

Speaker Replacement

Back Speakers

Go to the trunk, and disconnect the leads, by pulling on them straight down. Go inside of the car and fold down the rear seat. Start pulling at the trim right above the trunk space, and the whole carpet piece with the grills will peel up intact. **DON'T PULL AT THE CARPET!** In order to remove that piece you must unscrew one screw on each side under the rear window. It's a black screw, and when you remove it, the whole trim will come off including the seal for the window. Just pull it forward enough to get the carpet piece with the grills out. It's very difficult to put this back.

There will be four screws holding the speaker down, 3 will come out, but the last one will be impossible to reach. The only way to get it is with some sockets and a bent allen wrench to access it. There is no clearance whatsoever (some suggest a right angle screwdriver, or a socket set with screwdriver bits).

When you put the speakers in, put some foam or padding in and around the plastic corners to eliminate vibrations, and then put it back together. The connectors may not fit in the new speakers, but connect them so they make good contact and will not come off.

Front Speakers

To replace the front speakers, you will have to make a wooden template, or you can re-use the front speaker brackets by carefully drilling out the weld spots that hold the speakers in place. To get the front speakers out, open the door, and take the door panel off. Remove the screws near the hinge, and one under the handle that opens the door. There are 3 in the little pocket by the arm rest as well. The trim should just pop off by pulling it. It should come off quite easily. If you are not going to re-use the bracket, make the template take the backing off the old speakers and cut a piece of wood to the same dimensions. Cut a hole for the magnet and also put some foam or something around the screws to prevent vibration. If you want to re-use the bracket, carefully drill out the rivets and remove the speaker. You will probably have to re-drill the screw holes for the new speaker because the holes usually do not match.

Tweeter Speakers

To replace the tweeters, pry the tweeter assembly from dash. Remove tweeter speaker only from that assembly. Push out original grill mesh from plastic assembly. There are tiny nubs inside the assembly - scrape these off. Put the tweeter into the original Subaru collar and into the dash. Do not put the tweeter into the dash before getting the wires connected to the speaker. You can do this by using a plumber's helper (long pincer things to pick things up from tight places). Remove the panel that is off the floor and right in front of the door. This will give you a bit more room and make it easier to see what is going on. Shove your plumber's helper down the hole in the dash and work it around until you see it appear near the floor. This can be tricky because there is a lot of stuff stuffed into the dash. Tape your speaker wire to the end of the plumber's helper and snake it up through the tweeter opening in the dash. Make the connection to the tweeter (make sure your collar and tweeter assembly is in place and the wire is threaded through it **BEFORE** you solder the wire). Snap the assembly back into dash.