

“Howard” Gets wheeling JCW style!

Hello folks,

Welcome to another installment of mods on “Howard” my 07 MCS! In this installment we will be installing a JCW Steering Wheel.

This is an easy a straightforward installation, but you need to be careful on some key areas. One is the AirBag! This is and can be an explosive device and you need to treat it that way. Do not just half-hazardly begin throwing it around.

Step One:

Lift Hood (or bonnet as you choose) and remove the negative battery terminal.

Step Two: Release the aforementioned air bag from the wheel it self. This is an easy to do deal by using a long punch or blunt screwdriver. See Photo Below for reference but there is an access hole at the bottom of the wheel. Push the bag forward while pushing up on the punch. Then release the air bag from the wheel. The simply remove the plug from the bag to the air bag real and the horn ground lead. Carefully set the bag horn side up someplace out of the way.



Step Three: Find a 16mm socket and connect it to a ratchet/extension. Remove the bolt that secures the wheel to the hub.

Step Four: Disconnect the last electrical lead to the hub and remove the wheel from the car.

Step Five: Taking steps to prevent damage to the old wheel (lay it on a blanket or similar) remove the two torx bolts from the back of the wheel. These will be securing either the MFSW controls or the trim panels. Either way take em off.



Step Seven: Then simply pry the MFSW controls (or trim plates out) disconnect the wiring. (The lower trim plate is NOT secured with a screw and can carefully be removed by prying with your hands.)

Step Eight: (only for MFSW folks) Remove the metal plates in the middle of BOTH the JCW wheel and the OEM wheel. This is necessary to release the wiring harness from the wheel that must be transferred over. Then transfer the wiring over and re-install the plate, the MFSW controls, rear screws, lower trim plate etc.

Step Eight A: If you do not have MFSW just transfer over the trim plates etc. to the new wheel.



Now the fun part. Put it back together in the order you took it apart. Couple things to note:

The wheel has a notch in it as does the steering rod. Line those up to keep your alignment in place. DO NOT FORCE IT!

Torque the steering bolt to spec. (I have no idea what it is, I made mine REALLY tight for good measure. Just being honest that I don't know.)

Be sure to make ALL electrical connections before installing the air bag and reconnecting the battery.

The air-bag just snaps in place. The punch is not needed to re-connect it.

Enjoy! This thing is freaking AWESOME! Feels like a go-cart every time I turn the car. Seriously good stuff! I will try to keep these in stock for everyone as the dealers can't seem to do so. Call me or e-mail with any questions or concerns!

Let me know if I can help in anyway!

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