

DASH KIT

Installation Guide

Read all instructions before beginning installation.

Compatibility

This dash kit is designed for use with shallow double DIN head units. Please confirm your vehicle and radio specifications match before starting installation:

- Confirm your new head unit is a shallow double DIN form factor

⚠ Do not begin cutting until you have confirmed the kit is correct for your vehicle. Cuts are permanent.

Tools & Materials Required

Gather all tools before you begin. Having everything on hand prevents interruptions mid-install.

Tools

- Dremel rotary tool or 3" cordless cutoff wheel (a cutoff wheel is slightly faster)
- Safety glasses — required whenever cutting
- Work gloves
- Flat-head and Phillips screwdrivers
- Panel removal pry tools (plastic preferred to avoid scratches)
- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Fine-grit sandpaper or nail file (for cleaning up cut edges)

Included in the Kit

- Custom dash trim panel
- This installation guide

Safety Precautions

⚠ Disconnect your vehicle's negative battery terminal before beginning any electrical or dash work. This prevents accidental shorts and protects your vehicle's electronics.

- Always wear safety glasses when using a Dremel or cutoff tool.
- Keep fingers clear of the cutting wheel at all times.

- Work in a well-ventilated area — cutting plastic can produce fumes.
- Allow cut surfaces to cool before handling them.

Installation Steps

STEP 1 Remove the Factory Dash Panel

STEP 2 Mark and Cut the Panel Opening

Cut out the panel leaving the silver/gray outline

I used a dremel and a cordless 3in cutoff tool the 3 in cut off tool was a little faster.



Factory dash panel — the silver/gray outline is your cut guide

1. Align the dash kit panel to the factory opening.
2. Trace along the silver/gray outline with a pencil or marker if needed.
3. Put on your safety glasses.
4. Cut along the outline using your Dremel or 3" cutoff tool. Work slowly and steadily.

5. Clean up the edges with fine-grit sandpaper so there are no rough burrs.

 **Pro Tip:** A 3" cutoff wheel runs slightly faster than a Dremel for straight cuts. Use whichever you're more comfortable controlling.

STEP 3 Test Fit the Dash Kit

Before any further modifications, test fit the dash kit panel into the opening:



- Press the panel in firmly — it should clip snugly into place.
- Check all four corners and all edges for gaps or high spots.
- If the fit is tight in spots, identify where it is rubbing and lightly sand or trim only that area.

 If it won't press in check the corners first — a small burr or uneven cut edge is usually the culprit.

STEP 4 Trim the Dash Frame and Instrument Cluster Arm

To accommodate a shallow double DIN head unit, two small cuts are required. The photo below shows exactly where — the red boxes mark the two areas that need to be trimmed.



Red boxes indicate the two small trim areas: dash frame and instrument cluster arm

- Small trim to the dash frame — remove only the material needed to clear the head unit.
- Small trim to the instrument cluster arm — same principle; remove just enough to allow clearance.

These are minor cuts. Take your time, check the wire harness maybe cover to prevent cutting into the wires, check the fitment after each pass, and remove only what is necessary. It is much easier to take a little more off than to add material back.

 **Pro Tip:** Dry-fit your head unit into the opening before trimming to see exactly where it contacts the dash frame or cluster arm. Mark those contact points with tape so you cut only what is needed.



The three small pieces removed: instrument cluster arm bracket (top) and two dash frame sections (bottom)

STEP 5 Relocate the AC Controls

The AC control panel needs to be moved to the location where the factory radio was mounted. Follow these steps:

6. Disconnect the AC control panel connector(s) carefully.
7. Remove the AC panel from its current location.
8. Route the harness to the old radio location.
9. Screw the ac controls to the ac relocation dash kit
10. Seat the AC panel into the old radio opening and secure it with screws.
11. Reconnect all electrical connectors and confirm they click fully into place.

⚠ Double-check that all AC electrical connectors are fully seated before reassembly. A loose connector can prevent your climate control from functioning.

STEP 6 Final Assembly and Check

With the head unit installed and AC controls relocated:

12. Press the dash kit panel firmly into the opening until all clips engage.
13. Check panel alignment from the driver's seat — confirm it sits flush all around.
14. Reconnect the negative battery terminal.
15. Power on the vehicle and test both the new head unit and the AC controls before closing everything up.

Troubleshooting

Panel won't clip in flush

Check all four corners for burrs or uneven cut edges. Lightly sand any high spots. Do not force the panel.

Head unit contacts the dash frame

Dry-fit the head unit to find the exact contact point. Mark it, remove the unit, and carefully trim only that material. Refer to the photo in Step 4.

AC controls not functioning after install

Verify all connectors are fully seated. Disconnect and firmly reconnect each one. Check that no wiring was pinched during reassembly.

Gap visible between panel and dash

A small amount of flex is normal during clipping. Press firmly along the panel edge. If a gap persists on one side, a clip may not be fully engaged — pop that section out and repress.

Questions & Support

If you run into any issues not covered here, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your satisfaction matters and I want your install to go smoothly.

- Contact me at jah3dcustoms@gmail.com or through the platform where you purchased this kit.
- Photos are always helpful — if something doesn't look right, snap a picture and send it along.

Thank you for your purchase — I hope the kit works great for you!