

DICE SILVERLINE INSTALL FOR A 2008 PRIUS

I'll try to explain, with pictures and text, how I installed my DICE Silverline Car Integration Kit for the iPod.

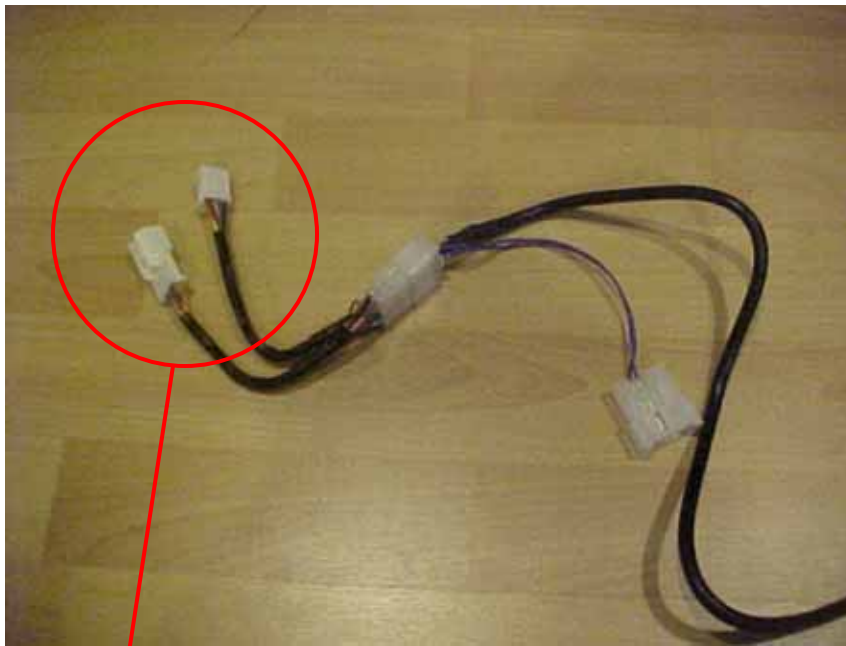
Please keep in mind that I am not an expert, or even anything resembling an expert in anything having to do with anything automotive or electrical. If you saw me walking down the street, you'd say to your friend, "Hey, that guy doesn't look like any sort of expert!" And you'd be right. Further, I don't work for DICE, or know anyone at DICE, nor do I represent DICE.

Follow these instructions at your own risk!! It's very possible that following these directions could damage your car, its wiring, or the stereo. Trim pieces might also break if you're not careful. You might start a fire and your house could burn down. If you're not sure about what you're doing, stop and hire a pro! I provide these pages as a guideline only!

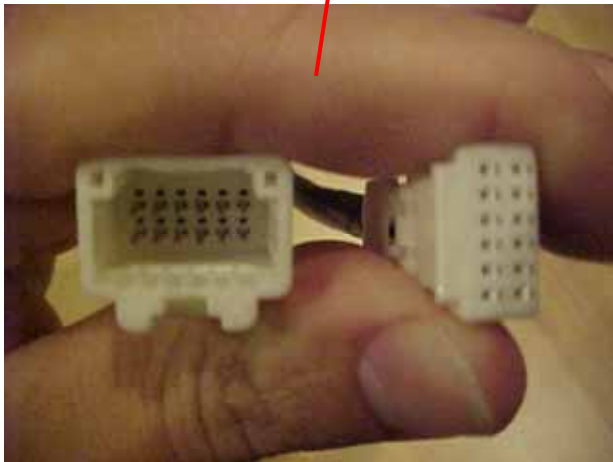
Your Dice unit comes with 3 cables. One of the cables is pretty straightforward. It's the one that connects to your iPod. It's called the iPod docking cable. The other round end connects to the DICE unit into the only round receptacle. It's "keyed" so it only goes in one way

Here are the other two, more "confusing" cables. You need to take these two cables, and plug them together so that they look like the picture on the next page.

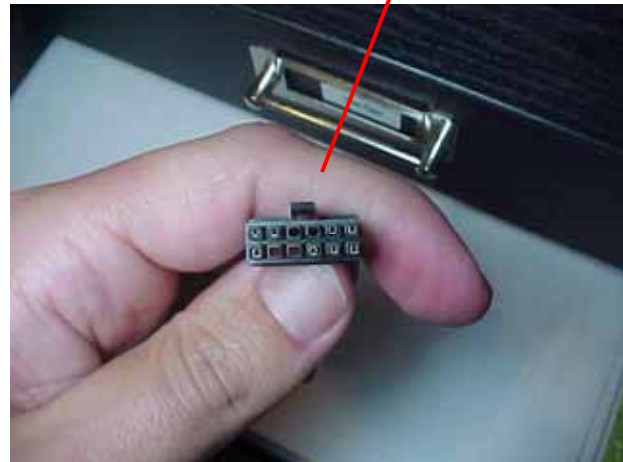




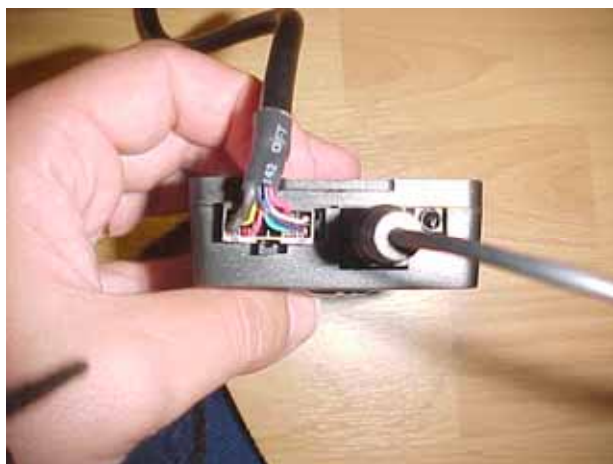
That's what the two cables should look like when they are plugged together for the install



This is an up close photo of the end of the cable that you'll be plugging into the back of your Prius stereo shortly. See the plug on the right in the above photo? That's the one that goes into the back of your stereo. The one on the left will serve no purpose in this guide. You'll leave it dangling behind the stereo



This is what the other end of the cable would look like had I taken the picture correctly. This is the end that goes into the DICE "black box." See the next page to see this plug, and the iPod docking cable plugged into the DICE "black box."



Here's what the two cables look like when they're plugged into the DICE "black box." The one on the right is the iPod docking cable. The one on the left is the black plug from page 2. Plug them in carefully. You don't want to damage the plugs, the pins or the DICE "black box."



Here is the opposite end of the DICE "black box" with the DIP switches. I'll tell you what- these switches are a pain in the butt to move. They're plastic, they're not very big, and they're slightly recessed into the black box. Move them with tremendous care. I suggest that you put the "car configuration" switches to the MP3 mode (Dip switch 1 off, Dip switch 2 on) and the "iPod configuration" switches to the iPod mode (Dip switch 1 and 2 both on). There is a sticker on the bottom of the "black box" that tells you which set of switches is which. The DIP switches in the picture are not indicative of what I describe in this narrative.

If you decide to open the DICE box in order to gain better access to the DIP switches, be extremely careful. The two circuit boards in the box are loose, and the box has a tendency to "explode" open when you squeeze the box to open it. Unless you are **EXTREMELY** careful, I suggest that you do not use this method!

OK, so we know how the cables all plug together, and we have the Dip switches set the way we want. Go ahead and unplug the iPod docking cable from the Dice black box so it's out of the way. You can plug it in later.

Let's go out to the car. You're going to need your Dice "black box" with the cables, a flat head screwdriver, a flashlight, a phillips screwdriver (preferably one with a long shaft), and the most petite hands you can find (more on this later). You might also need a drill with a 1/2" paddle blade if you use the same method I use for iPod placement in the storage area under the stereo (optional). Some velcro (the type with the adhesive backing) might also prove to be useful.

Take everything out of your lower glovebox because we're going to carefully remove it. What you need to do is open the lower glovebox normally. On the right hand side of the glovebox, there is a small arm that needs to be removed from a "nub" on the side of the glovebox (see picture). Once that arm is removed, you need to gently squeeze each side of the glovebox so that the glovebox can be lowered further (see picture) so that it is hanging only on its hinge.

Oh yeah, turn your car off if you haven't already!



Gently squeeze
each side of the
glovebox

Nub, with small
arm already
removed



A note about removing the small arm from the nub mentioned on the previous page: When you remove it, the arm is weighted in such a way that it "disappears" into the area where the glovebox once was. I guarantee that when you go to put the glovebox back on, you're going to wonder where the heck that little arm went. So I enclosed a picture of what it looks like when you remove it from the glovebox nub.



Anyway, here's the glovebox "hanging" on its hinges. To remove the glovebox from it's hinges, carefully pull the glovebox aft and it should pop off. You might want to apply your gentle pressure close to the area where the hinges are. Place the glovebox somewhere safe as to not damage or scrape the fine Toyota faux finish of the box.

With the glovebox out of the way, we can now remove the left passenger air vent fascia, which is located to the right of the Prius multifunction display (MFD). This piece needs to be pried out gently. I suggest you use a short (because there isn't much space between the windshield and the top of the dash), wide bladed, flat head screwdriver. Take a cloth and put that cloth between your blade and the dash so that you don't accidentally scratch or dent your fancy Toyota dashboard plastic. Put the blade of the screwdriver in the gap between the top of the air vent fascia and the top of the dash and GENTLY and CAREFULLY twist the blade of the screwdriver. The top of the fascia should pop out. Once it pops out, GENTLY and CAREFULLY remove the rest of the tabs along the length of the plastic fascia.



A view of the cloth being using to protect the dash and the fascia from the blade of the screwdriver.



This is what the left passenger air vent looks like from behind when removed. The yellow looking areas are the tabs that you are carefully pulling from the dash in order to remove the fascia. Find a nice, safe place for this piece too as you do not want to scratch the fine Toyota fascia finish.

Now that we have the glovebox out and the plastic vent fascia out of the way we have to move a large bundle of wires out of the way so that you can access the back of the radio for the steps coming in the next few pages. This large bundle of wires and its associated large plastic bundle holder is held in place at two points. One point with a screw, and one point with a plastic tab-like connection.

You can access the screw with a phillips screwdriver with a long shaft. The screw location (partially hidden) is circled in the picture below, just below the air vent. The wiring bundle that needs to be moved can be seen just below the red circle.



Remember when I said that this wiring bundle is held in place at two points? Here is an illustration of the second point that you need to snap out after you remove the screw. You have to carefully pull the wiring bundle away from this plastic tab-like connection (in the red circle) in order to allow the wiring bundle to move freely.



Here is the wiring bundle very carefully moved and shifted into the lower glove box area. Be very, very careful. Those wires are very thin! You're going to have to reach through the lower glovebox and behind this wire bundle to gain access to the back of the Prius radio. Keep reading.....

OK, now here comes the part that is a huge pain in the butt!! We had to remove the glovebox and move the wiring bundle so that you can reach behind the radio with your hand. The goal is to take the plug shown on page 2 and plug it into the back of the Prius radio. The problem is that if you have large man hands (like me), it will be extremely difficult as there is very little room to move about behind that stereo. Now, where are you going to put this plug, you ask? Here's a photo.....



You're probably wondering to yourself, "What in the world am I looking at in this photo?" Well, this is the back of your Prius radio, shot from the lower glovebox area.

Your goal? Place the aforementioned plug in the receptacle adjacent to the circled plug (the one with the multi-colored white, red, purple wiring) in the photo. The receptacle you are aiming for is blocked from view by the circled plug, but trust me, it's there, right next to it.

When you put the DICE plug in, the little tab in this plug should be down, closest to the floor of the Prius. The plug installs horizontally, with the long axis of the plug parallel to the floor of the Prius.

I don't have much advice for trying to land your plug in the receptacle in the back of the stereo except.....exercise patience! I've read that some people unplug the plug I circled on the previous page in order to gain access to the target receptacle, plug the DICE plug in, then re-plug the circled plug in. I was able to get the DICE plug in without having to remove the plug shown in the picture. I guess it just depends on technique. Just feel for the receptacle first so that you know where it is (make sure your car is depowered!), then try to guide the plug home after you get a "feel" for where the receptacle is. Push it in firmly so that it doesn't fall out, as I guarantee you that you will not want to go through this exercise again!

After you get the DICE plug in, your unit should be ready to go. Plug the iPod docking cable into the DICE "black box" and plug your iPod in. Make sure all of your cables are plugged firmly into your DICE "black box." Power your car up. If you have your DICE "black box" in "MP3 mode," this is what the screens will look like..... note: also refer to page 19 of your DICE manual for MP3 mode info.



When you hit the "audio" button on your Prius MFD, this is what you'll see....



When you hit "folder list" in the upper right hand corner of the screen shown to the left, this is what you'll see...



When you hit the "detail" button in the lower, right hand corner of the screen shown to the above right, this is what you'll see.....

Keep in mind that the playlists on my particular iPod were not set up yet, so what you will see on your screen will probably be different. I'm just trying to illustrate what the screens look like in MP3 mode.

Here's what the screens look like when you put the DICE "black box" in "Satellite" mode with the car configuration Dip switches...



This is the main screen you'll see in "satellite mode."



When you press the "text" button in the lower, right hand corner of the above screen, this is what you'll see.

I'm just showing these pictures to display the two different mode the average Prius driver will want to operate the DICE "black box" in. In my opinion, I would run the "black box" in "MP3" mode as it seems to have more functionality. But if you want to play with the modes yourself, I was able to turn the Prius completely off, change the Dip switches as desired, and then start the Prius up again and play with the new mode.

Now that you have everything plugged in and checked, and now that you've decided which emulation mode to run the DICE "black box" in, it's time to put things back together. I have a few suggestions that may or may not help you before you start putting stuff back together...take them or leave them!

1. When you neatly tuck the DICE wires behind the stereo, I would take some black electrical tape and wrap the tape around the plastic plugs that will be left hanging (there will be two of them). I would do that just so that when the plugs are vibrating around back there as you drive your car, they don't vibrate against another plastic or metal piece and make an audible sound. Or even better, you can secure the loose plugs in such a way so that they can't move at all.
2. Remember that large bundle of wires we had to remove back on page 7? I would take a piece of velcro and stick it on the left side of the large plastic piece that you have sitting in your lower glove box. I would take the "opposite" piece of velcro and stick it to your DICE "black box." When you reinstall that large white wire bundle, you'll see that there is enough space between the left side of that large wire bundle and the right side of your multi-function display for your DICE "black box" to fit in nicely. If you velcro the two together, your DICE "black box" won't be loose in that space, or any space in that area for that matter. I don't know if the velcro glue, however, will still "stick" in a very hot climate or on a hot summer day. This technique may or may not work for you.
3. Note the picture below. I took a 1/2" paddle bit and CAREFULLY drilled a hole in the storage area below the CD changer. I then threaded the iPod docking cable through the hole. You could go to Home Depot and purchase a rubber grommet to cover the edges of the drilled hole. That small storage area below the CD changer makes for a nice storage area for your iPod. Just make sure you leave yourself enough slack in the docking cable so that you can pull the iPod out and perhaps access it while you're sitting in the driver's seat at a stop light, for example.



At this point, you're basically ready to just reverse the disassembly process. You'll find that it is a little tricky to get that large white wire bundle back in place. It helps to have a screwdriver with a magnetic tip so that you can hold the wire bundle in the proper place with one hand and then drive the screw back home with the other hand. It's a little tricky getting that wire bundle screw hole lined up with the receptacle hole behind the dash.

When you're trying to pop the left passenger air vent fascia back into place, notice that there is a small "notch" on the right side of the fascia to accomodate the push buttons for the upper and lower glove boxes (see picture). I found it helpful to use that notch as a guide as I was trying to place this fascia back in.



Well, that's about it. I hope you found this guide helpful.
The Priuschat community has been extremely helpful to me
so I hope I have "returned the favor" to a few of you who
choose to try this DICE install for yourself!! Good luck!

-ualdriver