connect the connectors of the body harness and the bow cover harness and make sure everything is working properly.

Cut zip-tie ends, install the screws removed earlier, and install the bow cover.

Step 8: Finishing up

I found the safest place for the connector is right on top of the inner fender and is basically inside right above the fuel lid. Some double sided tape would work well to hold the connector in place.



Once your satisfied with how everything is just wait till dark and enjoy being able to see your back seat.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns please feel free to contact me on NAM or email me at mparker03@gmail.com

