GUIDE TO INSTALLING A MK2 FORD FOCUS ASHTRAY

After a couple of requests I have done this guide for fitting an ashtray housing (often referred to as a garage door).

You Require-

Ashtray housing for the MK2



(MK2 Housing including 12 volt socket and removable ashtray insert)

Note that the MK2 ashtray housing has the 12 volt socket integrated into the unit instead of at the rear of the standard cubbyhole.

(There is also a housing for the MK2.5 but has no integrated socket, If used then it is common to make a hole at the rear of the unit to allow access to the power socket)



(MK2.5 housing Photo courtesy of http://www.fordownersclub.com/forums/user/34566-brigante/)

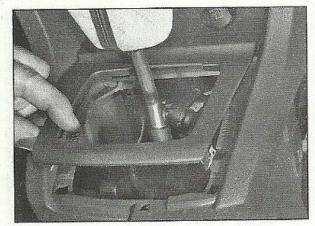


(Dash Area with existing 12 Volt socket)

First is clearing the way to allow installation of the housing.

The first part is to remove the gear surround so as to allow the housing to be fitted-







(Remove the gear stick surround)

Unscrew the gear knob and remove the knob, gaiter, and surrounds for easy access. The surround trim is best removed using a wide blade screwdriver under the lip facing the handbrake.

Once the trim is removed then you need to remove a rubber liner fitted into the tray area-

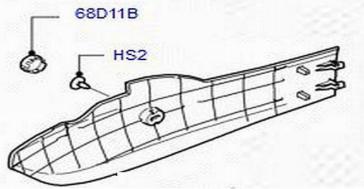


(Rubber Tray Insert)

This leaves the way clear to move to the next phase, removing the existing 12 volt socket (if fitting the MK2 housing)

For this part a bit more disassembly is required.

Remove the lower right hand panel to the left of the clutch pedal to gain access to the back of the existing 12 volt socket to facilitate removal.



(Lower console panel)

Pop out the cover labelled <u>68D11B</u> and unscrew the torx screw labelled <u>HS2</u>. The panel will easily unclip and expose the wiring behind the lower dash console.

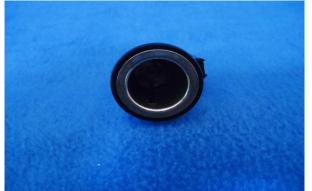
Next is to remove the 12 volt socket, this is where it can get a bit brutal and fiddly. The socket has a black plastic ring around it with a false bulb holder fitted on one side of it.



(Details of the black ring)

You need to fiddle around under the console with pliers or any other preferred tool so as to snap off the bulb holder so you can withdraw the 12 volt socket from the hole.

There is a proper tool for easy removal of the 12 volt socket but they appear to only be available from America and cost a bomb.



(False bulb holder removed to allow extraction if the 12 volt socket)

Unplug the wiring connector from the back of the socket, usually orange but not guaranteed. This will leave you with an empty hole and the wires needed to connect up the new 12 volt socket.



(Wiring and cleared tray ready to fit the housing)

You may notice in this picture there is also a 3.5mm aux cable in with the 12 volt socket wires, this is not a photo from my car, but is pretty similar to how I ran my aux cable to allow for a clean installation without using the rubbish standard Ford aux socket in the glove box.

If a 12 volt socket is not included in the housing then you need to refit your original one. The best option is to obtain a clear plastic ring (amber and green usually available), this will add illumination to the socket using the optional wire which can be found taped up to the socket wires under the dash. (The rings are readily available on eBay for 99p upwards).



(Green illuminated ring)



(Amber illuminated ring)

Now, the easy part.

Make sure you connect the wires to the 12 volt socket and bulb holder, before you continue. Push the housing into the tray area ensuring the top part goes in first so as to locate behind the lip of the tray.



(Housing in position)

Push the housing fully into place then clip the gear stick housing back into place which will lock the housing into the tray.

Refit the gear knob, gaiter and any remaining trim and job done.



(Photos Courtesy of http://www.fordownersclub.com/forums/user/30627-mrgrumpy/)

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