

Audi A4 1995 to 2001 (Mk1 models) Centre Console Armrest Installation Guide

Removing the Centre Console

There are two large pieces that form the centre console. The rear part is removed first. Slide the front seats all the way back, and remove an 8mm hex bolt from each side of the console (you first need to pry off the trim cap, you'll see it, just a few inches aft of the gear shift). Remove the rear ash tray. This will expose two 13mm nuts with large washers; remove them (there may be a third nut visible, that is visibly different; do not remove this one). Remove the rectangular rubber pad from the rectangular well to the right of the parking brake (in front of the phone jack); it just sits in there, not glued or anything. Now remove the phone jack assembly; it's a black box that sits in the rear of the rectangular well, and it is held in place by spring clips. Push the front edge of it aft, and lift it out. This will expose another 13mm nut that you need to remove.

The rear part of the console is now essentially free, after removing 2 screws and three nuts. To lift it out, though, you need to first remove the parking brake trim. As you look at the parking brake, notice that the black plastic trim is in two pieces: the handgrip, about 5" or so long, and the rest of it, to the rear of the handgrip. You must first detach the handgrip from the larger rear trim. Where they meet, underneath, there is a square plastic "plug" that is pushed in from below. This plug is part of the handgrip, and must be removed by prying it downward. Once the plug is removed, the handgrip will slide forward and off. You can then slide the larger trim off (you may have to slide it forward and back a bit to loosen it, there is a piece of it near the top rear that fits into the parking brake handle).

Once the parking brake trim is removed, you need to lift the console at the rear and slide it backwards a bit to free it from the front part of the console. First, though, you need to remove the diagnostic connector from the rear ashtray area; do this, by using a small flat-blade screwdriver and sliding it down along the grooves in the side of the connector housing, to free the connector catches. You'll be able to push the connector down and out of the console. The rear console is now free to remove.

Installing the Armrest

The armrest comes with an aluminium-cast mounting foot which goes inside the console, and uses existing studs,

To install it, you must remove the centre console from the gear lever back, and cut a hole in it for the armrest to go through. Most cars have a die mark (faint) where the hole would be made at the factory if ordered.

Press the rubber seal into the base of the armrest. You may need to use a Stanley knife to tidy up the moulding in the recess. With the centre console off the car install the armrest to the centre console by attaching the bracket to the lower side of the console using the bolt and washer provided.

Now re-install centre console, and then fasten the bracket to the floor with the nuts and large washers. Finish by reinstalling your rear ashtray

