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christofambrosch o

Senior Member

Join Date: Jul 4th, 2011 Location: Pennsylvania Posts: 23 664 Vehicles: 2012 Passat 3.6

DIY: Installing OEM Front and Rear Footwell Lighting

01-25-2014 11:45 PM



I have gotten a lot of responses and inquiries regarding my footwell lighting install so I thought I would make a more elaborate thread regarding the process. As usual, you do things at your own risk. I am not responsible for any mistake you may make.

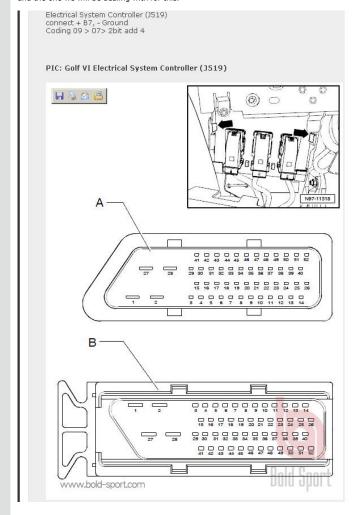
Tools:

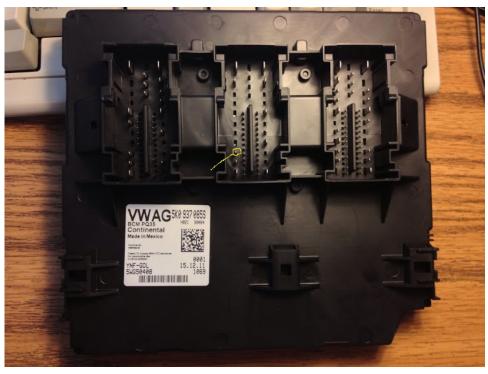
- trim removal tool [for radio trim and interior rocker trim]
- T20 torx with driver [for radio and under dash panels]
 I0mm triple square socket bit (with driver and extension) [for seats]

Process:

- Step 1: remove the driver side under dash panel
- Step 2: remove the passenger side under dash panel
- Step 3: remove trim around radio
- Step 4: remove radio

Step 5: locate the BCM under the driver side dash. You will need to find three plugs. These are called A, B, and C. Obviously B is the middle plug and the one we will be dealing with for this.



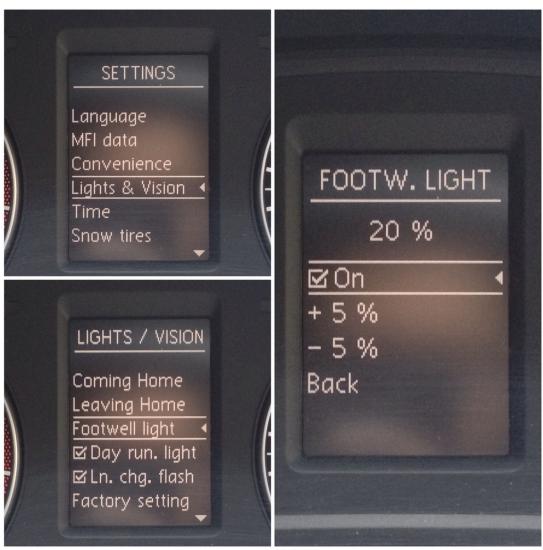


- Step 6: remove plug B. Once removed, you will need to slide the pin housing out of the sheath. There is a small tab that keeps it in.
- Step 7: locate pin 50. This is where you need to insert the positive lead for the footwell lights.
- $\textbf{Step 8:} \ \ \text{reassemble the pin housing, sheath, and plug}.$
- **Step 9:** find a place to ground the harness. I removed the top screw on the fuse panel and placed the ground lead between the fuse panel and the metal dash frame.
- Step 10: run passenger side harness up through the dash and into the radio cavity. Then run it down the other side into the passenger under dash.
- Step 11: you will need to punch out the plastic fill pieces that are on the under dash panels, one each side. You may need to use a knife.
- **Step 12:** press the new housings into the hole on the panels and connect the wires.
- Step 12a: if you are only doing front lights, this is when you reinstall all panels, radio, radio trim, and move on to coding (step 21).
- Step 12b: if you are doing rear lights, you will need to leave the front panels removed, but you can reinstall radio and radio trim.
- Step 13: remove driver seat (or remove all four bolts and tip it back out of the way)
- Step 14: remove driver interior rocker trim (to expose wiring channel)



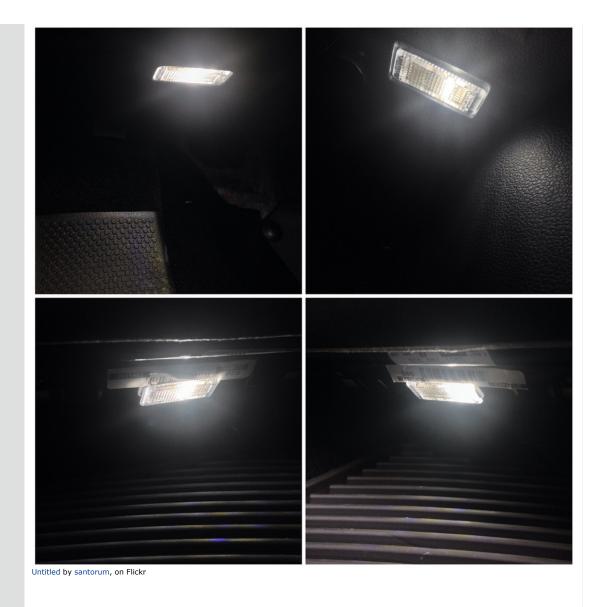
Untitled by santorum, on Flickr

- Step 16: remove passenger seat (or remove all four bolts and tip it back out of the way)
- Step 17: remove passenger interior rocker trim (to expose wiring channel)
- **Step 18:** run the wires for each side down the channels along the other wires. You will see other wires that go to the seats (power controls and heat). Run them along them and secure with a small zip tie or tape.
- **Step 19:** the back of each seat has a rectangle hole for a light housing in the center of the frame. Simply run the wires to these holes, connect the housings to the wires, and then press them into the fame opening. It may take a little force to do so.
- Step 20: reinstall interior rocker trim, under dash panels, seats, and any other items you may have removed and clean up.
- **Step 21:** time for coding. Probably the simplest coding to do. You will go in to 09 Central Electronics and there are two bits that pertain to footwell lights. They both need to be checked (turned on). I will get the exact coding tomorrow.
- Step 22: recycle the key and then go into your MFA. Select the Lighting menu and turn on the footwell lights. From here, you can adjust the dimming as well.



Untitled by santorum, on Flickr

Step 23: enjoy your lights. 🔝



Wounded Warrior Project | The Bearded Camera

 \triangle

💯 Reply With Quote | 💯+

01-26-2014 12:48 AM Reply #2

mattfrayage o

Member

Join Date: Feb 7th, 2013 Sturtevant WI 53177 Location:

Posts:

Vehicles: premium 2013 passat tdi sel So, to wire in just the rears, what must be done, as our SEL premium has front but not rears... are they just hooked up to the front lights, or how is it done?

 \triangle

Reply With Quote | P4

01-26-2014 01:20 AM Reply #3



vw norm o

Member

Join Date: Jun 2nd, 2012 Location: Hawaii

Vehicles: 2012 Passat TDI SEL, 2007 Touareg VR6

That's what I did. Just wire the LED to the front ones one each side. But that still required lifted the seat and running the wires through the flex tube into the wire bundle under the side trim and to the front lights to splice into the front footwell lights. I used Red spot LEDs similar to the ones I used for the trunk lighting. I saw this: http://www.carsystems.pl/vw-footwell...409,id646.html which makes it truly plug and play. The housings just snap into the big rectangular hole on the bottom of the front seats. The wiring harness comes with a male/female plug pair with a male extension for the rear. I guess if you can't solder and tape, then this makes it easier.





Last edited by vw norm; 01-26-2014 at 01:28 AM.

2012 SEL TDI DSG - Platinum Gray with Moonrock 2007 Touareg V6 - Offroad Gray w/ Anthracite



Reply With Quote | 54

01-26-2014 07:53 AM Reply #4



christofambrosch o

Senior Member



Join Date: Jul 4th, 2011 Pennsylvania 23,664 Location: Posts: Vehicles: 2012 Passat 3.6 🐧 Originally Posted by mattfrayage 🔟

So, to wire in just the rears, what must be done, as our SEL premium has front but not rears... are they just hooked up to the front lights, or how is it done?

Yes. The kit I got has the rears already piggy-backed off of the front. The kit that Norm posted is perfect for those who have fronts and do not want to cut:







Reply With Quote | 94

01-26-2014 12:24 PM Reply #5

vw norm o

Member

Join Date: Jun 2nd, 2012 Location: Hawaii 797 Posts:

Vehicles: 2012 Passat TDI SEL, 2007 Touareg VR6

Originally Posted by VR_Kraut

Not sure why you had the rear vents apart, unless you just went ham and took it all apart. Haha.

Because the 12's did not come with rear vents, so I put my own. Thread link:" http://forums.vwvortex.com/showthrea...013-Rear-ventsI was waiting on the rear piece to arrive, thus my air tubes were simply there, and the final pics did not show off the rear footwells as good. It is now like this:



Last edited by vw norm; 01-26-2014 at 12:27 PM.

2012 SEL TDI DSG - Platinum Gray with Moonrock 2007 Touareg V6 - Offroad Gray w/ Anthracite



Reply With Quote | 94



christofambrosch o

Senior Member



Jul 4th, 2011 Join Date: Location: Pennsylvania 23,664 Vehicles: 2012 Passat 3.6 Ah fair enough. I need to do that as well for my kids.

01-26-2014 04:26 PM Reply #6





Wounded Warrior Project | The Bearded Camera



01-26-2014 07:01 PM Reply



tnourseMN427 o



Junior Member

Join Date: Dec 26th, 2013 MN Location: Posts: 30 2014 VW Passat SE

Vehicles: 1.8T

Thanks a lot for posting this. Helps quite a bit. Will be tackling this very soon.

 \triangle

PReply With Quote | P4

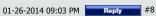


ORDNorth o Semi-n00b

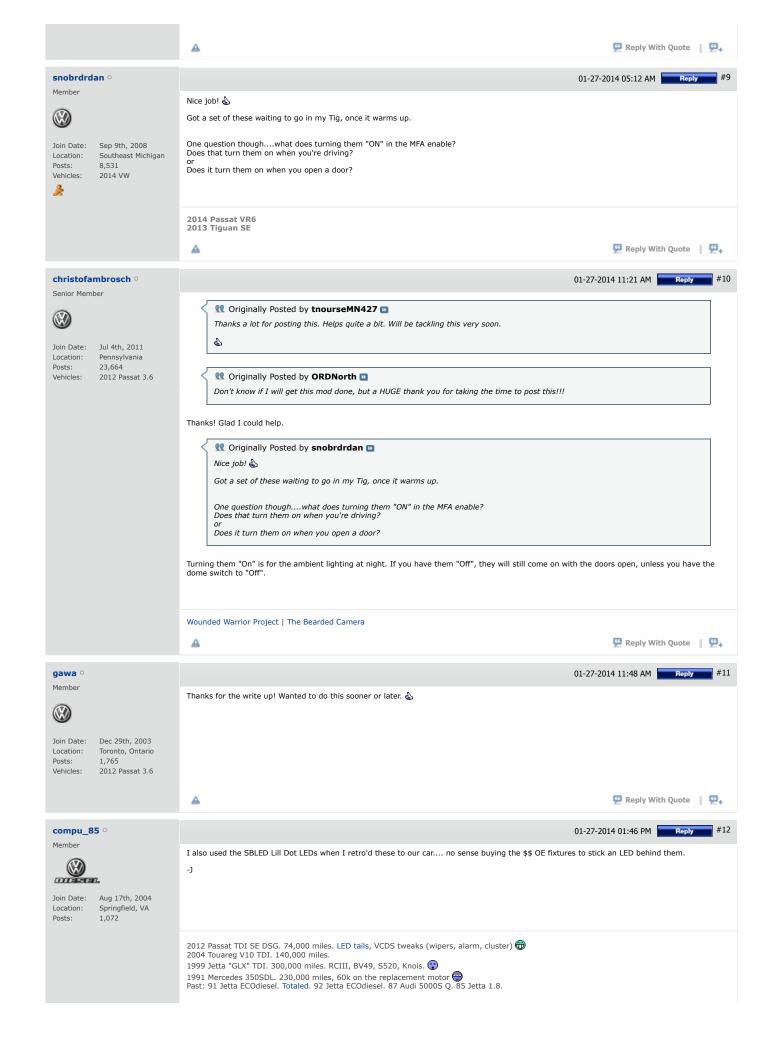


Join Date: Jan 30th, 2013 Grafton, WI 12 Location: Posts: 2013 TDI SEL Vehicles:

 $Don't \ know \ if \ I \ will \ get \ this \ mod \ done, \ but \ a \ HUGE \ thank \ you \ for \ taking \ the \ time \ to \ post \ this!!!$







miamipassat o

Member



Jan 19th, 2012 Miami, FL Location: 130 Posts:

2012/VW/Passat SE Vehicles: AT

Originally Posted by VR_Kraut

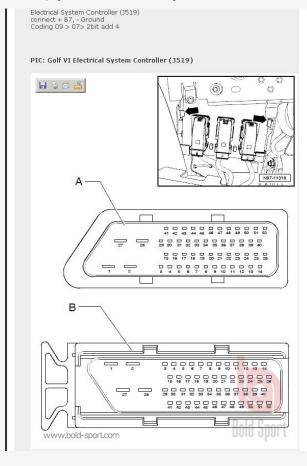
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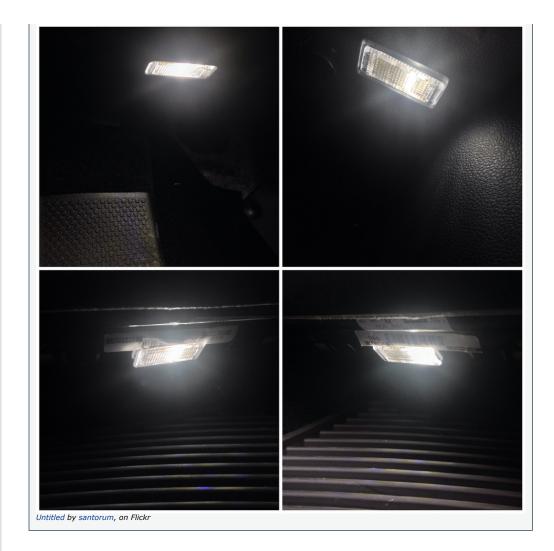
Untitled by santorum, on Flickr

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Untitled by santorum, on Flickr

Step 23: enjoy your lights. 🔒



I am am new to VW. If I put the pin connector into the BCM and ground the other wire by the fuses, what do I run to the passenger side behing the radio?

I assume I splice the positive pin wire? Sorry for this dumb question

Reply With Quote | 94

01-28-2014 05:09 AM Reply

snobrdrdan o

Member



Join Date: Sep 9th, 2008 Southeast Michigan Location: Posts: Vehicles: 2014 VW

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Originally Posted by VR_Kraut

Turning them "On" is for the ambient lighting at night. If you have them "Off", they will still come on with the doors open, unless you have the dome switch to "Off".

Got it, thanks!

2014 Passat VR6 2013 Tiguan SE

01-28-2014 05:12 AM Reply



snobrdrdan o

Member



Join Date: Sep 9th, 2008 Southeast Michigan Location: 8,531 Posts: Vehicles: 2014 VW



🐧 Originally Posted by miamipassat 🔟

I am am new to VW. If I put the pin connector into the BCM and ground the other wire by the fuses, what do I run to the passenger side behing the radio?

One end of the harness has the pin & the ground.....then the rest of the wiring has two connectors with harnesses attached (that plug into the lights), one connector for the driver's side light & one for the passenger's side light. It's all on ONE long harness.

So you're just routing the wiring from the BCM to the driver's side light to the passenger side light, to make the connections.

Make sense?

01-28-2014 09:52 AM

22+

miamipassat o

Member



 Join Date:
 Jan 19th, 2012

 Location:
 Miami, FL

 Posts:
 130

 Vehicles:
 2012/VW/Passat SE

 AT

🔐 Originally Posted by snobrdrdan 🔟

One end of the harness has the pin & the ground.....then the rest of the wiring has two connectors with harnesses attached (that plug into the lights), one connector for the driver's side light & one for the passenger's side light. It's all on ONE long harness.

So you're just routing the wiring from the BCM to the driver's side light to the passenger side light, to make the connections.

Make sense?

Got it!!! I did not know what the harness looks like. I should be getting the parts later this week...Thanks!!

 \triangle

Reply With Quote

03-18-2014 10:23 PM

- 44

b0bbybisc0 o

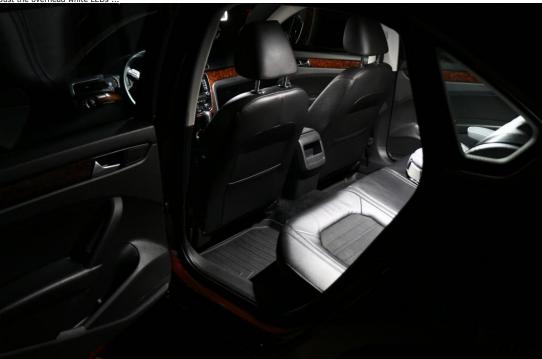
Member

GLI

Join Date: Mar 17th, 2010 Location: Minneapolis, MN Posts: 190 Vehicles: 2012 Passat SEL Premium I bought the rear footwell lights a couple months ago and I finally got around to installing them and am happy with the results.

These pics are long exposure shots ... thus the red LEDs aren't really this bright in person.

Just the overhead white LEDs ...



Front overhead white LEDs with the red footwells turned on ...

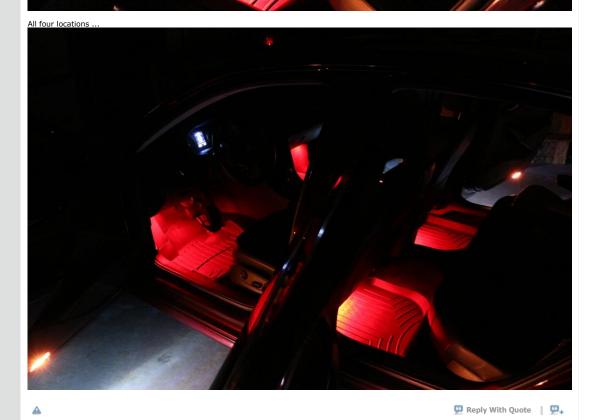


Rear overhead white LEDs with the red footwells turned on \dots



miamipassat o

Bust the red footwell LEDs ... currently on when parking lights are active (didn't have this on the MKV GLI) ...



03-19-2014 09:08 AM Reply #18



Jan 19th, 2012 Miami, FL Posts: 130

Vehicles: AT

2012/VW/Passat SE

Originally Posted by b0bbybisc0

I bought the rear footwell lights a couple months ago and I finally got around to installing them and am happy with the results.

These pics are long exposure shots ... thus the red LEDs aren't really this bright in person.

Just the overhead white LEDs



Front overhead white LEDs with the red footwells turned on ...



Rear overhead white LEDs with the red footwells turned on ...



Just the red footwell LEDs \dots currently on when parking lights are active (didn't have this on the MKV GLI) \dots



Looks good. I only did the front but I should have done the rear also. My wife call them "pimp lights"..



03-19-2014 09:56 AM



OldBlue62 o

Member



Join Date: Nov 17th, 2013 Location: NE Ohio Posts: 132

Vehicles: 2013 Passat SE 2.5, 2013 Beetle 'Vert 2.5 w/ Tech

Thanks christofambrosch! Nice write up! What light kit did you fit to the front? Do you have a link to it?

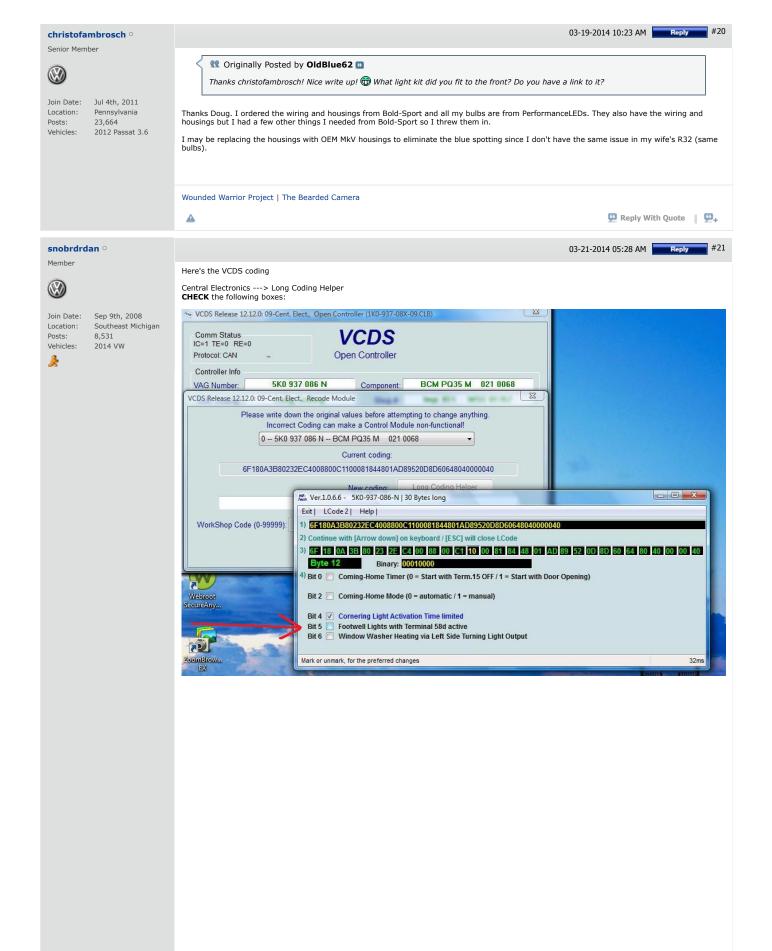
Last edited by OldBlue62; 03-19-2014 at 10:08 AM.

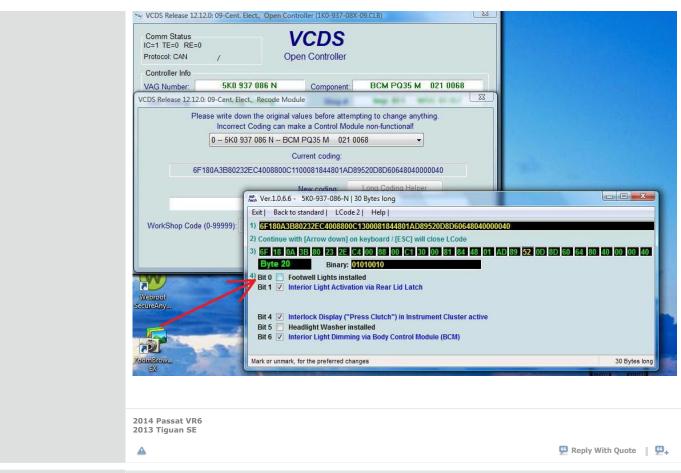
Doug

Current - 2013 Passat SE, 2013 Beetle 'Vert
Gone - 2005 New Beetle GL 'Vert, 2011 Golf TDI DSG, 2005 Jetta, 2003 New Beetle, 2002 New Beetle, too many air-cooled to count...









christofambrosch o

Senior Member



Join Date: Jul 4th, 2011 Location: Pennsylvania Posts: 23,664 Vehicles: 2012 Passat 3.6 Thanks for those screen shots!

Ok, so I finally have photo proof of what I have been saying this entire time. The blue spotting is because of the housings, NOT THE LED BULB. Volkswagen is well known for superseding their parts and part numbers when they switch manufacturers (regardless of why they switch). It seems as though the housings used for the footwell bulbs and glovebox, have been updated...and here is the proof.

03-26-2014 11:17 PM Reply

On the left of all four photos is the old version, 6L0-947-415, and on the right of all four photos is the new version, 5ND-947-415. You can clearly see that the pattern of the two are different. The same bulb is used in both housings and I will let the photos speak for themselves:









So, I will go back to what was originally stated, the blue spotting is not due to the LED bulb in the housing. It is because of the housing itself. I do not know exactly when this revision happened, but I will be ordering the rest of the old style for my Passat.

Wounded Warrior Project | The Bearded Camera



Reply With Quote | 54

kyle_h o

Member

Join Date: Aug 1st, 2010 Location: Ottawa Valley, Ontario, Canada

121

Vehicles: Edition 2010 Jetta TDI Cup

Originally Posted by christofambrosch

10-13-2014 06:42 PM Reply #23



Can't find this on their site, anyone know where else to get this??

EDIT: I didn't look heard enough, found it on there now

Last edited by kyle_h; 10-13-2014 at 06:48 PM.

2010 Jetta TDI Cup Edition

2001 Jetta TDI (retired @ 478,000km)



12-30-2014 05:21 AM Reply #24



JsmokeVR6 o

Member



Jan 17th, 2006 the Dorf MD 1,455 Join Date: Location: Posts: Audi b5 a4 Vehicles:



this is really cool. i have SEL TDI with fronts already installed. going to look and see if i have cut out in rears and grab these. good write up. 🔝 christofambrosch which kit did you get?

Last edited by JsmokeVR6; 12-30-2014 at 05:27 AM.

🗨 Originally Posted by Danza. 🔟

Your car is powder blue, and calling something "jazz" anything doesn't make it less gay.

 \triangle

Reply With Quote | P4

01-23-2015 05:26 PM



Airborne1cav o

Member

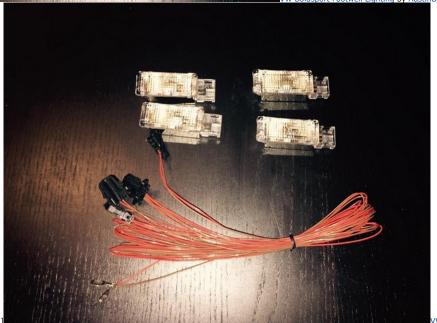


Join Date: Aug 18th, 2012 Location: Auburn, WA 103 Posts: 2014 Passat TDI SE-Vehicles: NAV

Just received my kit from BoldSport - here's what's included. It was 10 days delivery regular shipping from HK to Seattle, WA



VW Boldsport Footwell Lighting by Austin B747, on



Flickr[/IMG][IMG]
Footwell Lighting by AustinB747, on Flickr[/IMG]

VW Boldsport

01-24-2015 07:54 PM Reply

Reply With Quote | P4

Airborne1cav o

Member



Aug 18th, 2012 Location: Auburn, WA Posts: 103

Vehicles: NAV

2014 Passat TDI SE-

☐ Install Complete

Just finished the install and thought I would include some more pictures. Followed the DIY as Christofambrosch made it, only thing I did different was cut & lengthened the wires so that I had more length to work with. Everything is installed and working, only issue I have is that the cutouts underneath the seats for the rear lights are definitely too small. So I'm either going to have to file the metal down, or just velcro the lights underneath the seat. Here's the pictures.

Pictures left to right and top to bottom

Picture taken upside down on my back of the BCM - Running the positive lead into port 50 on terminal B - Ground wire -Ground wire Running cables behind the RNS-510
Extending the cable length with 18 gauge wire from Azone Sport tape / felt tape
Loose wires = noisy wires
Taped wires = quiet wires
Finished! (with blue spots, see later post)



PicMonkey Collage 4 by AustinB747, on Flickr[/IMG]

Last edited by Airborne1cav; 02-04-2015 at 10:11 PM.



01-25-2015 07:47 PM Reply

Reply With Quote | P+

christofambrosch o

Senior Member



Join Date: Jul 4th, 2011 Location: Pennsylvania Posts: 23,664 2012 Passat 3.6 Vehicles:

Good deal. Sorry I didn't reply to your PMs, I have been really lazy lately.

Wounded Warrior Project | The Bearded Camera





Reply With Quote | 94

bobbymotown o



Join Date: Jan 19th, 2015 Wisconsin Location: 60 Posts:

Vehicles: '10 GTI Autobahn, '12 Passat SE

Can anyone slow me where the rear footwell lights install under the seats? I want to do under seat storage and am wondering if the drawers will block where the lights need to go.

Edit: Under seat drawers for the MK6 golf week not fit under the B7 Passat seats at first glance. It appears the passenger sensor controller is mounted there and interferes with where the drawer would be.

Sent from my SCH-R970 using Tapatalk

Last edited by bobbymotown; 02-01-2015 at 04:59 PM.

Airborne1cav o

Member



Join Date: Aug 18th, 2012 Location: Auburn, WA Posts: 103 2014 Passat TDI SE-Vehicles: NAV

☐ Blue Spots

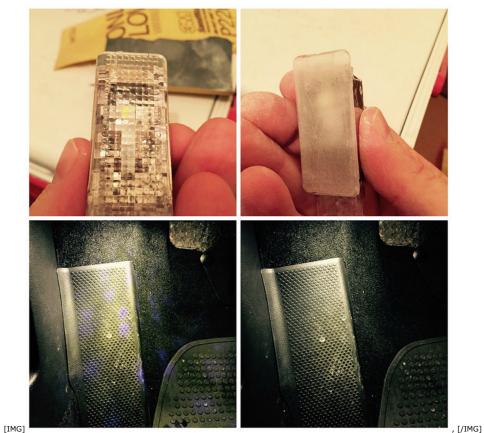
02-04-2015 09:53 PM Reply

So I found a solution to get rid of the blue spots associated with LED's in the footwell lights. Ordering replacement housings is an option, but I wanted to save some \$\$ as the housings are about 25\$ a piece! So here is my solution, takes about 5-10 minutes per light.

- 1) Remove light housing from car and first sand with around 150-250 grain sandpaper until (outside) surface is smooth.
 2) Sand again with finer grit sandpaper, around 300-500 and real quick with 800-1000 if you want too.
 3) Re-install light housings and the spots are gone!

Bottom Picture - Before and after light modification. I realize the pictures look slightly different, this is because the before was taken in the morning light and light output at 40%. The later picture was taken at night and with only 20% output.

- Excuse the mess! Seattle in winter = rain.





, on Flickr[/IMG]

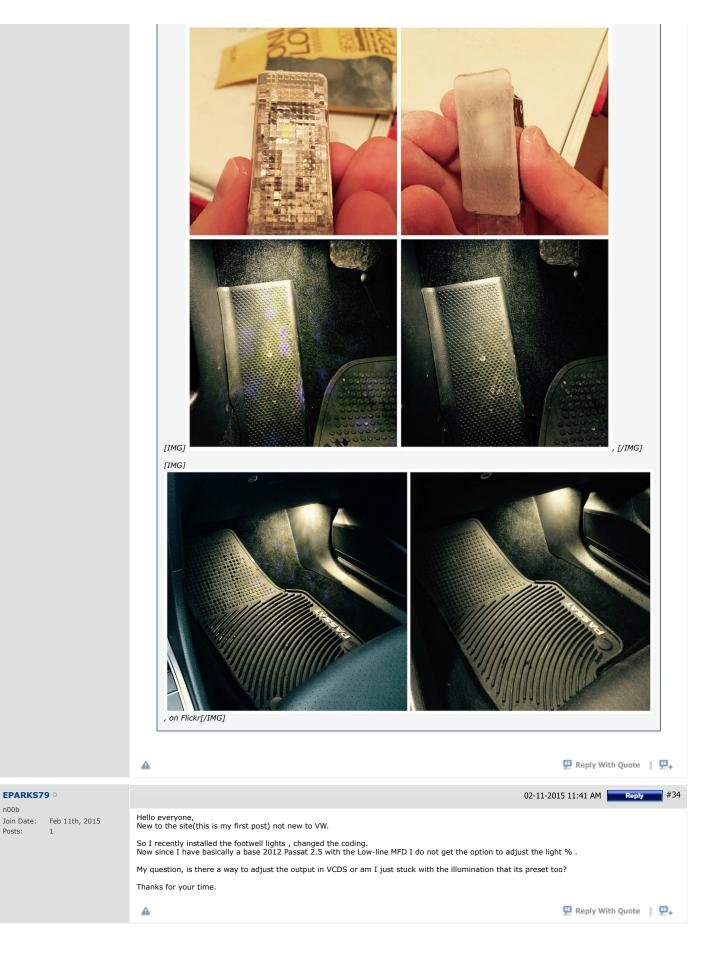
Last edited by Airborne1cav; 02-04-2015 at 10:25 PM.











EPARKS79 °

n00b

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Digital Point modules: Sphinx-based search