



**Application:** 1968-1969 Corvette

**Part Includes**

1 - Component

# Shifter Console



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## Tools Needed



### BEFORE INSTALLING

Inspect the Shifter Console Housing you have received to verify it is the correct year and color before starting your installation. The year range of the console can be determined as follows:

#### STEP 1.

1968-1969 consoles do not have stitching along the top corners of the console. There is also a cut-out for fiber optics in front of the main opening.

#### STEP 2.

1970 consoles have stitching but do not have two small "ears" at the top front corners where the console meets the small gauge bezel. There is also a cut-out for fiber optics in front of the main opening.

#### STEP 3.

1971 consoles have stitching and have the two small "ears" at the top front corner where the console meets the small gauge bezel. There is also a cut-out for fiber optics in front of the main opening.

#### STEP 4.

1972-1976 consoles have stitching and the "ears" but do not have the cut-out for fiber optics.

### REMOVE EXISTING CONSOLE

#### STEP 1.

Remove the two Phillips screws on each side of the park brake console.

#### STEP 2.

Locate and remove the bolt in the middle rear of the park brake console. This bolt goes through the fiberglass panel behind the seat and into a bracket on the park brake consol. To gain access to this bolt, open the rear compartment door on the passenger side and remove the tray. Reach through the opening toward the center of the car and remove the bolt with a 3/8" wrench or socket.

#### STEP 3.

Lift the rear of the park brake console, slide it over the emergency brake handle and remove it from the car.

#### STEP 4.

Set the parking brake.



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## **Shifter Console (cont.)**

### **STEP 5.**

Unscrew and remove the reverse lockout button and shifter knob, if equipped with an automatic transmission. If manually equipped, unscrew the shifter knob and remove the reverse lockout "T" handle assembly.

### **STEP 6.**

Remove the shift console side trim from in front of each side of the shift console, 1968 models are secured by a clip and 1969-76 are held in place by a screw.

### **STEP 7.**

If your car does not have air conditioning, use an Allen wrench to loosen and remove the vent control knobs on the top of the shift plate.

### **STEP 8.**

Remove the four screws that hold the metal shift plate to the console, one in each corner.

### **STEP 9.**

Two studs extend from the bottom of the small gauge bezel through the shift console and are held in place by nuts. Reach through the opening created by removing the side trim and remove the nuts from the studs.

### **STEP 10.**

Remove the two front screws, one on each side of the console, that were uncovered by removing the side trim.

### **STEP 11.**

Carefully lift the metal shift plate from the console, up and over the shifter stem. Be careful to gently disconnect the fiber optic cables from the lenses at the rear of the plate if your car is a 1969-71 and also disconnect the wire to the cigarette lighter.

### **STEP 12.**

At this point, the console will be loose. Gently lift up on the rear of the console, if your Corvette is a 1968-1971 model, remove the two screws at the front of the console that secure the fiber optic cables and lens to the underside of the fiber optic trim plate. Also at this time, if your car is not air conditioned and has vent cables, remove the screw that secures each vent cable to the underside of the console. Carefully work the heater and air conditioning controls (if so equipped) through the opening in the console so they lay on the floor of the car.

### **STEP 13.**

Continue lifting the rear of your console until the front edge clears the studs on the bottom of the small gauge bezel and lift it free from the car.

## **TRANSFERRING HARDWARE**

### **STEP 1.**

If your Corvette is a 1968-1971 model, turn your old console upside down on a padded work surface and remove the two speed nuts that secure the fiber optic trim plate to the front of the console. With these nuts removed, the trim plate can be lifted free from the top of the console.

### **STEP 2.**

Transfer the metal bracket which is riveted to the underside front of your old console by drilling out the rivets with a 1/4" drill. Transfer the bracket to your new console and pop rivet into place, Be sure to rivet down from the top of your console so that excess rivet material is on the underside of the console.

### **STEP 3.**

Transfer the nut clips on each corner of the metal shift plate opening to the new console. Be sure the long side of each clip is on the underside of the console.



## **Shifter Console (cont.)**

### **STEP 4.**

Your original console has been in the car for years and has had time to conform to the shape of the metal shift plate. To provide a tight fit with no gaps between your new console and the metal shift plate, the plate must be pre-fit into the console before final installation. To do this, insert the rear of the plate into the opening in your console first and lower the front into position. The fit should be tight to the point of the opening seeming too small. Use a blow dryer or heat gun to warm the console and padding surrounding the shift plate. This will soften the material enough to allow the shift plate to be pushed into position, forming a custom fit. Allow the console to cool completely, then remove the metal shift plate,

### **STEP 5.**

If your Corvette is a 1968–1971, transfer the front optic trim plate to your new console. Secure in place by replacing the two speed nuts on the underside of the console.

### **INSTALLING THE CONSOLE**

#### **STEP 1.**

Tilt the console forward and lower into position, making sure the studs on the bottom of the small gauge bezel align with the slots in the metal bracket.

#### **STEP 2.**

If your Corvette is a 1968–1971 model, place the fiber optic lens and cables in position on the underside of the front optic trim plate and secure by replacing the two screws. Also, if your Corvette is not air conditioned and has vent cables, replace the screw that secures each vent cable to the underside of the console.

#### **STEP 3.**

Continue lowering the console into position. Carefully work the heater and air conditioning controls (if so equipped) up through the main opening and place them into position. Be careful not to scratch your new console.

#### **STEP 4.**

Temporarily install the two screws in the rear of the console.

#### **STEP 5.**

Install the nuts on the studs at the bottom of the small gauge bezel. **DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.**

#### **STEP 6.**

Install the two screws, one on each side, through the slots on the front side of the console and into the floor bracket. Be sure the screws also secure the metal bracket you transferred from your old console.

#### **STEP 7.**

Remove the screws temporarily placed in step #4 and replace your park brake console. Install all four screws and the rear bolt.

#### **STEP 8.**

Place the metal shift plate in position. Connect the fiber optic cables to the lens at the rear of the plate if your Corvette is so equipped. Also reconnect the cigarette lighter and any other wiring you may have had to disconnect. Replace the four screws that retain the metal shift plate, one in each corner. Heat the console if necessary as you tighten the screws to allow the plate to fit into the console.

#### **STEP 9.**

Replace the reverse lock-out assembly and shifter ball on your shifter stem. Replace the vent control knobs if so equipped.

#### **STEP 10.**

Hold the shift console side trim in position on each side of the console. Mark the location of the mounting hole. Remove the side trim and drill a 1/8" hole where marked. Be careful not to damage wiring or other components. A drill stop can be fashioned by wrapping the drill bit with tape at the desired depth.

#### **STEP 11.**

Replace the side trim and the retaining screws and your installation is complete.