

Steering Wheel (Subaru) Installation

Last Revision: 12 June 2009

Disclaimer: JPM Coachworks, LLC cannot be held liable for improper removal or installation of your steering wheel and airbag system. If you are uncomfortable with this please take your vehicle to an authorized repair center.

EXTERMELY IMPORTANT INFORMATION (From Subaru Shop Manual)

When removing the airbag from the steering wheel, be sure to turn the ignition switch to OFF, disconnect the ground cable from battery, and *wait for more than 60 seconds prior to starting work*. The airbag system is fitted with a backup power source. If the airbag system is serviced within 60 seconds after the ground cable is disconnected, it may inflate.

When storing a removed airbag module, do not place any objects on it or pile airbag modules on top of each other. If the airbag inflates for some reason when it is placed with its pad side facing downward or under any object, a serious accident may result. Do not drop the airbag modulator parts.

REMOVAL

1) Disconnect the ground cable from battery.

- Use a 10mm socket to do so
- Please remember that if you have Cobb AccessPort, your real time map will be need to be reflashed after disconnecting the battery

2) Set the tires to straight-ahead position.

- Do your best to park as straight as possible. We suggest straightening the wheel and driving forward approximately 15ft. Try having a friend help you with this.

3) Remove the airbag.

- In order to remove the airbag, you will need a T30 TORX bit.
- You will find the two bolts on the left and right-hand side of the steering wheel, approximately at 9 and 3 o'clock (refer to figure 1.0 in the "Reference Images" section of this installation guide).
- These are lightly torque (~5 to 7.2 ft.lbs) and will not come out of the steering wheel.
- Once these are loosened, you may gently remove the airbag.
- You will immediately notice the airbag harness. There may be one or two plugs and one ground plug connected to the airbag. The ground is removed with another gentle pull. The main connectors, located on the center of the rear of the airbag, will have either one yellow or one yellow and one pick lock tabs. Use a small flat head to gently pry this upward. Place this yellow lock tab in a safe place (refer to figure 1.2 or 1.3 for applicable model year).
- Your airbag is now ready to be removed! Please take great care in storing your airbag!

4) Make matching marks on the steering wheel and steering shaft.

- This allows you to reinstall the wheel "straight" and "centered".

5) Remove the steering wheel nut, and remove the steering wheel.

- This nut is 17mm and is lightly torque (~33.2 ft-lb), you may need an extension to clear the steering wheel itself. Do not remove this nut completely when loosening the wheel from the steering column as it will prevent you from pulling the wheel off with the roll connector attached OR hitting yourself in the forehead.
- The actual removal of the wheel is straightforward, however, it can be frustrating because the wheel does not just "pop" right out. You may need to "rock" the wheel left and right in order to free it from the spline and allow you to pull it out.

6A) GD Chassis: Remove the plastic housing on the rear of the steering wheel.

- This is necessary only if you are replacing your wheel with one which does not have this rear plastic housing (all core swaps more than likely will require this step)
- There are four (4) brass colored screws that will require a screwdriver to remove. Once you have removed these, you may transfer your plastic housing to the new steering wheel.

6B) GR Chassis: Remove the plastic housing on the rear of the steering wheel.

- This is necessary only if you are replacing your wheel with one which does not have this rear plastic housing (all core swaps more than likely will require this step)
- There are four (4) silver colored screws that will require a screwdriver to remove. Once you have removed these, you may remove the plastic housing by simply pushing or pulling on the two small tabs located at the bottom spoke of the steering wheel.
- In order to remove the radio and cruise control (or blanks if applicable), flip the wheel over and you will see two (2) additional silver colored screws. Remove these.

INSTALLATION

1) Install in the reverse order of removal.

**Tightening torque for steering wheel nut:
45 N•m (4.6 kgf-m, 33.2 ft-lb)**

**Tightening torque for T30 TORX bolts:
10 N•m (1.0 kgf-m, 7.2 ft-lb)**

**Column cover-to-steering wheel clearance:
2 — 4 mm (0.08 — 0.16 in)**

If you should have any problems or fitment issues with your JPM product, please let us know so that we can correct it. Thank you for your purchase.

Reference Images

The images found within this portion of this installation guide are copyright Fuji Heavy Industries. These images are used for reference only.

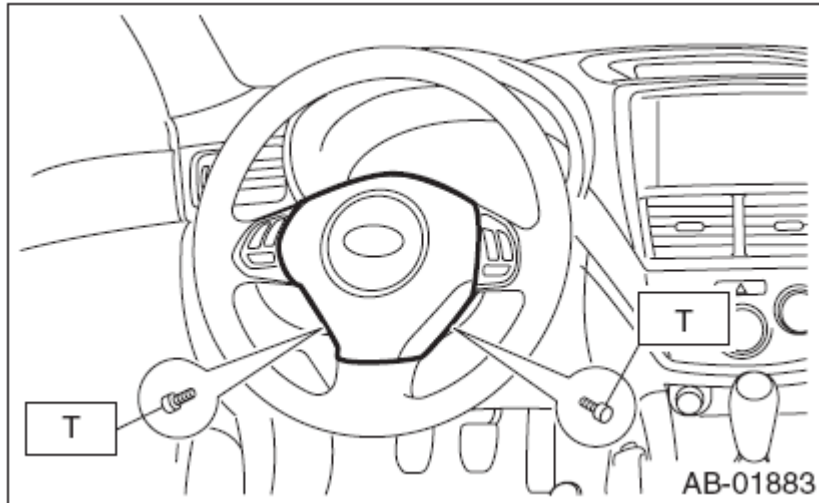


Fig 1.0 - "GR" MY08-09 Steering Wheel TORX Locations.
Please note that these are in the same location on the "GD".

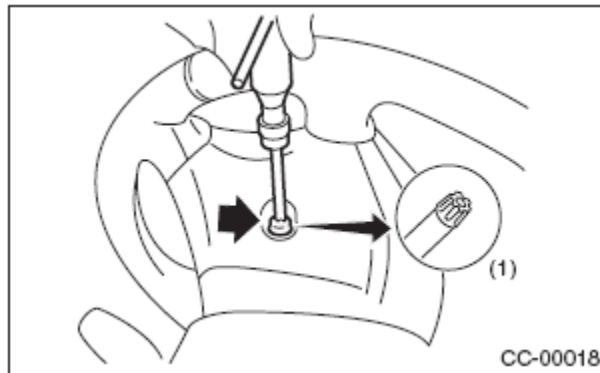


Fig 1.1 - Removing the TORX bolts

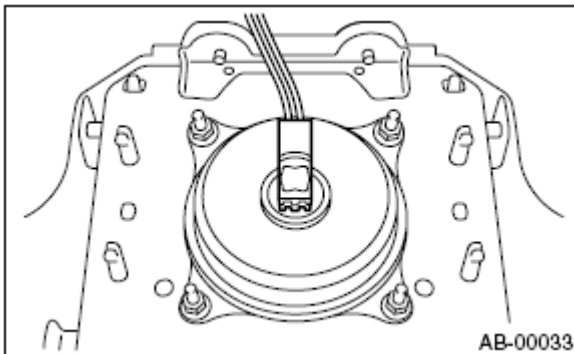


Figure 1.2 - "GD" MY04-05 Single Stage Airbag Harness

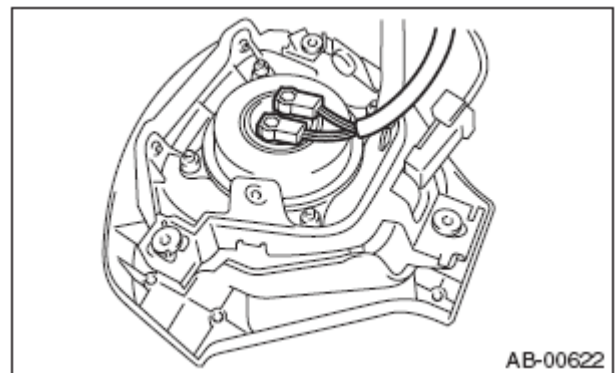


Fig 1.3 - "GD" MY06-07 &
"GR" MY08-09 Dual-Stage Airbag Harness