



E8X Lower Steering Wheel Trim Removal

Today was the first day in a while that I had to actually work on my car. I have had this trim piece done for a while, but have been too busy to do the installation.

Tools Required

T-25 Driver
10mm socket
T-20 driver

Removing the steering wheel trim

To remove the steering wheel trim, begin by disconnecting the negative terminal on the battery. Loosen the 10mm nut and you will be able to remove the terminal. Wrap the terminal in a towel to prevent it from contacting the battery while you are working.



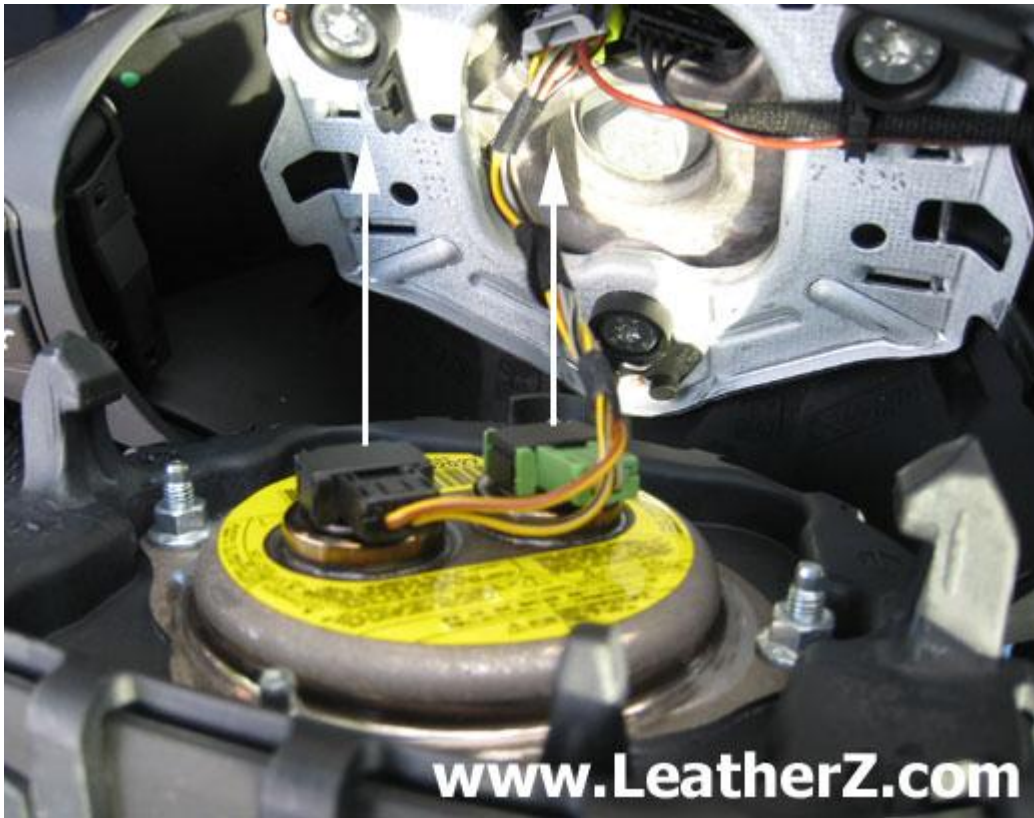
With the battery disconnected, you will need to 'un-lock' the airbag. On the back of the steering wheel, there are 2 concealed openings. You can feel them with your finger and if you look at the back of the wheel, you will see a minor divet that will indicate their position. Use a T-25 driver and insert it into the concealed opening (don't worry, when you remove the driver, the vinyl will close and

will conceal the hole). Describing the angle you want to go in at is tough, you will need to figure it out on your own. You will go about 2cm into the opening and feel a spring like resistance. Just push and that side of the airbag will release. Repeat on the other side and you will have un-locked the airbag.



With the airbag un-locked, carefully lower the top end so you can access the back. You do not want to pull the airbag out as you want to be careful with the electrical connections.

On the back of the airbag, there are 2 electrical connectors. To remove them, pull them straight out. You may need to pry them out, use a plastic interior trim tool to do so.





With the airbag removed, place it out of the way.

To remove the steering wheel trim, there are 3 T-20 screws that are holding it in place. You will see them on the back side of the steering wheel. They are located on the 3, 6 and 9 o'clock arms of the steering wheel. Loosen all 3 screws and the trim will be loose as well. These are captive screws and do not come all the way out.

At the top corner of the trim is a clip that will need to be un-clipped.



The wiring for the steering wheel controls is still connected so be careful removing the trim. There is enough slack to access the back of the trim. To remove the steering wheel controls, remove the T-20 screw at the top location.



With the screws holding the controls in place removed, you can remove the trim completely.

Installation is the reverse of removal.

I liked the trim piece in my brothers E90 M3 better than the stock piece, the John Travolta buttchin makes for a nicer architectural detail (IMO). I removed and filled the M badge before I did the Alcantara work so once I decide on a shift knob, I will finally be out of the M badge game.





If you use this guide, please take the time to post a thank you.