

fUbaR Guide: Hard-Wiring electrical devices to a Ph1

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 Clio's only have 1 socket for any electrical accessories you may use. This can be a problem if you need to power more than one at a time. This guide will explain how to hard-wire your devices into the back of the cigar lighter with the use of an extension cable adapter.

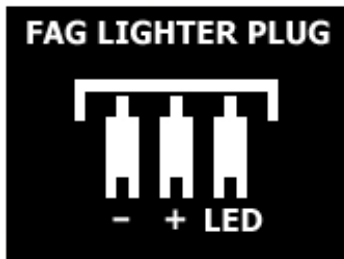
::PLEASE NOTE::

I do not recommend that you tamper with the connectors on the device that you want to use. My recommendation is to purchase an extension cable which you can safely modify. The female end of the extension cable can then be located anywhere in the car ready to accept the devices you wish to use.

Extension cables usually come with single, double or even triple plugs on the end. This means you can accommodate for more than one electrical device, and still have the wiring hidden away. It also means that the fuses usually found in the device's plugs are left untouched.

It is recommended that the battery is disconnected prior to completing the task. It is not critical, but makes the whole job safer. The guide is based on a Mk2 Ph1, so it may differ slightly for later models.

This wiring diagram can be used as a reference for the guide.



- STEP ONE -

The first thing you need to gain access to the back of the cigar lighter. To do this, you must remove the plastic trim surrounding the cigar lighter/gear stick/ashtray. This is held in place by 3 torx screws and 2 clips. 2 screws can be found on the outside, either side of the gear stick. The third screw is underneath the ashtray, which needs to be removed by opening the cover and pulling upwards.

- STEP TWO -

With all 3 screws and the ashtray removed, you need to remove the other parts connected to the plastic trim. Pull out the cigar lighter, and unclip the gear stick gator. This simply pulls off but requires a fair amount of effort.

- STEP THREE -

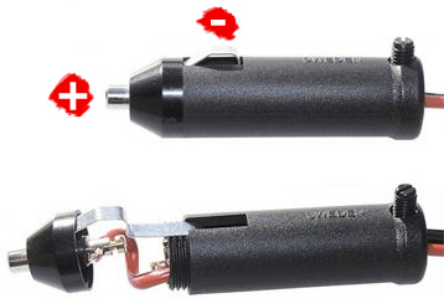
Now the only thing holding on the plastic trim is 2 clips which are either side of the air conditioning controls. These just pop undone allowing the panel to pull away. Before removing the plastic trim completely, you will find 3 electrical plugs that need to be disconnected. One for the hazard switch (Ph1 only), 1 for the central locking switch and another for the cigar lighter.

- STEP FOUR -

With the plastic trim now removed, you have access to the connectors for the cigar lighter which is where we will be hard-wiring the extension lead into. Cut the Male connector off the end of your extension lead, and strip back approximately 10mm of the wiring insulation.

::NOTE::

Remember which wires are which inside the plug when you cut them off. The wire going to the outside spring is the Earth, and the wire going to the pin at the bottom is the Live (see pic)



- STEP FIVE -

On the Phase 1 172's, the connector looks like this. It may be the same on other models; you will have to check yourselves. The blue cover on the connector will simply pull off, leaving the wires exposed on the inside of the connector.



- STEP SIX -

You will see 3 wires running into the connector. Please refer to the wiring diagram at the top of the page, however they run in the order of Earth, Live, and LED. The wire marked LED is simply for the light that makes the cigar lighter glow, and doesn't need to be used in this guide.

You will find that the wires in the connector simply pull out, allowing you to safely connect the pre-cut wires on the end of the extension cable. Ideally you would use a small amount of solder on each terminal to ensure a good connection is made.

Connect the extension lead wires as per the diagram below. You can see the newly fitted wires in the diagram. Once done, replace the blue cover on the plug.



- STEP SEVEN -

Replace the positive feed from the car's battery and test that the newly fitted extension works. To do this, plug your device into the female connector of the extension cable and make sure its receiving power. Now hide the end of the extension lead somewhere in the car. I found under the centre trim you removed earlier to be a good place, and a simple cable tie secures it in place.

Replace the plastic trim, remembering to plug in all 3 electrical blocks into their relevant switches and secure with the 3 screws you removed earlier. Check that the cigar lighter still works, and that the devices plugged into the extension still work.

That's it; nobody would ever know that your devices were powered from the cigar lighter!