

AuxMod Basic Installation Instructions

Thank you for your purchase of AuxMod Basic. We hope that this product provides you with a seamless connection to your Mazda Radio for your listening pleasure.

We have designed AuxMod to be reasonably easy to use and install, as well as safe. This guide will outline the correct installation procedures to follow when installing the unit in a Mazda Radio. This guide assumes that you have the capability to remove and install the radio from your vehicle and that you can properly install the AuxMod. However, we can not be held responsible for any damages caused to or by AuxMod due to improper handling or installation, faulty wiring, negligence or any other cause beyond our control which may cause AuxMod or other components to malfunction.

We strongly suggest that if you do not feel completely comfortable installing this module on your own, that you hire a professional to install AuxMod for you.

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1.0 Installation Procedure

1.1 Preparation/Points to consider during installation

Before removing or disconnecting anything electrical in your car, disconnect the negative (- marked) battery terminal. Wait at least 5 minutes before disconnecting anything to allow the backup power to dissipate. You can easily short out sensitive electronic components including the Head Unit, rendering them inoperable if you do not.

While it is not extremely difficult to install the AuxMod, it is important to pay attention to details during the installation. First and foremost, you must take your time and not rush the installation. If you get frustrated, walk away for a second. A primary concern is keeping your vehicle in as good as or better condition than it was before the installation. Avoid using a screw driver or other sharp object to pry apart interior panels on visible edges, as damage to the surface could result. The best method is to use your fingers as much as possible to carefully lift one side of the panel, then grasp the part and carefully dislodge the other clasps on the part. However, it is sometimes necessary to use a screwdriver to press in the latch on the clasps. Be careful when removing the radio or other parts of the car, as it is easy to scratch, dent, or abrade other visible surfaces on the interior of your car. If necessary, use a rag or cloth to lay over the surface you would like to protect, or suspend the object with your hand while removing it. Keep the screws in a safe place, as it is easy to lose a screw under a mat or have it stick to you, only to lose it on the ground outside the car. Although they may sound like common sense, if these points are followed, you can enjoy the AuxMod while keeping your car in excellent condition.

Installation works best if the radio is at least 70°F (20°C) for the foam to stick to the back of the radio. If you are removing the radio from a cold car, allow at least 30 minutes for the radio to warm up to room temperature before installing the module.

1.2 Removal of Radio

The removal of the radio will depend on which Mazda vehicle model you own, but the radio itself is generally similar across the platforms.

You may find our radio removal instructions to be difficult to follow without pictures. We suggest that you follow one of the many Do-It-Yourself guides on the Internet. Following are the references to the Appendixes which provide a text based outline of the removal/reinstall procedure.

Appendix A: Mazda6 Radio removal instructions

RX-8:

There are many web sites which show detailed step by step instructions for removing the radio in great detail. We strongly recommend that you use one of these walkthroughs for your Radio Removal/Replacement procedure.

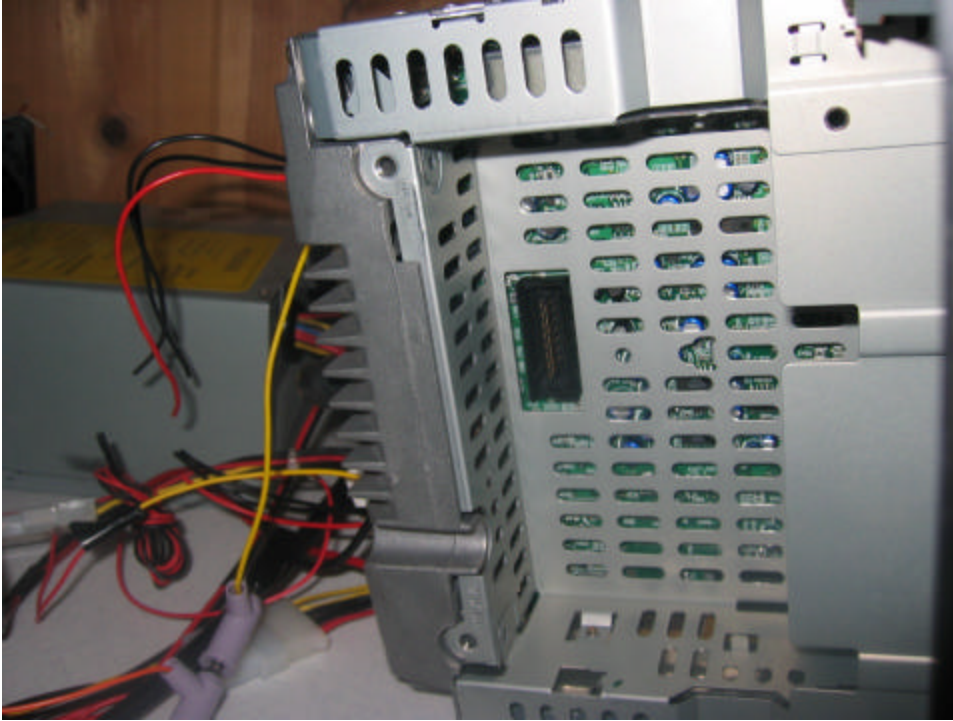
1.3 Removing any existing module in the Radio lower bay:

If your radio does not have a Tape module or Mini Disk module, then you don't have to follow this step and can skip ahead.

Removing the Head unit from the Face plate is necessary in order to remove either the Tape module or the MiniDisk. The instructions are slightly different depending on the head unit that you have, however they involve carefully separating the Head Unit from the Front panel with the buttons so that you can remove the module in the lower bay. Once the lower module is clear, the Radio can be re-assembled.

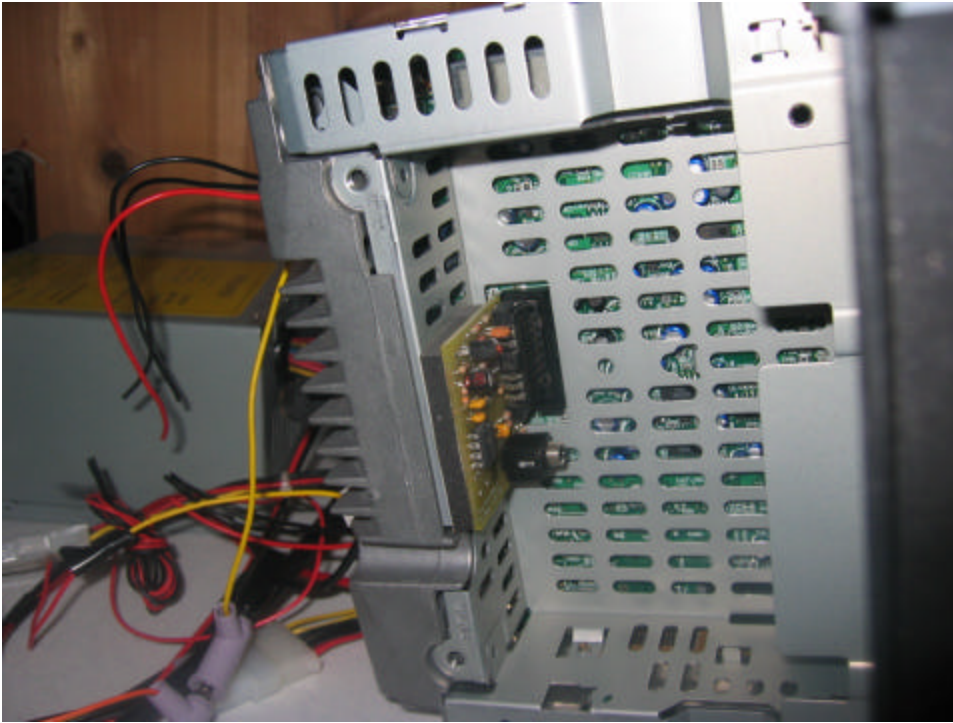
1.4 Installation of AuxMod:

Once the Head Unit is ready for the installation, it should look open like the head unit pictured below;



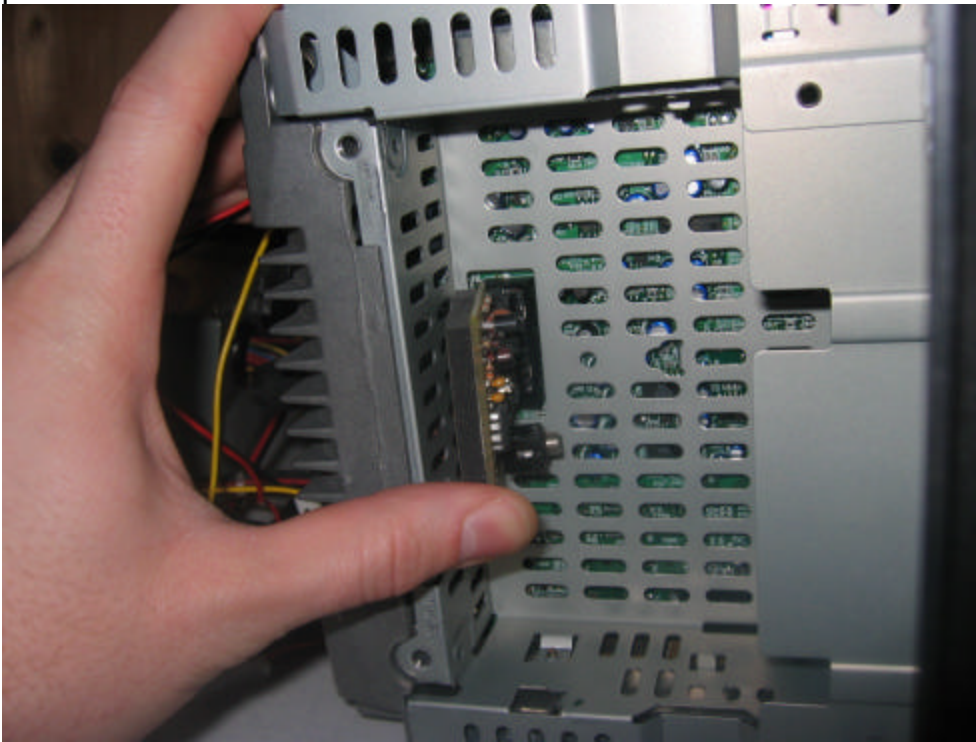
Important! When inserting and removing the module, ensure that the module is inserted straight into the connector. Do not plug the module in backwards and do not push the connector into the socket one side at a time, or slide the connector into place. Electrical charge built up in the Head Unit's capacitors can arc and damaging the head unit.

Test fit the AuxMod in the connector as shown:

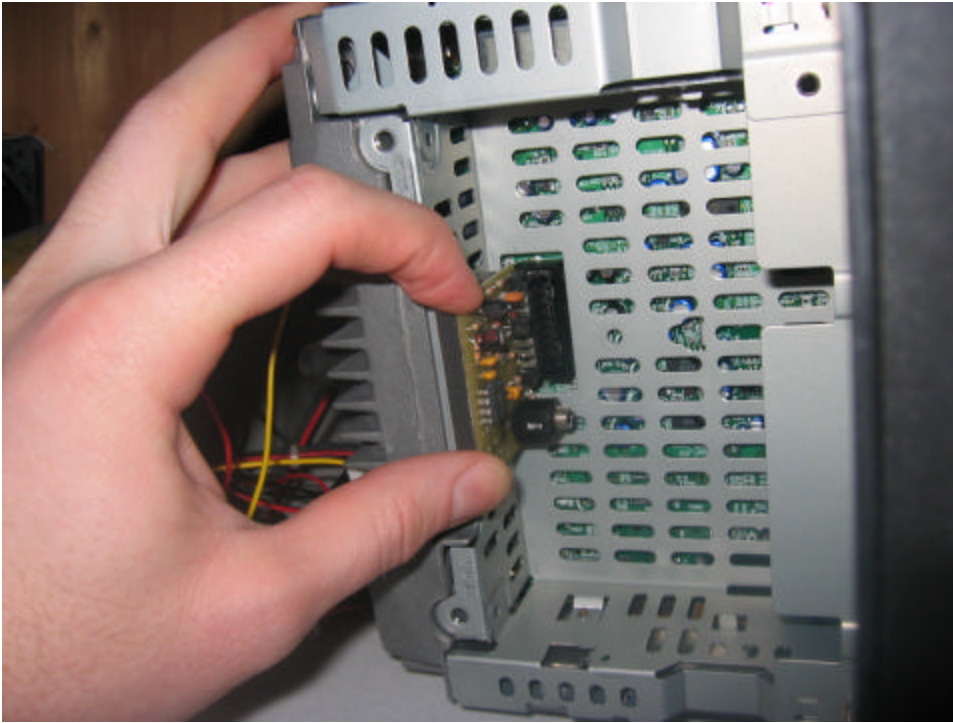


Remove the AuxMod module and then carefully clean the surface where the AuxMod will plug in with a rag slightly dampened with rubbing alcohol, or glass cleaner in order to prepare the surface for proper long-term adhesion. Ensure that the surface is completely dry and peel back the paper backing from the foam on AuxMod.

Place the Unit in the connector while also holding it away from the back of the radio as pictured:

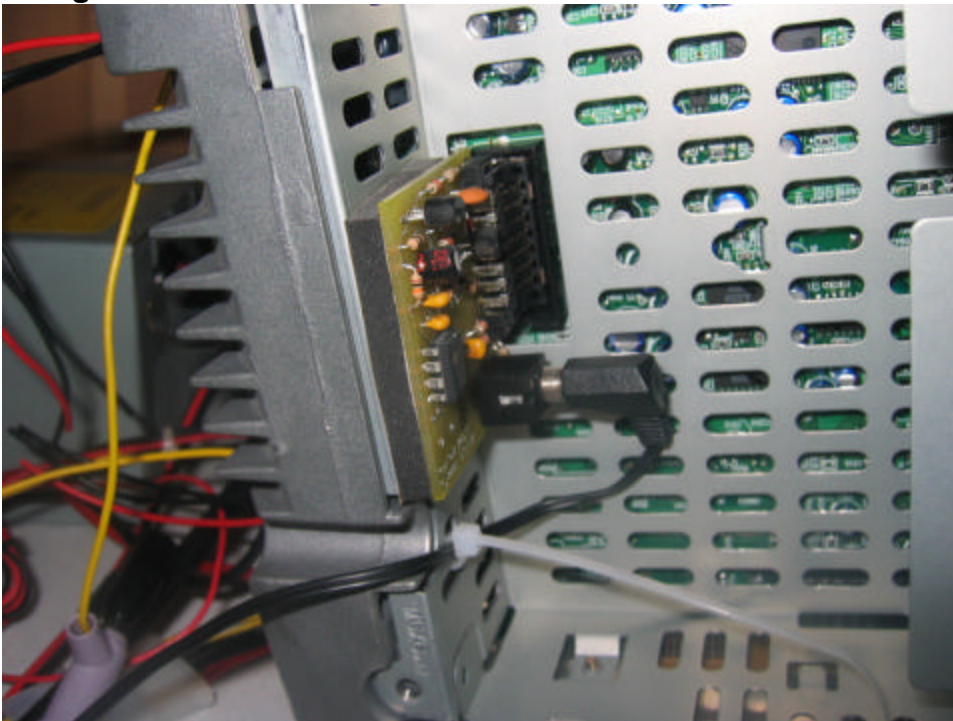


Then carefully ensure that the unit is fully inserted and press it towards the back surface of the radio:



Ensure that you don't press down on the exposed parts on the board. The components may be damaged or bend if you press on them too hard.

1.5 Securing the Audio Cable:



Finally put the Audio Cable into the mini stereo jack. You may find that the cable has a significant weight. We recommend using a plastic Zip-Tie to secure the Audio cable to the Head Unit housing to prevent the Cable from pulling on the AuxMod.

1.6 Installing the Audio Cable:

There are many possibilities for installing the Audio Cable in the vehicle. Depending on your application and vehicle several different opportunities may present themselves.

A standard 3.5mm (1/8") female Stereo mini plug is used on the AuxMod to accept audio from your source. Line-level and Speaker-level inputs can be used. If using speaker level inputs, ensure that your audio source has the volume at zero, or the minimum volume setting before connecting it.

1.7 Routing the wire in the vehicle:

Routing the cable to your final destination is best left up to you. Avoid sharp metal pieces behind the dash and under trim pieces as they may vibrate or cut the audio cable over time. If in doubt, secure the cable with additional ties, or run them where no exposed sharp metal edges exist.

The Audio wire can be routed to many places. The glove box is very close to the Head unit, and a 1 meter (3 feet) cable works well for this location. The center cup holders may also be idea. In most Mazdas, you will have to remove the trim panels in this location in order to remove the Head Unit, so it is a convenient choice.

The third option is installation of a stereo mini plug in the face of the trim piece. A 30cm (12 inch) leader with a male plug on the end will provide enough wire to extend the audio input to the lower module trim panel. Depending on your plans for use, one of these options should work for you.



1.8 Reinstallation of the Radio:

The reinstallation procedure is very much the same as the removal procedures, except in reverse order. You may find that it is difficult to connect all of the connectors on the back of the radio and still have enough room to fit your hand in the area. The connectors are difficult to fit, be careful, and take your time. It can be done!

2.0 Usage Instructions

2.1 Capabilities and functionality

From the initial design, AuxMod was designed to emulate the tape deck. You can access your new Aux-line in by pressing the Tape button when the Head unit is on. The module is designed so that it can respond to all the messages that the Head unit requests the tape module to perform.

AuxMod Basic does not have a control interface for PC remote control, or portable MP3 player control, therefore it can only receive messages from the head unit and relay them back to the head unit.

AuxMod Advanced is designed to interpret the messages to and from the Head unit, and relay these messages to a connected PC or a portable MP3 player. It will relay the actions of pressing the up & down buttons from the steering wheel, and the RPT (3) & PROG (4) buttons to the remote interface. It has the capability to sense when ignition is turned off, and send a message to the connected device to tell it to power down.

3.0 Troubleshooting

3.1 General Recommendations:

AuxMod can be damaged by improper handling. It is also possible to damage your Head Unit by improper installation.

1. Always make sure you have discharged and static electricity before handling sensitive electronics like the Head Unit or AuxMod. Touch an exposed part of the chassis when in the car before touching any electronics, and observe static safe handling precautions before working on electronic parts.
2. Never pull on a wire in the vehicle harness. The connectors can be removed only by pressing down on the retention clip. Pulling too hard on the wires can separate them from the connector.
3. The Radio has a fragile front panel connector. If you need to take the front panel off of your radio to remove a module from the lower module bay, make sure that when the panel is reinstalled that you insert it straightly into the main module, and do not press too hard. Too much force indicates that it may not be sitting correctly in the connector.
4. Take care of the parts that you take off when removing the radio. They can be scratched easily. Cover the gear shift lever with the gear knob once you have removed the trim panel. This lever can easily scratch your radio & other parts.
5. Do not plug AuxMod into the slot backwards, or one side at a time. Ensure that the module is inserted straight into the socket. Failure to follow this guideline can cause damage to the Head Unit

Appendix A

Mazda6:

External links with more details:

<http://www.mazda6tech.com/Articles/How-To/Remove-The-Center-Console-2.html>

Text Instructions:

Start by removing the cup holder panel which is located between the armrest and the gear shifter/selector. You can grasp one corner of the panel by sticking a finger in the hole which the e-brake emerges, and pulling up. Once you have the side of the panel nearest the armrest loose, you can separate it from the gear shifter/selector panel, by disengaging the two clasps which connect it to the gear shift/selector panel. Sometimes the gear shifter/selector panel will become loose before the cup holder panel is disengaged from it. This is fine, as you can then CAREFULLY stick a flathead screwdriver underneath the gear shifter/selector panel and press in the latch which is on clasp, while simultaneously pulling up on cup holder panel. The latch faces the front of the car. When using the screwdriver, you should try to grasp in near the blade, and you don't need the entire length of the driver. Next, remove the gear shifter/selector panel by pulling up and releasing the two clasps nearest the where the cup holder panel used to be. Now you will need to either unscrew the gear shift knob and lift the panel over the bag if you have a manual transmission or disassemble the gear selector arm if you have an automatic transmission. Then you will need to carefully angle the panel upward such that the cigarette lighter plug can move freely over the shifter/selector assembly. Now remove the cigarette lighter plug harness, by pressing in the latch on the connector and removing it. The ash tray light wires are most easily disconnected by removing the ash tray light assembly altogether. It is merely held on by two screws on the backside of the gear shifter/selector panel. Now the gear shifter/selector panel should be free to be removed, but immediately loosely replace the gear shift knob or gear selector arm so that nothing is scratched on the sharp edges of the shifter/selector rod. Next, there are two Phillips head screws which are at the very bottom of the radio faceplate, about where the silver plastic ends. Finally, there is one "theft protection" bolt located on the passenger side of the radio, which you will usually need to lift out the glove box to reach. Now the radio is ready for removal. You can pull out on the bottom of the radio panel until it loosens, and carefully slide it out. There are 5 harness connectors to disengage. The first is located near the top of the radio, which should be visible under the LCD display, and it is sticking out on a metal extension off the radio. It has a latch on the top of the connector. Next is the main power connector to the radio, located just below the first connector. It has a latch on the bottom of the connector. It is usually best to blindly search around the back of the radio with your hand until you find the latches on the connectors and pull them out. The third and fourth connectors are located near the bottom of the radio and have their latches on the top. Finally, there is an antenna connector to the left side of the radio, which will look like a black coax wire. It has no latch and can just be pulled out. That's it, you should be able to pull the radio out now and install the AuxMod.