

Thank you for your purchase of the replacement dash for your truck.

To make this project a little easier we've included TDR Issue 82 and an article from TDR Member Brent Boxall that takes you through the step-by-step process.

Brent's article was written in the Fall of 2013. Since that time several things have changed. The easiest way to address the changes/updates are to list Brent's reference numbers and add our comments.

The first thing you'll note is that Brent purchased a dash from LMC Truck parts. We think ours is a "better mousetrap." We learned the hard way that molded-in plastic reinforcements to the dashboard should be designed-in and used at the six dashboard-to-cowl locations. The LMC design uses awkward metal tabs to sandwich the plastic at these attachment points.

Second, in the lengthy development of this part you won't believe how efficient we have become in removing and installing a '98-'02 dash. Each truck is a little different, and this one-piece unit will most likely require some light trimming to fit. Use masking tape to help you "draw" a straight line along the dash side panels.

Now, on to the "numbered" items in Brent's article:

#23: Brent tells us that he removed the windshield. If you have the right tools, removal of the factory screws really isn't that bad. The right tool – a small battery powered screwdriver with a magnetic tip and an 8mm socket. (Tip: When removing the old dash, you can also break it out piece by piece which will ease access to the mounting screws. This saves a lot of time and hassle.)

#23: We see that Brent used a chain and straps to support the dash. Ours was left to hang in the breeze.

Here is a note not covered in Brent's write-up.

The OEM passenger and driver's side window defrost louvers have a tendency to break when removing them from the OEM dash. Because of this we chose not to have these openings cut out during manufacturing. If you are able to remove your louvers without damaging them, then you can use the reference indentation on the underside of the dash as a template to cut out the opening and install your OEM defrost louvers.

Our dash has positioned the notches at an angle to direct air to the windows similar to how the OEM ones do. You will also find that there are not mounting locations for the side defrost air ducts, but rather heavy-duty double sided tape. This has proven to be an easy and reliable way to mount the air ducts.

Finally, the manufacturer suggests that you paint the dash using plastic vinyl interior trim paint to reduce UV long-term damage. We suggest you simply cover the dash with an Ultimat dash cover.

And when it comes to cleaning this, or any other dash, our plastic guys tell us not to use those citrus-based cleaners as they will dry-out the plastic.



If you need more assistance, we are only a phone call away.

(770) 886-2500

Monday-Friday
8:30am-5:30pm EST

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