



Audi B9 A4 & S4 Carbon Fiber Steering Wheel Trim Installation Instructions - [ES3220888](#)



Skill Level
2 - Moderate
Some Experience
Recommended



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.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The air bag must be removed from the steering wheel in order to install this carbon fiber trim. The procedure might be a little tricky, but you'll only need a T25 torx driver or a Phillips head screwdriver for this job. It will also help to have a clean microfiber towel and a suitable oil-free interior cleaner nearby. Here's a quick rundown of what we'll be doing:

- Disconnect the negative (-) battery terminal.
- Remove the air bag from the steering wheel and safely store it.
- Install the carbon fiber steering wheel trim.
- Reinstall the air bag.

Depending on your experience level this project might only take you an hour, but don't be surprised if it takes a little bit longer than that. Read these instructions completely first and you'll breeze right through it. Thank you for looking to ECS Tuning for all your performance and repair needs, we appreciate your business!

AIR BAG WARNINGS AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Air bag components always contain chemicals, which turn into an expanding gas when detonated.
- This gas is contained under high pressure and is stored in a pressurized gas container.
- Testing, removing, installation, and repair work should only be performed by qualified personnel.
- Before handling air bag components of the restraint system, for example, before disconnecting the electrical harness connector, the relevant person must discharge static electricity. Touching grounded metal parts, for example, touching the door striker, will discharge the static electricity.
- When working on the air bag, the battery ground terminal must be disconnected with the ignition SWITCHED ON, and the negative battery post must be covered so it cannot accidentally contact the ground terminal.
- Wait for 10 seconds after disconnecting the battery.
- Connect the battery with the ignition SWITCHED ON.
- Do not sit inside the vehicle while reconnecting any air bag components.
- Never test with a test light, volt meter, or ohm meter.
- Do not use any grease or cleaning solutions on air bag components.
- Air bag components must not be exposed to temperatures over 100° C, even for a short time.

AIR BAG REMOVAL OVERVIEW

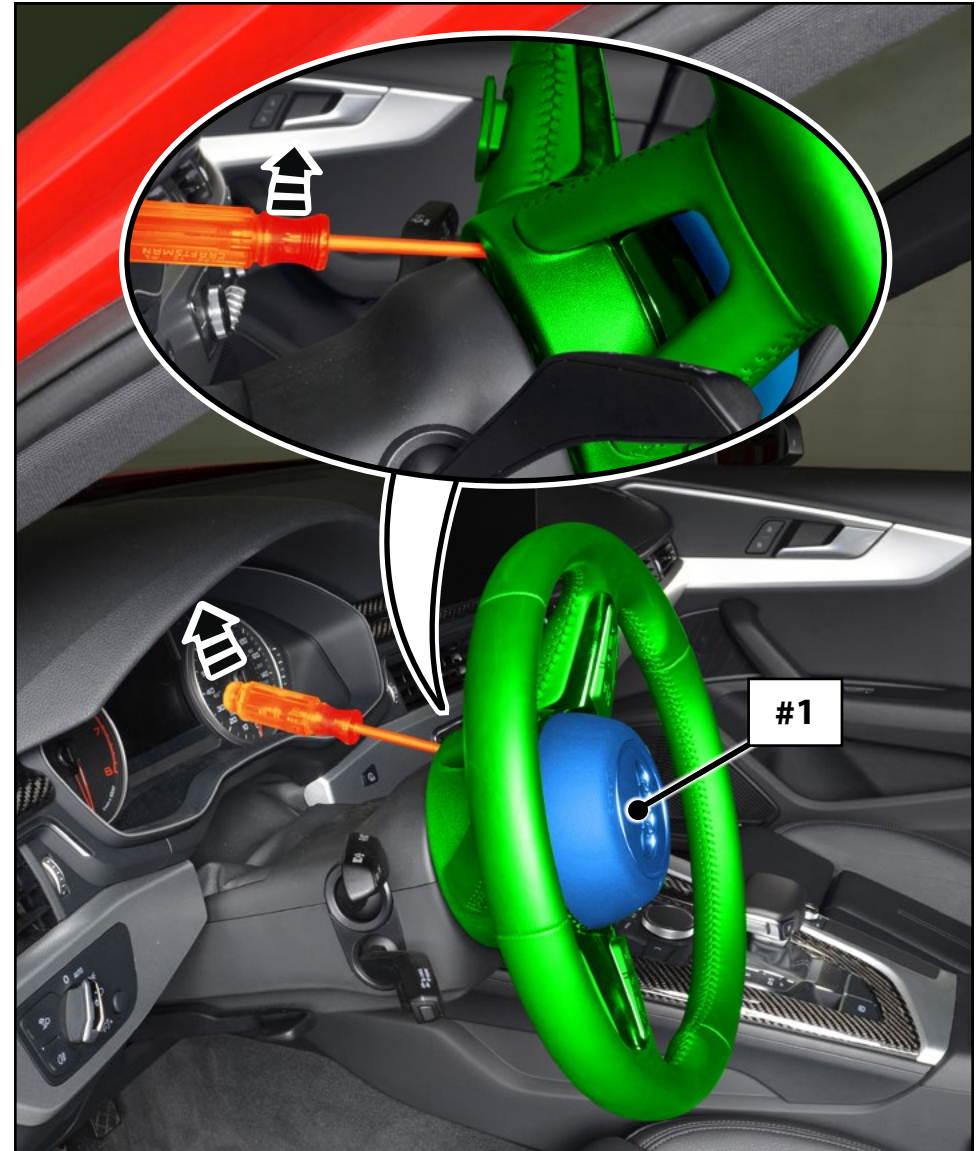
Removing the air bag from the steering wheel is the trickiest part of this installation. Let's take a few moments to study how the air bag is fastened into place before proceeding.

The air bag is incorporated into the steering wheel horn pad (#1 in the photo on the right). It is released through two small openings on the back side of the steering wheel which can only be accessed when the wheel is rotated 130° in either direction.

To release the air bag from the steering wheel you will need to:

- Insert a T25 torx driver or a Phillips head screwdriver all the way into the opening.
- Lift the handle of the driver upward to push the spring toward the center of the air bag (reference the highlighted spring on the next page).

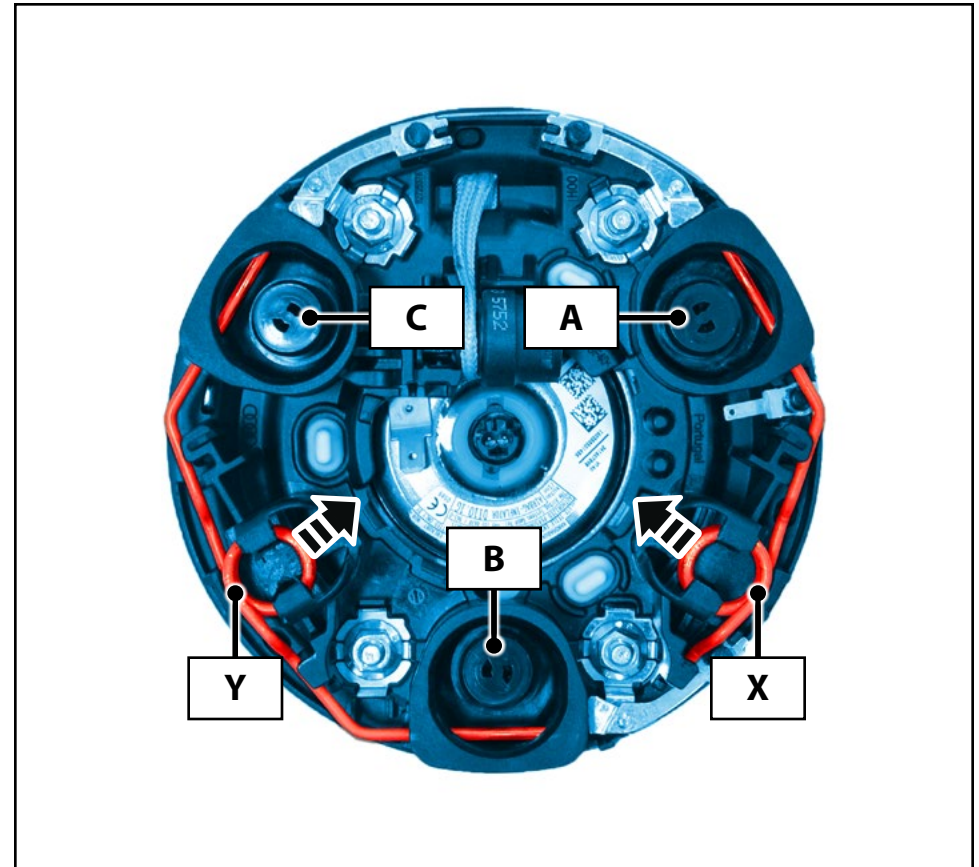
**Continue to the next page
for more details**



AIR BAG REMOVAL OVERVIEW

The air bag has a single spring (highlighted in **RED** in the photo on the right), which applies inward pressure onto the three retainers ("A" "B" & "C" in the photo).

- Retainer "A" is released by pressing the spring inward into locking bracket "X".
- Retainers "B" & "C" are released by pressing the spring inward into locking bracket "Y".
- The retainers must be released in this order.



Now let's get to it!

REMOVING THE AIR BAG

Step 1:

Pull the steering wheel all the way back (toward the seat) and down as far as it will go, then rotate the steering wheel so it is centered.



Step 2: 10mm Socket & Ratchet - or - 10mm Wrench

With the ignition switched on, disconnect the negative (-) battery terminal. Cover the negative battery post it cannot accidentally come into contact with the terminal. Let the system discharge for several minutes before continuing with this installation.



REMOVING THE AIR BAG

Step 3:

Turn the steering wheel 130° clockwise from center, then while simultaneously pulling outward on the top of air bag, release the "A" retainer as shown on Pages 3-4.



Don't allow the air bag to clip back into place during the rest of the removal steps.



Step 4:

Turn the steering wheel 260° counter-clockwise, then while simultaneously pulling outward on the entire air bag, release the "B" and "C" retainers as shown on Pages 3-4.



Continue to the next page for instructions on disconnecting the wiring harnesses from the back of the air bag. **DO NOT** completely remove the air bag from the steering wheel during this step.

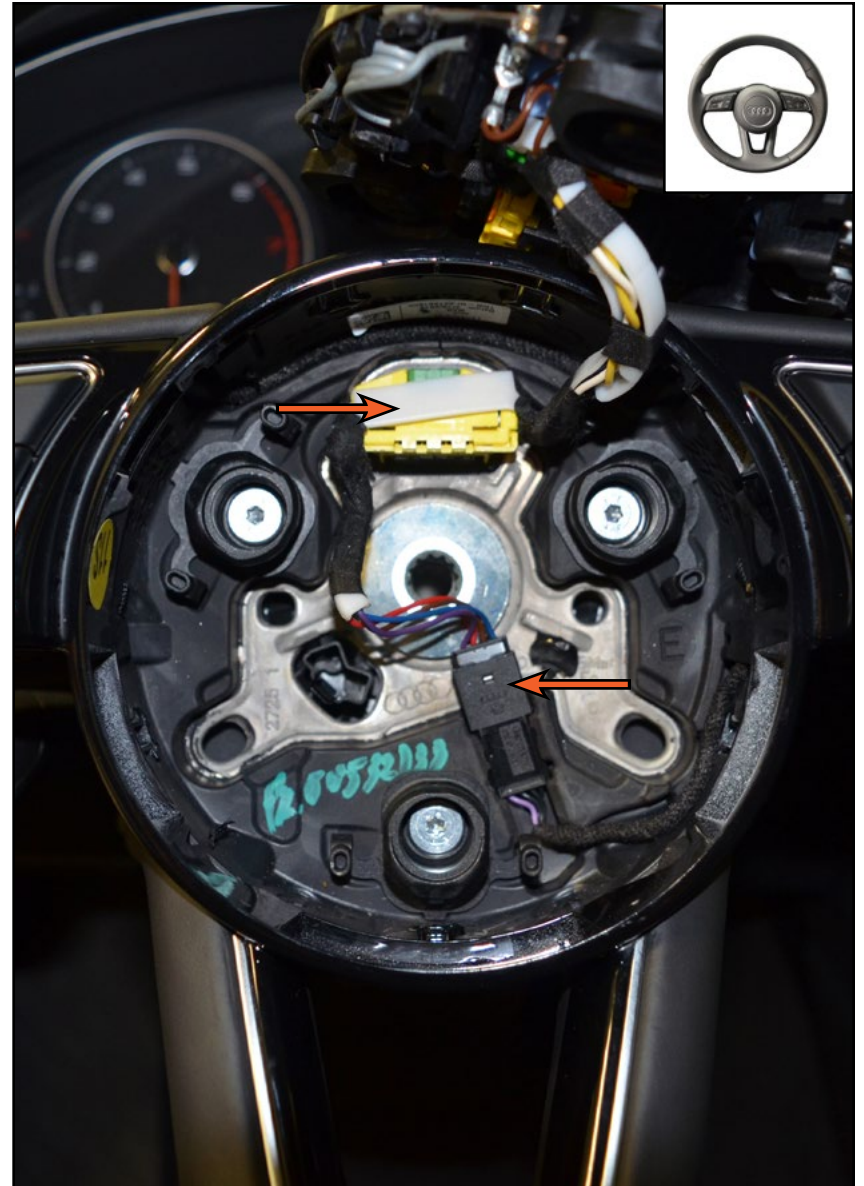


REMOVING THE AIR BAG

Step 5:

Turn the steering wheel back to center, then slowly guide the air bag out of the steering wheel, being sure to not stretch or kink the wiring harnesses inside.

Locate and disconnect the two wiring harness connectors inside the steering wheel. Remove the air bag from the vehicle, store it in a clean, safe area with the cushioned side **FACING UPWARDS**.



INSTALLING THE CF STEERING WHEEL TRIM

Step 1:

Prep the original steering wheel trim by cleaning it with a suitable oil-free interior cleaner and a microfiber towel. Be sure to remove any fingerprints, dirt or debris which may be present from the surface.



Step 2:

Peel the protective film off of all of the double sided tape on the carbon fiber steering wheel trim.



INSTALLING THE CF STEERING WHEEL TRIM

Step 3:

Press the new carbon fiber steering wheel trim into the steering wheel, and apply firm, even pressure for several seconds to ensure that the double sided tape fully seats and adheres into place.



It's a good idea to wipe off any fingerprints or smudges from the carbon fiber now. Once the air bag has been reinstalled you won't have this unrestricted access.



Step 4:

Reconnect the wiring harnesses to the back of the air bag, then ensure that the harnesses are routed as shown in the photo to reduce the risk of them being pinched or damaged.



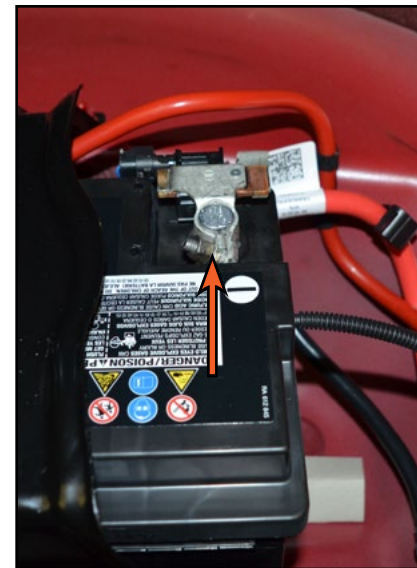
INSTALLING THE CF STEERING WHEEL TRIM

Step 5:

Align the air bag with the steering wheel and push it inward until all three retainers click into place. With the ignition switched on, reconnect the negative (-) battery terminal.



CAUTION: Make sure that no one is sitting inside the vehicle while reconnecting the negative (-) battery terminal.



Step 6:

Check for any error codes or malfunction indicator lights on the dashboard. Depending on equipment options, you may need to start the vehicle and turn the steering wheel all the way in both directions to calibrate the steering angle sensor.

Your installation is complete!



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Your Carbon Fiber Steering Wheel Trim installation is complete!



These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning

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