



Audi C6 A6 RS-style Grille  
Installation Tutorial

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Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

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## REQUIRED TOOLS

- Flat blade screwdriver
- Phillips head screwdriver
- T20, T25, and T30 Torx bits
- 10mm socket with 10" extension
- [Schwaben trim/molding tool](#)\*

\*Available at ECStuning.com



## PREPARATION AND SAFETY

Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.

Shut the engine off, engage the parking brake, and remove the key from the ignition switch.

Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.

Always wear safety glasses.

Open the hood.

Place protective covers over both fenders and the front fascia.

LH refers to the driver side of the vehicle, RH refers to the passenger side.



## Removing the Original A6 Grille

### Step 1

Using the Schwaben trim/molding tool, pry upwards at the black plastic cover. Pry at the left, middle, and right side of the cover to release it from the vehicle. A flat blade screwdriver will work here, though extra caution must be taken not to damage the bumper cover.

Pull the cover outwards towards your body, as shown, and slide it out from underneath the engine seal.



## Step 2

Three bolts secure the bumper cover at the top of the vehicle.

Using the T30 torx bit, remove the three bolts. The two side bolts are longer than the center bolt. Remember the location of these different bolts during reinstallation of the bumper.



Removing the wheels from each side of the vehicle will greatly facilitate the rest of the procedure, allowing much better access to the fender liner and bumper cover guide and retaining bolts.

### Step 3

Moving to the underside of the vehicle, the front belly pan must be removed.

Using a flathead screwdriver, remove the six flathead screws from the belly pan.

Begin by removing the center screw for the front belly pan.





Remove the passenger side belly pan screw.



Remove the driver side belly pan screw.



#### Step 4

Three front belly pan screws must be removed using the flathead screwdriver.

Once each of the three front screws are removed, the front belly pan can be removed from the vehicle. Set the pan and screws to the side, away from your workspace.





### Step 5

Three retainer clips secure the lower wheel well trim to the bumper cover.

Use the non-marring Schwaben tool to remove the three retainer clips from both sides of the bumper cover.

Remove the plastic trim pieces and set them aside.



## Parts Location Overview

To be disconnected before bumper cover removal



Turn signal electrical connector

Right fog light connector

Left fog light connector

Headlamp washer connection

### Step 6

Locate the driver and passenger side fog lights from underneath the vehicle.

Pull out the connector from the fog light housing on both sides of the vehicle, leaving the connecting wire hanging out of the way such that it will not bind when removing the bumper cover.



### Step 7

On the driver side of your vehicle there may be headlamp washer lines and washer fluid supply line connector.

Unclip the hose from the t-connector that is attached to the bumper cover. Some washer fluid will drain from the lines; remember to refill the washer fluid reservoir at the end of the installation procedure.





### Step 8

Locate the wiring harness for the turn signals. One connector supplies power to both passenger and driver side turn signals.

Disconnect the wire and set aside, making sure it will not bind when the bumper cover is eventually removed.



### Step 9

The wheel well liner must be partially removed to access the bumper guide and bumper cover retainer plate.

Use the T25 torx bit to remove the bolts that secure the front of the wheel liner to the bumper cover.



**NOTE**

Note that the wheel well liner does not have to be removed completely. Only the portion that covers the bumper cover guide and retainer plate must be removed.

**Step 10**

Pull the wheel well liner away from the front of the car, revealing the bumper cover guide.

Six total screws (three per side) secure the bumper cover to the bumper cover guide.

Using the T25 torx bit, remove each bolt.



### Step 11

The bumper is now secured to the vehicle by only two 10mm nuts.

The nuts are located several inches past the edge of the wheel well, and must be accessed using a ratchet extension.

Place the ratchet through the wheel well onto the 10mm nut and remove.





## Step 12

On each side of the bumper cover, the bumper guide is clipped into the bumper cover.

Gently slide the bumper cover away from the wheel well, unclipping it from the bumper guide.

The bumper will now free itself from the vehicle. Before removing the bumper cover, clear a large space and place a soft towel or fender cover on the ground for the cover to lay on to prevent scratching or scuffing.

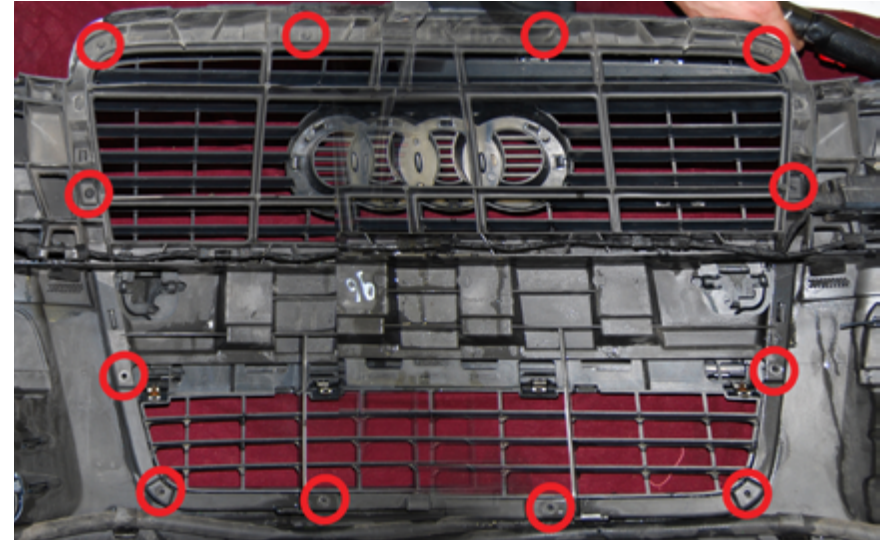


### Step 13

The factory grille must now be removed from the bumper cover.

A total of 12 T20 torx screws secure the grille to the bumper cover.

Remove each screw. Replacement hardware has been included with your purchase - the factory hardware will not be reused.



## Installing the ECS RS-style Grille

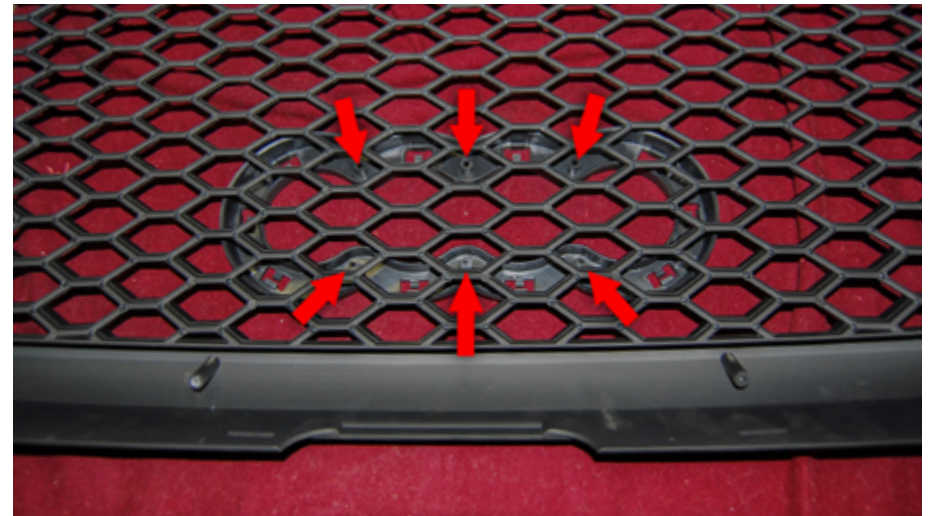
### Step 1

Lay the new RS-style grille upside-down on a soft surface. You will now be choosing which grille accessories to install.

**NOTE** Once the grille installation procedure is complete, only by again removing the bumper cover can changes be made to the accessories.

To use the Audi badge, place the provided Audi ring holder underneath the grille at the desired location.

Install the three plastic securing brackets with the provided hardware as shown.





## Step 2

Your factory Audi rings must be reused for your new grille.

Carefully unclip the factory rings. This will require pushing out the retaining clips very carefully using a flathead screwdriver or non-marring tool.

When using the provided European license plate bracket, installation is the same as the Audi ring bracket.

Use the provided brackets and hardware to secure the plate holder.



### Step 3

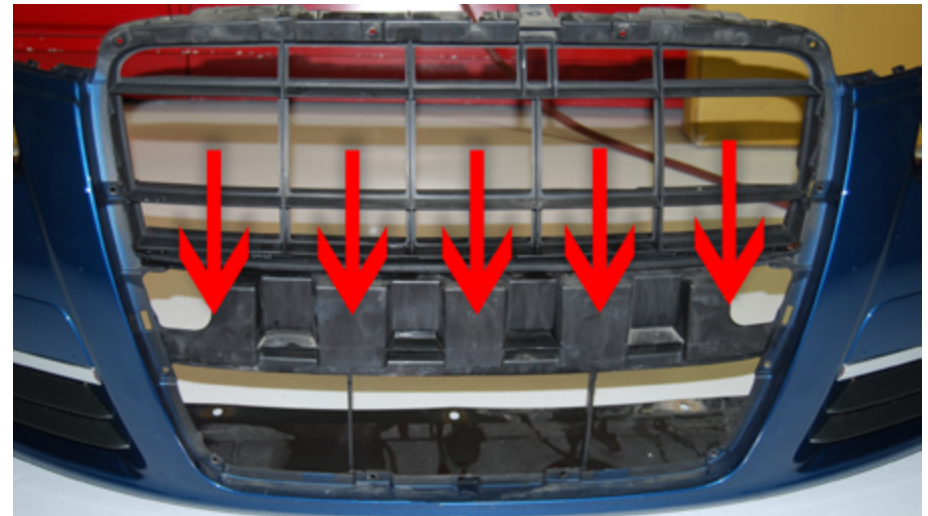
Before installing the new RS-style grille into your factory bumper, modification of the bumper cover is occasionally necessary for a more precise fitment.

The portion of the bumper cover directly behind the European license plate holder contains five protruding rectangle-shaped supports. These areas may not allow the RS-style grille to completely seat into place, and may cause a very slight bulging of the grille once installed.

Mock up the new grille into location on the bumper cover, noting the exact locations on the bumper cover that obstruct the seating of the RS-style grille.

An electric or air angle die grinder can be used to gradually remove material from the protrusions, allowing the new grille to sit more flush.

**NOTE** Only a small amount of material need be removed - do not grind through the bumper cover, otherwise the steel bumper will be visible from behind the new grille.



Once the RS-style grille is installed into the factory bumper cover, the reinstallation of the bumper cover is the reversal of the removal procedure. The following steps should be followed during reinstallation:

- Slide the bumper cover onto the vehicle, securing each side to the car using the bumper guides, and secure the top three T30 torx bolts. This hold the bumper to the car allowing the electrical and washer connections and remaining bolts to be secured.
- Reconnect the right and left fog light connector, turn signal connector, and headlamp washer hose connector. Reference page 10 of this tutorial for connection locations. Take caution that these wires and hoses are not pinched between the bumper cover and vehicle, and that the wires and hoses are routed with sufficient slack that daily driving will not place excessive pressure on them.
- Bolt the 10mm nut down for each side of the vehicle.
- Moving to the bumper cover guide at the wheel well, bolt the six (three for each side) T25 torx screws back in place.
- Using the T25 torx bit, secure the fender liner completely back into the passenger and driver side wheel well.
- Reinstall the passenger and driver side wheel well trim using the six plastic retainer clips.
- Reinstall the three front belly pan screws using the flat head screwdriver.
- Reinstall the six flat head screws for the belly pan.
- Moving back to the top of the car, slide the black plastic cover under the engine bay seal, and clip back into place.



The ECS RS-style Grille installation is now complete!



This tutorial is provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning.

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