

Removing the center console on the 04-05 VW Passat TDI.

0) Tools required: T20 screw driver, 8 and 13 mm sockets, long extension and 3/8 inch ratchet, wire cutter or pocket knife

1) Pry off caps over the bolts at rear of front console and remove 8mm hex head bolts



2) Optional: remove the front T20 screw and trim (slide off towards front of car). This will make it a little easier to position the front console during reassembly.



3) Open armrest and remove the tray inside. It just pulls straight up.



4) Open the rear ash tray and remove T20 torx screws in the upper corners



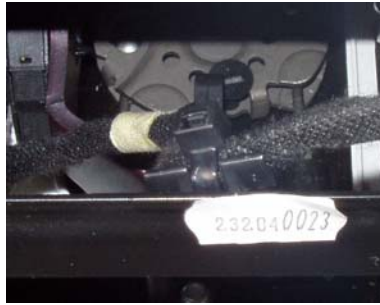
5) Loosen the trim around the rear ashtray and power outlet (it pulls away from the top) and disconnect electrical connector inside.



6) Remove the rear panel from the lower hinges



7) Cut/snip the cable wire tie



8) Remove the three nuts down inside the arm rest storage area revealed in step 3. The rear ones are easily accessed through the rear panel opening. The front one requires the socket extension.



9) Pull up the parking brake handle. Pull the rear console back from the front console to release tabs. Remove the rear section of the console (it can be worked up over the parking brake handle). Note the tab lock may snap off a piece, but it is inconsequential.



10) Insert a key in the ignition lock and turn it enough that you can shift the shifter. Shift the shifter as necessary. Removing the shifter handle depends on the color of a part. On the shifter rod is a silver trim sleeve. Push it down. It will unlock from the handle about 1 cm.



If the color of the base of the handle is reddish brown (as shown), pull out on the handle's lock button while pulling the handle straight off. It will take some effort but it does come off. **This procedure does not apply if the color is black.** Once the handle is off, and you need to move the selector, pull up on the pull rod in the center of the selector rod.



Now you can remove the entire console up and over the shifter. Disconnect the electrical connector for the front power outlet, and remove the cable from the retainer hidden from view on the front of the console.



Assembly is the reverse of removal.