

fUbaR Guide: Removing the dashboard (Mk2 Ph2 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 Ph2 182 Clio.
The procedure should be the same for the smaller engine cars.



::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 13 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 13 screws...

First you need to remove the plastic inserts in the dashboard to reveal 4 of the screws. To remove the left hand insert, open the glove box and pull up and out on the insert from underneath. It is held on by 3 metal clips which just pop off. Some force is needed to remove this. Now to remove the right hand plastic insert, pull it hard from the left hand side, next to the steering wheel cover. Lever it off to the right to reveal the screw underneath.

Remove these 4 screws and put them somewhere safe.



- STEP FOUR -

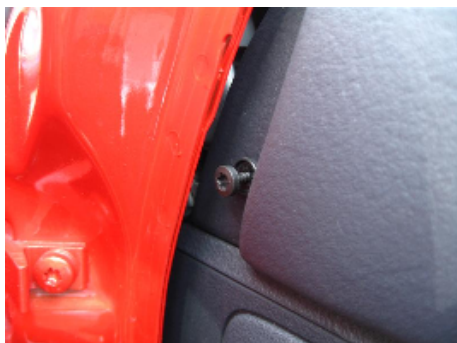
Now, if you look along the very top of the dashboard near the window where the vent runs, you should see 3 more screws. One in the middle and one at either end. Remove these screws and put them somewhere safe. That's 7 screws removed now...



- STEP FIVE -

You should find 2 more screws, 1 at either end of the dashboard below the A pillar covers you removed earlier. These are plastic on some cars, so will not require much force to remove them. Due to them being plastic, care should be taken.

9 screws removed in total...



- STEP SIX -

You will need to get down on your knees for the next 2 screws (said the actress to the bishop). If you look right down underneath the steering wheel panel, you will see 2 holes. In each of these holes is a long screw which needs to be removed. Take out both of the screws and put them somewhere safe.

11 screws down...



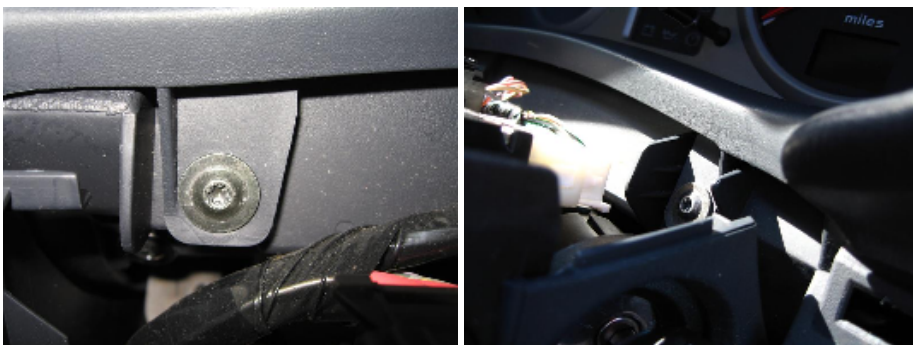
- STEP SEVEN -

With those 2 screws removed, you can now pull off the panel on top of the steering wheel. To do this, reach towards the back lip and pull it towards you, and upwards. With a little bit of force this should pop off, allowing you to put it to one side out of the way.



Having removed this panel, you will see the final 2 screws which are holding on the dash board top. Under the dials are the 2 screws which need to be removed and stored safely.

Make sure you have all 13 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. It will require a firm, sharp pull to release the clips, don't be afraid to use a little force.

MAKE SURE YOU PULL IT TOWARDS YOU, NOT UPWARDS!

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!