



Audi B8 A4 & S4 Facelift (2013+)

Mesh-Style RS4 Grille

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

### The Project:

Today we are going to install our ECS Tuning RS4 Mesh Style Grille into a Facelift (2013+) Audi S4, but keep in mind the installation process is the same for the Facelift (2013+) Audi A4. The grille is available with your choice of a Matte Black, Gloss Black or Chrome frame, and it comes with the larger C7 chassis Audi Rings, and a Euro License Plate Holder for a complete and thorough setup. This honeycomb pattern mesh grille is a great way to give your Facelift (2013+) Audi A4 or S4 a sleek and stealthy look, and it's easy to install, only requiring a few basic tools. If you don't have a lot of "wrench time" under your belt, rest assured because we are going to walk you through the installation step by step, and once you're done you'll be able to just sit back and admire your work.

### ECS Difficulty Gauge



Take your time and enjoy the project, it'll only take you a couple of hours or less. 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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### Symbols:

The following symbols may be used throughout these instructions indicating special attention:



**FORK IN THE ROAD:** When there are different options within any given kit, we will direct you to the proper page and step to continue.



**YIELD:** Pause for a moment to double check component installation before you continue. Ignoring this can cost you time later during the installation.



**CAUTION:** Pay close attention to these warnings and instructions. Difficult installation, personal injury or component damage may occur if ignored.



**STOP:** The upcoming steps require specific preparation and/or assistance in the interest of safety. Please read ahead in the instructions and prepare before continuing.

## KIT CONTENTS



RS4 Mesh Style Grille (Black Grille Available with:  
Gloss Black, Matte Black, or Chrome Frame)



C7 Style Audi Rings



Euro License Plate Holder

## REQUIRED TOOLS

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

**Tool Recommendations:** The following list of tools are part of a standard automotive tool set, and are used in various combinations for most automotive repairs. The tools required for this installation are **highlighted in red**, but we recommend you have this complete standard selection to overcome any issues that may arise such as rust, corrosion, or broken and stripped fasteners. The specific tools required for each step will be listed by the step number throughout these instructions, and any tools listed below with a **hyperlink** are 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 STOCK GRILLE

### Step 1: Small Pick or Screwdriver

First, we need to remove the four plastic retainers which secure the radiator shroud, please proceed to step 2 for more information on this process.



### Step 2:

To release the retainers, push the center spreader pins down to the next stop (left photo). Don't press too hard on the center push pins or they'll go all the way through and fall out. Push them just until they click on the next "stop," then pull the main pin bodies out (right photo).





## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 3:

Remove the radiator shroud and lay it aside.



### Step 4: T30 Torx

Remove the two top bumper screws, one on either side of the grille.



## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 5: Phillips Screwdriver

Safely lift and support the vehicle. Remove the twist lock fasteners and screws which secure the belly pans, then drop the belly pans and lay them aside.

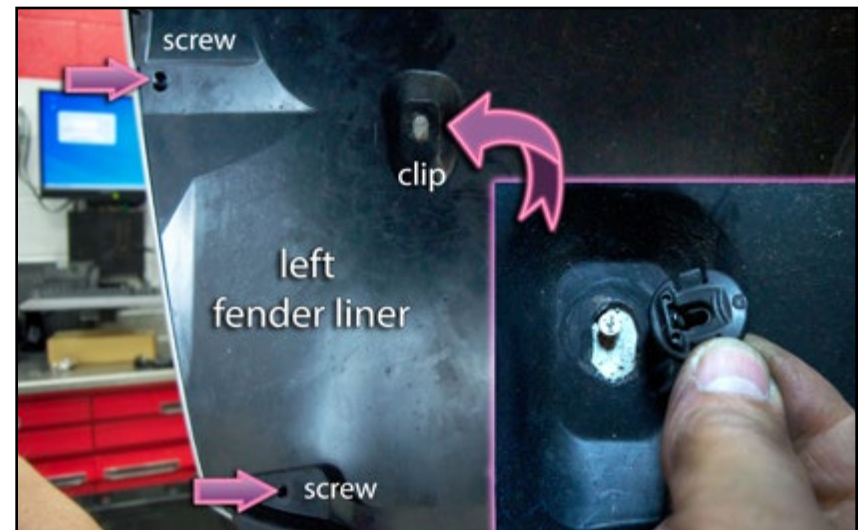


### Step 6:

Moving to the front wheel wells, remove the screws and retainer clips from the front edge of the inner fenders on both sides (left inner fender shown here). The clips can be removed by lifting their back edge and pushing them off the tee-headed studs in the body. Reinstall later in reverse order.

#### NOTE

If you want more elbow room, turn the wheels to the side or remove them altogether.



## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 7: 10mm Socket, Ratchet & Extension

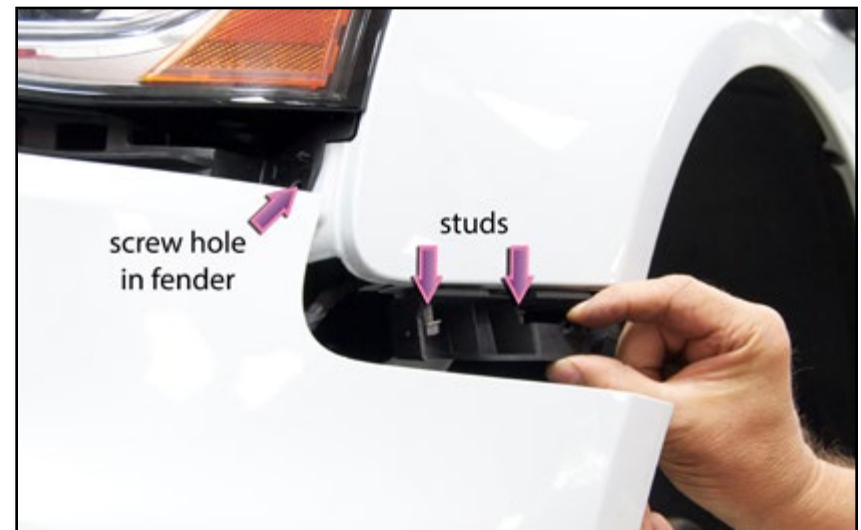
Locate and loosen the nuts on the two fender studs that point downward from the lower edge of the fender, and pass through the plastic retainer clip that holds the bumper in place. The easiest way to do this is to reach up inside the fender liner with a long extension and a socket (a swivel extension on the socket end is very helpful). Back the nuts off so that they are flush with the end of the studs, but **DO NOT** completely remove them.

Reach up with a socket and shorter extension and remove the fender screw.



### Step 8:

Pull the edge of the bumper away from the base of the fender, as shown in the photo. Note the location of the studs as they pass through the black plastic retainer clip and the location of the hole for the 6mm fender screw.



## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 9:

Reach between the inner fender and backside of the front bumper and disconnect the fog light electrical connectors.



### Step 10:

The bumper is now ready to be removed, it really helps to have an extra set of hands at this point. The bumper is very light but it twists easily, so to avoid damaging paint or plastic, have an assistant grab the opposite end as you pull forward to remove the front bumper from the car.

Take the assembly to a clean work bench or table top and lay it face down on a soft clean surface.

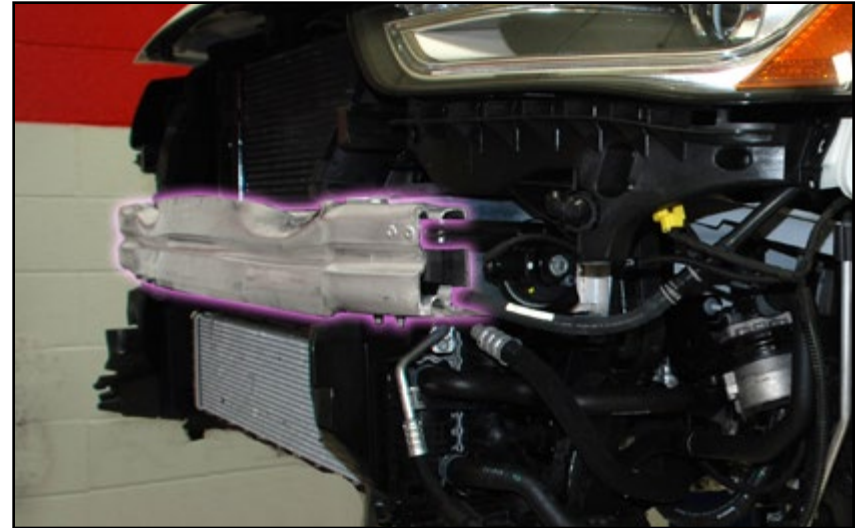




## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 11:

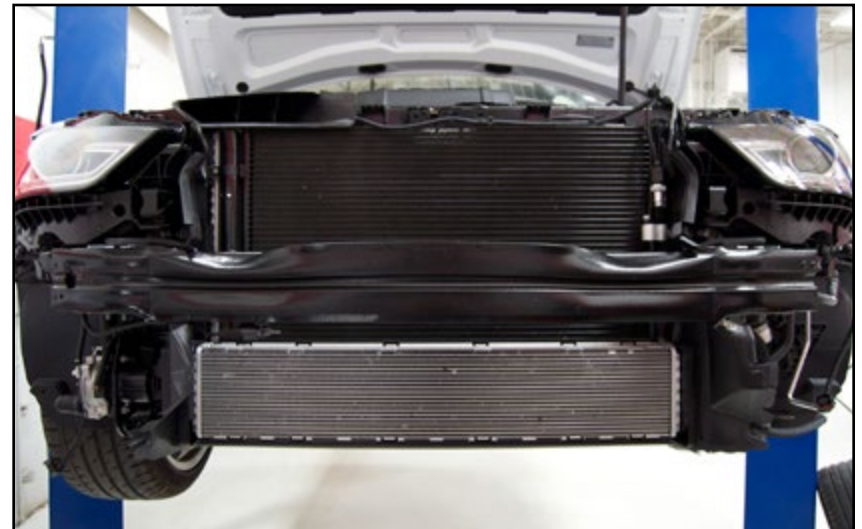
With the bumper removed, the substructure is exposed, including the bright aluminum bumper crash bar, silhouetted here to make it stand out. This silver contrast will not look good behind the new black grille. To “black out” this bar, we prefer to paint the bar for durability and appearance.



### Step 12:

After cleaning the bar thoroughly with a professional grade paint shop surface wash, we apply a spray coating of black plastic stone shield, just like the coating applied to rocker panels at the factory. We then spray the bar with a professional grade matte black trim paint.

With the front of the vehicle prepped, we can now move to the work bench and remove the old grille from the bumper.



## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 13:

Unsnap the foam pad from the rear of the grille and lift it out (this pad normally rides against the aluminum crash bar we just painted).

#### NOTE

If you want to reinstall this foam, your kit includes a gloss plastic cover piece. Otherwise the foam will be visible through the new grille and may be hard to clean due to its large open pores. If you want to cover the pad, ECS Tuning also sells vinyl, adhesive backed coverings to suit your styling tastes.



### Step 14: T25 Torx

Remove the attachment screws from the perimeter of the stiffener support brace that straddles the top inner face of the grille. After removing all the screws, lift the stiffener off of the grille.

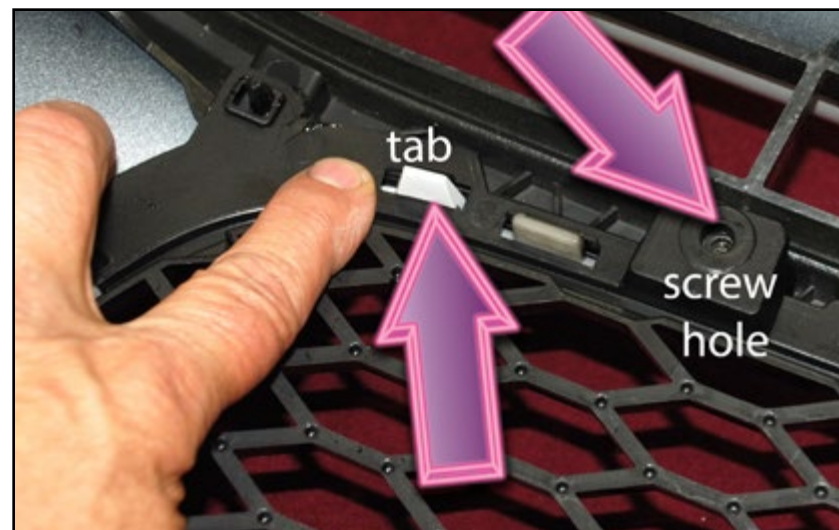




## REMOVING THE STOCK GRILLE

### Step 15: T25 Torx

Remove the remaining attachment screws from the perimeter of the old grille, then work your way around the perimeter of the grille, prying the plastic snap tabs to release the grille from the bumper.



### Step 16:

Once all of the clips and fasteners have been released, lift the old grille from the bumper.



## INSTALLING THE NEW GRILLE

### Step 1:

Place the new grille into the bumper, making sure you align the tabs and screw holes as you carefully snap the new grille into place.



### Step 2: T25 Torx

Reinstall all of the perimeter screws.



## INSTALLING THE NEW GRILLE

### Step 3:

Snap the chrome rings into the emblem holder.



### Step 4:

Your grille kit includes a Euro license plate holder. If you choose to install it, simply snap it into place in the grille.





## INSTALLING THE NEW GRILLE

### Step 5:

Reinstall the upper support brace. The brace has a special adjustable support rod, loosen the spreader screw and push upward on the adjustable support rod. Later, after the grille is installed and located in its final position, push the adjustment rod down until it contacts the top of the crash bar and re-tighten the spreader screw to lock it into place.



### Step 6:

Have a friend help you reinstall the front bumper.

#### NOTE

Pull outward slightly on the ends of the bumper as you slide it into place.



## INSTALLING THE NEW GRILLE

### Step 7: T30 Torx

Loosely install the two top screws into the bumper cover to keep it from falling, but do not tighten them at this time.



### Step 8:

- Snap the bumper into the plastic retainer at the fender.
- Align the bumper and the fender until they fit without a gap. Hold them in this position with one hand as you tighten the front fender bolt and the two nuts on the plastic retainer bracket.
- Plug in the fog lamps.
- Close the hood and check the alignment between the front of the hood and top of the bumper. Adjust the top of the bumper as needed, then tighten the two top screws, installed loosely in the previous step.
- Reinstall the radiator shroud, belly pans, and fender liners.



## 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 RS4 Mesh Style Grille Installation is complete!**



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

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