🏠 Forum   VW Model-Specific Forums   Passat (B6)   How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box

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Results 1 to 8 of 8

Thread: How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box

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reef150 ◎

Junior Member

🔵 VW

Join Date: Aug 15th, 2007
Posts: 94

How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box   09-05-2007 10:39 PM   **Reply**   #1

I wanted to add a +12V outlet to the center console box so that I could hide my mobile phone charger or the like without cables dangling around. I found some references in one of the Euro cup-holder threads to someone else who did this, but the pics were not directly linking any longer, so I thought I'd pass along what I did and some pics...
First, I removed the rear of the center console. In my 2007 B6, I don't have an ashtray, so the the lower trim panel had to be removed and two screws removed. You can then pull up & out on the rear of the console (assembly with the vents and all) and with a little persuasion the assembly will come off. Disconnect the +12 wiring harness connector.
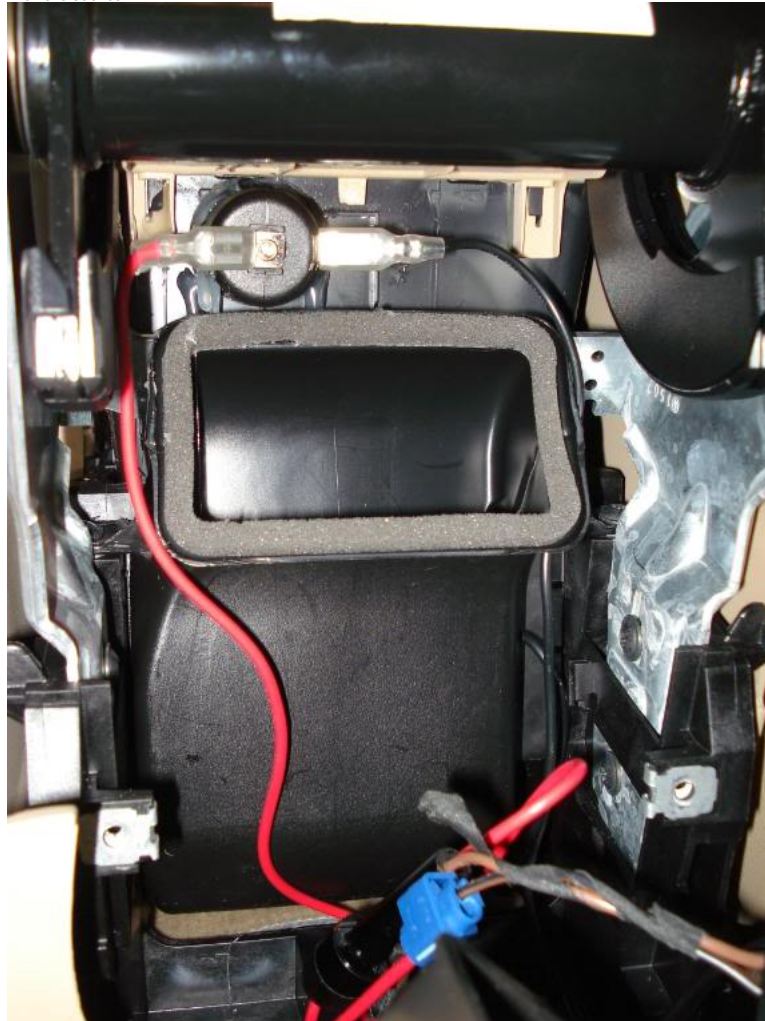The most accessible location for the +12V socket is in the upper / right edge of the storage box (looking from inside the box). I used a +12V add-on outlet from Radio Shack (Model 270-1556)
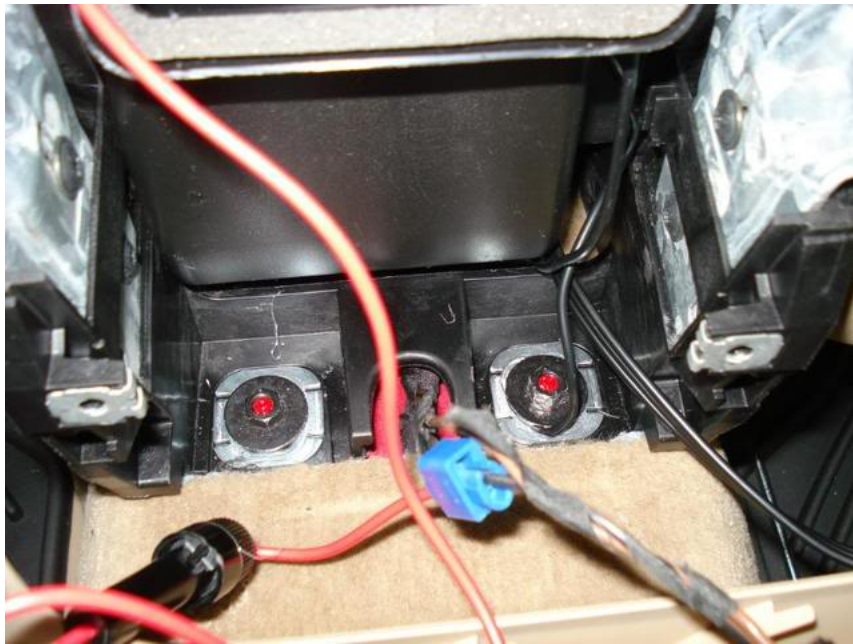
This outlet calls for a 1 & 3/32 drill bit. I could not find a 1 & 3/16 drill bit, so I purchased a 1 1/4 bit as I was not thinking. Well, turns out such a

hole is too large for the press-tabs to catch
Be forewarned - use a 1" bit and then work the hole with a file or Dremel to expand as needed to get the socket to fit..... Fortunately, a little hot-glue on the inside of the socket lip and more on the back-side solved what could have been a frustrating problem.
I connected the +12 wire from the socket to the existing convience outlet wiring harness (black w/stripe) using the splice connnector that came with the socket.

The instructions for the 12V socket said not to connect the ground wire to anything plastic, so instead of splicing into the ground wire on the harness (brown), I connected the new +12 socket's ground to the frame which the console is bolted to. I'm not quite sure why this is the case as there are plenty of ground wires in socket connectors (such as the existing 12V harness). Perhaps this warning was just a CYA, or perhaps it was to be clear not to connect to some metal that was actually isolated from the car's frame... anyway, I was able to test for continuity to ground through the car frame at the bolt shown in the pic, so I went with that. If it proves problematic, then I'll move the ground wire to a tap off the existing harness.

Not much left to do but to assemble everything back...... while I had the cover off I took the opportunity to do a few other mods which I'll capture later in another post if anyone is interested.
1) run a new AUX input line from my DICE i-VW-R iPod integration to the glove-box location and
2) install a set of RCA jacks for audio/video to provide a source to removable rear LCD panels for the kids (originating from a DICE iPod Video Cradle)
Final install pics:
From the rear-console:

From inside the storage box:

Hope this is helpful.....

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coomoob1 ○
Member

Join Date: Dec 10th, 2001
Location: Tampa area, FL
Posts: 1,082
Vehicles: 2015 GTI MKVII
Autobahn

Re: How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box (reef150)　　　09-06-2007 10:07 AM　　**Reply**　#2

Great write up! I was thinking about doing this in the little storage console under to the left under the steering wheel.
Someone needs to find out the part number for the AC plug for the back seat (to replace the current DC). I swear I've seen one somewhere.

Current: 2015 VW Golf GTI MKVII Autobahn

Prior: 2013 VW CC 2.0 Sport Plus, 2010 CC 2.0T R-Line, 2007 Passat 2.0T Lux, 2004 Explorer Eddie Bauer *(What was I thinking!?)*, 2001 GTI IV 1.8T, 1999.5 Golf IV, 1992 Geo Metro LS

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reef150 ○
Junior Member

Join Date: Aug 15th, 2007
Posts: 94

Re: How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box (coomoob1)　　　09-06-2007 02:45 PM　　**Reply**　#3

Check here...
https://www.1stvwparts.com/partscat.html

OEM Parts Catalog -> Body Parts Catalog (select 2006 or 2007 & Passat)
Then navigate down to: Console->Center Console->Inverter - View Diagram

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networkcrasher ○
Member

Join Date: Jul 31st, 2006
Posts: 377

09-06-2007 03:15 PM　　**Reply**　#4

wow, that's expensive. I'll stick with my 20 dollar one from costco, although it'd be sweet if i had the plug built into the car.

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coomoob1 ○
Member

Re: How-to: Adding +12V outlet to center console box (reef150)　　　09-06-2007 06:25 PM　　**Reply**　#5

> *Quote, originally posted by* **reef150** *»*
>
> Check here...
> https://www.1stvwparts.com/partscat.html
>
> OEM Parts Catalog -> Body Parts Catalog (select 2006 or 2007 & Passat)
> Then navigate down to: Console->Center Console->Inverter - View Diagram

I saw that...but I don't really see the right outlet....it looks like the standard car plug to me. (#18)

[?]

Modified by coomoob1 at 11:27 PM 9-6-2007

Current: 2015 VW Golf GTI MKVII Autobahn

Prior: 2013 VW CC 2.0 Sport Plus, 2010 CC 2.0T R-Line, 2007 Passat 2.0T Lux, 2004 Explorer Eddie Bauer *(What was I thinking!?)*, 2001 GTI IV 1.8T, 1999.5 Golf IV, 1992 Geo Metro LS

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networkcrasher ○

Member

Join Date:	Jul 31st, 2006
Posts:	377

09-06-2007 06:46 PM   **Reply**   #6

I think #16 is the part it's referring to

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coomoob1 ○

Member

_AR_

Join Date:	Dec 10th, 2001
Location:	Tampa area, FL
Posts:	1,082
Vehicles:	2015 GTI MKVII Autobahn

Re: (networkcrasher)   09-07-2007 08:01 AM   **Reply**   #7

> *Quote, originally posted by* **networkcrasher** *»*
>
> I think #16 is the part it's referring to

I thought so too, but where's the plug outlet to replace the car outlet?

Current: 2015 VW Golf GTI MKVII Autobahn

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reef150 ○

Junior Member

Join Date:	Aug 15th, 2007
Posts:	94

Re: (coomoob1)   09-07-2007 11:59 PM   **Reply**   #8

While it looks like a round plug, I'm wondering if its actually a bladed socket for a 110V AC outlet, that fits in a "round" plug. I expect you'd have to spend some time at the parts counter to try and determine for sure....

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