

personal injury, the battery positive cable must be grounded for one minute after disconnecting it from the battery to de-energize the back-up power supply prior to servicing or replacing any air bag system components.

1. Disconnect the positive battery cable. Ground the positive battery cable for one minute to de-energize the air bag system back-up power supply.
2. Loosen the main wire harness connector bolt in the engine compartment at the LH side of the dash panel.

Do not remove the front safety belt retaining bolts.

3. Remove the three screws retaining the LH and RH front door scuff plates. Lift the front door scuff plates and remove the front door weather-strip from the body flanges.
4. Remove the instrument panel defroster-opening grille by lifting the rear edge upward to unsnap eight retainers and two retainers at each front corner. Disconnect the light sensor amplifier at the connector. Remove the instrument panel and defroster-opening grille.
5. Remove the screws retaining the LH and RH instrument panel lower insulator located under the instrument panel.
6. Rotate the lamp from the instrument panel insulator and remove the instrument panel insulator.
7. Remove the LH cowl side trim panel and the RH cowl side trim panel.
8. Remove the console panel.
9. Remove the A/C evaporator register duct from the instrument panel to the console panel.
10. Remove the ignition/shifter interlock cable from the console panel. Release the ignition/shifter interlock cable from the pawl. Pull out on the center tab to release detent on the clip. Push the ignition/shifter interlock cable clip toward the rear while rotating the clip to the passenger side to remove.

11. Remove the two screws retaining the bottom of the instrument panel steering column cover. Pull on the lower edge of the instrument panel steering column cover to disengage the two push clips on the upper area of the instrument panel steering column cover and remove the instrument panel steering column cover.
12. Remove the two screws retaining the instrument panel reinforcement and remove the instrument panel reinforcement.
13. Remove the A/C recirculating air duct.
14. Cover the seats to protect from damage. Remove the four nuts retaining the steering column tube to the steering column bracket insulator. Lower the steering column bracket insulator. Lower the steering column tube to rest on the seat cushion.
15. Remove the steering column shroud.
16. Disconnect all the electrical connections from the steering column switches.
17. Loosen the screw and disconnect the main wiring harness at the connector located to the left of the steering column tube.
18. Disconnect the engine control sensor wiring from the instrument panel at the connectors.
19. Open the glove compartment door and disconnect the glove compartment door check from the RH side. Push the sides of the glove compartment

inward to release the stops and lower the glove compartment door downward.

The glove compartment door check will retract when removed from the glove compartment side.

20. Disconnect the radio antenna lead in cable from the radio chassis. Disconnect any vacuum hoses attached to the instrument panel.
21. Disconnect the automatic temperature control sensor and wiring harness from the instrument panel A/C evaporator housing area.
22. Remove the two nuts retaining the center of the instrument panel to the floor tunnel mounting bracket.
23. Remove one nut retaining the lower RH instrument panel to the cowl.
24. Remove the one nut retaining the lower LH instrument panel to the cowl and the one retaining the parking brake to the half car beam.
25. Remove the six bolts retaining the top front of the instrument panel.

Two technicians are required for removal of the instrument panel from the vehicle.

26. Carefully pull the instrument panel away from the windshield glass, disengage the nine retainers at the top edge of the instrument panel, and remove the instrument panel.

When installing the steering column tube to the steering column bracket insulator bracket, tighten the four retaining nuts to 16–20 ft. lb. (21–28 Nm).

To install:

27. If the instrument panel is being replaced, transfer all the components, wiring and retaining hardware to the new instrument panel, as necessary.
28. Installation is the reversal of the removal procedure. After installing the instrument panel defroster-opening grille, check all the components to ensure proper operation.

Center Console

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

Mark VII

1. Remove the glove compartment door-look bezel.
 - a. Pull the rear of the front finish panel up and rearward to disengage from the two front locating clips. Disconnect the cigar lighter and lamp connectors.
2. Remove the two nuts retaining the front bracket of the console to the instrument panel. Remove the two console to the instrument panel. Remove the two screws retaining the front bracket to the floor bracket.
3. Pull back on the carpet at the two front edges of the console. Disengage the Velcro fasteners to gain access to the two console-to-instrument panel retaining screws. Remove the screws.
4. Remove the four screws retaining switch-mounting plate to the console base. Disconnect all the necessary electrical connectors, including the lamp for gear shift (PRNDL) illumination.
5. Open the lower console door and remove the cover in the bottom of the tray (snaps out), to gain

access to the two console-to-rear floor bracket retaining screws. Remove the screws.

6. Slide the console rearward and up.

To install:

7. Installation is the reversal of the removal procedure.

Mark VIII

1. Remove the gear selector handle.
 2. Pull the front finish panel up to disengage from the two locating clip. Disconnect the cigar lighter and lamp connectors. Remove the gear selector trim panel.
 3. Remove the two screws retaining the front finish panel of the console to the front bracket of the console.
 4. Open the console door and remove the cover in the bottom of the tray to gain access to the two console-to-rear floor bracket retaining screws. Remove the screws.
 5. Slide the console rearward and up.
- To install:**
6. Installation is the reversal of the removal procedure.

Continental 1988–94

1. Remove the filler assembly by lifting up and then pulling rearward.
2. Remove the cupholder.
3. Remove the console top finish panel screw.
4. Remove the console top finish panel by lifting up near the rear (under the armrests).
5. Remove the base to A/C plenum hex flanged tap screw.
6. Remove the two base to front bracket retaining screws.
7. Remove the two base to center bracket retaining screws.
8. Remove the mat from the rear storage bin and remove the two base to rear bracket retaining screws.

While lifting console base out, it may be necessary to disconnect the wiring connector to the shift control selector lever and housing.

9. Remove the console base.

To install:

10. Installation is the reversal of the removal procedure.

Continental 1995–00

1. Close the beverage holders.
2. Remove the console glove compartment and glove compartment door. Pull glove compartment straight up and out of the console by hand.
3. Remove the console front finish pane. Using a small pry tool.
4. Remove the console panel by unsnapping it from the console.
5. Remove the console to bracket retaining screws through the glove compartment opening.
6. Remove the two console to instrument panel screws.

While lifting console base out, it may be necessary to disconnect the wiring connector to the gearshift lever. Remove the console base.