

Dynavin Solutions: Dash Disassembly

The installation of the Dynavin in my E46 was covered by my "Dynavin Info" thread on www.E46fanatics.com but It didn't really address many details of the dash disassembly, the relocation of the AC controls or the wiring of the various plugs and harnesses. The original post can be found here: <http://forum.e46fanatics.com/showthread.php?t=754606>

Disclaimer: As always, I am not responsible for anything you might do to mess up your car, follow these instructions at your own risk!

First off, our victim...2001 330Ci. All cars equipped with the business headunit will have the same procedure, HK or non HK.

Cars with OEM navigation will have to install a wire harness (known as the 5M Fakra harness) to connect the plugs in the trunk to the Dynavin headunit, most of the install remains the same but the location of the various plugs and connections are different and are not specifically covered by this DIY.



Tools required.....yes that is a butter knife....



Lets Get Started!

Use the butter knife to pry under the outside edge of the dash trim, be careful! Some people might like to wrap the knife in electrical tape to make sure there are not any sharp edges or use a plastic trim removal tool if you like to be professional about it....I shot these pics at home though, not at my shop, so butter knife it is!



Once you get a little gap, use a flatblade screwdriver wrapped in tape, a towel, whatever, to pry the rest of the trim loose, start from the edge and work toward the center. If you have wood trim it has a steel backing so don't be afraid to put some force behind it. If you have plastic trim work slow and it should come out without too much effort.



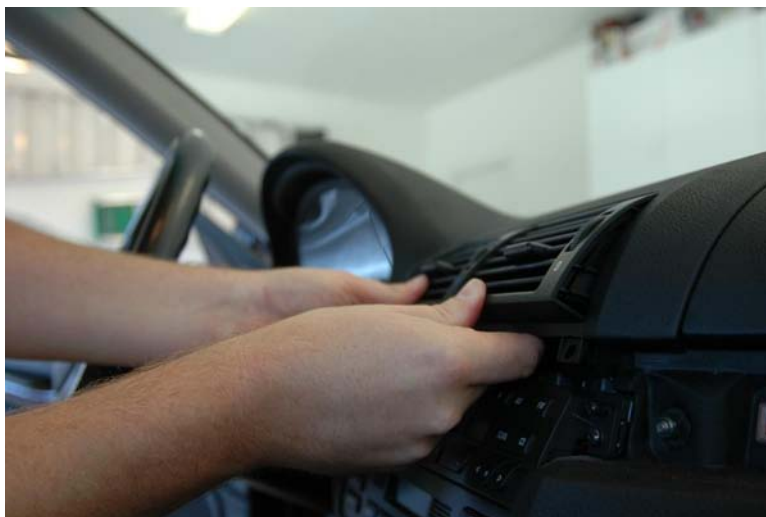
Once that piece is off, move on the the center dash trim, one side will be loose, pull on it and the center will snap loose as well, there is one more connector nearest the steering wheel, pry it out just like you did the other dash pieces.



Take out the 2 screws holding the vents in.



Now for the hardest part of the entire installation. The center vents are a pain, they take A LOT of force to get out. The best method I have found is to push the vents up hard as you pull them towards you. They will make a terrible cracking noise, no the vent isn't breaking (hopefully), the vents have clips on the bottom that are....barbed...., they make a lot of scary noises as they let go. Eventually the bottom should snap out like in the below picture.



Sit the vents on the dash top, out of the way, leave the cable connected.



Take out the 2 screws holding the radio in.



Pull the radio out



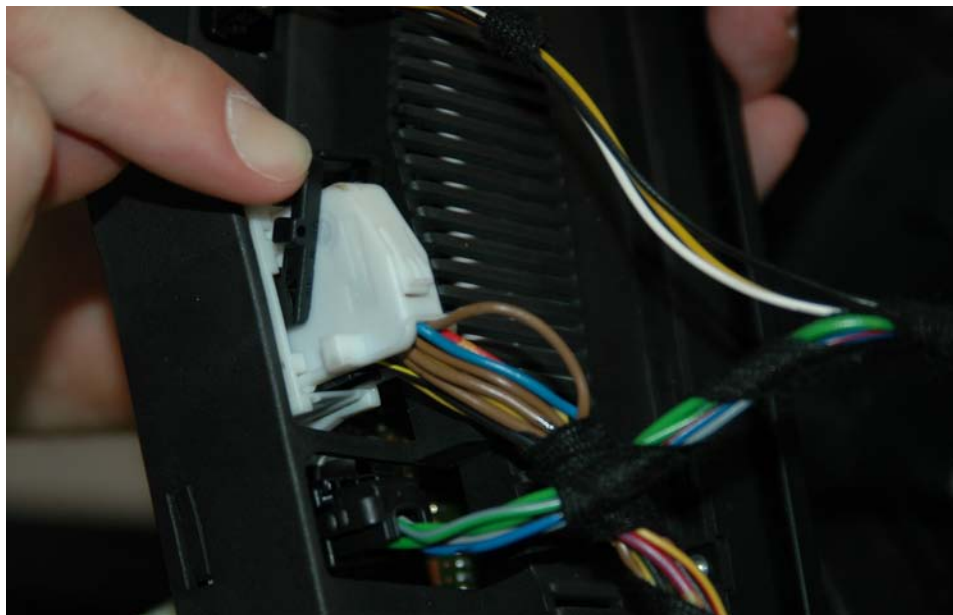
Unplug the radio, the big black plug has a mechanism that requires you pull up on the outer part of the plug, this will force the plug to back out of the radio. There is a little diagram molded into the top of the plug showing what to do. Once the radio is completely out, set it aside, sell it on ebay, throw it in the trash, whatever....



Put your fingers behind the HVAC controls, it is just snapped in, PULL, wiggle, PULL some more, and it will pop out.



Unplug the multiple HVAC plugs, the white plug has a lever on it that will push the plug out of the HVAC control.



Take out the 2 screws still holding the radio/HVAC frame



And pull it out of the dash.



Now you have a big Dynavin sized hole in your dash.....moving on....to the AC relocation

Grab the shift boot trim and pull it up, it will pop out....look at that crust by the ashtray.....glad this isn't my car!



Take out the 2 screws holding the shifter surround trim.



Unplug the window switches and remove the trim.



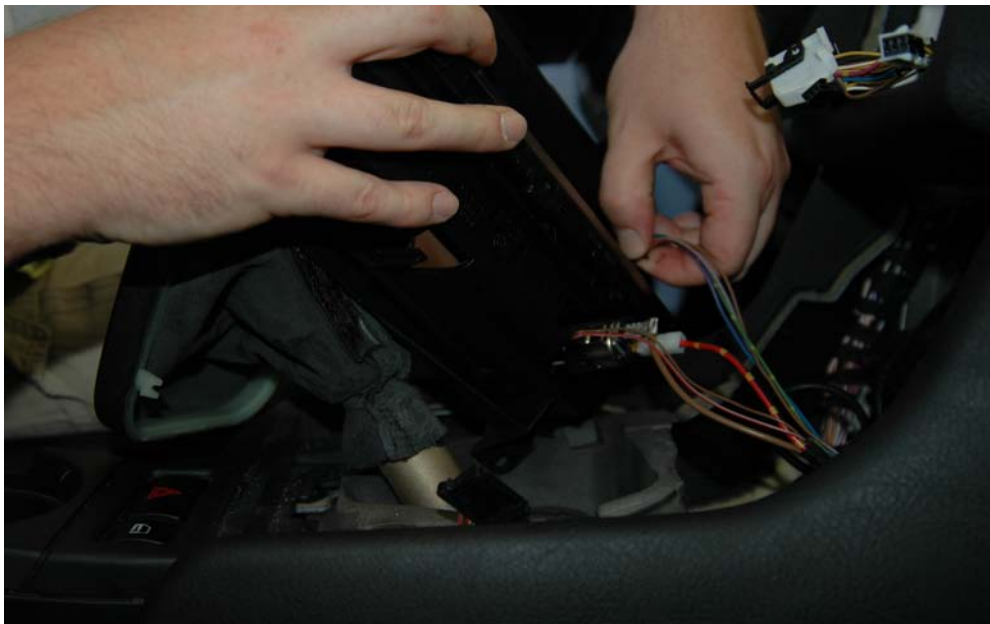
Open the door of your storage compartment located above the ashtray and pull it out. The entire compartment will pop out of the dash. Take out the 4 screws holding the ashtray, 2 on top, 2 on bottom.



Pull out your old, scratched up, crappy looking ashtray



Unplug all the switches, lighter, etc....



Look at the backside here...this might clarify the AC relocation kit thing for some of you. This is the "individual button row" part....see the individual compartments for each button.....the single row part will have one big rectangular opening. Pop out the buttons and remove the lighter and swap them over to your new "AC Relocation kit" (if you are using one)



Pull the HVAC plugs down to their new home by the ashtray. and make sure all the stereo plugs are where they belong. **If you are going to run any accessory/ipod/aux in/USB cables to your console area.....now is the time.**



Once you have whatever cables you will be using in place, plug in the HVAC control and snap it into place.

Note: You can save this step until after you install the dynavin, having access to the lower console area may be useful in running cables etc...



Now that your dash is all set up we are ready to move on to the installation steps...

Install

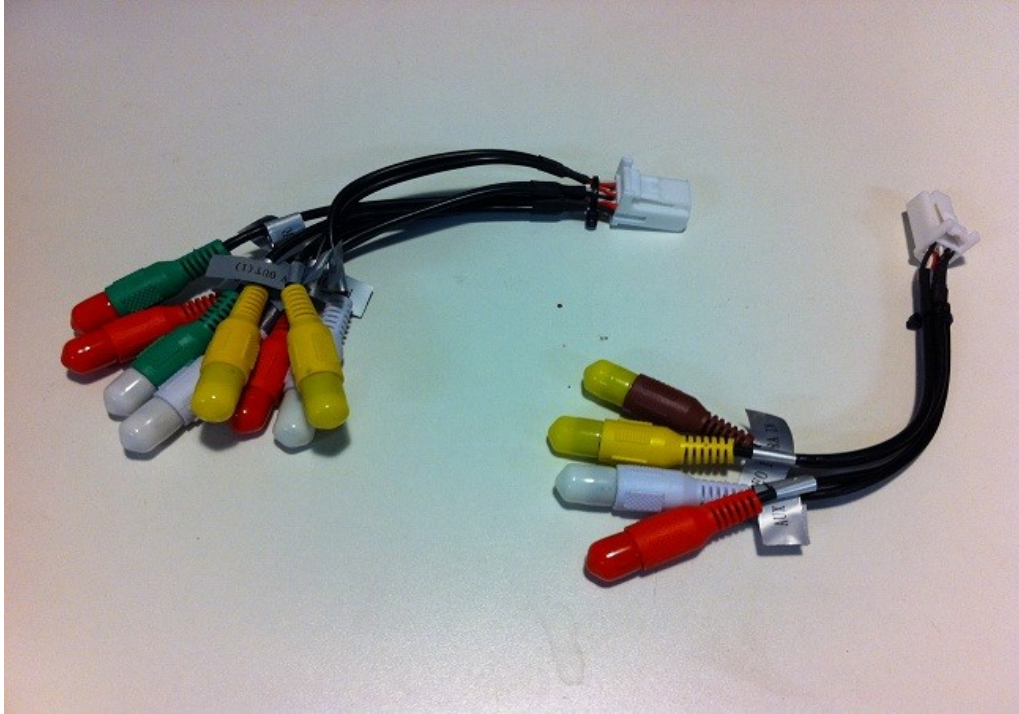
Lets get familiar with the plugs and connections. Here is what we are starting with, you will likely not use many of these plugs but it is best to know what they are. I suggest you lay everything out on a table to familiarize yourself with everything.

On the D95 (V6) and later units the RCA plugs are an external harness that only needs to be installed if necessary.



Now lets take a look at some of the parts you will find in the box.

Aux/backup camera RCA connections and preamp outputs, these are only used if you are utilizing the RCA inputs/outputs. If you are just doing a basic install, leave these out and save yourself some room in the dash.



External bluetooth microphone (the dynavin has a built in one as well, you can experiment to find what works best for you in your car)



Steering wheel control interface



Ipod interface cable (may be white)



The antenna adapter for 2002-2006 cars



The antenna adapter for 99-01 cars. Your cars will have plugs for both antenna adapters but you will want to use only the one below for proper radio reception.



The GPS antenna.



Wifi antenna for android models only, connects to “GPS USB”



A couple possible accessories, depending on your install you may want to install the following.

Ipod to Aux In audio/video adapter cable



Headphone jack to Aux In audio cable



USB (this is the flush panel mount one that I used in my Dynavin Info writeup but any USB extension will work.



More info about my USB installation can be found in my “dynavin info” post, about half way down: <http://forum.e46fanatics.com/showthread.php?t=754606>

At this point your connections should look something like this (might vary somewhat depending on your individual installations):



VERY IMPORTANT: make sure the wire labeled AMP CON is insulated and secured, if this wire shorts out.....well you don't want to know!

Also make sure you remove the shipping screws!



So lets get started!

Place the GPS antenna on the metal crossmember under the vents, its magnetic so it will stick right to the metal. This location has worked well for many Dynavin users but a few have reported reception issues in this location



If you have reception issues in the underdash location try moving the antenna to a dash top location, front and center

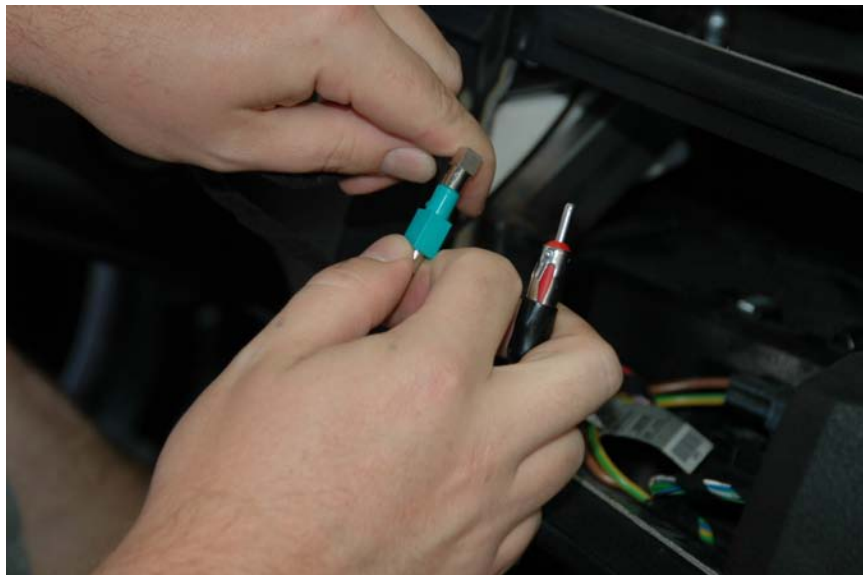


Or in the corner



I suggest that you test your Dynavin's functions before you complete the install to make sure that you are receiving the GPS signal.

Attach the correct radio antenna adapter
2002+, use this adapter (depending on the year its appearance may vary)



1999-2001 use this adapter, you will not use the other antenna plug)



Plug in the Dynavin harness



Clamp down the retainer clip



If you are using the Dynavin's external microphone you can mount it anywhere you like, top of the pillar, by the mirror, on the steering column, etc... but the most common location is the factory microphone connection by the sunroof controls, carefully pry out the sunroof control panel, run the mic cable under the dash, up the pillar, and clip the mic onto the panel, if you are VERY careful to not dislodge it while putting it back in, the location shown in this pic works nicely.



Plug in the steering wheel interface into the Dynavin harness (if you didnt already)



Run your ipod cable, USB cables, Aux in cables and whatever else you are installing to wherever you would like them, popular locations are the glove compartment and the console/cupholder/e-brake area. Depending on your installation you should have something like this.



Now put a towel on your console to protect against scratches and carefully plug in the harness. Also plug in the GPS antenna, the radio antenna, and the external bluetooth microphone (if you choose to use it) at this time.



Now for the tricky part.... you will need to tuck the Dynavin wire harness back and to the left toward the instrument cluster. Then you will need to place all of the remaining RCA plugs, USB plugs, etc... on the top of the Dynavin, pull them out through the vent holes to get them out of the way. The idea is to get all of your remaining connections on the top of the Dynavin where they are out of the way and accessible without having to pull the Dynavin out of the dash.



Slowly work the Dynavin into place, tuck the wires away and be careful to make sure there are no wires where they don't belong. It is a very tight fit so it might take a few tries to get everything in a place where it doesn't interfere with the fit.

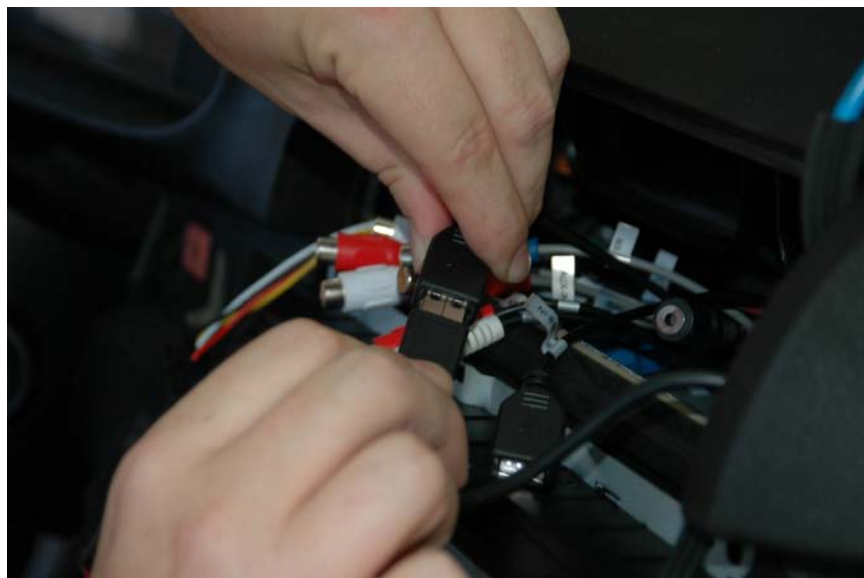


The Dynavin has 2 metal clips near the bottom that will need to snap into place in the dash, it may take a good amount of force to do this so look at the clips first, get familiar with their location and fit before you try to seat the Dynavin into its final location. Eventually you should end up with something like this, the Dynavin in the dash and a bunch of plugs hanging out of the vent hole.



Now you can go through and connect all the remaining Dynavin plugs and any accessory cables you might have....

USB extension



Aux In



IF you installed them, leave all the remaining plugs on the top of the unit. They will be out of the way and they remain accessible if you want to use them in the future to add an amp, a second video monitor, a backup camera, or anything else you might like.



Make sure that the plugs are not in the way of refitting the vents. Now would be a good time to test all the functions. Once you are satisfied that all of your connections are good you can move on and finish up the install.



Pop the vents back into place



Replace the 2 screws that hold in the vents and now will hold the Dynavin as well. Make sure to note the gaps all the way around the Dynavin and the vents, adjust everything for a clean fit before you tighten down the screws.



Replace the trim and admire your work!

Pat yourself on the back, crack open your favorite beverage, and enjoy your new toy!



Thanks for the purchase, I hope you enjoy it!

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