

Disclaimer: Attempt at your own risk. I am providing this for informational purposes only.

These instructions are for W204 Model Years 2012 – 2014 with COMAND online only.

Parts Needed:

1. CMOS NTSC Camera (~\$22) - <http://pages.ebay.com/link/?nav=item.view&alt=web&id=390659693250>
2. Video in Adaptor FAKRA Female (~\$6) - <http://pages.ebay.com/link/?nav=item.view&alt=web&id=330914234642>
3. Add a circuit (~\$4) - <http://pages.ebay.com/link/?nav=item.view&alt=web&id=181589252517>
4. 16-Gauge Red and Black Electrical Wire (about 3-4 feet of each)
5. 1 Size 15 Fuse



Tools Needed:

1. Fishing Tape
2. Splicing/Crimper Tools
3. Trim Removal Kit
4. Electrical Tape
5. Hex screw driver (sorry I forgot the size)
6. Sockets sizes 8mm-14mm
7. Flat Screw Driver (to tuck wires in trim)

I may have missed some... sorry

COMAND Settings:

1. Turn on the Rearview Camera SRVC setting in engineering mode
 - Hold telephone off + # + 1 buttons together for a few seconds
 - 7. HW setting > 7.7 HU Parameter > 18. Rearview Camera > SRVC
 - Exit out of engineering mode
 - Wait 4+ hours for settings to take affect

NOTE: Before the next step you need to wait a few hours for it to take affect so I'd do this the day before you plan to install your camera.

1. Enable Rear View Camera Setting when in "Reverse"
 - Go to the System menu of COMAND
 - System Settings > Select Rearview Camera > Enable "Activate by R Gear"

Before starting, remove the footwell trim above the passenger floor space. This will allow you to run the cables through from the COMAND unit down to the lower passenger door trim.

Start by removing the trim panel above the glove box:

1. Open glove box and use prying tools to unclip far right side of trim panel. I used a plastic trim removal kit here. Cover your tools with a towel if you're afraid of scratching your trim.
2. Work your way towards the COMAND unit and stop once all the clips to the right of the COMAND unit are loose
3. Above the COMAND unit there are two push clips that need to be pushed in in order for the trim to come unhinged. The plastic clips are inside the AC vents (on the far left and far right side walls inside the AC vents)
4. Once those plastic clips are pushed in the entire trim piece should pull off. But don't pull the trim out yet.... Be careful to Remove wire from the trim before pulling.

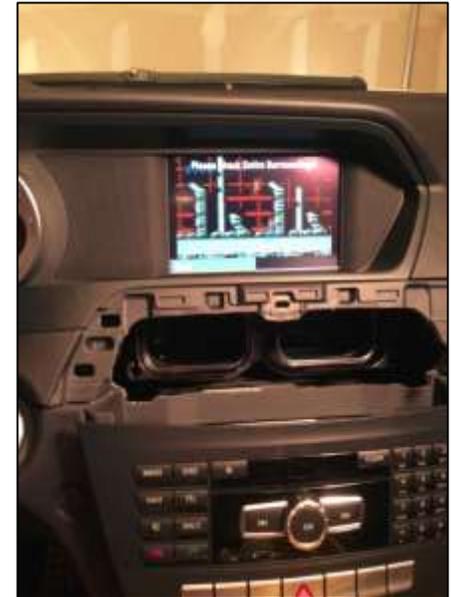
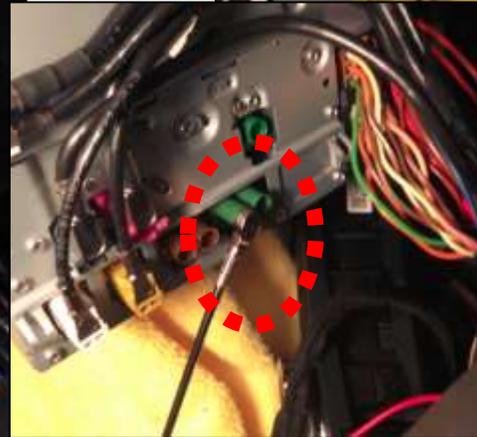
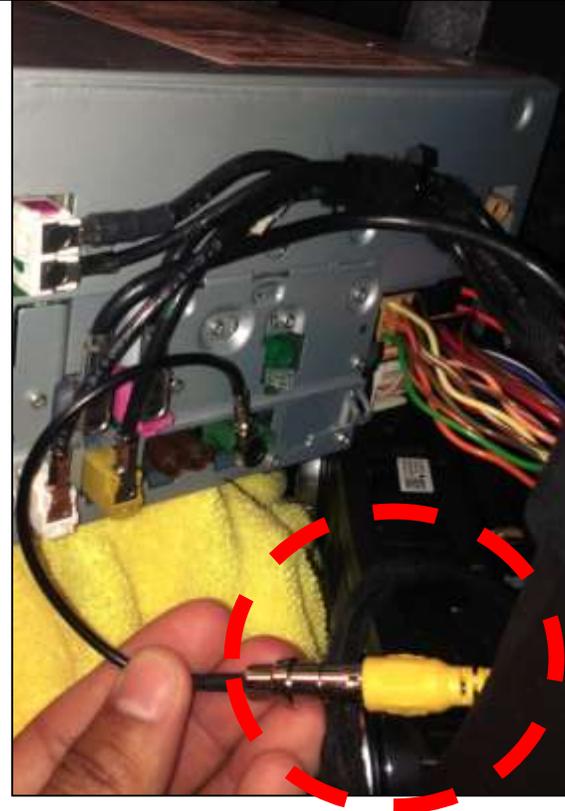
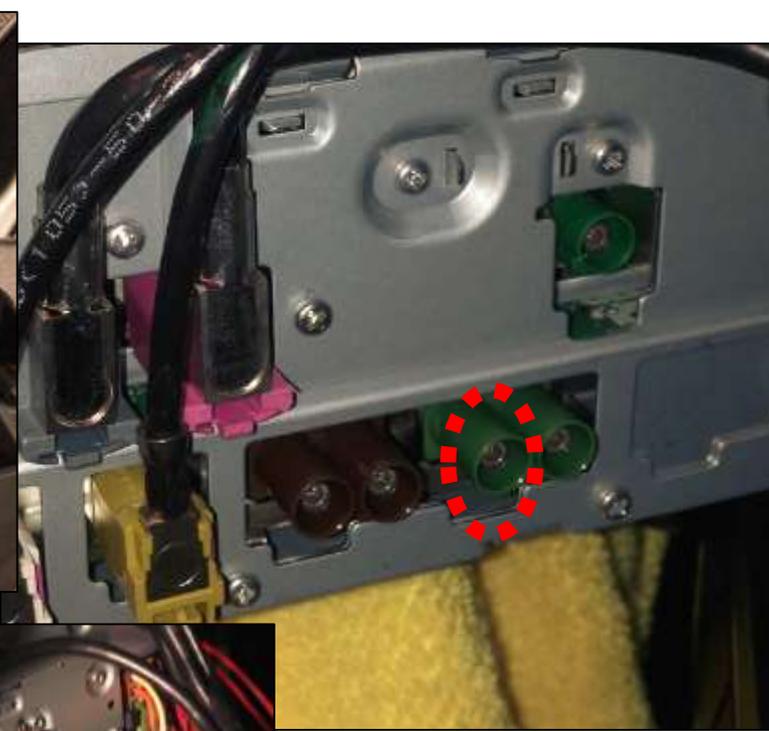
This video is very useful to remove the trim and the COMAND unit <http://youtu.be/tq6Sr6KwtMI>



Remove COMAND head unit and install FAKRA cable:

My FAKRA Cable came with a green plastic casing that I had to remove prior to connecting it. You may have to do the same.

6. Remove 2 screws on top of COMAND unit and push tabs down
7. The COMAND unit should slide out now. I just pulled the unit out enough for the installation and left all original cables in place. I put a towel over my shift knob and let the COMAND unit rest on it during install.
8. On the back-bottom of the unit you'll see 2 green FAKRA empty connections.
9. Connect FAKRA video in cable into the bottom most left connection
10. Test out your video feed. I brought an old Nintendo system and plugged it into the opposite end of the FAKRA connection to test it out. Turned the car on. Put it in reverse and powered on my Nintendo.
11. Connect your RCA Video (yellow) connection from your backup camera into the other end of the FAKRA cable.
12. If you bought the same camera as me there is an extra power (red) cable right next to the video in cable labeled DC 12v. I zip tied that wire to keep it neat but did not plug it into anything. I think since our head units switch to the video feed while in reverse, we don't have use for this cable.
13. If you're a neat freak like me do some wire management and route the cables through the passenger foot well.
14. Put COMAND unit back and trim back on.



Route the cables along the door lower door trim moldings and panels:

15. I routed my cables through the passenger footwell and along the plastic panels of the passenger side. I didn't remove any panels when routing the cables since the cables were so small that you can neatly tuck it underneath the panels.

16. Now once you've got the cable to the back passenger door you'll need to route the cable through the back seat and to the trunk.

Remove trunk trim.

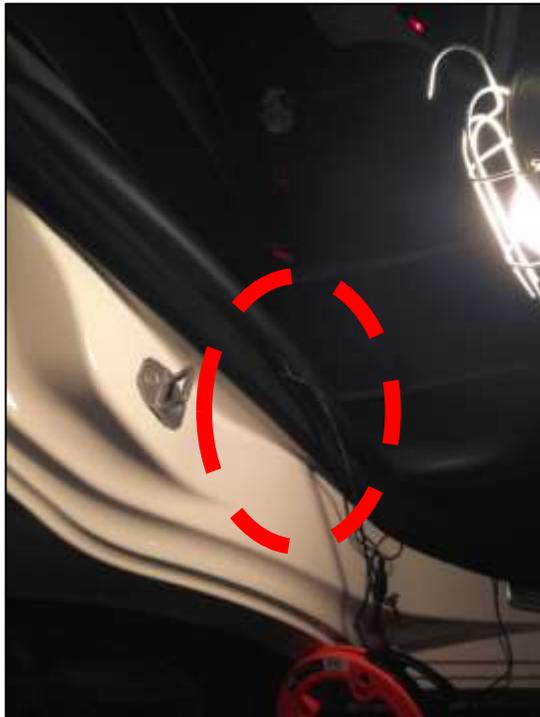
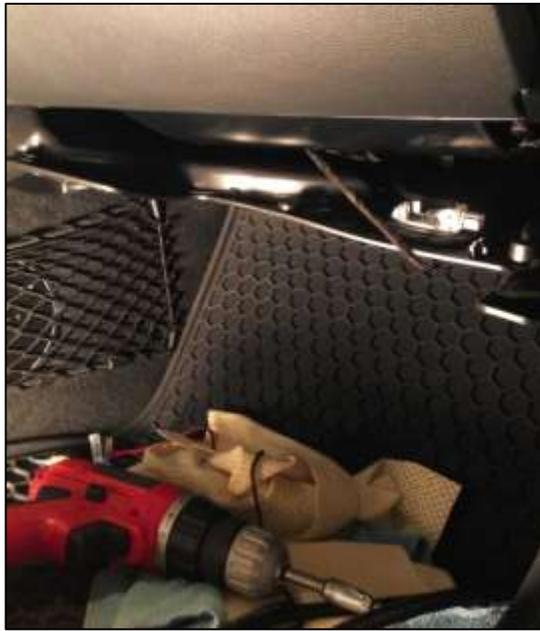
Remove the trim panels from the trunk. I removed the far right wall panel (this covers the Rear fuse box that we'll need to tap into later) and the floor panels of the trunk first. Then removed the actual panel liner from the trunk itself. I don't have pictures of this.... Sorry

Now that you have the trunk bare and exposed... Now go back in fish the wire through the backseat

Route cable to the trunk through the back seat.

17. This part was tricky. I used fishing tape. Taped my cables to the fishing tape and prodded my way through the side of the backseat. I prodded on the side of the backrest about halfway up until it poked through the to the trunk.

18. Once you've poked through the side of the back seat and to through the trunk pull all the wires into the trunk



Remove license plate light and Install camera on trunk:

19. Remove the trunk panels off of the trunk exposing the license plate and trunk handle wires
20. Remove the chrome bezel. There are clips holding the Chrome trim. Unclip and remove it.
21. Remove the right side license plate LED connection plug. Then remove the LED light. I selected the right side (as you stand behind vehicle and face trunk) LED bulb but I suppose you can do the left LED bulb if you preferred.
22. Insert camera into the license plate light hole and route wires towards the passenger side hinge of the trunk. Do cable management here.

Route and connect cables along the right side trunk hinge:

You'll notice that the camera comes in two separate pieces. The main camera piece is short in length and the video source connection is a very long cable in order to route to the front of the car.

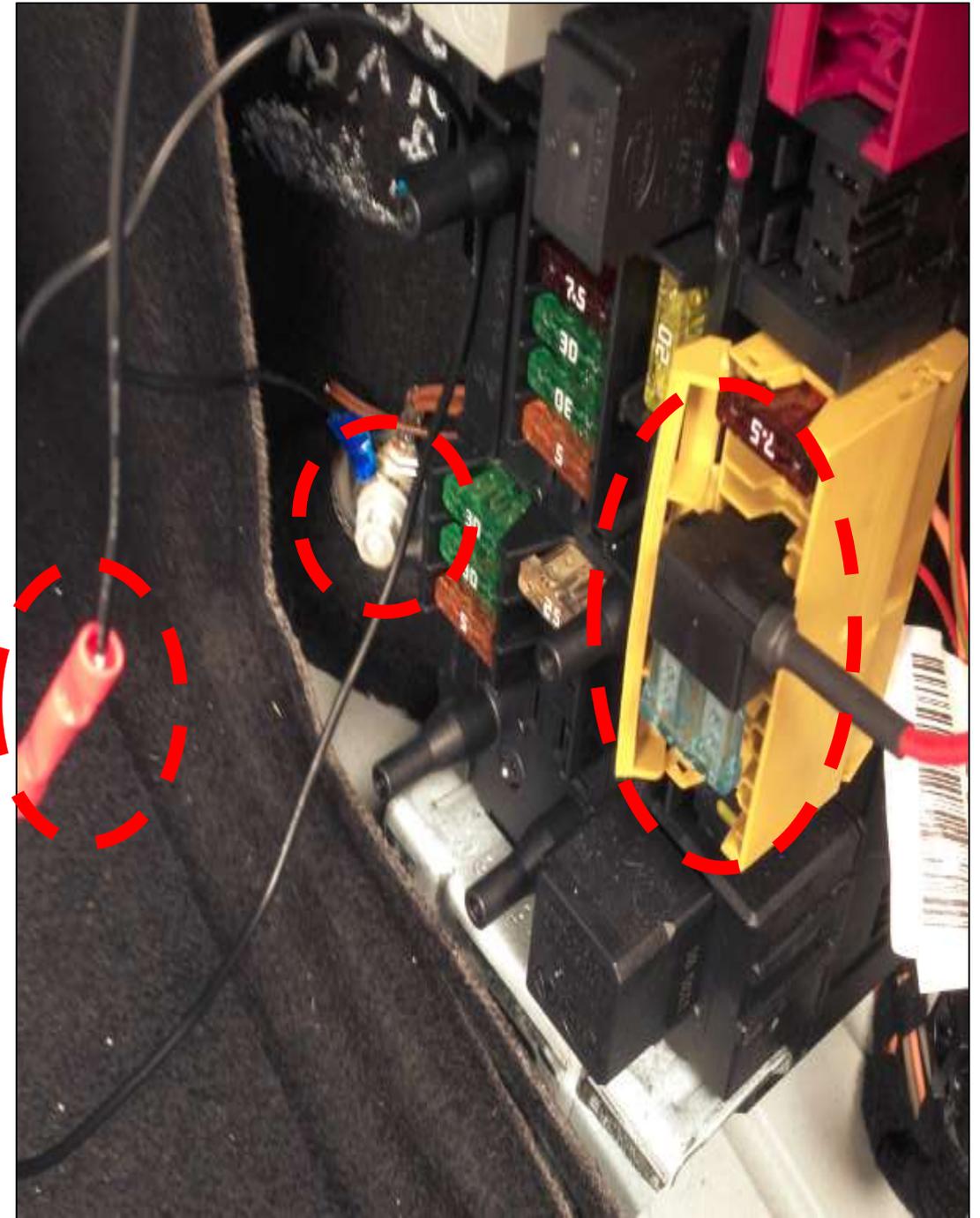
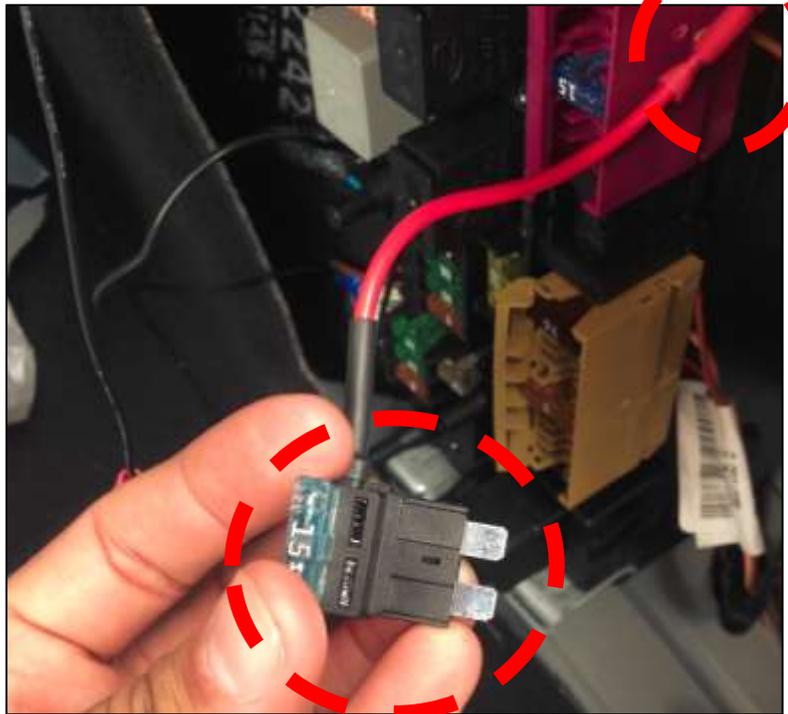
23. Once I finished zip tying the camera cables to the trunk, I left the end of the cables right about to where's the trunk hinge is.
24. Route the video cable (the cable connected to the COMAND head unit) up and to the trunk hinge and connect it to the matching yellow connection from the camera. Make sure to leave some slack as the cable will require some to open and close.
25. Connect the female red cable from the camera to the matching power red male cable.



Provide power to camera:

In short connect the red power cable from the camera to fuse #71 using the add a fuse and connect the black ground to the bare nut behind the SAM unit. This method will keep the camera "always on" but it's ok since the camera requires minimal amount of power. I've read others who tap into the reverse camera wire but I've read about too many issues of unstable power or flickering screens with this method.

NOTE: during this segment of the installation keep in mind that the cables routed down through the hinge of the trunk will need slack to allow the trunk to open and close. If you don't have enough leeway for the cable it'll bust apart the first time you close your trunk (it happened to me). Detailed instructions continued on next page...



Provide power to camera (Continued):

26. Since the positive and negative power cables provided with the camera were too short to reach the SAM unit (rear fuse box) you'll need to splice and extend both cables. I'd recommend 3-4 feet extra of each to be safe and account for built in slack and splicing errors.
27. Bring the black extended ground cable from the camera and attach it to the nut behind the SAM unit (it has several brown cables connected to it) . This nut is already being used as a ground for other items.
28. Bring the red extended section of the power cable from the camera and splice it into the add a circuit.
29. Connect the original fuse and add another new (size 15) fuse to the top of the add a circuit adaptor. 1 fuse is for the original cigarette lighter and the other is for the camera.
30. Remove the fuse from #71 of the SAM unit. This is the cigarette lighter fuse.
31. Connect the add a circuit module to fuse #71. I couldn't put the latch back down over the fuses so I had to rig it up by adding tape over the latch to hold it down. I've had no issues with this for over ~1.5 years now.
32. Turn on the car and give it a test. Do cable management and make sure to test open/closing your trunk to be sure the wires don't get snagged or pop because there isn't enough slack.
33. Put all the trim back and you're done!

