

Gauge cluster

Outdoor section....

Deinstalling the gauge cluster is pretty easy, but you got to be a little careful with this since damaging your cluster could mean a 300-500US\$ replacement repair ! So take your time.

Step 1

Your Equipment:

1 small towel

1 large screwdriver (recessed head screw)

1 small screwdriver (recessed head screw, wrench or not, does not matter)



Step 2

Adjust the steering wheel to the lowest position. You will need this space for proper work and taking the cluster out of the dashboard.



Step 3

First of all unscrew these 2... Use the short screwdriver since you don't have a lot of space.



Step 4

Press down the left plastic panel side with your thumbs and pull it towards you. Do the same with the right plastic panel side. It won't need a lot of force actually.



Step 4b

The plastic panel will pop out of its fittings. Take it out completely.



Step 5

Unscrew this at the top.



Step 6

Unscrew those.

(BTW: at the bottom you can see how the panel fits in these holes)



Step 7

Now put the towel on the steering linkage cover and pull the cluster out until you can reach the plugs at the back. Lay the clear cover glass on the towel so it doesn't get scratched.



Step 8

Unscrew this big baby. As you can see the metal has a plastic fitting at the back so you don't have to remember which side is up or down :-)



Step 9

Removing the plugs can be a bit nasty. Due to high outdoor temperatures the plastic plugs could be expanded and sit in their fittings **very** tightly.



So press the small tabs with your screwdriver and at the same time grab the whole wiring bunch to pull the plug out! This maybe your only chance to get the plugs out without hurting yourself or the wiring ! Do this slowly.

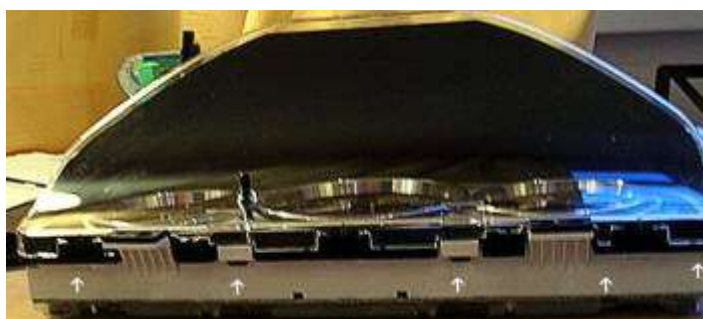
After that you can pull the whole cluster out and take it indoor to open it !!!

Indoor

How to open it....

Step A

Depending on what you want to do with the cluster you take out the small clips out of the fragile plastic fittings.

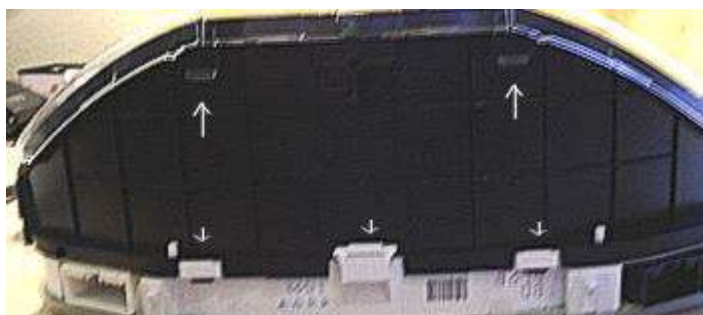


If you only want to work on the surface (installing a bezel or tachometer rings) you only have to take off the CLEAR clips (top, bottom, sides)...therefor you don't need any force...just push the clips gently through their fittings... then take the clear plastic cover off and lay it on a towel so it won't be scratched...

Step B

Of course you can try to disassemble the whole cluster (e.g. for installing custom gauge faces or painting it or whatever...=

BUT REMEMBER THIS:



With the newer Protegé models there is no known way to remove the needles off the dials without **BREAKING** them (which is a 300-500US\$ replacement repair!) Keep that in mind when you try installing a gauge dial or painting the needles.. the needles break / malfunction VERY easily !

[Re]

Assembly

The other way round...

Actually there's nothing big to say about reassembling the whole cluster and reinstalling it in your car...just follow the steps backwards and you're done. No additional problems.

Have fun!