fUbAr Guide: Removing the dashboard (Mk2 Ph1 Clio)

The method described below worked for me. I am not saying it is the only method to complete the task. I will not accept any responsibility for damage caused to the vehicle as a result of following my guide.

The following guide was written for a Mk2 Ph1 172 Clio.



::NOTE::

It is recommended that you disconnect the battery 20 minutes prior to performing this task. This makes sure that the airbags will not be deployed. If doing so, check that you have the security code for your stereo. It is not vital that the battery is disconnected, it's simply a precaution.

- STEP ONE -

The first thing you need to do is peel back the rubber seal going up the A pillar of the car on each side. This should just pull away with little effort, leaving the plastic A pillar covers fully exposed.



- STEP TWO -

The next step is to fully remove the A pillar covers from inside the car. If you grab the top of the cover and pull it out slightly, you will see a plastic clip that needs to be pressed in to release the panel. Once this is done the other clips down the panel should easily just pull off. Don't be scared to pull hard, once the top clip has been pressed the others just pop off easily. Repeat for both sides.



- STEP THREE -

Now that those bits of trim are out of the way, all that is holding the top of the dash on is 9 screws. These all require a T20 torx driver to undo, as with most internal panels on the Clio.

Right, so now to locate all of those 9 screws...

The diagram below shows where to find the first 5 screws (represented by stars). These should all be quite obvious when you look for them. Basically there's 1 at either end, and 3 running along the top vent right by the windscreen. Remove all of these, being careful not to drop them down the vents.



- STEP FOUR -

With 5 screws down it leaves 4 more to find, all of which are all around the steering wheel area. If you look under the steering wheel you will see 2 small holes. Each of these holes contains a screw which needs to be removed, however the holes are quite deep so a long thin screwdriver is best suited.



- STEP FIVE -

With these 2 screws removed, you will be able to pop the top part of trim off from behind the steering wheel. To do this grab it from the back and pull it upwards and towards you. It should just pop off, there are only clips holding it on at either side. Keep this safe with the A pillar covers you removed earlier.







- STEP SIX -

With this piece of trim removed, you have access to the last 2 screws. You should see them just below the dials holding the top part of the dashboard in place. Remove these 2 screws and keep them safe with the others.

Make sure you have all 9 screws.







- STEP SEVEN -

Now there is nothing holding the dashboard in place, all you have to do is pull it off. To do this, get inside the car and grab onto the vent running along the windscreen. Pull the dashboard towards you, making sure both ends come away at the same time so you don't damage any of the clips.

Keep pulling it towards you until it's no longer attached, then simply feed it out of the car through the passenger door.

So there you have it, one dashboard removed!











- STEP EIGHT -

Re-fitting is simply a reversal of removing. I find it easiest to replace the 3 screws along the top of the dashboard first to hold it in place, then put the other screws back in their relevant places. Remember that the 2 longest screws came from underneath the steering wheel holding the top panel on, but replace the 2 under the dials first. Replace the A pillar covers and make sure that the door seal is seated properly.

If you disconnected the battery, hook that back up and you're done!