

Changing the “city” light on the ‘New’ Golf (A4, MKIV)

Instructions for replacing the passenger side light (driver’s side is complicated by the intake routing and battery but effectively the same).

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To Start what is the City light? This bulb:



It doesn’t do much and is hard to see with the DRLs on but the car still looks a bit out of balance, and there are few good explanations on how to do it. Hopefully this will at least be just a how to that can be used.

Okay Next what part # is it? W5W is the commercial (euro) type of bulb. There is a Sylvania bulb at most discount autoparts stores (\$2.50 or so US for a pair). 12V 5W

Okay next step is to remove the back of the headlamp assembly. This is looking from the center of the car to the passenger side. The white plastic knob at the top right of the image is the headlight adjuster (for reference in the following images). To preview – you will remove the connector, then the waterproof seal then pull the bulb holder out by the brown and red wires (might be different on different years) and replace the bulb and put everything back.



Okay now to remove the plug:

Follow the arrows in order

- 1 – Squeeze the clip with the finger (holding it as I am)
- 2 – PUSH in while squeezing (this releases the clip easily – and can be applied to all connectors in the vehicle)
- 3 – Pull off the connector all the way



Okay now with the harness out of the way we can take the waterproof cover off.

Simple – push down on the tab just below the adjuster knob and move it out of the way. You cannot completely remove it (easily) nor is there any point to remove it.

When removing it take note of where the bottom clip goes (so you can get it back with less profanity).



Okay now with that out of the way lets look at where this lamp is . . . Looking in from the back to the front of the car below the white adjuster knob you'll see this . . . (the green arrows). To remove it and get to the next step . . . grab those two wires and PULL – yeah you have to pull hard . . . but unless something is REALLY wrong you will not hurt anything and this is the ONLY way to get it out. (So go ahead and grab the wires and pull). If you want to verify that those are the proper ones – hold on to them and then look over from the front of the car and wiggle the wires – the bulb should move . . .



Now you are ready to change the bulb. Pull it out of the holder. Nice and simple.



and here you can see the bulb removed from the holder (green arrow is the holder – no bulb in it).

Next step: Put the new bulb in the holder . . .

AS WITH ALL BULBS DO NOT TOUCH THE GLASS WITH YOUR BARE FINGERS. DIRT AND SKIN OILS CAN CAUSE PREMATURE FAILURE. WEAR A LATEX OR OTHER CLEAN GLOVE.

Once the bulb is in the holder push the base back in the empty hole and reverse the steps above.

