

Dash Board and Console

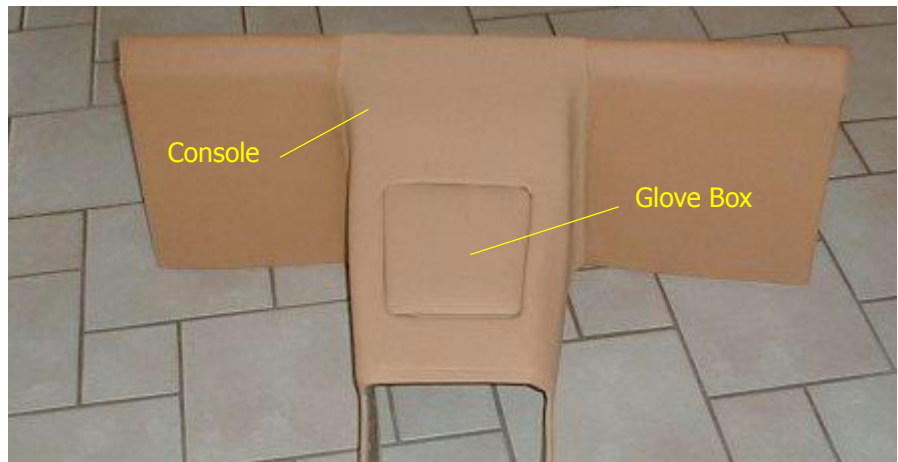
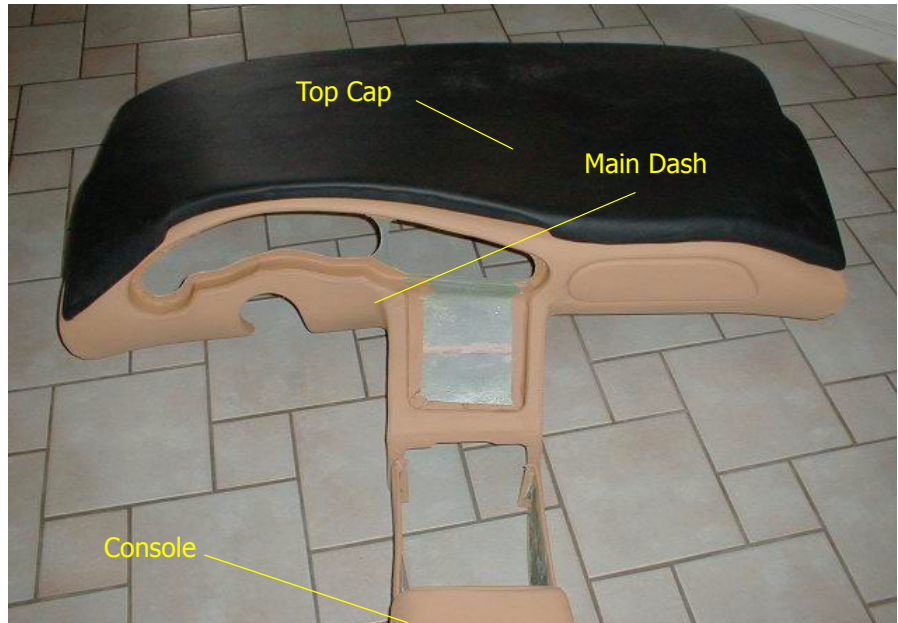
This section will deal with the installation of the dash board and center console. This includes the instruments in the 2000 style dash. The installation of the wiper assembly will also be addressed in this section. The lamborghini steering wheel shown is not included as part of basic kit.



FIGURE 158. Dash assembly

Dash Components

The dash consists of the top cap, the main body that houses the instruments and the center console.



Dash Installation

You will begin by trial fitting the main sash section over the framework that has been built over the existing Fiero Dash. On the Roadster because the windshield requires additional structural support, it may be necessary to notch the dash and top cap to fit around these posts.



In making the notch, you can install the main dash piece and then mark with tape the section that will need to be cut out of the top cap to clear the

posts. Simply peel back the leather from the top cap and cut out the neces-



sary section of the fiberglass. Reglue the leather to the dash.

Defroster Vents

There are 4 defroster adjustable vents and two vent slits that are installed in the top cap. Start by determining the location of the 4 adjustable vents. They are typically 5" back from the front edge of the cap piece. Only the two center vents will be functional, the two outer ones are only for looks.

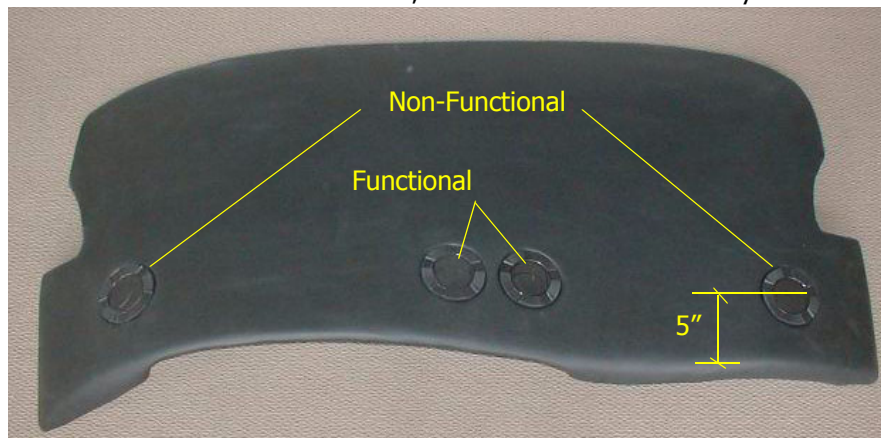


FIGURE 159. Defroster vent locations

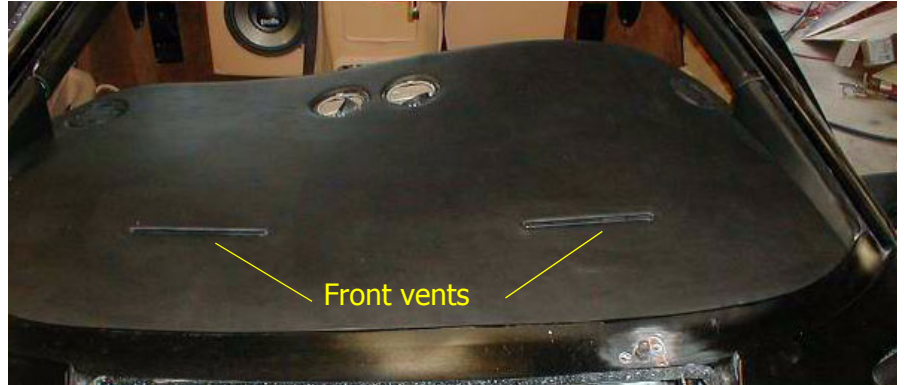
To install the vents, start by determining their location and then cutting out a small piece of the leather in the center of the hole. You do not want to drill directly through the leather as the drill bit can tear the foam underneath and damage the look of the dash. Next drill a small pilot hole through the fiberglass. From the back side, carefully drill the opening for the defroster vent such that it just passes through the fiberglass but not through the foam on the top of the dash. Remove the leather over the opening such that the vent can be temporarily placed in position. Determine where the edge of the vent is on the foam padding. You will want to remove the foam padding to allow the vent to be recessed and sit flush with the top of the dash. Once the foam has been removed, reglue the leather to the dash to accommodate the new shape.

The following illustrations will walk you through the procedure.



FIGURE 160. Vent installation process

Front Vents



Start by determining where you would like the two vents to be located that is most visually appealing. These vents are non-functional. Once the vents are located, drill a very small pilot hole through the top cap at each end of the vent opening. From the underside, carefully use a cutter to remove the fiberglass size of the opening. Using a file, shape the opening to accommodate the vent. The vent lip is installed from the underneath side of the dash. Prior to installation, carefully cut a slit through the leather and glue the leather to the underneath side of the dash. Now insert and glue the vent from the bottom of the dash.



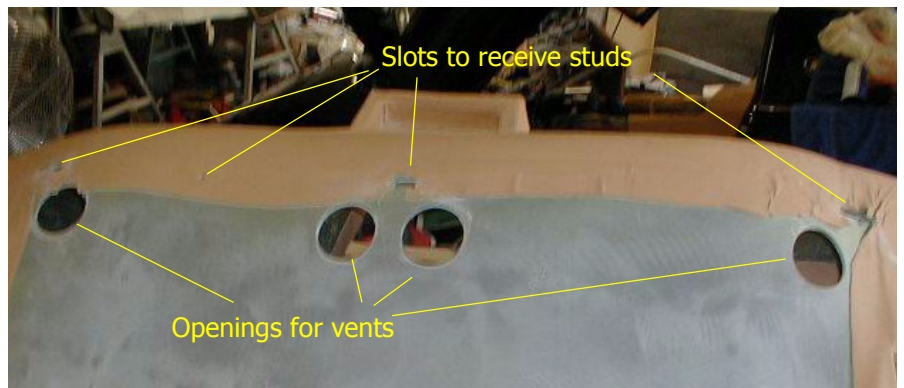


FIGURE 161. Front Vent

Connecting Top Cap to Main Dash

Once the dash is installed, it will be necessary to secure the top cap to the main dash. This is accomplished by building and securing studs to the bottom of the top cap. These are 1/4" bolts that have been welded to a flat bar and the flat bar secured to the top cap.

1/4" wide slots will be cut in the main dash to accept the bolts. The bolts are then secured with flat washers and nuts to hold the top cap in place.



Console

Mounting



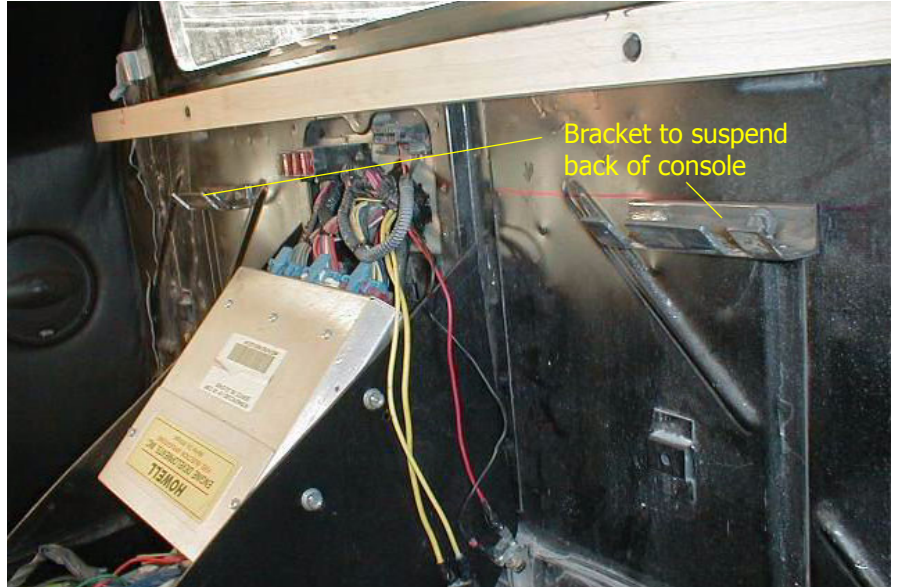
The center console is secured to a frame that has been welded to the Fiero console and then hung off of the Fiero Firewall.

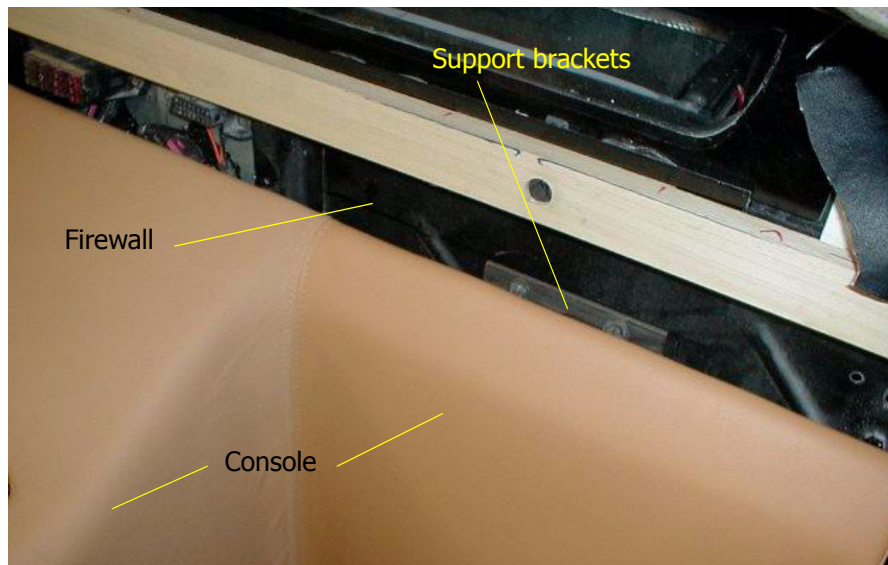


Build a frame out of 1/2" tube that the console will rest on. This frame work is welded to the existing Fiero console. **Make sure that the gas tank is**

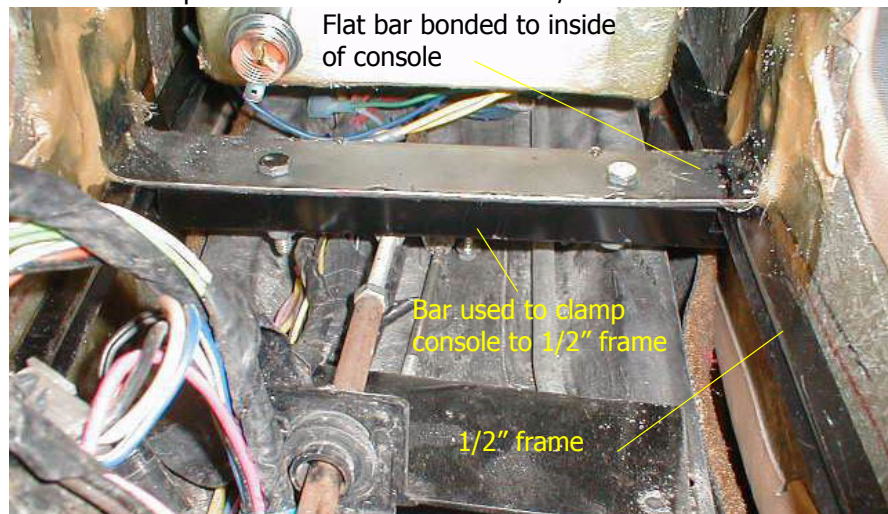
removed from the car when doing this welding to prevent any accidents.

The console is positioned such that it clears the computer on the firewall. Once you are satisfied with the positioning of the console, attach two angle iron brackets to the firewall to support the back edge of the console. These brackets can be bolted or welded to the firewall.





You will also bond a flat bar to the inside of the console. This bar will be used as a clamp to secure the console to the 1/2" tube frame on the Fiero.



Glove Box

The console comes with an opening in the top a glove box. You may elect to construct a clove box and hinge the cover or simply secure the cover for effect.

If you wish to make a functional clove box, you can construct one from FRB board and bond it to the inside of the console.



The glove box cover can be fastened using the original Fiero hinges that have been fastened to a sheet of ABS. The console cover is then secured to the flap.





An alternative method is to use a piano hinge on the edge closest to the shifter and have the top flip open from the back.

Shifter cover

The carbon fiber console insert can be secured to the console with small counter sunk screws. It will be necessary to cut out the opening for the shifter and gate.



FIGURE 162. Carbon fiber console

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