

REMOVING INSTRUMENT KNOBS ON 1963 FORD GALAXIE

GENERAL: Removal of cigar lighter, windshield wiper and right side air vent control knobs to replace bezels is the simplest and should be done first.

CIGAR LIGHTER: Simply use a small flat bladed screwdriver to disassemble the lighter element, remove the old bezel and reassemble.

WINDSHIELD WIPER: Consider doing this disassembly along with the right side air vent control knob. This will give you extra room to work with both removed. Wiper knob is held on the shaft with a very small Allen set screw. Loosen nut and separate knob from its shaft. Bezel is held in place by a threaded chrome nut. Rotate nut counterclockwise with fingers. If stuck, you can use pliers, cover the jaws of the pliers with tape. Grab the nut inside its collar and along the outside. Be careful not to scratch the chrome.

Once the nut is removed, remove old bezel with fingernails or a boxcutter knife.

Headlight Switch Knob: Disconnect the battery before reaching under the dashboard. There is a release button on the headlight switch, located on the top. You must reach this from behind the dash, once you get your hand on the switch you can feel the button. Push down on the button and at the same time pull out the knob and shaft. Thread off the chrome knob as described for the wipers and right side air vent knobs. Bezel is now free to separate from dashboard as described above. Consider lubricating bezel nut threads and headlight knob shaft with appropriate lubricant before reinstalling. Shaft is simply pressed back into the switch without touching the button.

Air Vent Knob (Right Side): The knob is permanently attached to the cable. Disconnect the end of the cable at the air plenum following instructions for removing LEFT cable. The bezel is removed in the same manner as the Windshield wiper knob.

AIR VENT KNOB (Left Side): This is job takes time and patience. All disassembly must be done from under the dashboard.

1. Disconnect air vent cable under dash. Loosen Phillips head screw holding vent cable. There is very little room to access this screw. Do not remove the screw just loosen it. Lift cable off of bracket and free air plenum handle from the end of the cable.

2. Use a 5/8 inch deep socket and attach a piece of 1/2 inch PVC tubing to the back of it for an extension. Slide this tool up the cable to fit the nut on the back of the knob. This is a "by feel" job, carefully loosen the nut. Remove knob and cable completely. Be careful not to drop the nut you have removed.

3. Line up the flats of the bezel with the flats on the nut. Install the new bezel around the chrome bezel nut. Place the nut in the 5/8 socket: use putty or heavy grease to hold the nut in the socket. Feed the cable through the dash hole making certain that it feeds back

to the original location. Now slide the nut and the socket: carefully thread the nut onto the bezel nut without cross threading it: while pushing gently on the bezel from the dash side. Slide the tool off the cable. Reattach cable to air plenum.

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