

2005 Audi A8L Turn Signal Stalk Replacement

DISCLAIMER: USE THIS GUIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK, I AM NOT A CERTIFIED MECHANIC AND CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IF SOMETHING GOES AWRY.

Tools needed:

A 10mm open-ended wrench to remove the battery cable.

A set of Torx Screwdrivers ranging from T8-T30, I was able to remove the screws with a T9 but for peace of mind, I wouldn't recommend it, as it didn't really fit.

The T8 shaft/"blade" must also be AT LEAST 3" long, or 100mm to be able to reach the screws under the steering column.

I suggest the Wera 467 T8 x 100mm Torx T-handle from kctoolco.com

You'll also need a T50 Torx Driver bit and an extension piece that fits on a 1/4" ratchet drive to Remove the steering wheel. These can be purchased from Auto store retailers like NAPA, Autozone, etc.

Sharpie marker for marking the steering wheel location.

Now for the fun stuff...

Adjust your steering wheel all the way out and all the way down.

Turn your wheel 90° to remove the screw covers with your nail, they come off easily.



Remove the Torx Screws that hold the airbag in, the airbag won't fall out, there is an indentation on the bottom of the steering wheel column that allows easy access to the screws.

Straighten the wheel as much as possible as this will be the position that you remove the steering wheel. It will make your job easier.

Take your T8 screwdriver and make sure that you can remove the 2 screws on the bottom of the steering column, otherwise this whole endeavor will be short-lived. I didn't learn my lesson the first time I tried this so **TAKE HEED MY WARNING!**



Turn the car off and lock the steering wheel in position. Head to the trunk with your 10mm box wrench and remove that cover. Loosen the nut on the positive lead and pull the cable off, **DO NOT LET THE CABLE CONTACT THE POST!** I put the plastic cover back in place between the terminal and lead to prevent any unwanted surprises.

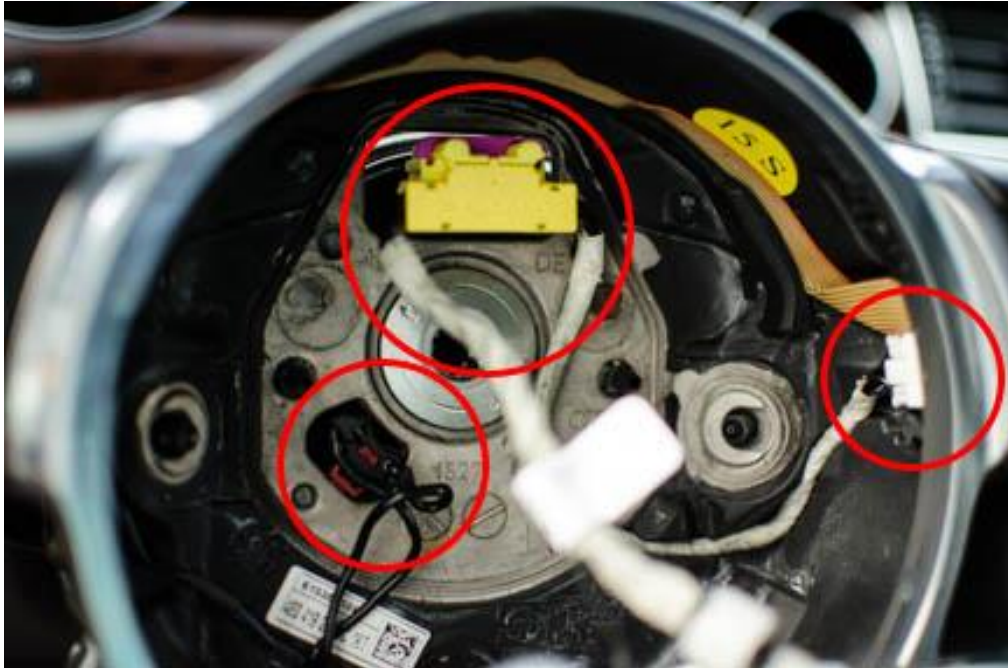


Now you're ready to remove the airbag, I know it may seem scary, but just be slow, and GENTLE and if you are really worried, Take the car to a professional to do the task for you. You should have already removed the 2 screws on the backside of the steering wheel.

Grab the airbag by the edges and gently pull the unit out towards you, if at any point you feel resistance, STOP! The screws may not be completely loosened. The airbag will have cables attached to the back . The yellow connector in the photo below is the airbag connector. You will pull the Purple tab toward you with your fingers while keeping your thumb on the yellow connector to remove it.



Remove the three connectors carefully as they are all different in how they connect.

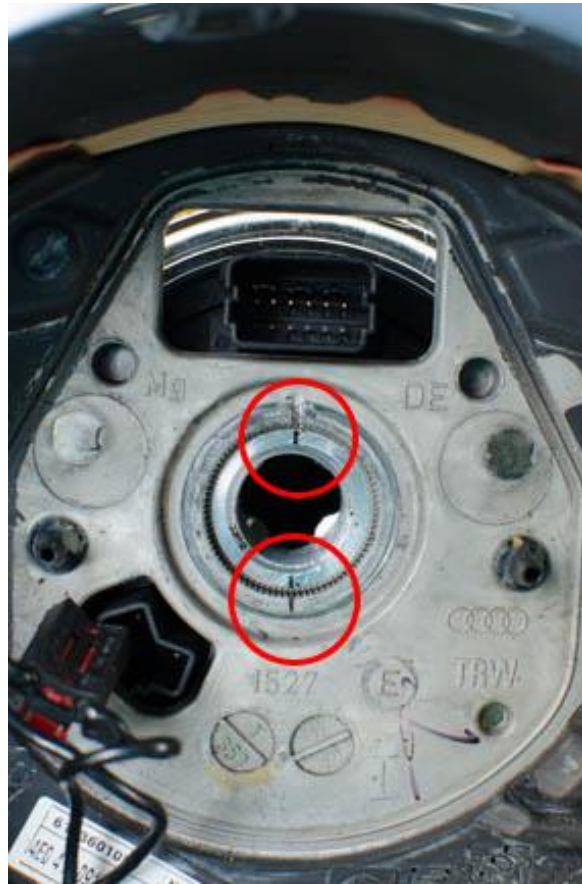


Remove the airbag unit and place it somewhere safe.

Grab your T50 Torx Driver and Ratchet with extension and remove the steering wheel nut.



Take your fine point sharpie marker and mark the steering wheel and pinion in two spots. This will help you line up the steering wheel later.



Remove the steering wheel, you should see this...



Now it's time to remove the under dash pieces to get to the rest of the column cover screws. Remove the fuse panel on the driver side and remove the two Torx Screws.



Remove the Silver trim piece above the headlight switch.



Remove the Torx screw behind this trim piece.



Remove the trim piece on the door threshold. Start at the end closer to the back seat where the seam is and gently begin to pull the piece vertically to remove it. It has no screws attaching it to the frame.



Remove the Torx Screw on the bottom of the panel near the transmission tunnel and center console.



Open the change pocket drawer on the dash and remove the cover on it by gently sliding it towards the steering wheel and it will come right off.



Remove the Silver trim piece that sits below the MMI screen. Go to the passenger side and open the glove box, pry the piece of trim off gently, and work your way towards the steering wheel, being careful of the plug that sits in the back of the trim piece near the steering wheel.



Remove the HEX Screw above the Ignition area. You can use the hex key that is on the fuse panel cover you removed earlier.



IMPORTANT STEP: There is an airbag in this lower trim panel, be careful! You don't have to completely remove the panel to access the screws.



Take your T25 Torx Drive bit and remove the two screws on the bottom of the steering



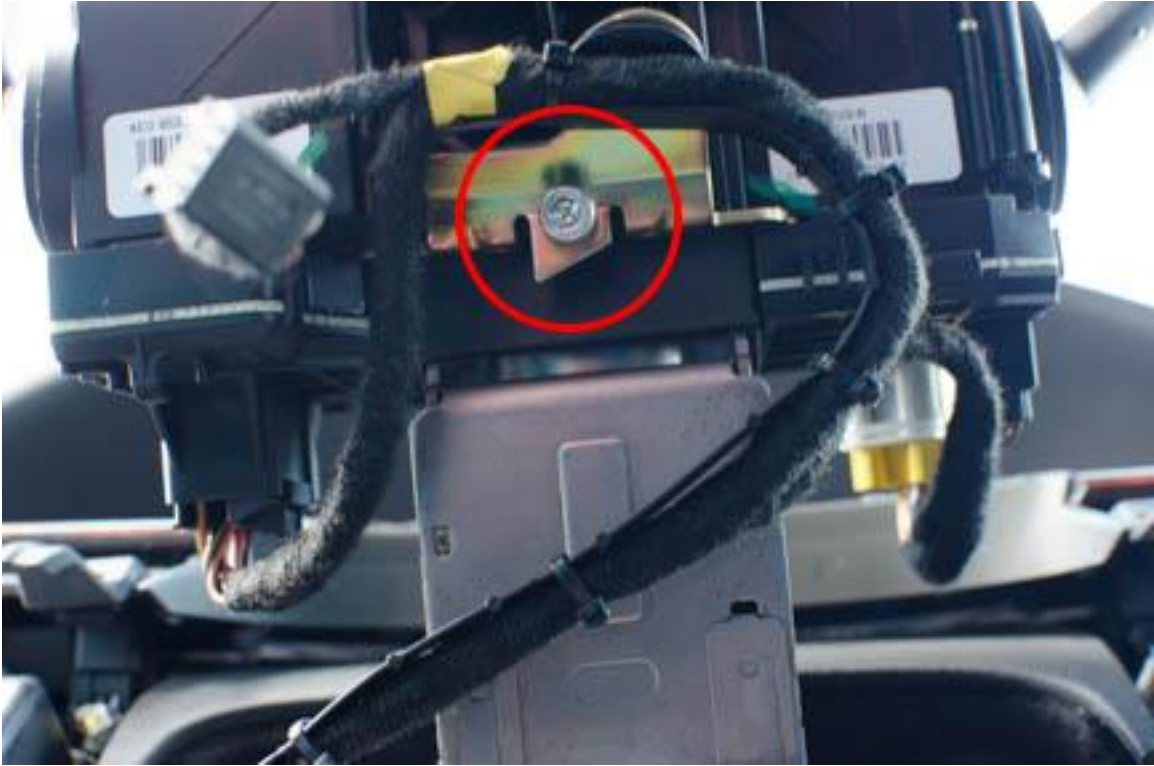
column.



The steering column trim has a wire connecting the adjustment module, remove that plug gently and set the trim piece aside.



Now it's time to remove the Clockspring and turn signal stalk.
Remove the torx screw on the bottom of the steering column.



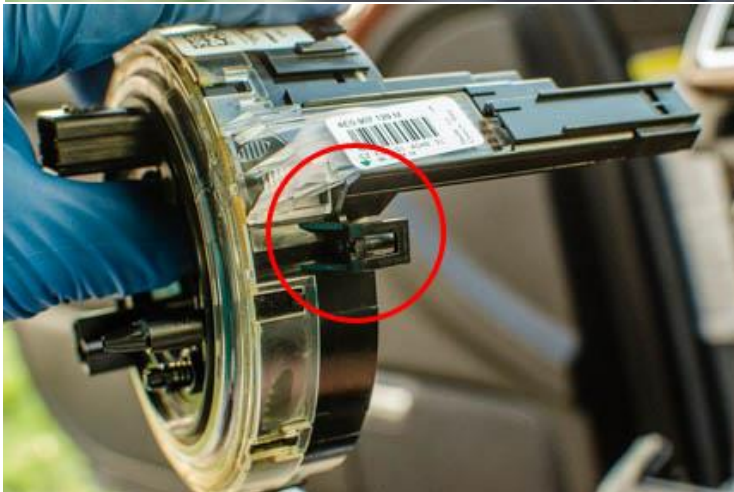
Remove the wire loom fastener from the metal post.



The whole unit will slide off of the column. Now we need to gently remove the three connectors from the back of the units.



GENLTY pry the three clips that attach the clockspring to the unit.



Remove the T8 Torx Screw holding the back of the unit to the others. It is located between the turn signal stalk and cruise control stalk.



Take your T8 Torx and remove the 5 small screws attaching the units together.



The back of the unit slides out and the three assemblies can be taken apart.

Reattach all of the good assemblies on to the new turn signal stalk and reattach everything in reverse order!

This was my part number for my 2005 Audi A8L Turn Signal Control Switch, yours may vary.



I hope this walkthrough was helpful to you and helped you realize that even though it may seem daunting, working on your car can be very rewarding and is easier than believed!

Writing this tutorial took much longer than the entire process of replacing the turn signal switch itself. It should only take about an hour to an hour and a half start to finish.

Best of Luck!

- Albatrossboss