



# VW MK7 Carbon Fiber Steering Wheel Installation Instructions - [Click HERE to Shop](#)



**Skill Level**  
**1 - Easy**  
**Basic Skills**  
**Required**



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.

## 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.
- Whether lifting a vehicle using an automotive lift or a hydraulic jack, be sure and 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 STEERING WHEEL

### Step 1:

Turn on the ignition (do not start the engine), then disconnect the negative battery terminal. Adjust the steering wheel until it is angled as far down and rearward as possible (as shown).



**CAUTION:** Failure to properly disconnect the battery could result in the airbag being set off, causing damage to the vehicle and personal injury.



### Step 2: Non-Marring Trim Removal Tool

Carefully pry the plastic upper trim panel (highlighted in RED in upper photo) towards the front of the car, then pry the lower trim panel (highlighted in RED in lower photo) up and remove the trim panels together.



## REMOVING THE STOCK STEERING WHEEL

**Step 3:** Pick -OR- Flat Head Screwdriver

Turn the wheel sideways as shown, then locate the access hole in the back of the wheel and pry the release tab (highlighted in **GREEN** in inset photo below) downward while pulling the air bag (highlighted in **RED**) away from the wheel.



**Step 4:** Pick -OR- Flat Head Screwdriver

Rotate the wheel 180 degrees as shown and repeat the process to release the other side of the air bag (highlighted in **RED**).

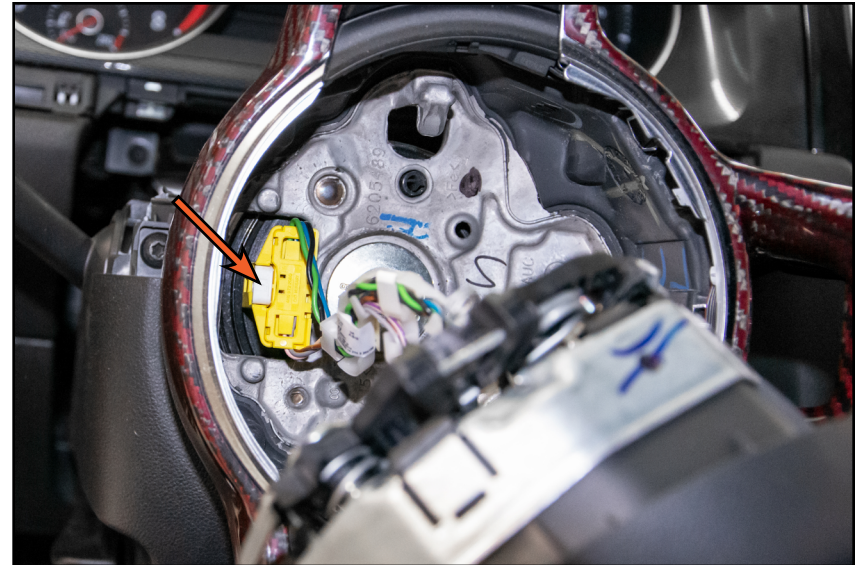




## REMOVING THE STOCK STEERING WHEEL

### Step 5: Angled Pick

Pull up on the release tab (arrow) and disconnect the air bag connector.

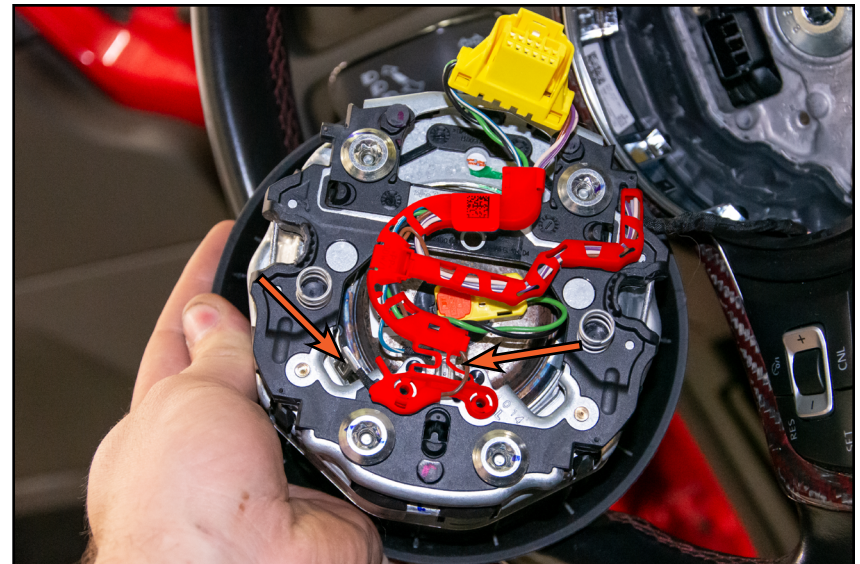


### Step 6: Angled Pick

Carefully wiggle the wires (arrows) off of their terminals and pull the plastic wire conduit (highlighted in **RED**) free from the back of the air bag.



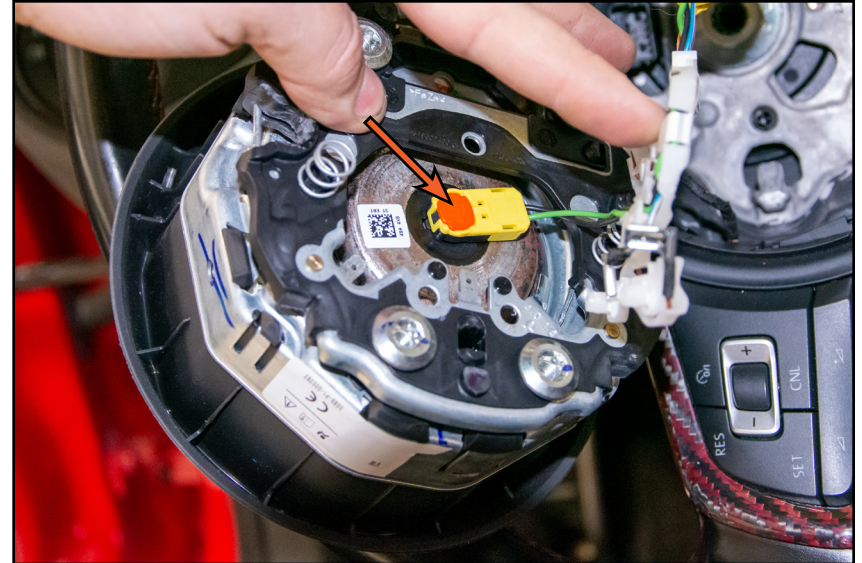
The amount and locations of the wires may vary depending on model.



## REMOVING THE STOCK STEERING WHEEL

### Step 7: Angled Pick

Carefully pull up on the release tab (arrow) then disconnect the air bag igniter connector.



### Step 8: M12 Triple Square Socket & Ratchet

Turn the wheel back to center, then remove the bolt (arrow) which secures the steering wheel in place.





## REMOVING THE STOCK STEERING WHEEL

### Step 9:

Before removing the steering wheel, take note of the alignment marks on the wheel and the steering shaft (arrows). These marks are extremely important to ensure proper alignment during reassembly.



### Step 10: Non-Marring Trim Removal Tool

Remove the wheel from the vehicle and **carefully** pry up around the perimeter of the steering wheel trim to gradually lift it away from the wheel until it is free.



**If your vehicle is equipped with paddle shifters:**  
Proceed to the next page.

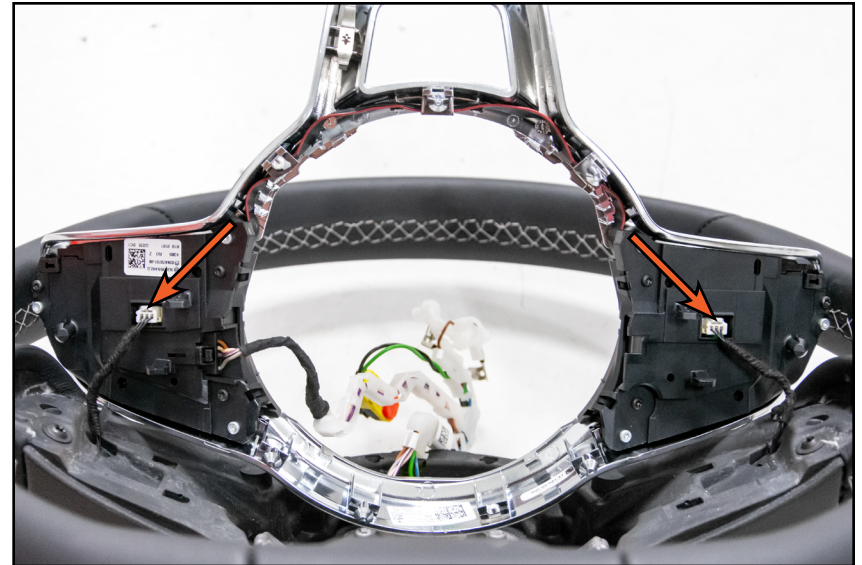
**If your vehicle is not equipped with paddle shifters:**  
Skip ahead to [page 10](#).



## REMOVING THE STOCK STEERING WHEEL

### Step 11:

Disconnect the two connectors (arrows) for the two paddle shifters.



### Step 12: T20 Torx

Remove the two screws (arrows) which secure the paddles to the wheel. Carefully pull the paddles out of the back of the wheel.





## INSTALLING THE NEW STEERING WHEEL

### Step 1: T20 Torx

Transfer the paddles to the new wheel, ensure that the wiring harnesses (arrows) properly pass through the allotted openings in the wheel as shown, then reinstall the screws (circled in **YELLOW**) to secure the paddles in place.



Be careful not to over-tighten the screws, over-tightening may cause the paddles to not function as intended.



### Step 2:

Reconnect the two paddle shifters connectors (arrows) to the back of the steering wheel trim.



## INSTALLING THE NEW STEERING WHEEL

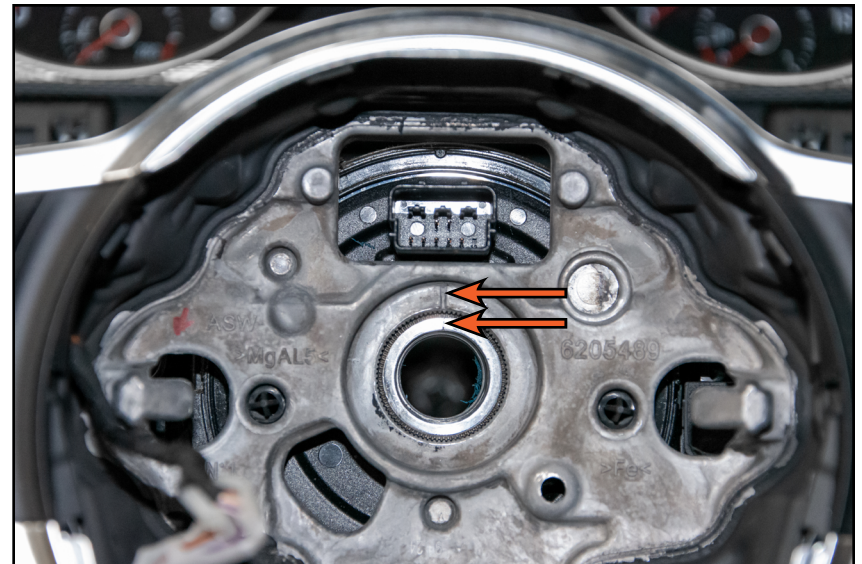
### Step 3:

Reinstall the steering wheel trim by lining up the mounting posts on the trim with the holes in the new wheel and going around the perimeter gradually pushing them in until the trim is fully flush.



### Step 4:

Slide the wheel onto the steering shaft, ensuring that the alignment marks (arrows) on the shaft and new wheel align.





## INSTALLING THE NEW STEERING WHEEL

### Step 5: M12 Triple Square Socket & Torque Wrench

Replace the bolt (arrow) and torque it to 30 Nm (22 Ft-lbs) + 90 degrees.



### Step 6:

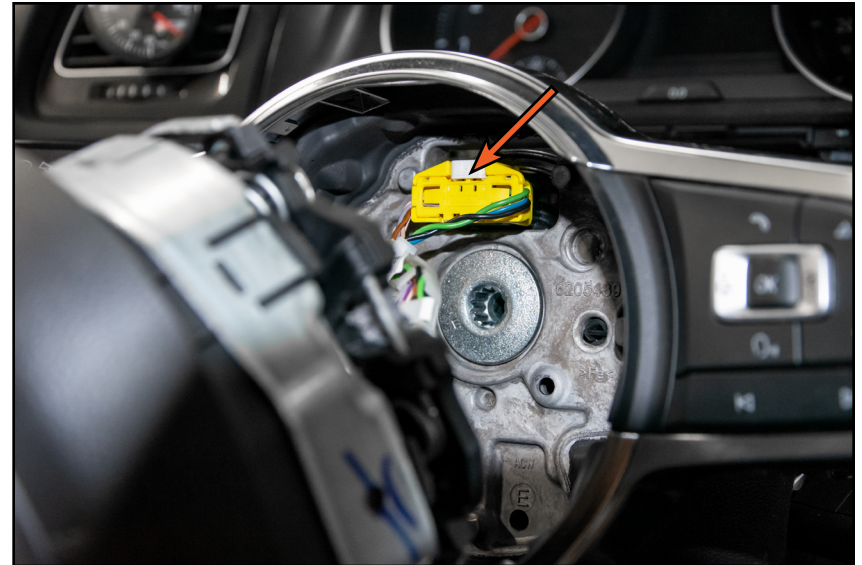
Reconnect the air bag igniter, then re-route the plastic wire conduit and push the wires (arrows) back onto their terminals.



## INSTALLING THE NEW STEERING WHEEL

### Step 7:

Reconnect the air bag connector (arrow).



### Step 8:

Carefully line up the air bag and push inward until both side pop into place. Reconnect the battery.





## 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](#)



## Your Carbon Fiber Steering Wheel installation is complete!



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

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