

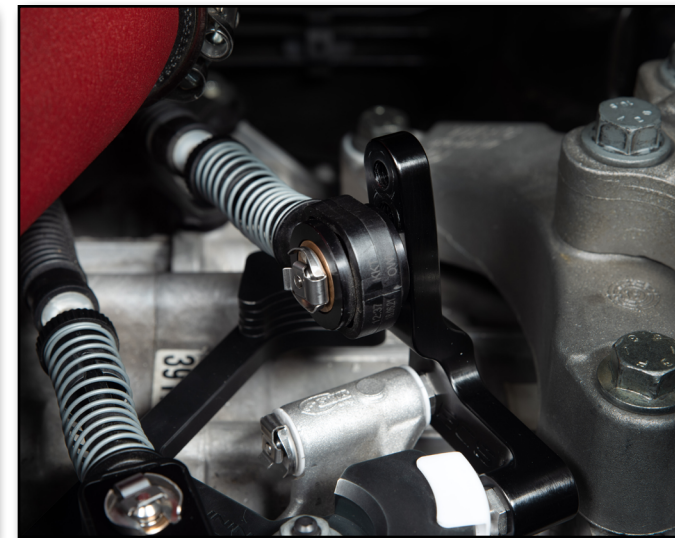
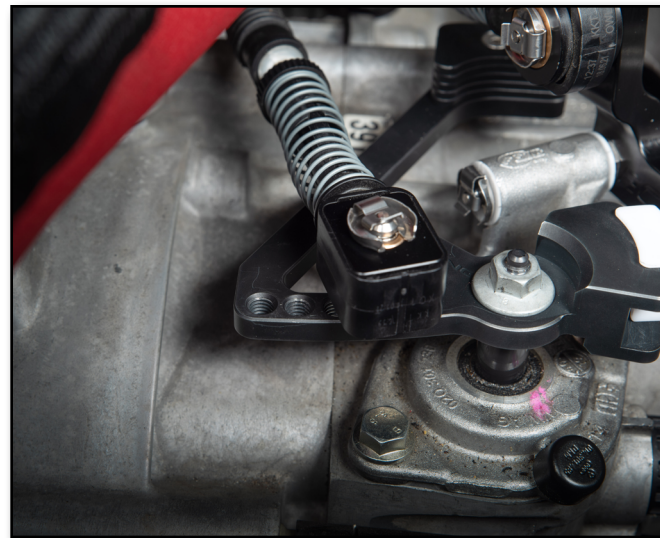
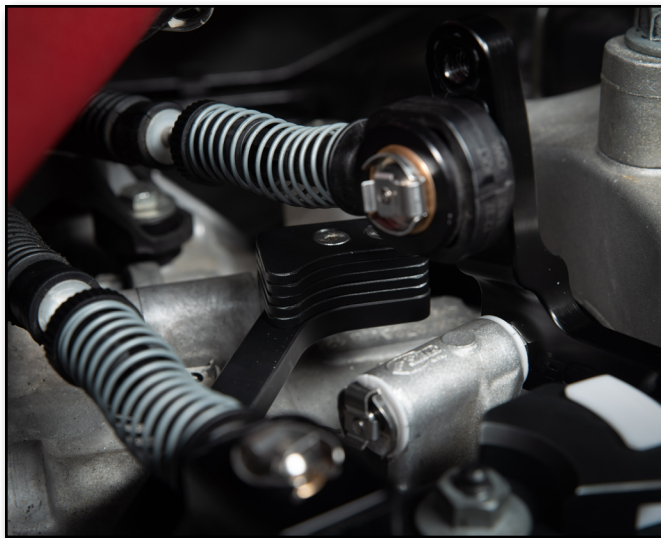
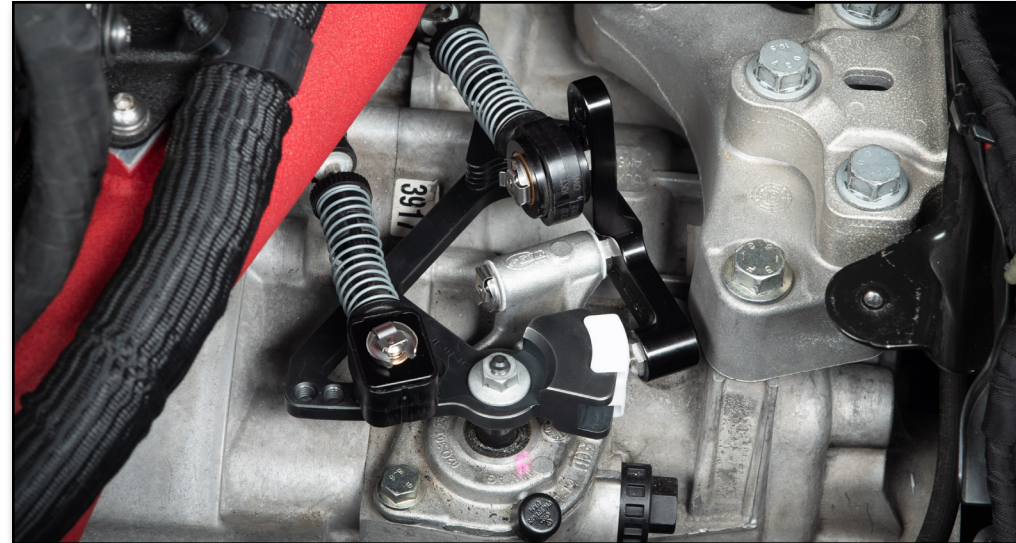


VW MK8 Short Shifter Kit

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.

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KIT CONTENTS



Front-to-Back Shift Lever Kit



Side-to-side Shift Lever Kit



Short Shifter Kit

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#2834951](#)
- **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.

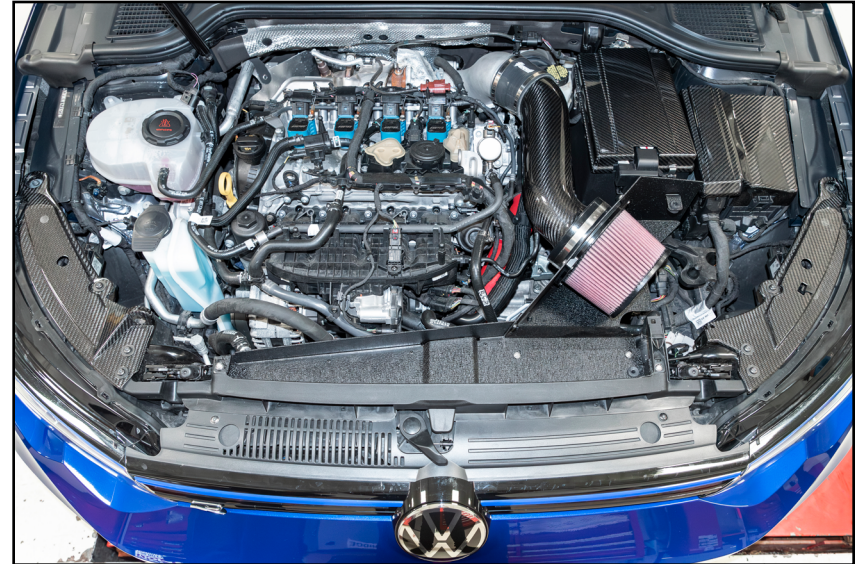


NEVER get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and **ALWAYS** make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.

REMOVING THE STOCK SHIFT LEVERS

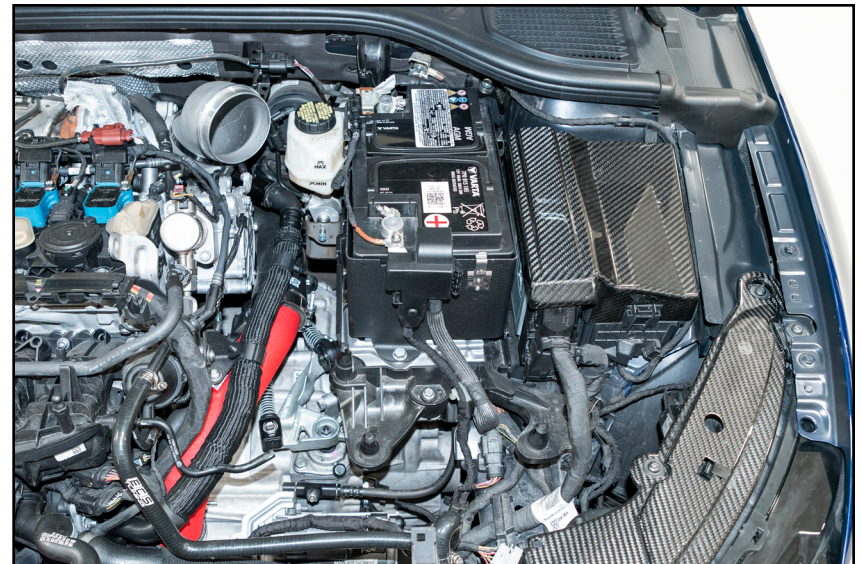
Step 1:

Remove the intake system.



Step 2: 10mm, 13mm Socket & Ratchet

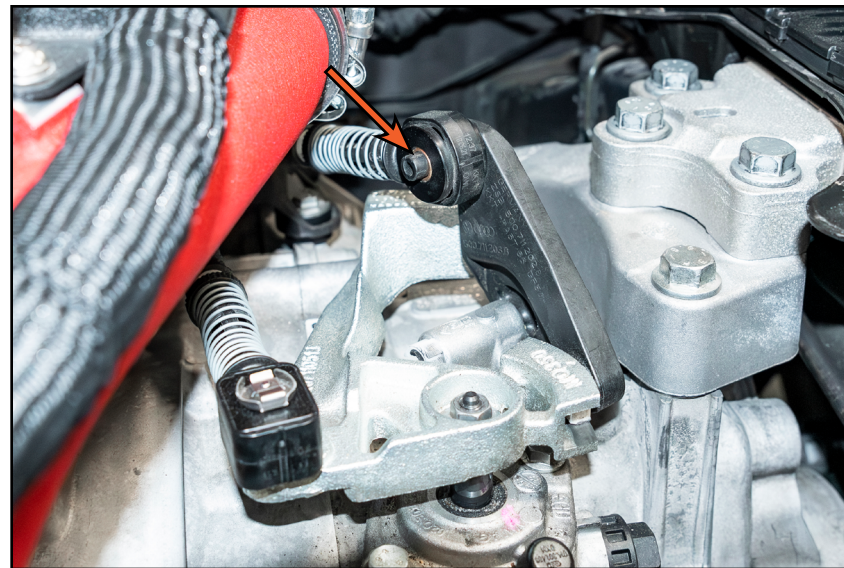
Disconnect and remove the battery, then remove the battery tray.



REMOVING THE STOCK SHIFT LEVERS

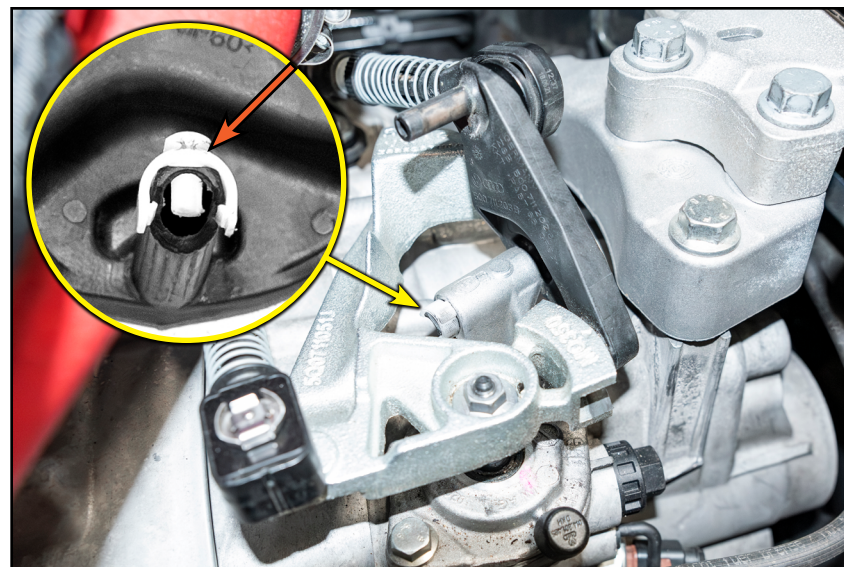
Step 3: Angled Pick

Depress the small plastic retaining tab (arrow), then slide the cable end off of the side-to-side shift lever.



Step 4: Angled Pick

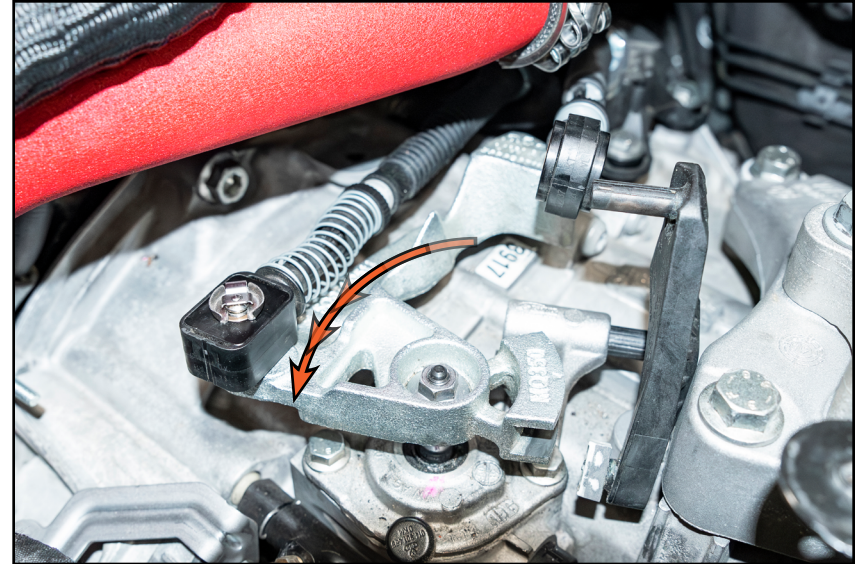
Remove the plastic retaining clip (arrow) off of the pivot pin on the side-to-side lever.



REMOVING THE STOCK SHIFT LEVERS

Step 5:

Rotate the front-to-back shift lever counter-clockwise as far as it will go.

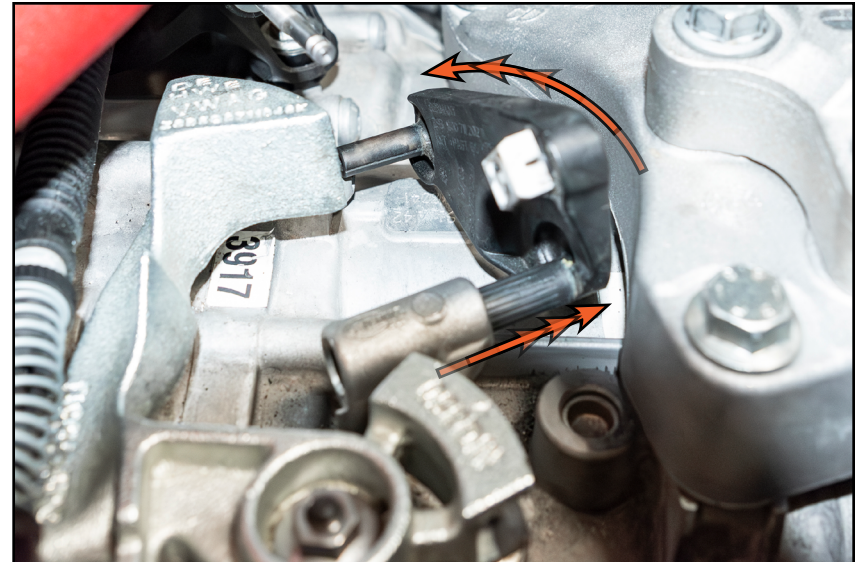


Step 6:

Rotate the side-to-side shift level downward as shown, then slide it out of the pivot point.



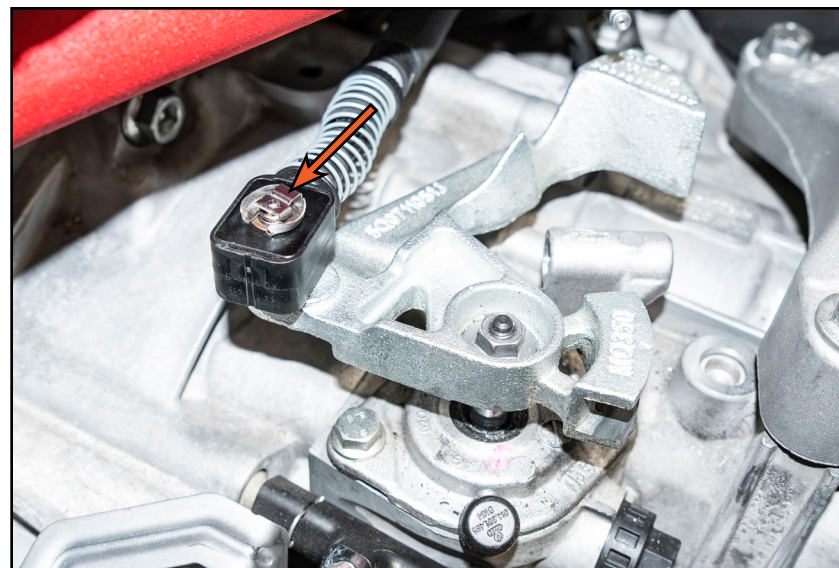
If you purchased the side-to-side shift lever only: please skip ahead to [page 11](#).



REMOVING THE STOCK SHIFT LEVERS

Step 7:

Remove the metal retaining clip (arrow), then slide the cable end off of the front-to-back shift lever.

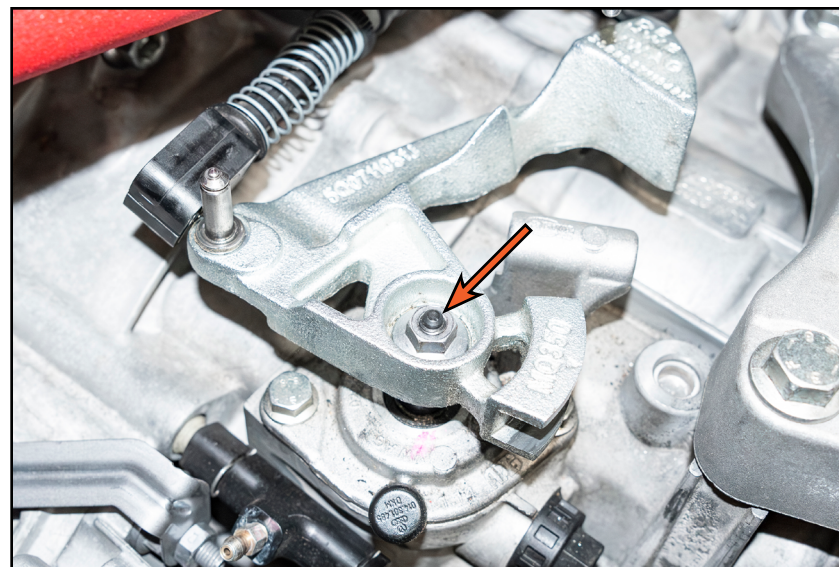


Step 8: 13mm Socket & Ratchet

Remove the nut (arrow), then pull the front-to-back shift lever free from the splines on the selector shaft.



On particularly stubborn shift levers, you can spray the splines with penetrating oil and allow the oil to soak in to aid in removal.

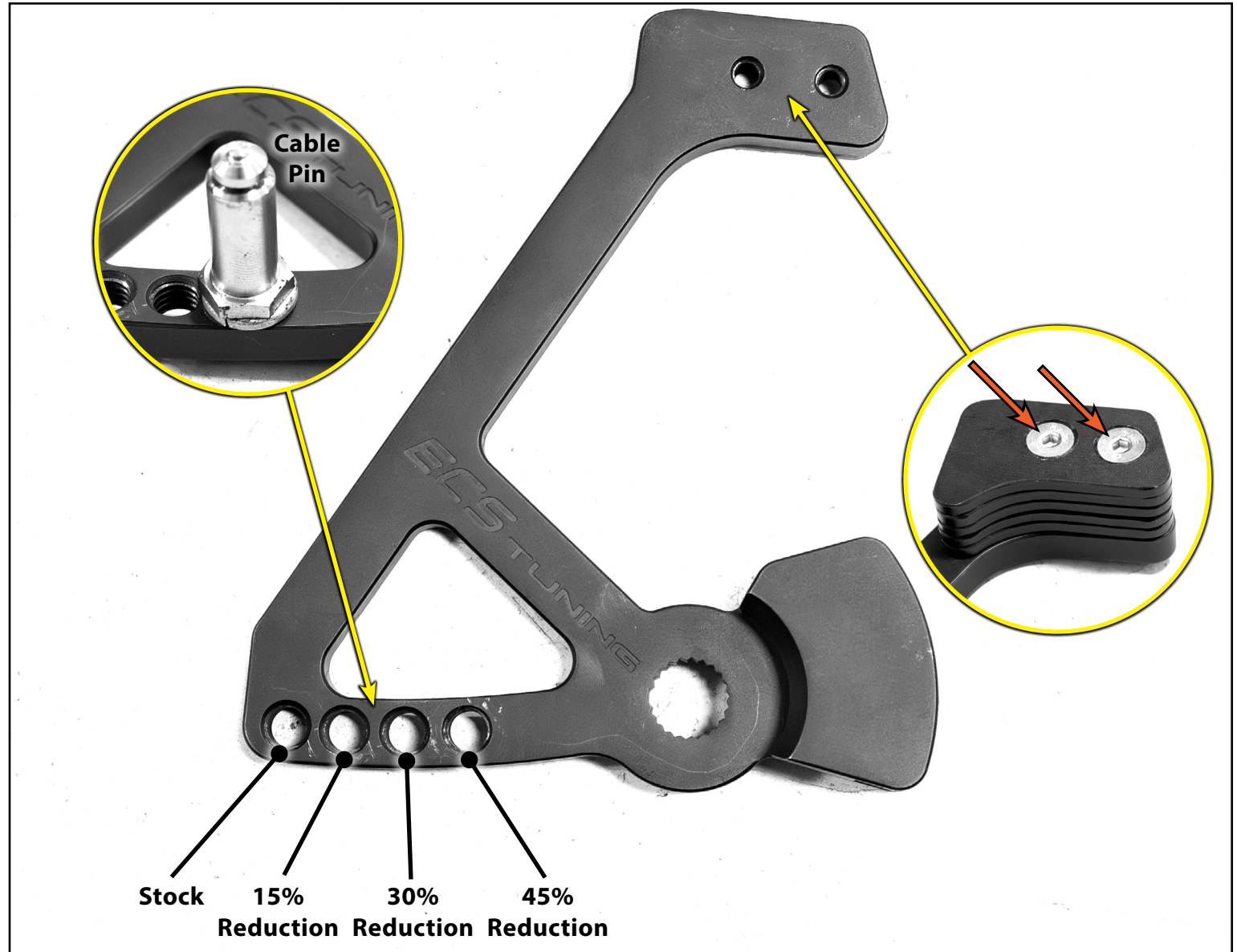


INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT-TO-BACK SHIFT LEVER

Step 1:

Select one of the four holes for the cable pin, depending on your desired throw, then install the cable pin and lock washer (as shown in the inset on the left), tightening until snug.

Select the chosen quantity of counterweights, depending on your desired feel and secure them in place using the corresponding screws (arrows in the inset photo on the right), tightening them until snug.



INSTALLING THE NEW FRONT-TO-BACK SHIFT LEVER

Step 2: 13mm Socket & Torque Wrench

Install the front-to-back shifter assembly onto the selector shaft and torque the nut to 20 Nm (15 Ft-lbs).



The splines on shifter assembly and selector shaft are both keyed and can only be installed in one orientation.



Step 3:

Reinstall the cable end and reinstall the metal retaining clip (arrow).



If you purchased the front-to-back shift lever only:
Re-install the side-to-side shift lever in reverse order of removal, then please skip ahead to [page 14](#).



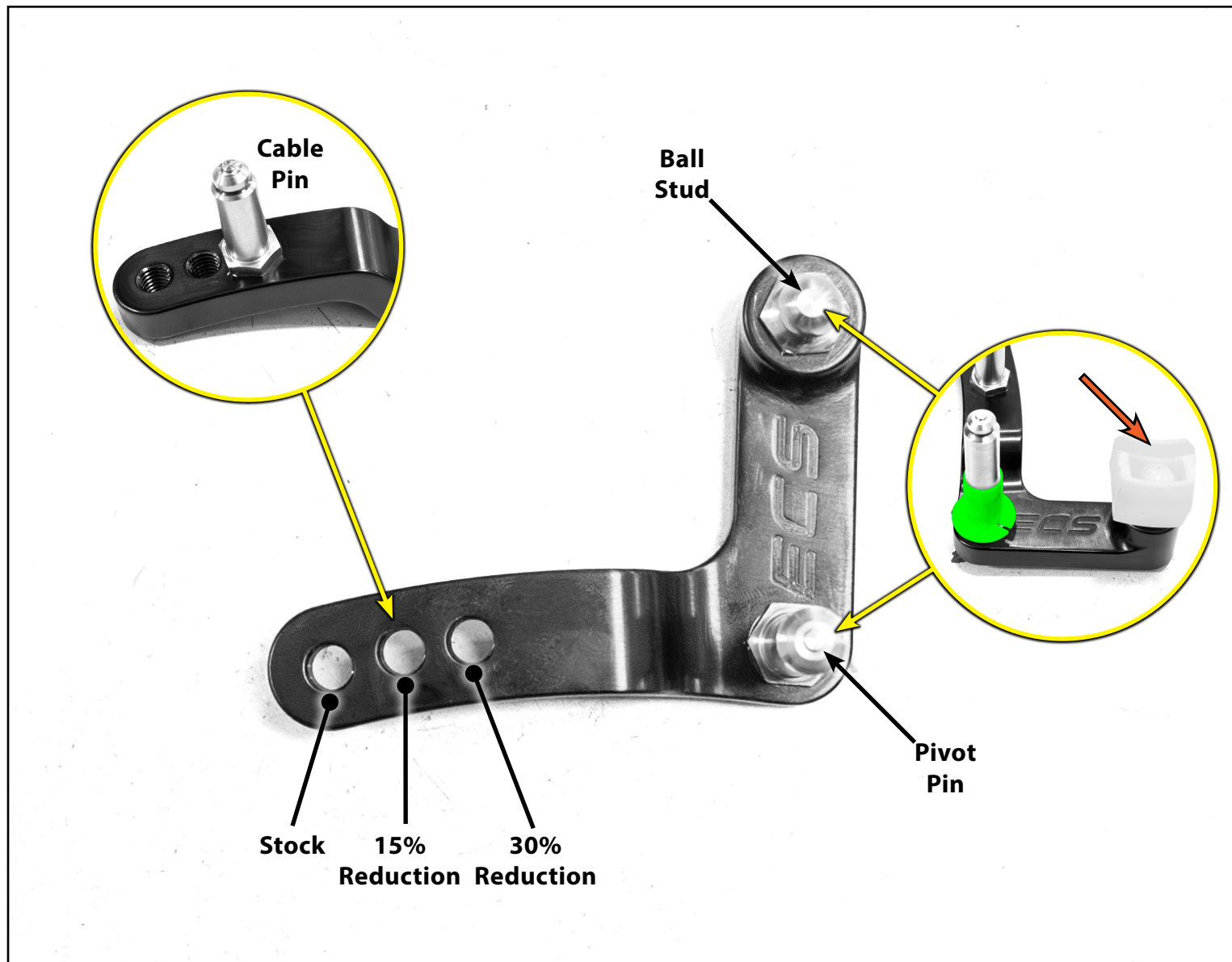
INSTALLING THE NEW SIDE-TO-SIDE SHIFT LEVER

Step 1:

Select one of the three holes for the cable pin, depending on your desired throw, then install the cable pin (as shown in the inset on the left), tightening until snug.

Install the pivot pin and ball stud as shown, tightening until snug.

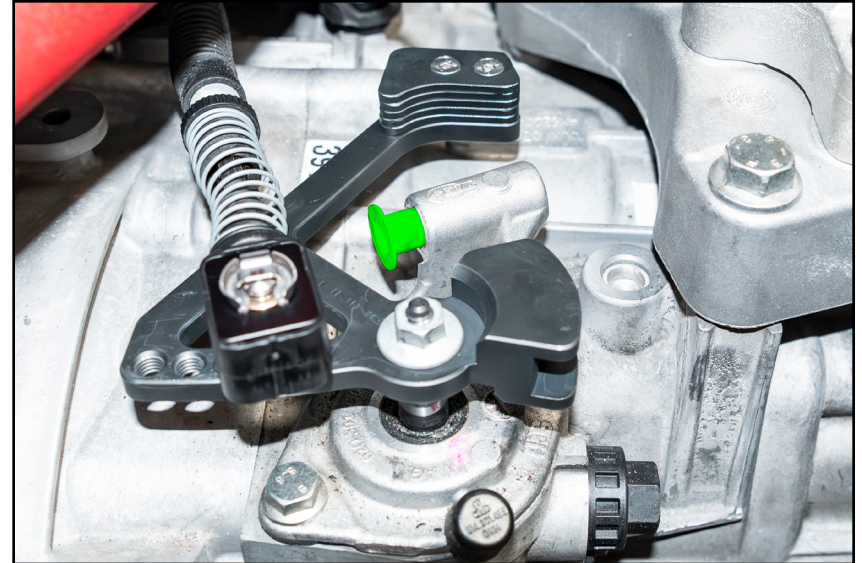
Slide one of the bushings (highlighted in **GREEN** in the inset photo on the right) onto the pivot pin, then push down to pop the lever slide (arrow in the inset photo on the right) onto the ball stud.



INSTALLING THE NEW SIDE-TO-SIDE SHIFT LEVER

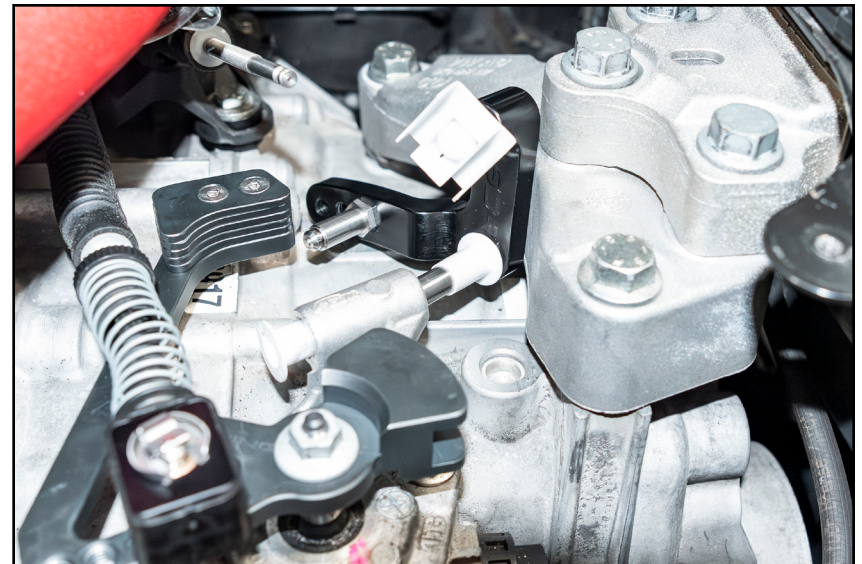
Step 2:

Slide the remaining pivot pin bushing (highlighted in **GREEN**) into the pivot point as shown.



Step 3:

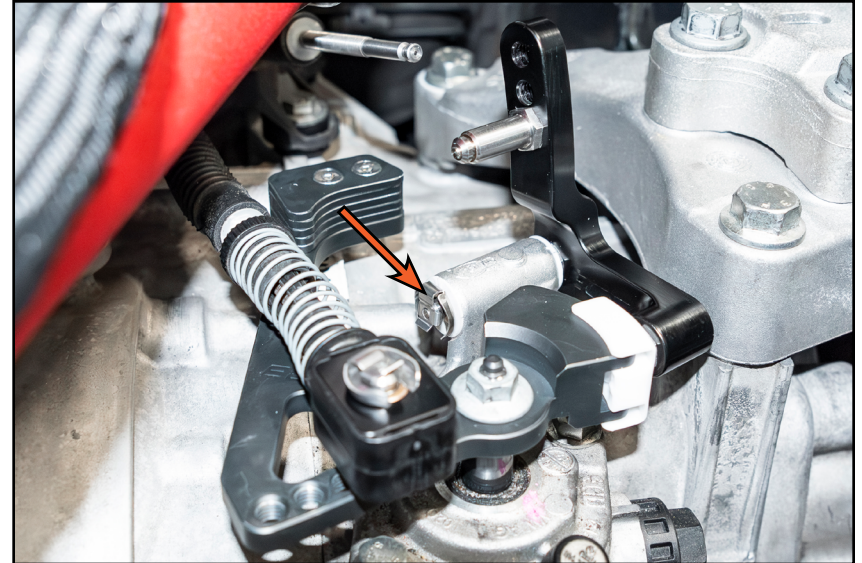
Slide the side-to-side shifter assembly into the pivot point at a slight angle as shown, then push the bushings inward until they are fully seated inside the pivot point bore.



INSTALLING THE NEW SIDE-TO-SIDE SHIFT LEVER

Step 4:

Install the metal retaining clip (arrow) for the side-to-side shifter assembly.



Step 5:

Reinstall the cable end and reinstall the metal retaining clip (arrow).

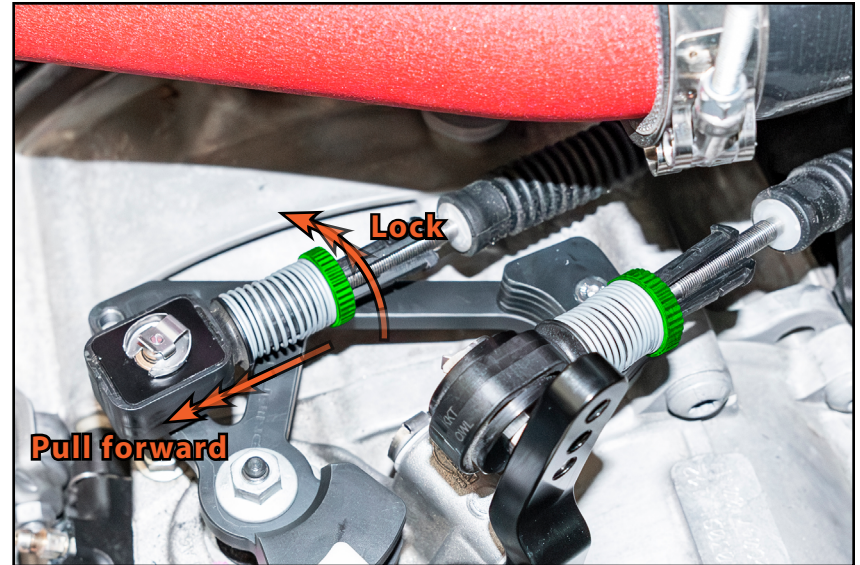


SHIFTER CABLE ADJUSTMENT

Step 1:

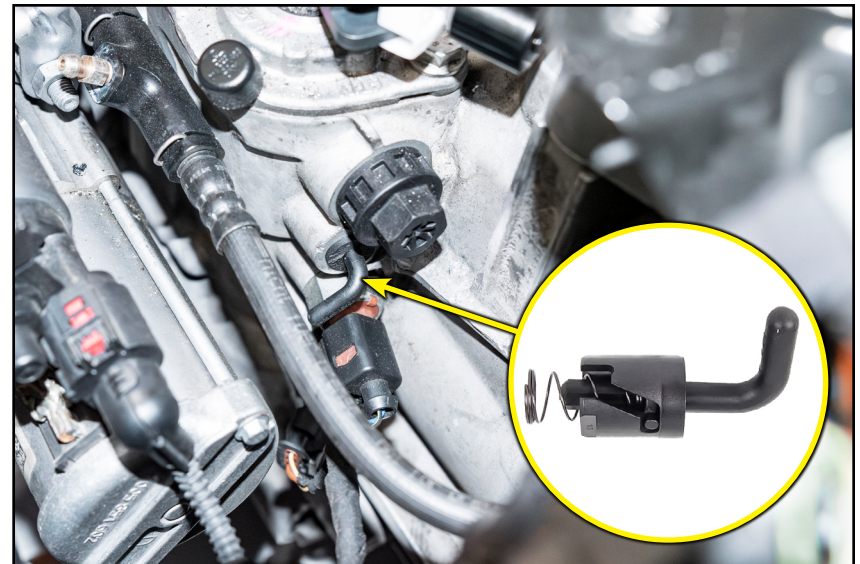
Make sure the transmission is in neutral.

Release the shifter cable ends by pulling the knurled plastic knob (highlighted in **GREEN**) forward until the spring is completely compressed, then turning it to the left to lock it in place. It is properly locked when you release the knob and the spring remains fully compressed.



Step 2:

Locate the selector shaft locking pin (inset photo) in the transmission housing, just behind the starter. The transmission should be in neutral and you should be able to move the selector shaft up and down with ease. Push down on the selector shaft until it is approximately in the middle of its travel. Push in on the locking pin and gently move the selector shaft up and down until the pin engages the alignment hole in the selector shaft and pushes into the transmission. Turn the locking pin upward slightly and release the pressure on the selector shaft. When properly engaged, the pin will stay in place and you will not be able to move the selector shaft.



SHIFTER CABLE ADJUSTMENT

Step 3: Trim Removal Tool

Working inside the car, gently pry up the shifter boot, then lift it over the shift knob. Locate the access hole (arrow) in the foam insulator underneath the shift boot.



Step 4: Schwaben Shifter Alignment Pin

Insert the Schwaben alignment pin or a similar tool through the alignment hole in the shift lever and into the alignment hole in the base of the shifter.

You may notice that the shift lever will move around a bit even with the locking pin installed. While this is a normal condition, it does make the adjustment procedure a little more difficult. **You want to make absolutely sure that the shifter is centered in its locked position.**

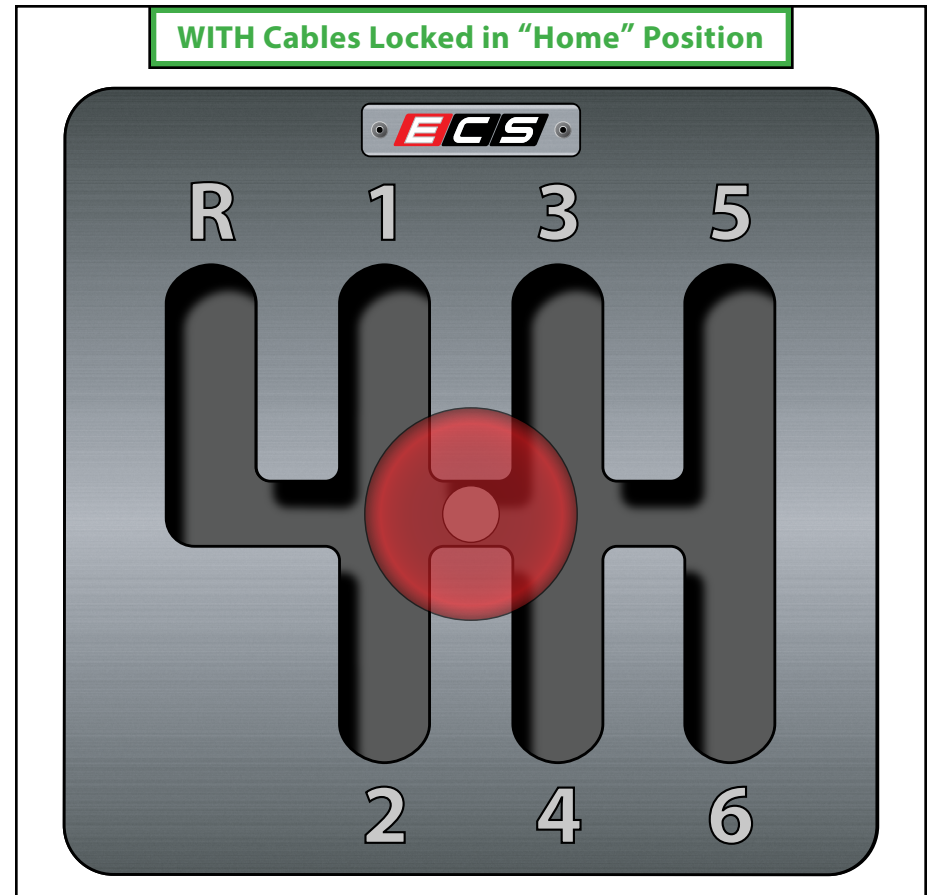
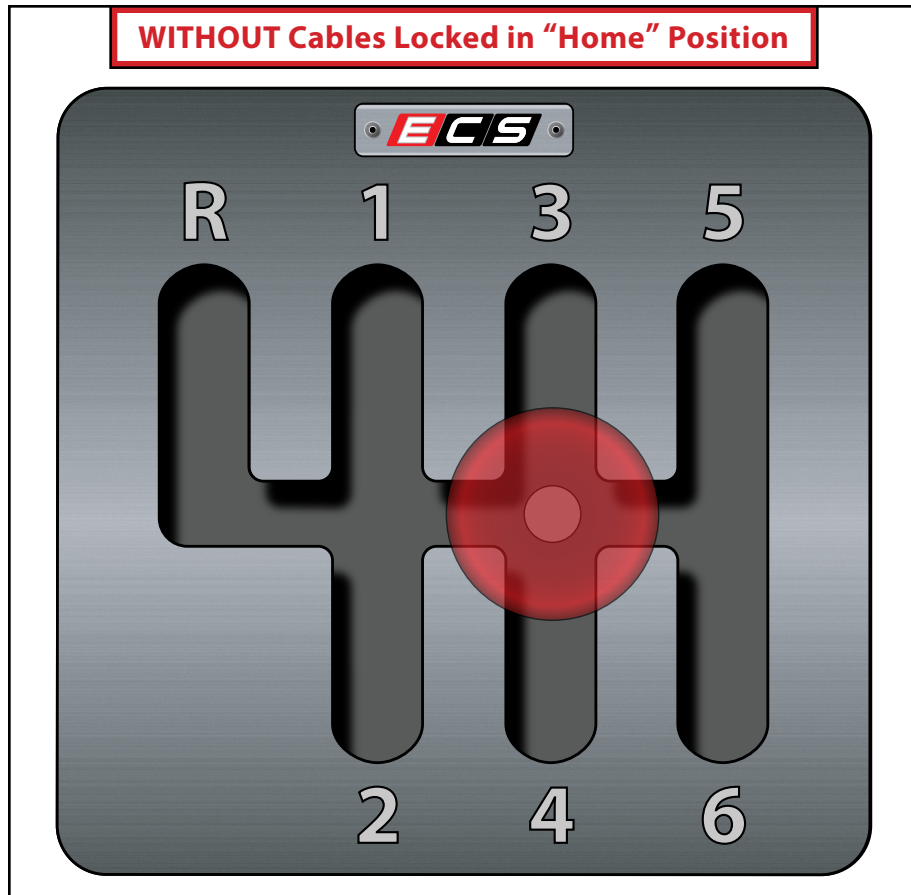


From this point on it is very important that the shift lever inside the vehicle is not disturbed. This also means that you need to avoid bumping or moving the shift cables when working under the hood.



SHIFTER CABLE ADJUSTMENT

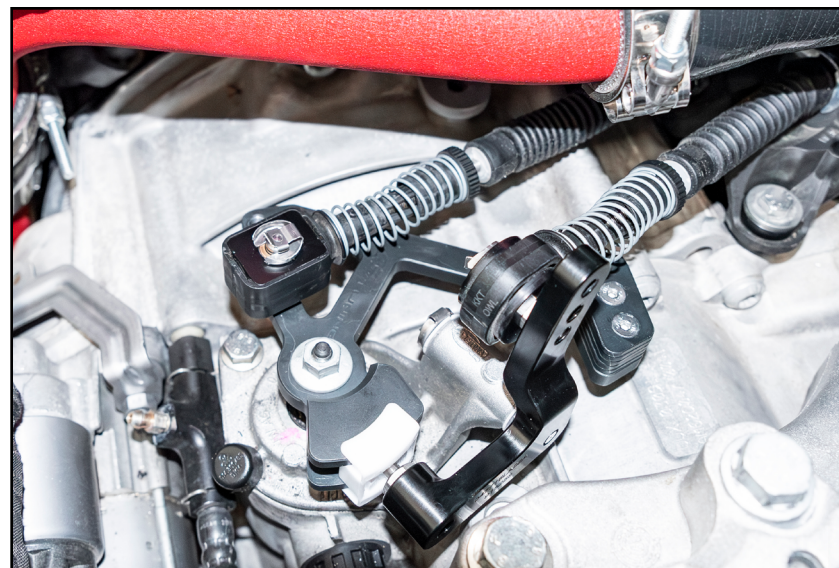
Let's take a moment and talk about exactly what's happening when you lock the shift cables into place. When the shift cables are locked into "home" position, the shifter will rest halfway between the 1-2 and 3-4 gates. This means that the shifter inside the vehicle is in the position depicted in the RH illustration below, and the selector shaft in the transmission is locked in the same position. Now that we know this, we can proceed with the adjustment.



SHIFTER CABLE ADJUSTMENT

Step 5:

Back under the hood, engage both cable ends by turning the plastic knobs back to the right, releasing the springs.



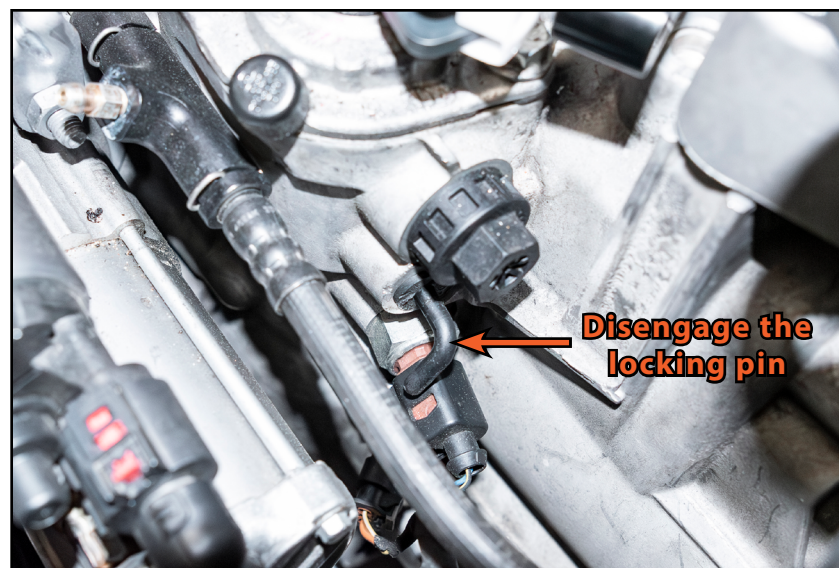
Step 6:

Disengage the locking pin from the selector shaft.

Pull the alignment pin out of the shifter.

Reinstall the shifter insulator and boot.

Reinstall the intake system, battery, and battery tray.



Congratulations, your installation is complete!

Your Short Shifter Kit installation is complete!



These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning

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.

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