

M-Tech DIY Visual Reference Document – This is for an 08 (LCI) installation

Use these pictures as a visual aid when following the horrendously incomplete BMW M-Tech Kit installation instructions. These are not step-by-step instructions, but instead a visual guide on parts I think needed to be highlighted.



Front Bumper, aluminum bumper, and foam shock absorbers removed. To remove the aluminum bumper, two rivets, top and bottom in between the top and bottom pairs of bolts will have to be drilled out to remove the bumper. I'm guessing they were put in place to hold the aluminum bumper to the chassis during assembly.

While you have everything exposed, take this opportunity to carefully clean your radiators, intercooler, etc...



See the fog light wires, the kit comes with new wires and connectors. Now is a good time to take care of this... I simply cut the stock connectors off, spliced in the new (color coded) wires, soldered, and heat-shrunk the wires.



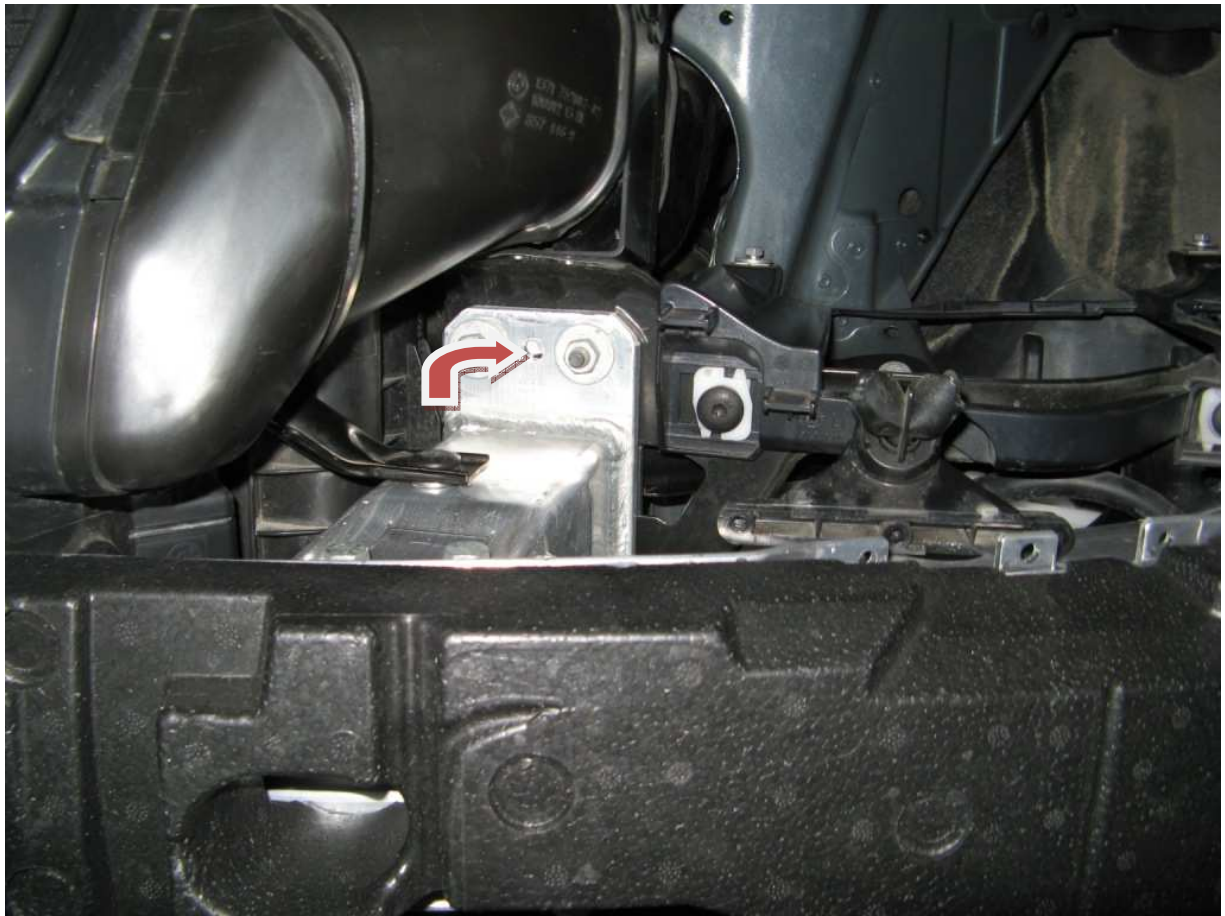
Remove the fender to bumper plastic piece separator... Wiggle it back and forth to remove... don't torque on it because the fender edge can bend.

Install the new one the same way you removed the old one. It will snap into place.

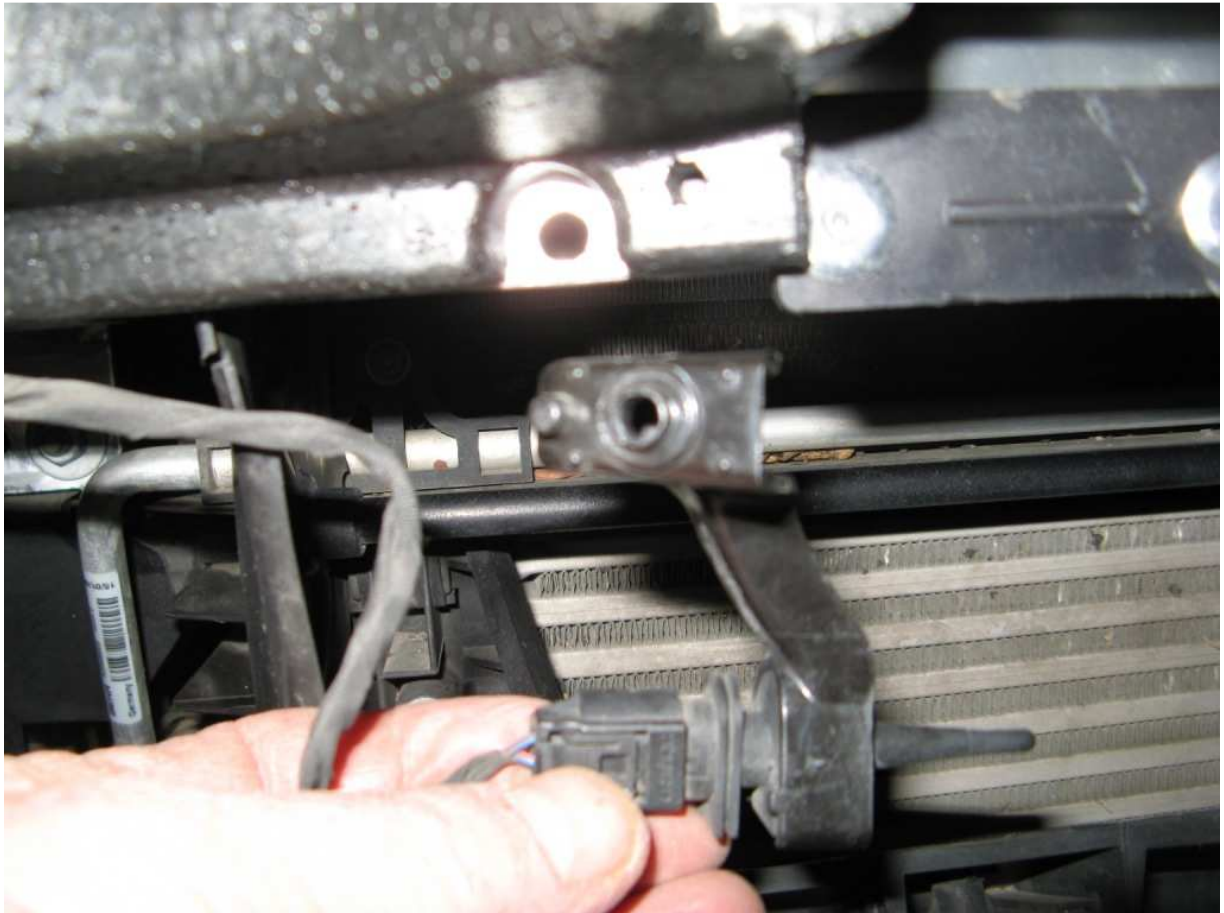




I disconnected the headlight washer hose on this end before removing the aluminum bumper. It was easier and came off with less resistance than trying to pull it apart at the other end. It will want to drain out if you don't elevate the disconnected piece.



New aluminum bumper and foam shock absorber installed. I didn't worry about the rivets...



The temperature gauge... or whatever it is was riveted to the bumper. I riveted it on when installing.



I've read so much about cutting the foam for the bumper bracket mounts... My kit came pre-cut! It mounted cleanly with no interference.



The M-Tech kit instructions on this SUCK! This cut line worked (see blue tape). Notice the bottom pan cover and the alignment. It's easier to temporarily mount this on so you can see where to drill the new hole. See arrow.

Remember this picture... see the pan cover (arrow)?



This brings up a good point... Remove the pan service panel before installing the final bumper trim. It's a lot easier to install the bumper and re-insert the pan cover afterwards. Maintenance techs have to remove and re-install the pan cover all the time anyhow...

Another point... The M-Tech kit comes with a bottom lip seal that the pan cover is supposed to install into. This does not work with the LCI models... the pan cover on LCI models inserts way too forward into the bumper cavity... Trust me, or install and play with the thing for hours wondering why in the hell it doesn't fit.

Alignment... I worked for hours using the DIY instructions for hood to bumper alignment... Later to discover that the left and right gap was perfect... do you see what's wrong with this picture?



There is a larger gap (arrow) on the left side than the right side above the kidney grill. I measured the left and right kidney grill and the left grill and there is a 2mm difference. The grill is defective... it has a flat spot at the top.

Sorry... this is where I got tired and stopped taking pictures. Below are the finished product pictures.





Look Ma... no required front license plate. It will only be a matter of time before I have to deal with this issue.





Dog Approved! Good luck. 😊