

How-To: Remove center Dash trim (Radio surround)

I've had a lot of people ask me how to remove the center trim peice around the radio, because I painted mine, after getting tired of the fake carbon fiber and off silver color.

For now, this is somewhat incoherent, because I'm tired, I'll come back and edit it later, and make it better, really I'm just posting pics of what it looks like, giving you an idea of how to take it off.

Here is what you are trying to take out of the car.



First remove the radio itself, I hope you know how to do this, cause, cause I'm not about to cover it 😊

then, you will have to find about 6 little white clips along the inside of the hole you now have in the dash. It may take a flash light to find them.

Here's what you are looking for.



You can use a small flat headed screw driver to pry one side up, and pop the clips off.

Tada.

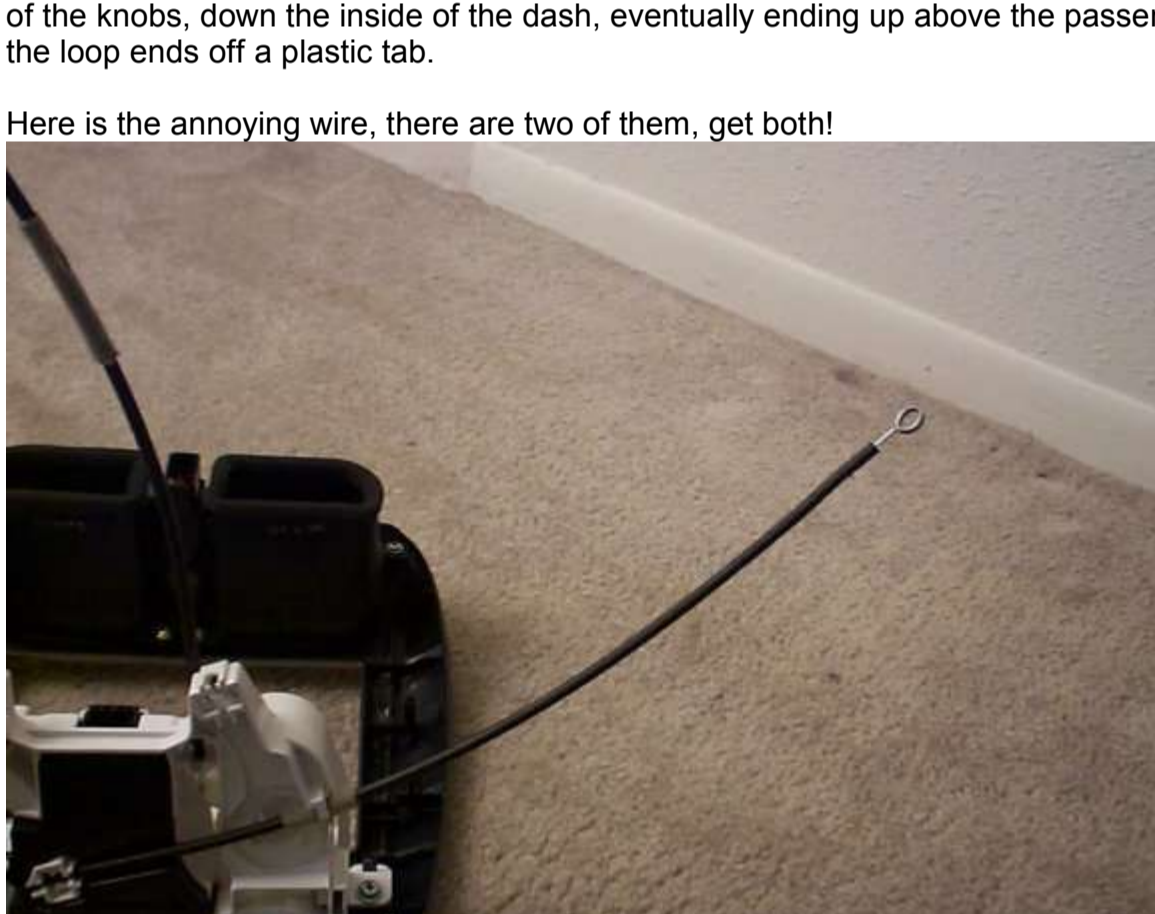


Me Prying, while my hand is through the radio area. This is kinda hard to do, but it's the only way I know how.



After you get the 6?(did this a while back, can't remember how many total) clips off, you can pull the dash trim out a few inches, but then will be stopped by wires that come off the A/C controls. These wires are very stiff, and you will have to follow them off the back of the knobs, down the inside of the dash, eventually ending up above the passenger leg room, on the leftish side. You can easily pry the loop ends off a plastic tab.

Here is the annoying wire, there are two of them, get both!



You should now be able to pull this trim out of the dash, now it's just a simple process of taking apart the controls, which is only a few simple screws, here it is, all dissassembled.



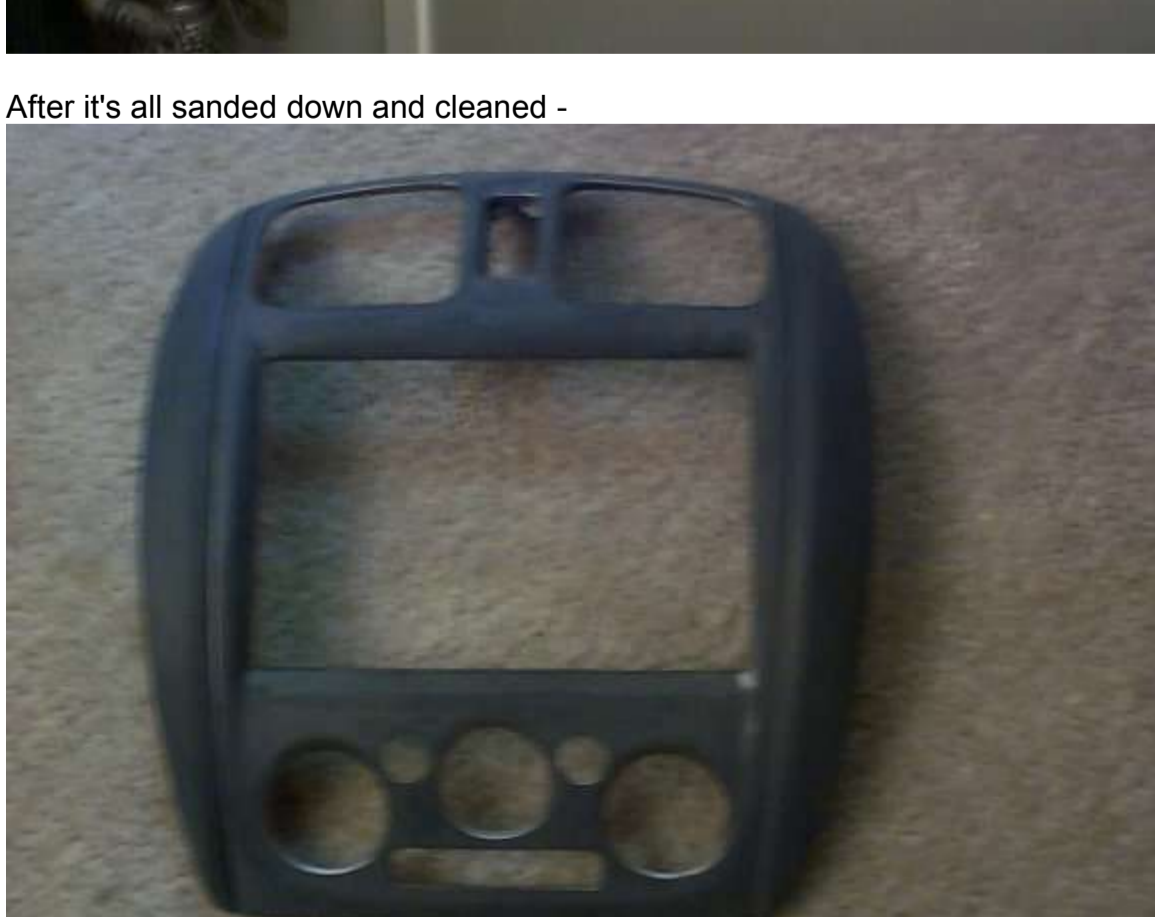
With all controls off



I sanded down the original paint with 400 grit, as to not gouge the material with scratches.



After it's all sanded down and cleaned -



After I got it all painted to match my exterior paint, and with the REAL carbon fiber trim back on.

