



# VW MK6 Vent Pod Boost Gauge Kit 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.

## INTRODUCTION

### The Project:

Today we are going to install our ECS Tuning Vent Pod Boost Gauge Kit for VW MK6. Keep close tabs on your boost levels and add style a stylish appearance to your dashboard. This vent pod was designed specifically for a MK6 and is set the optimum angle for driver visibility. Our boost gauge features a classic analog face with color matched backlighting to provide a superior OEM+ look. Included in this kit is our ECS Tuning billet boost tap, which is constructed of the highest quality materials to create a reliable and leak-free boost reference source.

Installation required only a few basic tools and can easily be completed in a single afternoon. Take your time and enjoy the project, just be sure to read through these instructions completely first. Thank you for purchasing our ECS Tuning Vent Pod Boost Gauge Kit, we appreciate your business!

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**KIT CONTENTS**



Vent Pod



Boost Gauge



Vacuum Filter



Power Harness



Gauge Tubing



Boost Sensor



Electrical Connectors



Boost Tap Kit  
(available separately)

## REQUIRED TOOLS

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

### Standard Automotive Tools

- 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](#)

### Required For This Install

- **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](#)

### Available On Our Website

## 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.

## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

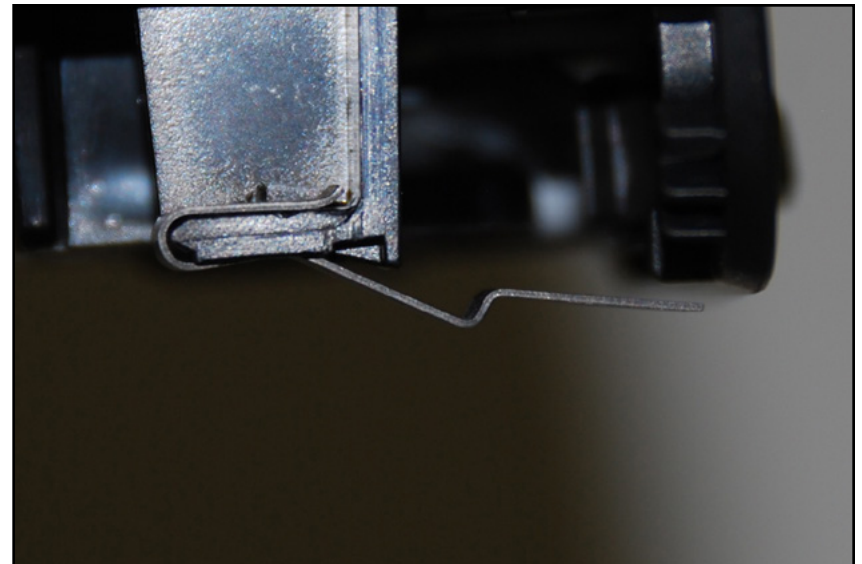
### Step 1: Trim Removal Tool

Pry off the end cover on the LH side of the dash.



### Step 2:

The LH vent is held in place by four spring clips, two on the top and two on the bottom.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 3:

Working through the end of the dash, push up on the spring clip on the lower outboard corner of the vent housing, then gently push outwards until the housing begins to come out of the dash.



### Step 4: Trim Removal Tool

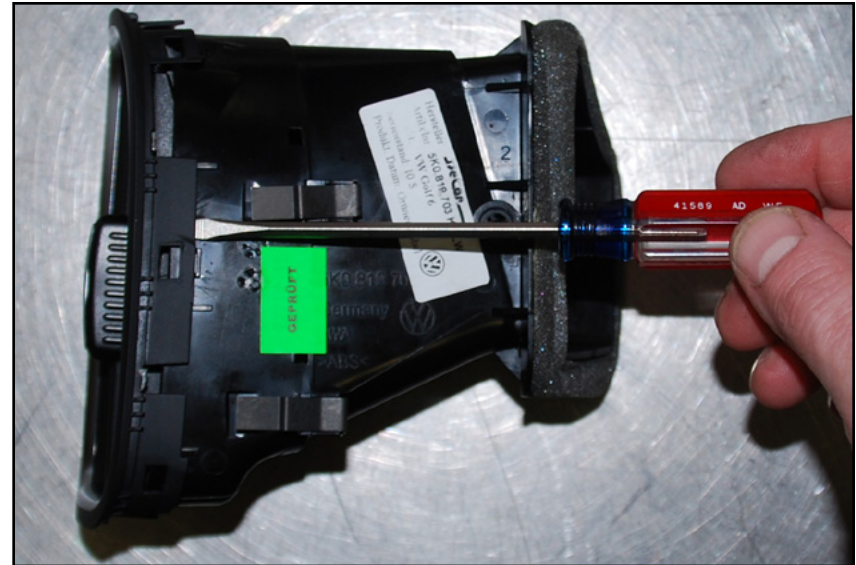
Although the vent housing may come right out, more often than not the lower inboard spring clip will still hold it in place. Carefully release the inboard clip on the bottom by pushing it up, then pull the housing out of the dash.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 5: Flat Blade Screwdriver

There are seven tabs that secure the outer vent trim around the perimeter of the vent housing. Carefully pry up on each of the tabs and pull the outer vent trim off the housing.



### Step 6: Flat Blade Screwdriver

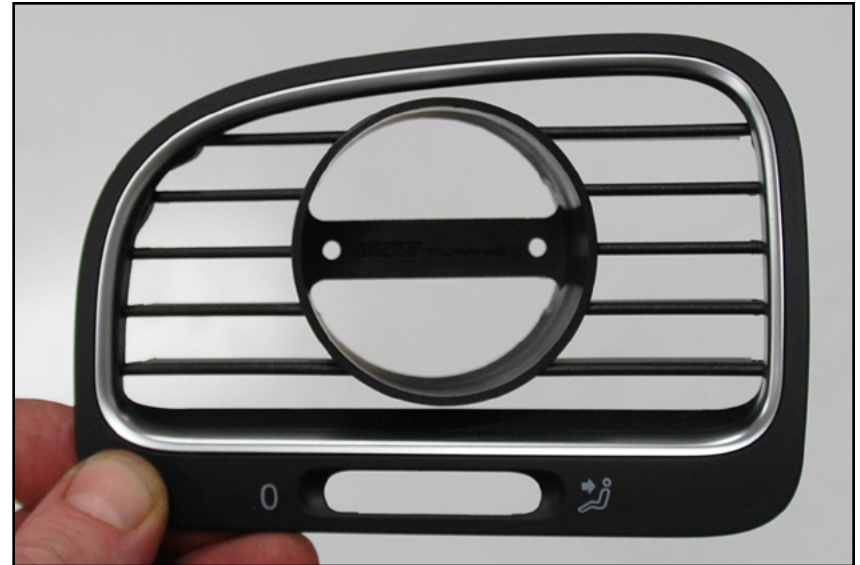
Remove the original airflow louvers from the outer vent trim by gently prying between the trim and the louvers to release the retaining clips.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

**Step 7:**

Snap the new ECS vent pod in place in the outer vent trim.



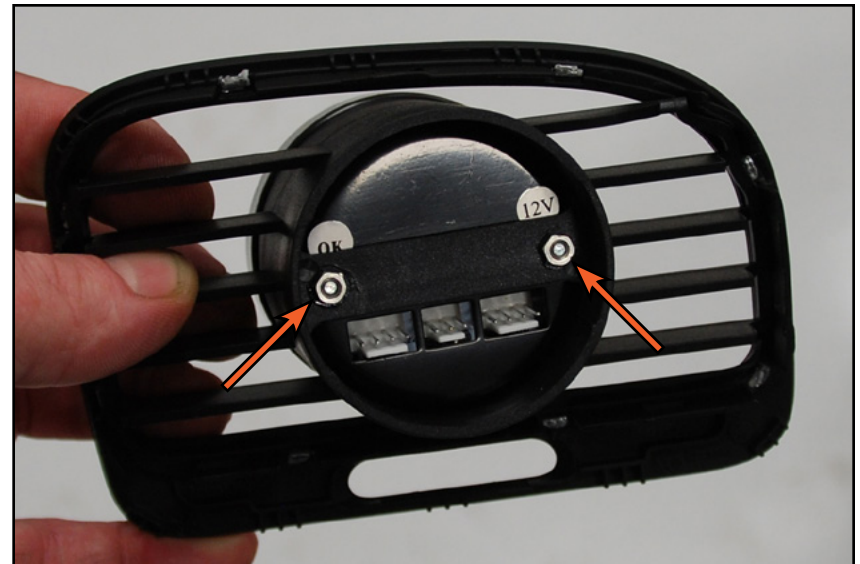
**Step 8:**

5.5mm Socket & Ratchet

Remove the nuts from the back of the boost gauge, then slide the gauge into the vent pod from the front until the studs protrude through the back. Install and tighten both nuts.



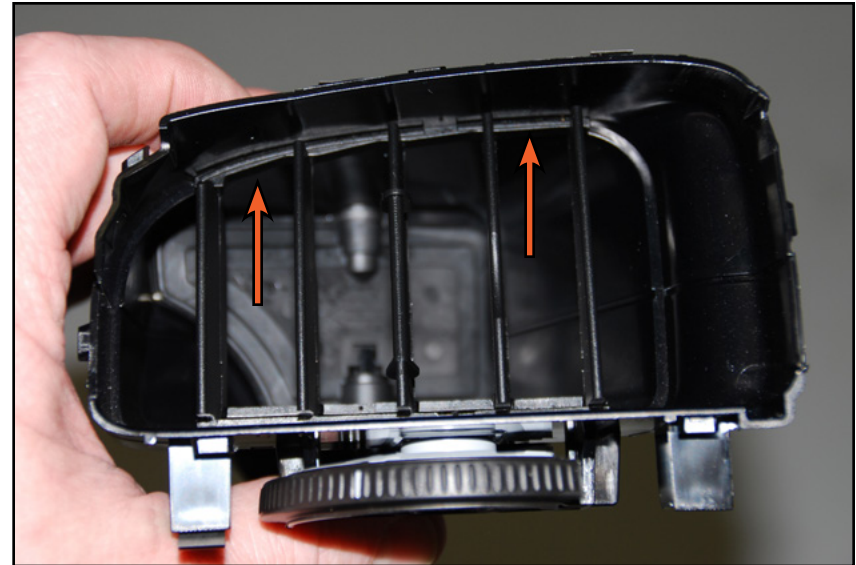
It is only necessary to tighten these nuts by hand. The studs are very small and can be broken easily.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

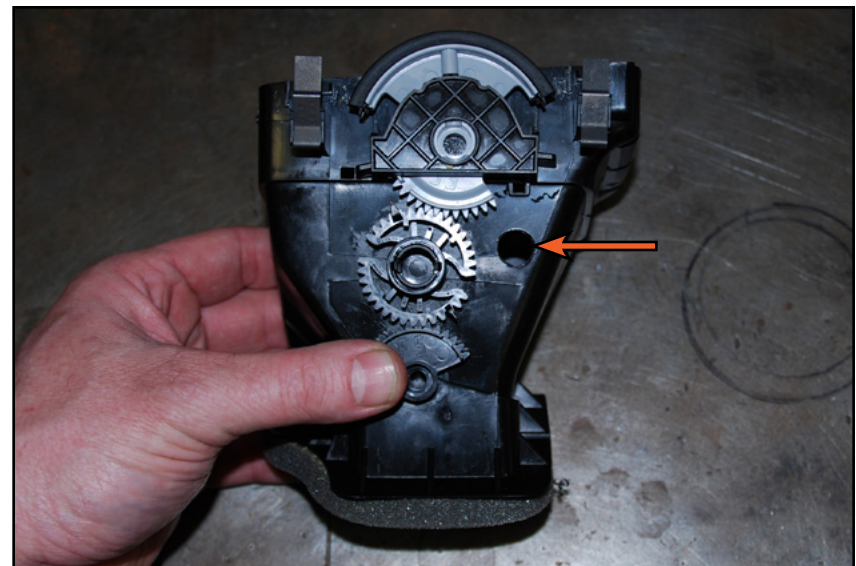
**Step 9:** Flat Head Screwdriver

Remove the inner vent louvers by gently prying them loose at their locking tabs and pulling them out of the vent housing.



**Step 10:** 1/2" Drill Bit & Drill

Drill a 1/2" hole in the vent housing in the location shown in the picture.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 11:

If equipped, remove the LH dash pocket by opening it, squeezing the sides together, pulling it past the catches, then pull it off the lower hinge. This will give you additional access behind the dash panel.



### Step 12:

Pull the wire from the boost sensor up through the dash and out the opening for the vent housing.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 13:

Insert the connector end of the power harness through the new hole in the bottom of the vent housing and pull about six inches out the front of the housing.



### Step 14:

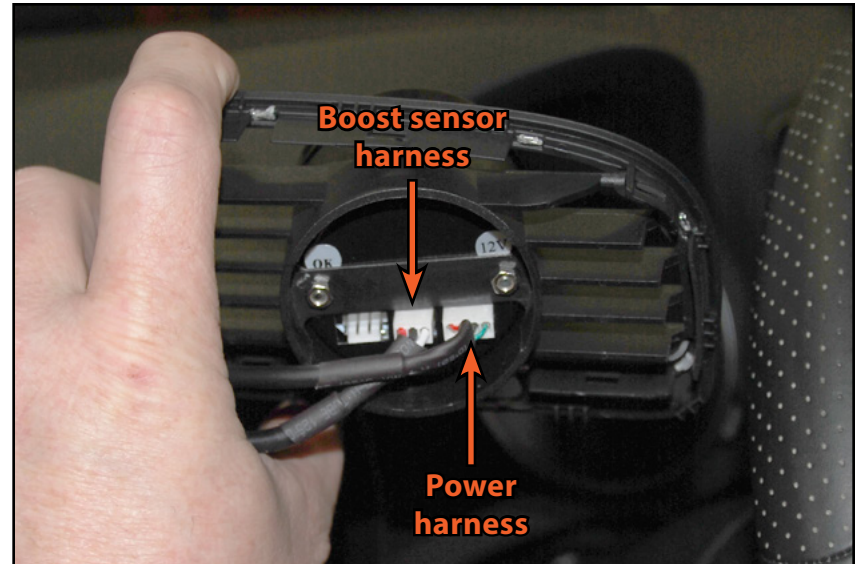
Route the other end of the power harness through the vent opening in the dash and out the LH side by the fuse panel. Then insert the boost sensor connector through the new hole in the bottom of the vent housing and pull about six inches out the front. Partially insert the vent housing into the dash just so it is held in place for the next step, but do not push it all the way in.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 15:

Connect the four pin power harness connector to the back of the gauge on the RH side, and the three pin boost sensor harness connector to the center of the gauge as shown in the picture.



### Step 16:

Install the outer vent trim, vent pod, and gauge onto the vent housing while gently guiding the wires through the hole in the bottom of the housing. Press the outer vent trim in place around the entire perimeter of the housing until all tabs are fully engaged.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 17:

Push the entire vent assembly back into the dash as you carefully guide the wiring through at the same time so it is not pinched or damaged.



### Step 18:

Make sure the headlight switch is in the "off" position.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 19:

Firmly push in on the center of the switch knob until it depresses inward, then turn it slightly to the right and release it. The switch knob will stay in this position as shown in the picture.



### Step 20:

Pull the headlight switch out of the dash.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 21:

You should now have access to the headlight switch wiring and the gauge power harness should be located out the LH side of the dash, as shown in the picture.



### Step 22:

Route the gauge power harness back into the dash and out the hole for the headlight switch as shown.



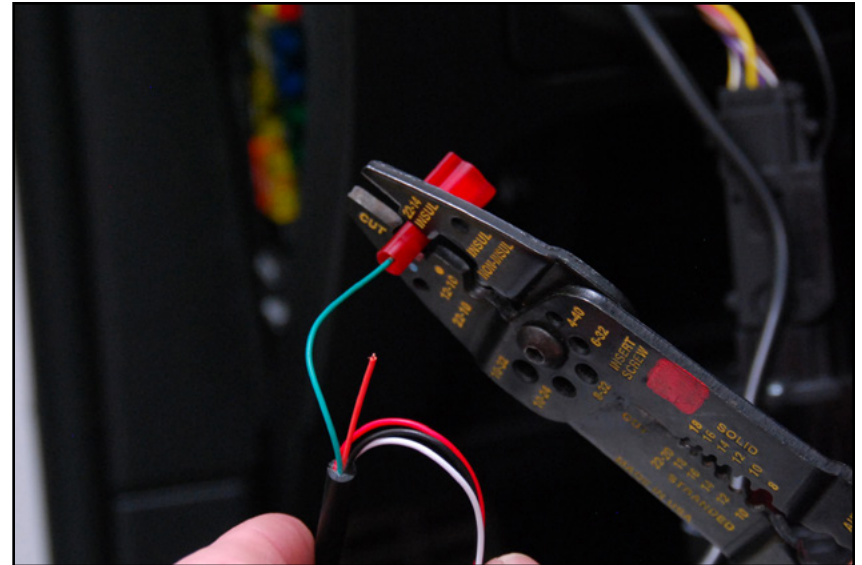
## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 23: Wire Crimping Pliers

Crimp one of the spade connectors onto the pre-stripped end of each of the four wires in the gauge power harness: red, black, white, and green.

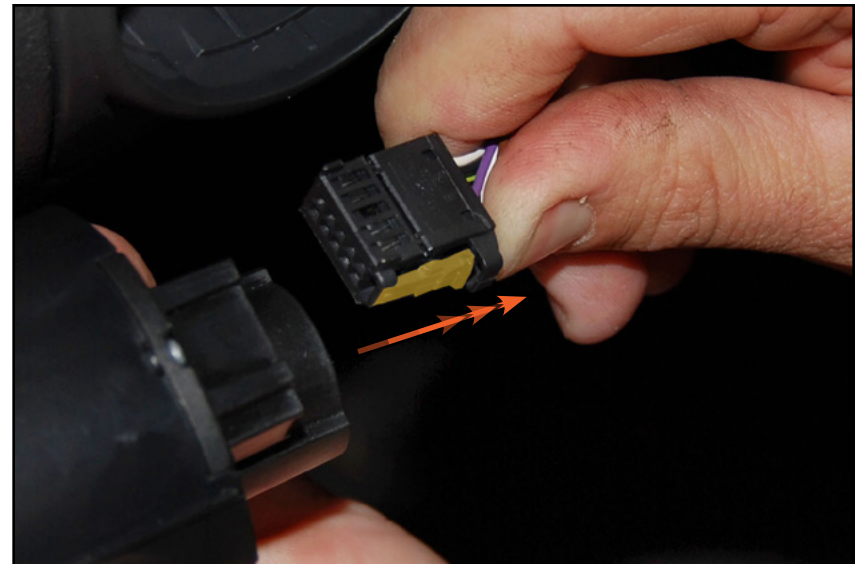


This harness may have an additional orange wire in it, this wire is not used.



### Step 24

Depress the locking tab with your thumb and pull the connector out of the back of the headlight switch. Place the headlight switch to the side.



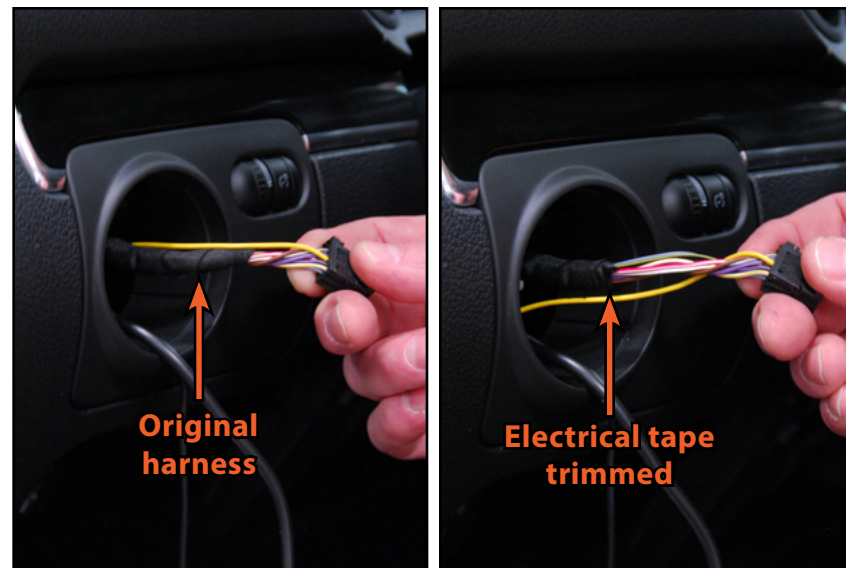
## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 25: Razor Blade

Carefully trim about 1.5" of electrical tape back on the headlight switch harness to allow for installation of the T-taps. Be sure not to nick or cut any of the wires or insulation.



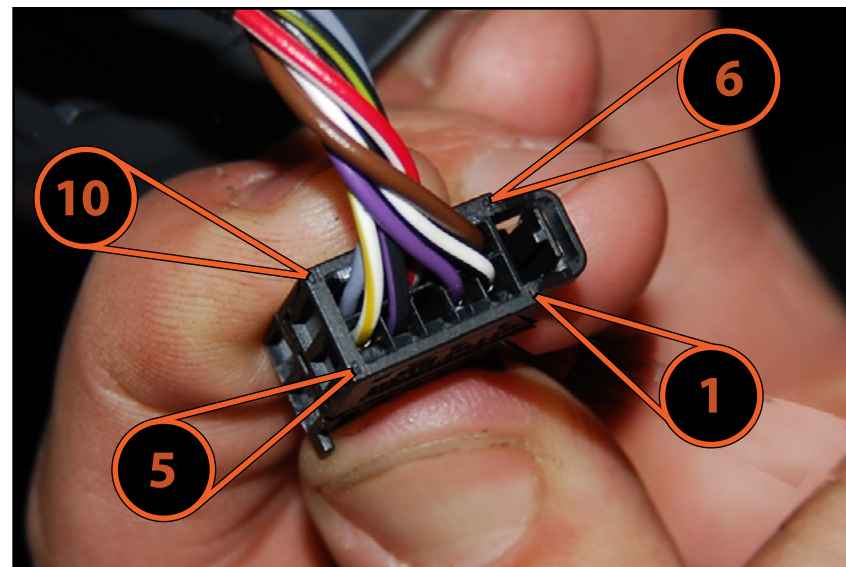
The yellow wire shown in this picture is an additional wire that is installed if you have installed a Automatic Headlight Conversion Kit in your car. If you do not have this conversion kit installed, the yellow wire will not be present.



### Step 26:

The next step is to install the T-taps onto the headlight switch wiring harness. Begin by familiarizing yourself with the wire locations on the headlight switch connector.

The headlight switch connector is a ten pin connector. The wire/pin locations are each assigned a number one through ten. Look closely at the back of the connector and you will see a reference number at each corner that will allow you to identify the specific wires/pins in between.



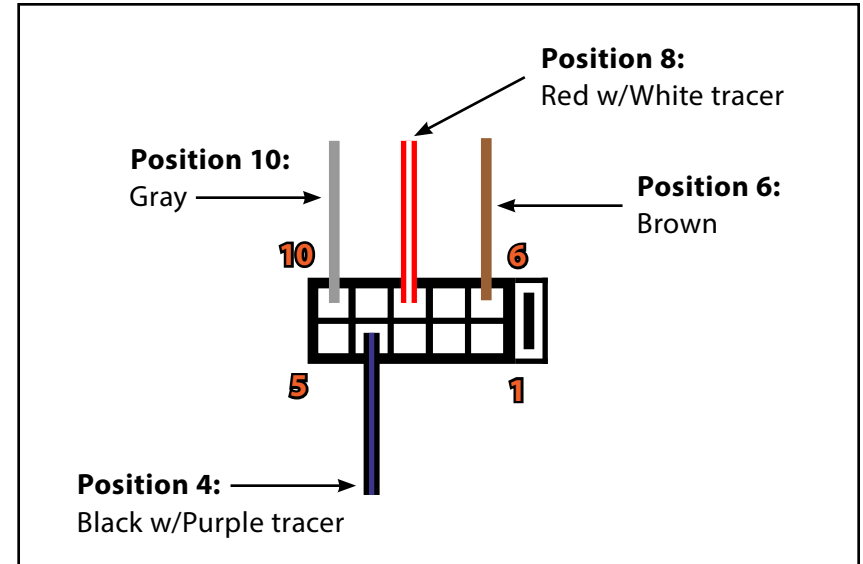
## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 27:

You will be installing four T-taps onto the headlight wiring harness. Install one T-tap onto each of the wires shown in the diagram. Inspect the diagram, then follow the T-tap installation procedure in steps 28 and 29.

### Step 28:

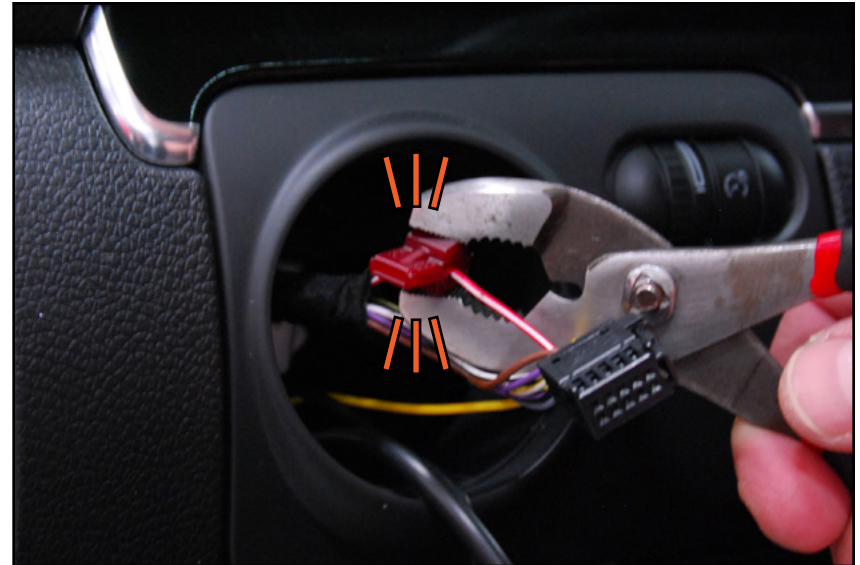
Select one of the wires shown in step 27 and place a T-tap underneath with the wire located in the groove of the blade as shown in the picture.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 29: Curved Jaw Pliers

Fold the top of the T-tap over then squeeze it together just until you hear a click indicating that the T-tap is fully closed.

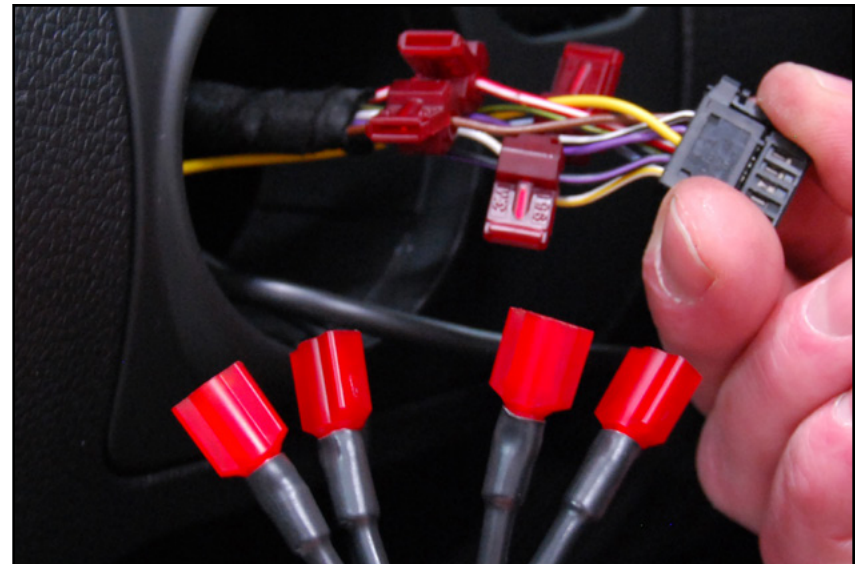


### Step 30:

Repeat the procedure until all four T-taps are installed. With the T-taps and spade connectors installed, you are now ready for final connection.



For a clean appearance, we have installed heat shrink tubing over the ends of the spade terminals.

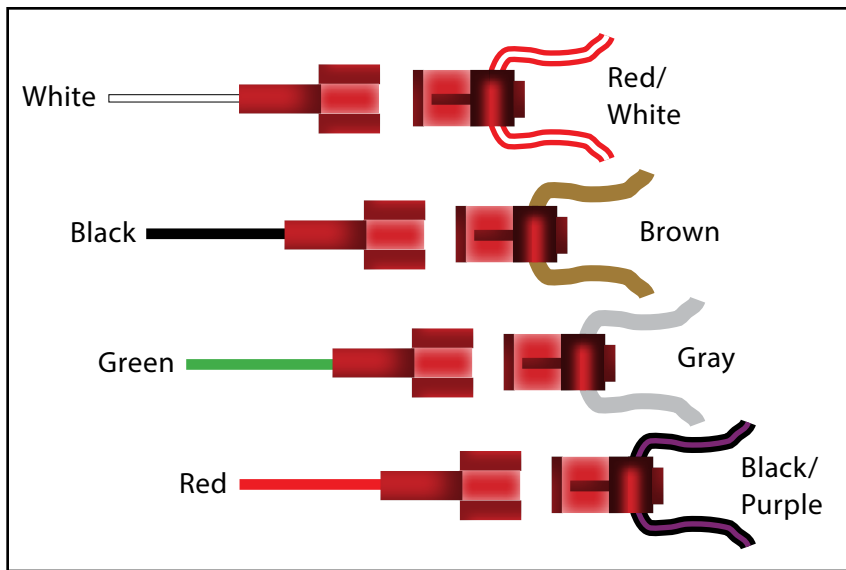


# INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

## Step 31:

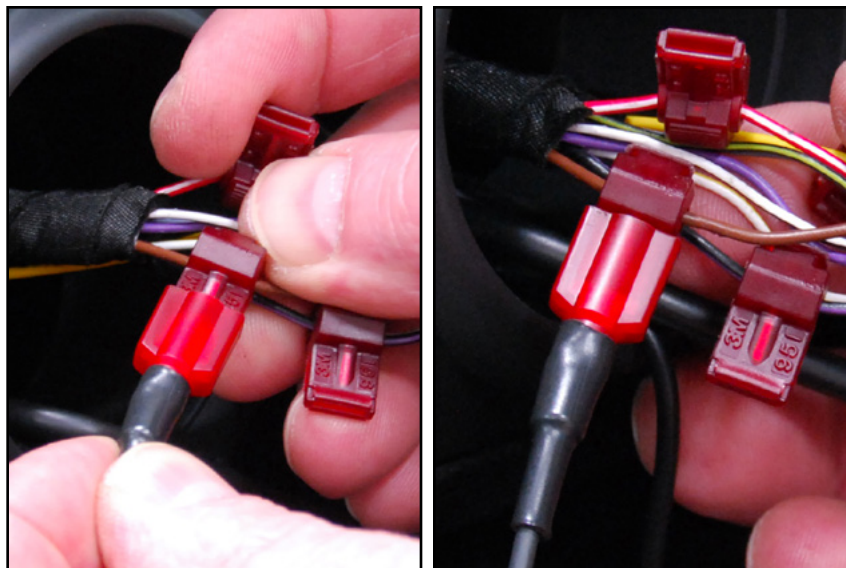
Connect the four spade connectors to the T-taps using the diagram at the right for wire location and step 32 for the connection procedure.

Boost Gauge Wire Color	Function	Switch Wire Color (Position#)
White	12V constant	Red/White (Position 8)
Red	12V switched	Black/Purple (Position 4)
Green	Dash lighting	Gray (Position 10)
Black	Ground	Brown (Position 6)



## Step 32:

Push each spade connector onto the correct T-tap. Firmly support the T-tap as you press the spade connector into place. These are a tight fit so you will have to push fairly hard to fully seat the spade connectors.



## INSTALLING THE VENT POD BOOST GAUGE

### Step 33:

The final connections should look like the picture on the right.



### Step 34:

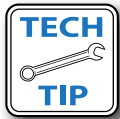
Connect the headlight switch and carefully guide it back into the dash. Make sure that the wires fall freely back into the dash and do not get caught on anything. Push on the switch until you hear a click indicating that it is fully seated in the dash.



## CONNECTING TO THE VACUUM SOURCE

### Step 1:

You'll need to install a boost tap or other suitable vacuum source onto the engine to supply your new boost gauge. **Photo #1** and **Photo #2** show our boost tap installed onto the intake manifold.



Please reference the installation instructions on [ES#2718328](#) for more information.



## CONNECTING TO THE VACUUM SOURCE

### Step 2: Straight Pick

The vacuum hose needs to run from the engine compartment to the inside of the car. Look underneath the dash up into the driver's footwell and locate the main wiring harness that travels through the firewall. Use a straight pick or awl to pierce a hole through the flexible rubber boot.



### Step 3:

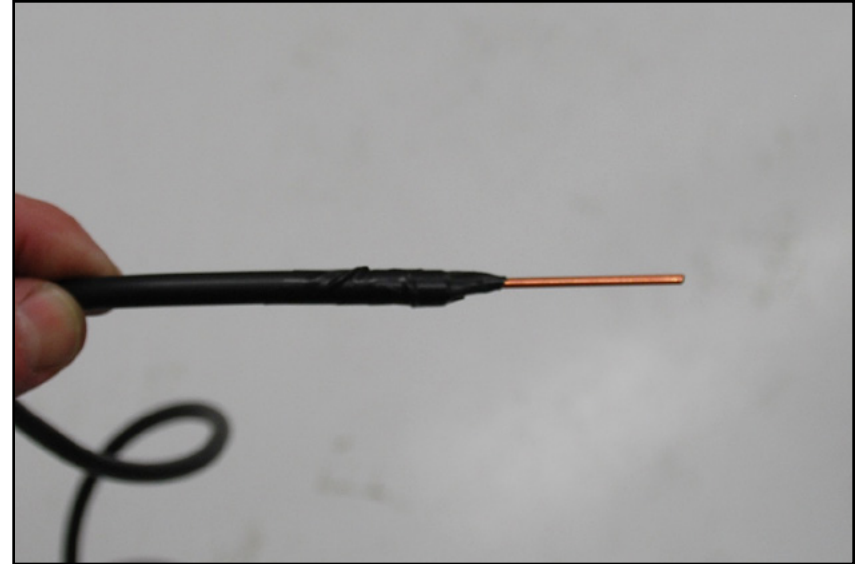
Push the long piece of vacuum tubing onto one end of the filter, then push the short piece onto the other end.



## CONNECTING TO THE VACUUM SOURCE

### Step 4:

Insert a short piece of stiff wire into the end of the long piece of vacuum tubing, then use electrical tape to secure it in place.



### Step 5:

Starting from the inside, push the wire and the end of the tubing through the hole in the rubber boot. It will exit the firewall behind the battery. Grab the tubing using a long pair of needle nose pliers and pull it through until you can reach it by hand.



## CONNECTING TO THE VACUUM SOURCE

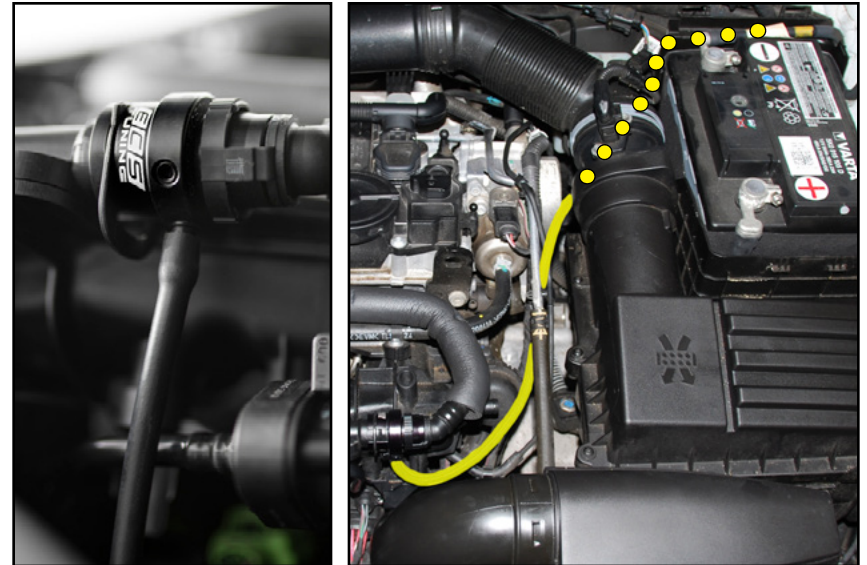
### Step 6:

Route the tubing between the battery and master cylinder, underneath the intake ductwork, then forward until it reaches the boost tap. Pull additional tubing through the firewall in small increments as needed to reach the boost tap. Push the tubing onto the nipple on the Boost Tap.



Make sure the tubing is not pinched or kinked at any point. You may also choose to secure the tubing with wire ties.

Re-install the engine cover and close the hood.



### Step 7:

Back inside the car, connect the remaining end of the short piece of vacuum tubing to the boost sensor, then place it on the floor out of the way.



## FINAL ASSEMBLY

### Step 1:

Turn the ignition on and make sure the gauge needle goes to "zero". Start the car and check the gauge operation and lighting.



### Step 2:

Complete reassembly by performing the following steps:

Install the dash end cover

If removed, install the LH dash pocket



## Your Vent Pod Boost Gauge Kit installation is complete!



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

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