



Volkswagen MK6 GTI  
ECS Front Diffuser  
Installation Instructions



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.

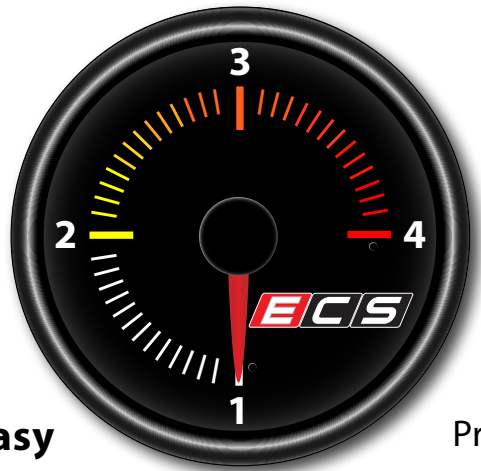
## INTRODUCTION

# ECS Tuning VW MK6 Front Diffusers: ES#2972756, ES#2793836

The ECS Tuning MK6 Front Diffuser offer the following features:

- Outstanding looks and curb appeal
- Available in Hand-Laid Carbon Fiber or Fiberglass
- Easy installation
- Complete with all necessary installation hardware
- Quality and durability

## ECS Difficulty Gauge



1 - Easy

2 - Moderate

Pro - 4

Advanced - 3

Take your time and enjoy the project, it'll only take you an hour or two. Read these instructions completely first, and with the project overview under your belt, you'll breeze right through it. Just to make sure you have everything you need, reference the required tool list on [Page 5](#) before you begin. Thank you for looking to ECS Tuning for all your performance and repair needs, we appreciate your business!

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## KIT CONTENTS



ECS Front Diffuser - Carbon Fiber or Primed



Self Tapping Screws

**REQUIRED TOOLS**

Note: The tools required for each step will be listed by the step number throughout these instructions.

**Standard Automotive Tools**

**Required For This Install**

**Available On Our Website**

- Protecta-Sockets (for lug nuts)..... [ES#2221243](#)
- 3/8" Drive Ratchet ..... [ES#2765902](#)
- 3/8" Drive Torque Wrench..... [ES#2221245](#)
- 3/8" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets ..... [ES#2763772](#)
- 3/8" Drive Extensions ..... [ES#2804822](#)
- **Hydraulic Floor Jack** ..... [ES#240941](#)
- **Torx Drivers and Sockets** ..... [ES#11417/8](#)
- 1/2" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets ..... [ES#2839106](#)
- 1/2" Drive Ratchet
- 1/2" Drive Extensions
- 1/2" Drive Torque Wrench ..... [ES#2221244](#)
- 1/2" Drive Breaker Bar ..... [ES#2776653](#)
- Bench Mounted vise
- Crows Foot Wrenches
- Hook and Pick Tool Set..... [ES#2778980](#)

- 1/4" Drive Ratchet ..... [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets..... [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Extensions ..... [ES#2823235](#)
- Plier and Cutter Set..... [ES#2804496](#)
- **Flat and Phillips Screwdrivers** ..... [ES#2225921](#)
- **Jack Stands**..... [ES#2763355](#)
- Ball Pein Hammers
- Pry Bar Set..... [ES#1899378](#)
- Electric/Cordless Drill
- Wire Strippers/Crimpers
- Drill Bits
- Punch and Chisel Set
- Hex Bit (Allen) Wrenches and Sockets ..... [ES#11420](#)
- Thread Repair Tools ..... [ES#1306824](#)
- Open/Boxed End Wrench Set ..... [ES#2765907](#)

## SHOP SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

**Standard Shop Supply Recommendations:** We recommend that you have a standard inventory of automotive shop supplies before beginning this or any automotive repair procedure. The following list outlines the basic shop supplies that we like to keep on hand. Shop supplies with a hyperlink are available on our website.

- Hand Cleaner/Degreaser - [Click Here](#)
- Pig Mats - for protecting your garage floor and work area from spills and stains - [Click Here](#)
- Spray detailer - for rapid cleaning of anything that comes into contact with your paint such as brake fluid - [Click Here](#)
- Micro Fiber Towels - for cleaning the paint on your car - [Click Here](#)
- Latex Gloves - for the extra oily and dirty jobs - [Click Here](#)
- Medium and High Strength Loctite Thread lock compound - to prevent bolts from backing out - [Click Here](#)
- Anti-Seize Compound - to prevent seizing, galling, and corrosion of fasteners - [Click Here](#)
- Aerosol Brake/Parts Cleaner - for cleaning and degreasing parts
- Shop Rags - used for wiping hands, tools, and parts
- Penetrating oil - for helping to free rusted or stuck bolts and nuts
- Mechanics wire - for securing components out of the way
- Silicone spray lube - for rubber components such as exhaust hangers
- Paint Marker - for marking installation positions or bolts during a torquing sequence
- Plastic Wire Ties/Zip Ties - for routing and securing wiring harnesses or vacuum hoses
- Electrical tape - for wrapping wiring harnesses or temporary securing of small components

## INSTALLATION NOTES

- **RH** refers to the *passenger side* of the vehicle.
- **LH** refers to the *driver side* of the vehicle.
- Always use the proper torque specifications.
- If applicable to this installation, torque specifications will be listed throughout the document and at the end as well.
- Please read all of these instructions and familiarize yourself with the complete process **BEFORE** you begin.

## GENERAL PREPARATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

ECS Tuning cares about your health and safety. Please read the following safety information. This information pertains to automotive service in general, and while it may not pertain to every job you do, please remember and share these important safety tips.

- Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses.
- Make sure the parking brake is applied until the vehicle is safely lifted and supported.
- If using an automotive lift, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points. Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- When lifting a vehicle using a jack, always utilize the factory specified lift points. Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear. **ALWAYS** support the vehicle with jack stands.
- Always read and follow all safety information and warnings for the equipment you are using.



**NEVER get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and ALWAYS make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.**

## REMOVING THE ORIGINAL FRONT LIP

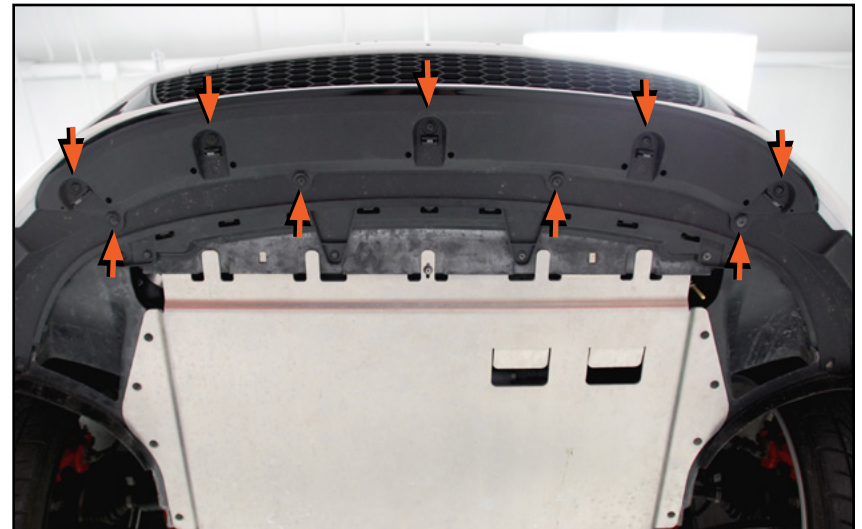
### Step 1:

Begin by safely raising and supporting your vehicle to gain access to the underside of the front bumper.



### Step 2: T25 Torx

Remove the nine mounting screws (arrows) and remove the original front lip from the car.



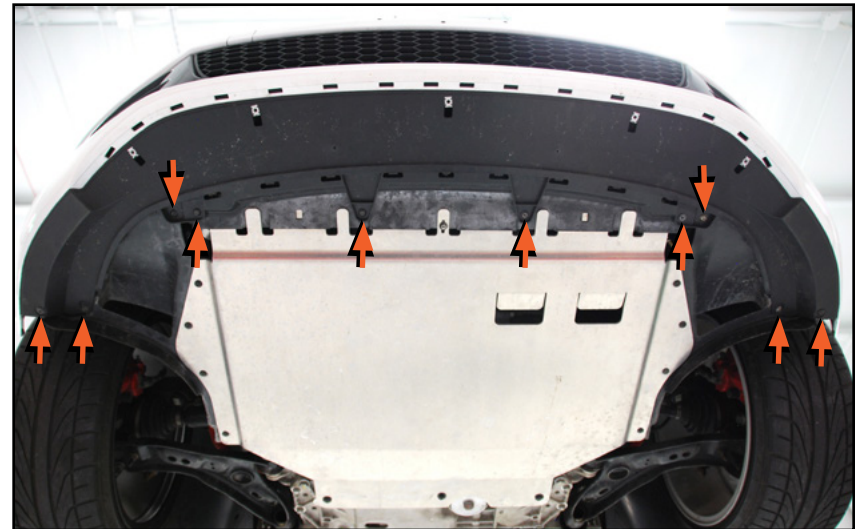
**NOTE:** This is an optional lip, if your car is not equipped with one, then skip to step 3.



## REMOVING THE ORIGINAL FRONT LIP

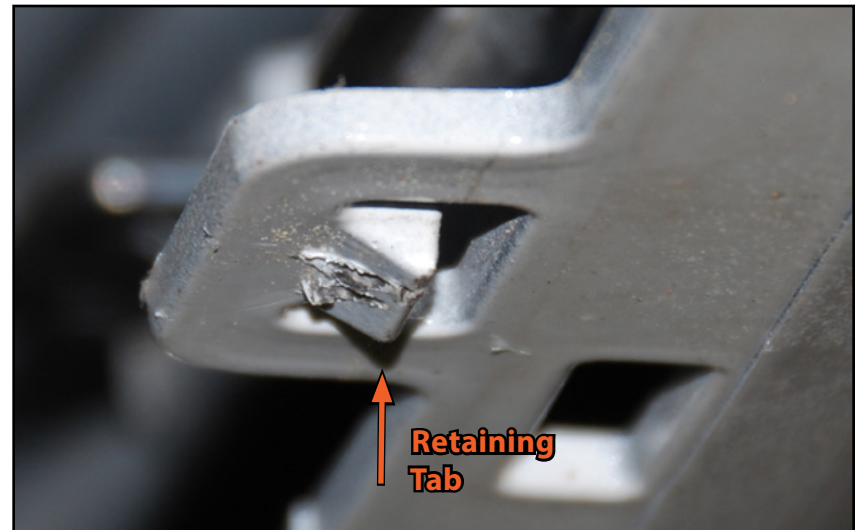
### Step 3: T25 Torx

Remove the 10 mounting screws for the front valance retainer (arrows).



### Step 4:

There are 20 plastic retaining tabs holding the front valance retainer to the bumper cover. These tabs push through narrow slots on the valance retainer and they must be released for removal. The first few are difficult to access, but the more you release, the easier it will get. To start with, view the close up picture of the tab on the right, then continue with step 5. Also reference [Page 11](#), step 7 for a view of all the tabs.



## REMOVING THE ORIGINAL FRONT LIP

### Step 5: Flat Blade Screwdriver

Start on one side and pull the end of the front valance retainer down to access the first retaining tab on the end, then pry the tab upward and pull the valance retainer back off of the tab.



### Step 6: Flat Blade Screwdriver

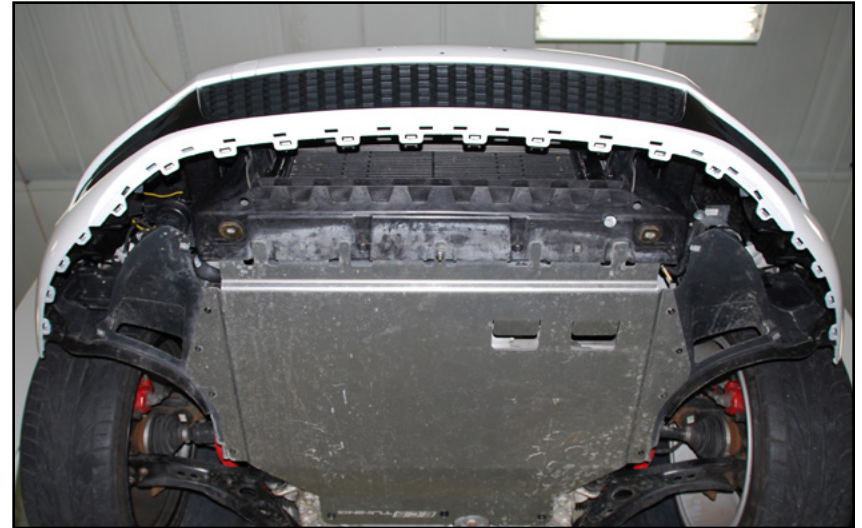
Continue to work your way around the valance retainer until all 20 of the tabs are released and you can remove it from the car.



## REMOVING THE ORIGINAL FRONT LIP

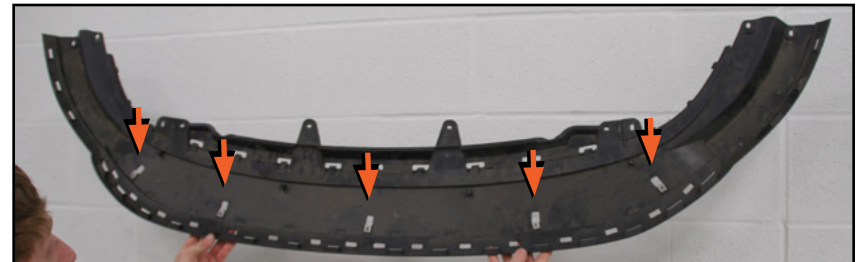
### Step 7:

With the front valance retainer removed, you can see the 20 retaining tabs in clear view.



### Step 8: Flat Blade Screwdriver

Remove the five speed clips from the front valance retainer by prying them off.



# INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT DIFFUSER

## Step 1:

Carefully unpack the new front diffuser and place it on a flat work surface, using the original packing to protect it from scratches. Note the arrows in the picture which indicate the mounting locations used in step 2.



**NOTE:** While unpacking, be sure to locate the small plastic bag with the mounting hardware. It is packed with the diffuser, usually near one end.



## Step 2: Phillips Screwdriver

Place the front valance retainer on top of the new front diffuser and install three self tapping screws (included with the kit) through the valance retainer and into the three pre-drilled holes in the diffuser. Tighten the screws until they are snug.



**CAUTION:** Be careful not to nick or cut the surface of the diffuser.



## INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT DIFFUSER

### Step 3:

Install the diffuser/valance retainer assembly back onto the front bumper cover by engaging the slots in the valance retainer back onto all 20 of the retaining tabs. You will find this is much easier if you enlist the help of a friend. The best method to use is to first have someone hold the assembly in place as shown here.



### Step 4:

Now start on one end and engage the retaining tabs one by one, working your way around the bumper until they are all fully seated.



## INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT DIFFUSER

### Step 5: T25 Torx

On each side, reinstall the outermost valance retainer screw.



### Step 6: Phillips Screwdriver

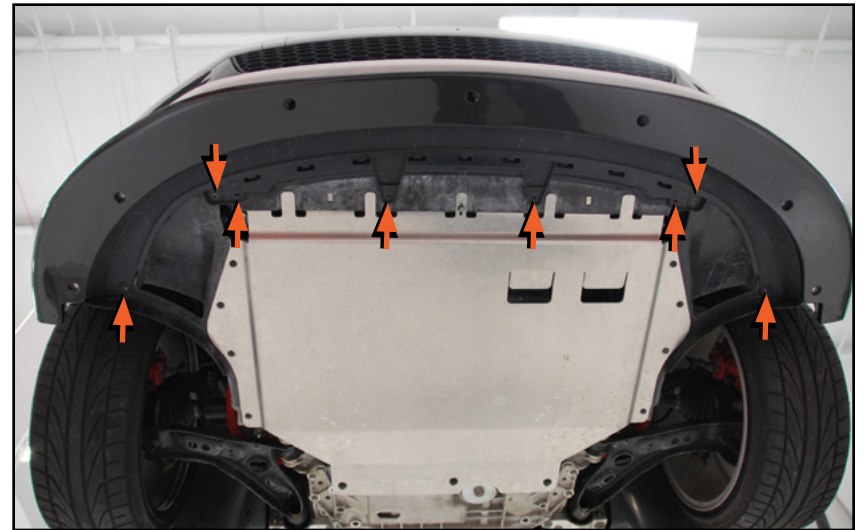
On each side, hold the end of the new diffuser up to the valance retainer and install two self tapping screws (included with the kit) into the locations indicated by the arrows. Tighten them hand tight.



## INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT DIFFUSER

### Step 7: T25 Torx

Install the eight remaining screws for the original front valance retainer.



### Step 8:

Installation is now complete, enjoy your new ECS Front Diffuser!



## CARBON FIBER CLEANING AND CARE

ECS Tuning Carbon Fiber Intakes are clear coated for excellent finish durability and UV resistance right out of the box.

Carbon fiber can be washed with any gentle cleanser or soap. If it is safe for the paint on your car, it will be safe for the carbon fiber.

Be extra careful not to nick or deeply scratch the clear coat on the carbon fiber. This can lead to water intrusion into the carbon fiber which will damage the finish and the integrity of the intake.

If the clear coat does get nicked or deeply scratched to expose the carbon fiber, seal the damaged area thoroughly with a clear coat touch up or clear nail polish.

To retain UV resistance and protect the finish, we recommend regular waxing with a high quality caranuba wax.

Small surface scratches and light oxidation can be buffed out using the same methods and cautions you would use on the vehicle paint.

**Carbon Fiber Cleaning and Care Kit, available at [ecstuning.com](http://ecstuning.com).**

[ES#2914954](#)





# SCHWABEN - BUILD THE ULTIMATE TOOL COLLECTION

At ECS Tuning, we carry a line of high quality Schwaben Tools and Equipment to help you build your ultimate tool collection. Never before has affordability and quality been so closely related. Our entire Schwaben line is subjected to strict in house testing for strength and durability. See what we have to offer and equip your garage without breaking the bank.



Your Volkswagen MK6 Front Diffuser installation is complete!



**These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning**

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