Ausgezeichnet TDi's Trunk Light Mod

*Before starting this mod, make sure that this is applicable to your vehicle.

In my experience with this mod, if you do not use the stock trunk light or a similar resistance you will experience problems with the brightness of the LED strip. It is my "theory" that the body control module is looking for some sort of resistance in the trunk circuit, and if it does not see this it lowers the output voltage to the trunk. (If someone has a fact based explanation for this "theory", please explain this to me in detail). After this mod is installed, with the trunk open you will see a flicker in the trunk light after 15 seconds, but the lights will be unaffected. For the install, I used a "Natural White" 30 LED strip from superbrightleds.com.

HOW TO: As mine is a 99.5, the trunk light is located in the driver's side rear of the trunk.

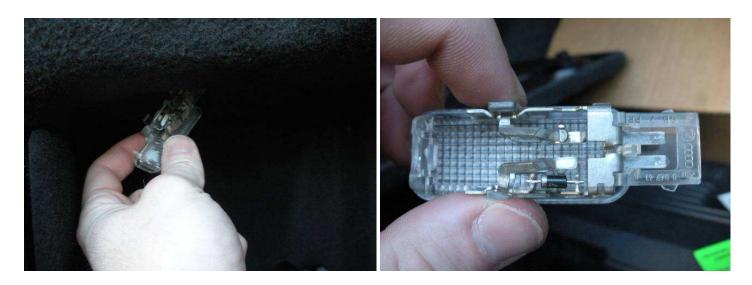
1) Loosen the trim around the driver's side trunk panel by removing the push clips.



2) As the wire given with the 30 LED strip will typically not reach the stock trunk light, you will need to add wire to each side. Using your 30 LED strip, mock up the position that you permanently want the light installed, and measure how much wire you will need to reach the factory trunk light.



3) The original light has a clip toward the rear of the car that must be *carefully* depressed with a pocket screwdriver. Depress the clip and pull the light and connector through the cover.

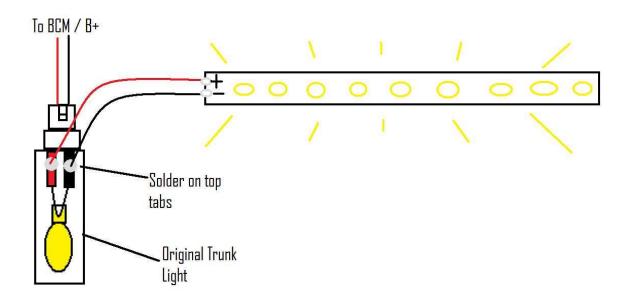


4) While the connector is hanging loose, probe the exposed metal tabs to determine which is B+ and which is ground. This is important for wiring of the LED strip. Disconnect the light by carefully prying on the two outer tabs of the connector.



5) Next, using the measured lengths of wire from the mock-up, solder one wire to the B+ terminal and the other to the ground terminal on the back of the light. Then solder / crimp connect the other ends to the corresponding B+/Gnd side on the light. See the diagram and pictures below.

Ultra High-Tech Wiring Diagram





6) Now, route your LED light through the trunk light hole and install the trunk light with a working bulb. If you're using the light strip from superbrightleds.com, it will come with 3m adhesive on the back. Peel the adhesive and install where you prefer. I mounted it under the front lip of the trunk and it is well hidden while looking at it from the outside.







7) If you're overprotective like me you can install a plastic wireway to protect your fine handywork.



8) Re-connect the electrical connector and make sure the light works as it should and re-install the trunk liner. Now sit back, and enjoy the fruits of your labor! PROST!

