



MBWorld.org Forums > Mercedes-Benz Sedans > C-Class (W203)  
**W203 Radio Hard Wired Aux (for my iPod)**

User Name \_\_\_\_\_ Remember Me?  
Password \_\_\_\_\_

Register    FAQ    Members List    Calendar    Marketplace    Search    Today's Posts    Mark Forums Read



View First Unread    Thread Tools    Search this Thread    Rate Thread    Display Modes

02-24-2003, 10:28 PM #1

**lovin\_my\_C230K**

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: College Station, TX  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
Posts: 219

**W203 Radio Hard Wired Aux (for my iPod)**

I did it!

First of all I must give all recognition to Cryptnotic. His information was the only way I could do this.

[Cryptnotics original thread](#)

What was done:

Hard wired an 1/8in aux cable to the **tape** deck of the w203 stereo. This gives much better sound quality than a **tape** adapter or an RF adapter. I did this to connect my **iPod** to my stereo.

I went ahead and took some pictures to help aid anyone who wanted to try Cryptnotics instruction.

[Pictures from my install](#)

The sound is great! If you have questions feel free to reply to this thread.

I may write more soon. But I'm gonna go for now. (Girlfriend is here)

...Can anyone read what song and artist is on the **iPod**?....



**lovin\_my\_C230K**  
-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
-2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
-Yamaha YSR50 [Racebike](#)

Last edited by lovin\_my\_C230K : 02-24-2003 at 10:36 PM.



02-25-2003, 01:17 AM #2

## Silver Lana

MBWorld Fanatic!



Join Date: Mar 2002  
Location: NY/NJ  
Vehicle I drive: Mercedes Benz  
C320, SLK 55 AMG  
Posts: 2,534



Loving my iPod in the car too.... Artist: MBWorld.org

W203  
R171 AMG



02-25-2003, 04:40 PM

#3

## C230 Sport Coup

Senior Member



Join Date: Jun 2002  
Location: San Jose, The Pit.  
Vehicle I drive: C230 Sports  
Coupe, Orion Blue, Oyster  
leater  
Posts: 469



Anybody have a schematic?

And is it possible to have Aux and keep the **tape** player functional?

Orion Blue 2002 -Oyster Leather  
C7 Sport Package- Fuzion (ie Bridgestone) Tires.  
5 spd auto -Panoramic Sunroof  
AMG Sways -Vogtland Springs  
Philips Vision Plus Lo  
Philips 80W Rally Hi  
Audio 10 from the Europimp- CD Changer  
AMG 4 piston Calipers- 13.6" rotors  
Ebrake cover from S- Class to match the other ones.



02-25-2003, 04:56 PM

#4

## VoyagerDude

Super Member



Join Date: Dec 2001  
Location: Calgary, AB, Canada  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230K,  
Silver, 6-speed, Evo, Roof,  
Leather, CD, Staggered C7  
Wheels  
Posts: 533



Perhaps it would be a good idea to install a switch into the glove compartment or ashtray that can toggle between **TAPE** and AUX.  
It would mean running a few more wires into that switch.

### VoyagerDude

'02 MB C230K/Silver/6-speed/Evo/Panoramic/Leather/CD/Bel985/StaggeredWheels  
'03 Ducati Monster 620ie/Silver



02-25-2003, 09:56 PM

#5

## martinacevedo

Member



Join Date: Nov 2002  
Location: Connecticut  
Posts: 228



### AUX IN WRITEUP

Excellent write up. Thanks for the pictures. Can you please post a picturer of what the audio cable looks like at the end. Does it end in two RCAs? 1/8" stereo (female)? Please post pic.  
Thanks!  
Martin-

P.S. I want to use this set up to install Sirius Sat Radio. Does anyone know what kind of audio input I need? (RCAs?).

### 2005 Brilliant Silver Exterior - Ash Interior C230K Sport Sedan

*Automatic, Sunroof Package, Entertainment Package, Heated Seats, OEM Sirius, OEM Motorola V60 Digital Phone, plus retrofitted US spec DVD COMAND courtesy of mbdactor.com*



02-27-2003, 01:11 AM

#6

## lovin\_my\_C230K

Member

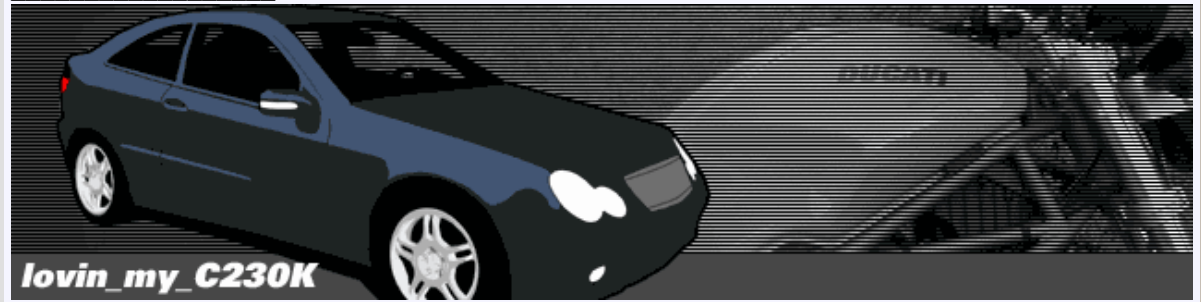


Join Date: May 2002  
Location: College Station, TX  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
Posts: 219

As of right now I have about a 4 foot cable coming out of the ashtray area that has a 1/8 male going directly into my **iPod**. In the future I will setup a firewire power connector and setup some sort of fancy harness to hold the **ipod** and conceal the wires a bit.

-Eric

Oooh have I been iPodding lateley! 🇺🇸



### lovin\_my\_C230K

-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
-2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
-Yamaha YSR50 Racebike



02-27-2003, 11:00 PM

#7

## Blaxer

Junior Member

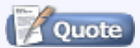


Join Date: Nov 2002  
Posts: 21

### You Da Man!

Hey Lovin\_my\_C230K Big Big shout out to you and Cryptnotic. Pulled my radio out tonight, modded it and about an hour and a half later I had aux inputs. Thanks so much! It sounds just as good as the 6 disc changer, if not better!

Blax...



02-28-2003, 01:25 AM

#8

## 20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: SF South Bay  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
Posts: 810

### HELPPPPPP!!!!!!!!!!

\$H!T, when I was about the put the things back, I saw two sockets for the top console control unit plug..... which socket should I plug into? The one on the left (1) or right (2)?????????

Thanks a million!!!!

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*  
One noisy blower...



02-28-2003, 06:11 AM

#9

## RI203

Junior Member



Join Date: Feb 2003  
Location: Rhode Island  
Vehicle I drive: 2001 C240  
Posts: 9

The right one or #2 on your pic

-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
2001 C240 Sport Package  
6-spd manual  
Brilliant Silver  
AMG Front Apron  
AMG Monoblock II  
Euro Comand



20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
 Location: SF South Bay  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
 Coupe  
 Posts: 810

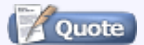
**MY VERSION**

Thanks everybody for the help and instructions!!!!!! Here is my version.

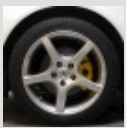
When not in use:

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...

20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
 Location: SF South Bay  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
 Coupe  
 Posts: 810



When needed, plug in a 1/8" (3.5 mm) male-to-male connector:

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...

lovin\_my\_C230K

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
 Location: College Station,  
 TX  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
 Coupe  
 Posts: 219



Nice work 20FHK02. I like it setup that way.

Clean!

-Eric



-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
 -2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
 -Yamaha YSR50 Racebike



## VoyagerDude

Super Member



Join Date: Dec 2001  
Location: Calgary, AB, Canada  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230K,  
Silver, 6-speed, Evo, Roof,  
Leather, CD, Staggered C7  
Wheels  
Posts: 533



Yeah looks clean!!

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to make an AUX input that is activated by the TEL button?

Come on geniuses, make it happen, please 😊

---

### VoyagerDude

'02 MB C230K/Silver/6-speed/Evo/Panoramic/Leather/CD/Bel985/StaggeredWheels  
'03 Ducati Monster 620ie/Silver



02-28-2003, 01:01 PM

#14

## 20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: SF South Bay  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 810



But nothing could be done without your pictures! 🙏🙏🙏

Cryptnotic's instruction was good but too technical for my understanding without figures heheee...

BTW, this is the mounting kit that I made:

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...



02-28-2003, 01:02 PM

#15

## 20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: SF South Bay  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 810



Quote:

*Originally posted by VoyagerDude*

**Wouldn't it be nice to be able to make an AUX input that is activated by the TEL button?**

And make them switchable too!

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...



02-28-2003, 01:07 PM

#16

## VoyagerDude

Super Member



Join Date: Dec 2001  
Location: Calgary, AB, Canada  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230K,  
Silver, 6-speed, Evo, Roof,  
Leather, CD, Staggered C7  
Wheels  
Posts: 533



Exactly!

I challenge all the bright people here 😊

Can you do it? 😊

Quote:

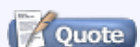
*Originally posted by 20FHK02*

**And make them switchable too!**

---

### VoyagerDude

'02 MB C230K/Silver/6-speed/Evo/Panoramic/Leather/CD/Bel985/StaggeredWheels  
'03 Ducati Monster 620ie/Silver



02-28-2003, 01:10 PM

#17

## 20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: SF South Bay  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 810

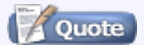
Quote:

*Originally posted by VoyagerDude*  
**Exactly!**

**I challenge all the bright people here 😊  
Can you do it? 😊**

Me?? I need instructions and pictures please! 🙄🙄

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*  
One noisy blower...



03-25-2003, 02:02 PM

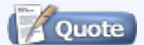
#18

taylor192  
Guest

Posts: n/a

Would the same install be possible on the Audo 10 CD player?

I assume tat the CD player does share the basic design principles as the cassette after the D/As convert the digital music into an audio signal... without a CD in, those audio lines could be driven by an external source, but is the rest of the audio path still on? When a CD isn't playing there appears to be no noise emitted from thespeakers, thus making me think the audio output paths become grounded when a CD isn't spinning... more research needed...



03-27-2003, 03:08 PM

#19

## peet

Super Member



Join Date: Jun 2002  
Location: Chicagoland, IL  
Vehicle I drive: 2003 C230k  
Posts: 595

I wired a pair of RCA's to my Audio 30. Then I hooked up a 1/8 male to dual RCA and ran the cable into the ashtray area. Took out the ash tray and lo and behold, the **ipod** while plugged in fits in there. So when I am out of the car, it's hidden by the ashtray door, and when I am in the car the pod sits on the cover for the cupholder.

Peet

2003 C230K SEDAN! - C2, C4, 6spd, Heated  
Seats, Bixenon - Black on Black, C32 Brakes.

-----



03-28-2003, 06:00 PM

#20

## Cryptnotic

Member

Join Date: Jan 2002  
Location: Mallibu, CA  
Posts: 131

**wow... I'm so proud right now...**

I'm so glad that people actually tried my directions and were able to follow them and modify the radio for an AUX input. And I'm really glad that someone took pictures along the way (unlike me). Hopefully in the future, auto manufacturers will just make AUX input jacks standard on all car radios.

2002 C230K Sportcoupe, Capri Blue, Charcoal Leather, 6-speed, C2, C7



04-20-2003, 10:44 AM

#21

## mercdude

Junior Member

Join Date: Oct 2002  
Posts: 8

**? What happen?**

Hi guys, congratulations on such an excellent findings!

Just a quick questions before I commence the surgery on my radio;

1. What happen if I don't cut the trace and just solder the coax, will the aux input work?
2. What about leaving the power to the motor intact, will it affect anything?

Any information is greatly appreciate it.

Thanks heaps!



lovin\_my\_C230K

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
 Location: College Station, TX  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
 Posts: 219

Quote:

1. What happen if I don't cut the trace and just solder the coax, will the aux input work?

I would think that you could have problems with power going TO the **tape** controller. (as apposed to coming out of) I'm not possitive. The best way to do it would be to setup some sort of switch to control what imput going to the stereo.

Quote:

2. What about leaving the power to the motor intact, will it affect anything?

It shouldn't. It would just be running all the time.

Good Luck.

-Eric



-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
 -2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
 -Yamaha YSR50 Racebike

20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
 Location: SF South Bay  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
 Posts: 810

**Re: What happen?**

Quote:

*Originally posted by mercdude*

2. What about leaving the power to the motor intact, will it affect anything?

I think this will affect the playback. Say, if you eject the **tape** from the deck, then the unit will cut off any signal sending through the line.

And, if you leave the **tape** inside then it will be turned because the motors are still connected.

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...





## mercdude

Junior Member

Join Date: Oct 2002  
Posts: 8

### Switch..

Thanks again for the information guys!

I will put a switch for sure then.

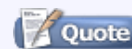
I am thinking of using this switch because my car doesn't have this option (I think is something to do with the car alarm) so I could go to the delaer & get this switch, make it look like stock.

From what I can understand the back of these switches are concealed in the trim panel.

I may need to put a relay to swith the L + R coax and the 2 negative power for the motor

Have anyone ever work with these switches?

Thanks!



05-30-2003, 12:43 AM

#25

## Buellwinkle

MBWorld Fanatic!



Join Date: Nov 2001  
Location: Laguna Niguel, CA  
Posts: 4,764

That switch may be momentary SPST to trip a relay so it won't suit your needs. You need a different kind of switch altogether. First off you cut the wire on on two motors and 2 traces. You can probably combine the 2 ground wires to the motor as one. So you need a switch that will close these 3 circuits independently with one flip of a switch. This is called a triple pole, single throw (3PST) switch. I checked RadioShack.com but they don't have any multiple pole single throw switches so a comprehensive electronics store would be the place to go to.

2004.5 C230K Sport Sedan - Pewter/Charcoal - 6-spd - Comand

[www.Buellwinkle.com](http://www.Buellwinkle.com)



06-01-2003, 01:15 AM

#26

## peet

Super Member



Join Date: Jun 2002  
Location: Chicagoland, IL  
Vehicle I drive: 2003 C230k  
Posts: 595

Also according to SteveNL the switches are an array not singles. I can relate as taking these apart numerous times (audio 30 out, audio 10 in, audio 10 out, audio 30 in, dealer replaces audio 30, audio 30 out, **ipod** mod, audio 30 in) the switch banks are just that large pods of multiple switches. Can't get just one.

Also that tow switch - if there you probably have it (unless your in Canada?) then I think it's optional.

Peet

2003 C230K SEDAN! - C2, C4, 6spd, Heated Seats, Bixenon - Black on Black, C32 Brakes.

-----



06-09-2004, 09:15 AM

#27

## wrio

Junior Member

Join Date: May 2004  
Location: Boston,MA & Orlando, FL  
Vehicle I drive: slk 230 - 2001  
Posts: 12

### Page is down?

Hi "lovin\_my\_C230K"

I'm thinking about instaling an aux input in the head unit of my slk 230, 2001 and I was looking at the info you posted. It seems that the page with the pictures you took is down. If you have the pictures would you mind e-mailing them to me? - [flanders@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:flanders@fas.harvard.edu)

Thanks!  
Wil

*Last edited by wrio : 06-09-2004 at 09:18 AM.*



06-10-2004, 01:52 PM

#28



## lovin\_my\_C230K

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: College Station,  
TX  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 219

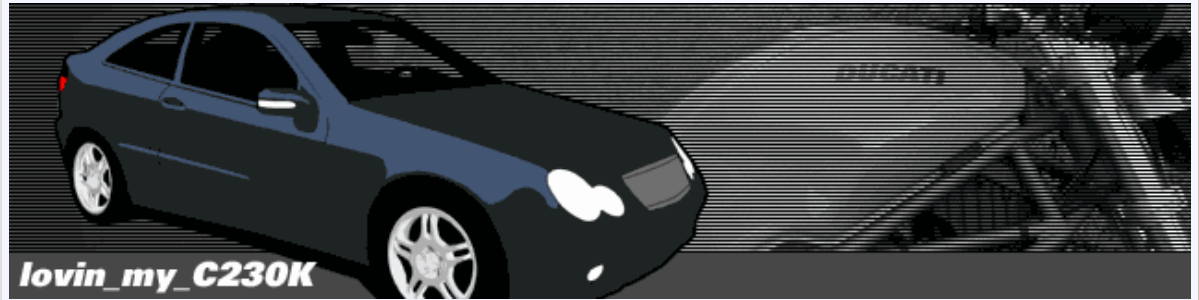
sorry guys. my isp changed my static IP address.

Here's the page.

<http://66.15.182.201/w203aux/>

enjoy. As i can't.

My c230 is totalled. I ran through about 6 inches of water and the kompressor sucked all she could into the motor. 🙄



-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
-2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
-Yamaha YSR50 Racebike



06-10-2004, 03:01 PM

#29

## CitronC230K\_03

MBWorld Fanatic!



Join Date: Oct 2002  
Location: San Diego, Ca  
Vehicle I drive: 2003 Citron  
Green C230KMT  
Posts: 7,063



looks really good. do you keep that aux plug out so you can plug in other devices as well?



OEM Mods: Convex Mirrors, Illuminated DoorSills, SL E-Brake Pad, W211 Indicators, COMAND, AMG Sways, 2005  
Taillights/Grill, 2004 AeroWipers, Climatronic, Electronic Folding Mirrors, AMG Frt Brakes, Parktronic (Full), 2004  
armrest, UHI, Linguatronic, OEM FireExtinguisher, InteriorMotionSensor (tbi)

Mods: 20mm Spacers, Silver Mesh

Scheduled Mods: CLK Heated/Vented Orthopedic Seats, AMG bumpers/spoiler/DoorTrim, MB Sirius



09-02-2004, 07:20 PM

#30

## PaCMaYNE

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Sep 2004  
Posts: 49



Just curious if anyone has done this for a 99-00 C230K with NO **tape** deck!??



09-06-2004, 10:57 PM

#31

## pshek

Almost a Member!



Join Date: Jul 2004  
Location: Orange, CA.  
Vehicle I drive: 2003 C320  
Coupe  
Posts: 65



I modded my audio 30 head unit for the aux input, but I have a couple problems. The connection works and the music sounds much better now, but when I connect my mp3 player to the DC power adapter, there is a lot of background noise. I think the noise is because the DC current is poorly filtered. If I do not connect the power to my mp3 player, there is no noise. I placed a ferrite core filter around the audio cable, but it doesn't seem to help. Can anybody suggest a way to remove the noise and still power my mp3 player? Another problem I noticed is that my head unit will sometimes display a "no tape" message, especially if my mp3 is not powered on. Does there have to be a signal to the **tape** deck in order for it to recognize it, or did I mess up the mod?

Thanks



09-11-2004, 07:43 PM

#32

## PaCMaYNE

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Sep 2004  
Posts: 49



I would suggest another power adapter, i have a simlair hook up when not using my carputer (current FM MOD until i actually mod the **tape** deck) and i had the same prob, new adapter nothing. No real grounding techniques here.



09-11-2004, 11:37 PM

#33

## PaCMaYNE

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Sep 2004  
Posts: 49



im wondering how simlair the w202 and w203 boards are,, as i want to do this to my 99C230 and get rid of my FM MODULATOR. Anyone have any info on this? THanks guys.. a lot

*Last edited by PaCMaYNE : 09-12-2004 at 11:00 PM.*



09-12-2004, 11:42 PM

#34

## PaCMaYNE

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Sep 2004  
Posts: 49



Hello there bud. I have been researching doing an AUX input on my head unit for a few weeks, and i finlaly decided to give it a shot.

The difference is i have a w202 head unit as yours was a w203,, so since i hav removed everything i notice the board is a lot different and placed differently.

My **Tape** board has much fewer traces and chips, but its obvious where the 5 wire ribbon cable comes into on the board. There are 5 wires running from the Head of the **tape** player to the board, then 4 traces running from the board to the port that plugs into the main board. So i thought that maybe the Head units were simlair, and that i could wire in a wire to trace 1 and 3, i as well disconnect the negaive of eatch motor. I found after disconnecting the negative on the **tape** rotating motor that when pushing **tape** it will go to **tape**,, say side 1, then go back to radio. I am not sure if this is happening because i didnt cut the traces, and that maybe the Head is trying to read from the **tape** but cannot as its not turning,, and therefore cuasing it to go back into radio. But i was able to play a blank **tape** with the **tape** motor running to listen how wires 1 and 3 sounded, and i found that 1 is a high end input and 3 is i believe a low, or unamplified input.

I guess my question on the matter is if you would maybe tell me IF the w203( since i dont have one to refrence) had the 5 wires from the head to the board, and if so what eatch wire did? And before i cut any traces is in cutting them for the w203 whats making the **tape** to be able to not be spinning and think it still is allowing for an input to be introduced. Also if so what trace is being cut? i know for the w203 trace 1 and 3 are cut then wired into, but what exactly is trace 1 and 3 on the w203 board?

Anyways any help on this would be greatly appreciated, especially anything i may have left out, in helping me if im able to figure this out i could then post my findings for the w202 guys like myself who dont really have any directions,, I very much appreciate it maYne.



09-19-2004, 01:19 AM

#35

## pshek

Almost a Member!



Join Date: Jul 2004  
Location: Orange, CA.  
Vehicle I drive: 2003 C320 Coupe  
Posts: 65



I bought a ground loop isolator cable and hard wired it into the aux input connection of my mod. This cable can be bought for about \$17 from Radio Shack. I highly recommend that people buy this if they plan on modding their audio30 head unit, especially if they plan on attaching their **ipod** or other mp3 player to their car's 12-volt power. I found out that a car's 12 volt power does not have a clean ground connection and introduces engine noise and humming into the audio signal. The ground loop isolator worked perfectly and there is no perceptible noise at all.



12-09-2004, 04:11 PM

#36

## Elvis Presley

Junior Member

Join Date: Nov 2004  
Posts: 22



### W210 Radio

Does anyone know if a 2001 210 (wagon) body radio would have the same **tape** transport?  
Thanks



09-05-2005, 01:53 AM

#37

## jamesnajera

Junior Member

Join Date: Mar 2003  
Location: San Diego  
Vehicle I drive: 03 C230K Sport Sedan  
Posts: 18



Could you just run the ground wires from the two motors to short pins 1 and 3? If so, could that make it easier to install a switch? Just a thought.

I like my car. Be original, keep it stock :)

<http://www.mybiologica.com>

biologica, mesotherapy, botox



[« Previous Thread](#) | [Next Thread »](#)

Thread Tools	Search this Thread
<a href="#">Show Printable Version</a> <a href="#">Email this Page</a>	<b>Search this Thread:</b>  <a href="#">Advanced Search</a>
Display Modes	Rate This Thread
<a href="#">Linear Mode</a> <a href="#">Switch to Hybrid Mode</a> <a href="#">Switch to Threaded Mode</a>	<b>Rate This Thread:</b>

**Posting Rules**

You **may not** post new threads  
 You **may not** post replies  
 You **may not** post attachments  
 You **may not** edit your posts

---

vB code is **On**  
 Smilies are **On**  
 [IMG] code is **On**  
 HTML code is **Off**

[Forum Jump](#)

All times are GMT -4. The time now is 09:05 AM.



MBWorld.org Forums > Technical & Vehicle Assistance Forums > Audio & Electronics  
**AUX in on W203 radio modification complete!**

User Name  Remember Me?  
Password

[Register](#) [FAQ](#) [Members List](#) [Calendar](#) [Marketplace](#) [Search](#) [Today's Posts](#) [Mark Forums Read](#)



[Thread Tools](#) [Search this Thread](#) [Rate Thread](#) [Display Modes](#)

12-13-2002, 04:04 AM

#1

## Cryptnotic

Member

Join Date: Jan 2002  
Location: Malibu, CA  
Posts: 131



### AUX in on W203 radio modification complete!

Well, I finished my aux in adaptation on my W203 radio. I killed the tape playing functionality.

Here are the steps involved for those interested:

0. Insert tape into W203 radio while power is available to the radio.
1. Remove W203 radio.
2. Remove screws from top panel.
3. Remove screws from cassette mechanism.
4. Remove cassette mechanism.
5. Cut or desolder ground wires going to the motors on the cassette mechanism (there are two motors).
6. There is a trace to cut on the tape mechanism board and a surface mount resistor to remove in order to get pins 1 and 3 on the ribbon connector to be disconnected from the tape mechanism board.
7. Cut one end off of an RCA cable, preferably the type with twisted pairs of wires inside a somewhat hollow sheath.
8. Figure out a way to run that cable in through the back of the radio.
9. Solder the left channel wire to pin 1 on the tape mech ribbon cable.
10. Solder the right channel to pin 3 on the tape mech ribbon cable.
11. Close everything up and reinstall with the end of the RCA cable sticking out somewhere useful like into the glovebox or ashtray. You could maybe run it under the center console past the shifter to the center storage area or the cup holder spot.

Anyway, that's the mod. Here's how it works. You just switch to tape mode and the tape doesn't spin (because there's no power to the motors) and you don't hear anything from the tape (because the tape mech board is disconnected from the output going to the radio's main board). Instead your input goes through the RCA's into the radio in place of the tape audio. The radio doesn't even notice that the tape is essentially "stuck".

I haven't had any problems yet. If you try this, it is at your own risk. This post should not be taken as any kind of guarantee of the feasibility or practicality of this modification.

All I can say is, "works for me".

(of course, an optical AUX-in adapter would still be better).

2002 C230K Sportcoupe, Capri Blue, Charcoal Leather, 6-speed, C2, C7



12-15-2002, 05:14 PM

#2

## jules

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Nov 2001  
Location: Mid Atlantic  
Vehicle I drive: '02 C240/6  
Posts: 45

### Sounds exciting! Is the aux in digital coax?

You mention one RCA cable and splitting off the right and left channels from the one cable. This makes me think that you actually have a digital coax. Is this so? If it is not digital, what kind of sound quality do you get as compared to using a cassette adaptor?



12-15-2002, 08:22 PM

#3

### Cryptnotic

Member

Join Date: Jan 2002  
Location: Malibu, CA  
Posts: 131

I used a stereo RCA cable (two RCA connectors on each end). Cut one end off and strip the wires so you get 4 wires: left, left-ground, right, and right-ground.

The quality is better than what you would get through a cassette adaptor since you skip the tape adapter transducer stage as well as the tape pickup and amplification stage. The signal goes straight from the new aux-in cable to the main board of the receiver.

I didn't mention this, but I also cut out the amplifier circuit and wired the outputs to be line-level outputs instead. I looked up the specs on that amplifier (ST TDA7454, if I recall), and it is a "high-efficiency" amplifier, which usually also means "high distortion". Anyway, I now have line-outs going to an external amplifier and the external amplifier driving some decent speakers.

2002 C230K Sportcoupe, Capri Blue, Charcoal Leather, 6-speed, C2, C7



01-16-2003, 04:40 PM

#4

### ice777

Junior Member

Join Date: Oct 2002  
Location: Vancouver, B.C.  
Posts: 12

Cryptnotic,

could you supply some details on how you bypass the amplifier circuit to get line-outs from the HU? thanks in advance!

C230 2002 SILVER AUTO PANORAMA CD CHARCOAL H&R HIDSTAGE I  
ML320 2000  
S500 1997  
tacoma 2000  
CRV 2000



01-17-2003, 01:17 PM

#5

### Cryptnotic

Member

Join Date: Jan 2002  
Location: Malibu, CA  
Posts: 131

I used a desoldering tool to remove the amplifier chip from the board. I looked up the data sheet for the chip (It is an STMicro TDA series part) and found what the input and output pins were. If I recall, I had to remove some filtering capacitors.

Anyway, after that, I just traced the signals on the board and jumped the preamp signals out to the traces that go to the 8-pin

2002 C230K Sportcoupe, Capri Blue, Charcoal Leather, 6-speed, C2, C7



01-18-2003, 05:50 PM

#6

### oktane

Almost a Member!

Join Date: Oct 2002  
Location: S. California  
Posts: 68

Cryptnotic,

Nice work. Do you have any pictures of this available?

Is there any way to retain the tape player functionality without using a switch and without risking damage to the preamp stage of the radio?

Thanks.



01-19-2003, 04:08 AM

#7

### ice777

Junior Member

Join Date: Oct 2002  
Location: Vancouver, B.C.  
Posts: 12

yes, could you please provide a picture or give some details of exactly which pin goes into the amplifier chip? i want to get a cleaner signal for my sub.

thanks 🙏

C230 2002 SILVER AUTO PANORAMA CD CHARCOAL H&R HIDSTAGE I  
ML320 2000  
S500 1997  
tacoma 2000  
CRV 2000



Cryptnotic

Member

Join Date: Jan 2002  
 Location: Malibu, CA  
 Posts: 131

I should have taken pictures as I went along... oh well... maybe next time I take apart the head unit I'll try to document it.

Here's the ST web site document for the amplifier chip...

<http://eu.st.com/stonline/books/pdf/docs/1775.pdf>

The part number is TDA7454. That document should give you all you need on the inputs and outputs of the chip.

2002 C230K Sportcoupe, Capri Blue, Charcoal Leather, 6-speed, C2, C7

AMGrider

Member

Join Date: Jan 2003  
 Location: Cali(310)&Chicago  
 (312)  
 Vehicle I drive: First widebody  
 C32 AMG  
 Posts: 246



yo guys this is my C32 AMG with custum sound system

yea this is my "HOT" custom sound system...

JL 12W6 x2

Xtant 600W x2

performance technique 1200W x1

eclipse AV8022 7" motorized LCD screen

also i dynomated my car to prevent raddling....

and some people wanna know if dynomat worth it.....and i say...dynomat is crazy....its so nice....the car doesnt raddles at all!

but one bad thing is that you can here anything out side of your car....like if u have crazy sound system and u cant show off..you cant here ur system bumping at out side of ur car.

~~~but is good^^

Mercedes

MBWorld Fanatic!



Join Date: Sep 2002  
 Location: Orlando, Florida  
 Vehicle I drive: 2003 C230K  
 Posts: 1,555

English please. Thanks 😊

hercules

Junior Member

Join Date: Jan 2003  
 Location: London  
 Vehicle I drive: W203 C200K-  
 2003  
 Posts: 4

TDA????

Hello Cryptonic 😊

I have today desmantle my audio10 cassette radio and noticed that the IC amp is a TDA8568Q wich is alower specifcation of the one that you mentionned in the forum. Do you know if the cassette or the CD version use a different IC amp?:rolleyes

AMGrider

Member

Join Date: Jan 2003  
 Location: Cali(310)&Chicago  
 (312)  
 Vehicle I drive: First widebody  
 C32 AMG  
 Posts: 246



**To MERCEDES**

yo MERCEDES what u mean by "English please"?  
 what the F\*ck are u trying to say?

01-26-2003, 09:17 PM

#13

Kal Rubinson

Member

Join Date: Jul 2002  
 Location: NYC + CT  
 Vehicle I drive: 2002 C320  
 Sport Wagon  
 Posts: 203

Re: yo guys this is my C32 AMG with custum sound system

Quote:

*Originally posted by AMGrider*

**also i dynomated my car to prevent raddling....  
 and some people wanna know if dynomat worth it.....and i say...dynomat is  
 crazy....its so nice....the car doesnt raddles at all!  
 but one bad thing is that you cant here anything out side of your car....like if u  
 have crazy sound system and u cant show off..you cant here ur system  
 bumping at out side of ur car. ~ ~ ~but is good ^ ^**

I, too, find this text strange and uncommunicative.

2002 C320 SportWagon, Black/Java Leather, C2, C4,6cd changer

01-27-2003, 01:27 AM

#14

AMGrider

Member

Join Date: Jan 2003  
 Location: Cali(310)&Chicago  
 (312)  
 Vehicle I drive: First widebody  
 C32 AMG  
 Posts: 246



u know what

i wasnt here.....i came here like 4yrs ago...wht u call F.O.B

okay? when u see somebody who doesnt speak english very well...stop f\*ckin disparage them

01-27-2003, 02:07 AM

#15

awiner

Administrator



Join Date: Nov 2001  
 Location: Southern California,  
 USA  
 Vehicle I drive: 2003 CL55  
 AMG  
 Posts: 4,770

CHILL on all the potty language AMGrider. This is your first and last warning.



**Adam**  
**MBWorld Forum Administrator**

**2003 CL55  V8 Kompressor**

Parktronic, v60 Phone, Keyless Go, Trunk Closer, Painted Front Side Lenses  
 MP Designs Sport Steering Wheel, 19" HRE 847R's, Brabus Lowering Module  
 Ice>Link Plus iPod Photo 40GB Color Integration into Factory COMAND

01-27-2003, 08:51 AM

#16



## Kal Rubinson

Member

Join Date: Jul 2002  
Location: NYC + CT  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C320  
Sport Wagon  
Posts: 203

Quote:

*Originally posted by AMGrider*  
**but one bad thing is that you can here anything out side of your car....like if u have crazy sound system and u cant show off..you cant here ur system bumping at out side of ur car. ~ ~ ~but is good ^^**

Not trying to disparage you, just to understand. The spelling aside, I cannot determine what you mean. Do you want to hear the sound of your car's system outside the car or not?

2002 C320 SportWagon, Black/Java Leather, C2, C4,6cd changer



01-28-2003, 05:27 PM

#17

## lockuplever

Newbie

Join Date: Jan 2003  
Location: san diego  
Vehicle I drive: e320  
Posts: 1

Could you supply more information on item #6. I have the tape mechanism out.

6. There is a trace to cut on the tape mechanism board and a surface mount resistor to remove in order to get pins 1 and 3 on the ribbon connector to be disconnected from the tape mechanism board.

What trace and which ribbon connector are you reffering to.  
BTW, thanks in advance. This is exactly what I have wanted to do for over a year now.

Steve



01-29-2003, 01:42 AM

#18

## mmgrad

MBWorld Fanatic!



Join Date: Jul 2002  
Location: So Cal  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 CLK430  
Posts: 4,669

**Re: yo guys this is my C32 AMG with custum sound system**

Quote:

*Originally posted by AMGrider*  
**yea this is my "HOT" custom sound system...  
JL 12W6 x2  
Xtant 600W x2  
performance technique 1200W x1  
eclipse AV8022 7" motorized LCD screen  
also i dynomated my car to prevent raddling....  
and some people wanna know if dynomat worth it.....and i say...dynomat is crazy....its so nice....the car doesnt raddles at all!  
but one bad thing is that you can here anything out side of your car....like if u have crazy sound system and u cant show off..you cant here ur system bumping at out side of ur car. ~ ~ ~but is good ^^**

Alright, ya'll just gotta chill. AMGrider, they are just playing with you about the english. All others, I'm sure you know what he/she means with the statement about dynomat.

Simply put, it eliminates rattling from his ICE system. However, if you want to show off your sound system, dynomat will make it hard for others to hear the music outside the car (when the windows are all closed).

But back to tread at hand, Cryptonic, nice job. You must have lots of electrical knowledge to comfortably take apart your stereo like that. Congrats on the mod.

**Danny**



### 2002 CLK430 - Black Opal

Lorinser DTM Bumper | Brabus Sport Suspension | Eisenmann Race Exhaust  
19" Carlsson 2/5 Wheels | ///AMG-Brembo Brakes | Retrofitted OEM Xenons  
Retrofitted COMAND Nav System | Eclipse AVN-2454 DVD Navigation System

MBWorld Picture Post Whore

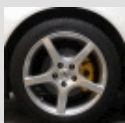


01-30-2003, 06:21 PM

#19

### 20FHK02

Super Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: SF South Bay  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 810

### Gound connection

Cryptnotic:

Where should the Ground on the RCA cable be connected to?

\*\*\*\* LEGEND OF THE OWN3D \*\*\*\*

One noisy blower...



02-24-2003, 10:33 PM

#20

### lovin\_my\_C230K

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: College Station,  
TX  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230  
Coupe  
Posts: 219

👍 I did it - and took pics!

Cryptnotic. Thanks a million for the information. I couldn't have done it without you.

Make sure to checkout the web page with the pics...

Here's the info.

Thread with the info.

-Eric



**lovin\_my\_C230K**

-2002 C230 Coupe Black. Automatic. Linguatronic. Thermotronic. AMG Split Spoke 17". v60 phone.  
-2000 Ducati Monster 900ie. Yellow. Termignoni Pipes. Ducati Performance Ignition  
-Yamaha YSR50 Racebike



02-25-2003, 04:22 PM

#21

## C230 Sport Coup

Senior Member



Join Date: Jun 2002  
Location: San Jose, The Pit.  
Vehicle I drive: C230 Sports Coupe, Orion Blue, Oyster leather  
Posts: 469

 So many more questions! And appreciation!

The question was asked,  
can the tape functionality be left intact?

The pics are great!  
I'll have to consider doing this.

First need to go back find those instructions for R&R of radio.

BUT despite the wunerful pics, it's still not clear to me where the trace is to be cut. Hard to tell. And thats the part where, you better hope you don't screw up.  
(and what does cutting the trace accomplish?)

Also where did you put your 1/8 " jack?  
Do you just have a wire hanging somewhere or did you make it nice, put a female plug somewhere?

Also there was mention by Crypto of replacing caps and such.  
Did you do that?

I'd really like to have tape too!

What keeps it from making that annoying beep?

Ya know, if it wasn't for that annoying beep it could be possible to use a audio to phoney tape convertor.

Anybody have a shematic for this radio?

Orion Blue 2002 -Oyster Leather  
C7 Sport Package- Fuzion (ie Bridgestone) Tires.  
5 spd auto -Panoramic Sunroof  
AMG Sways -Vogtland Springs  
Philips Vision Plus Lo  
Philips 80W Rally Hi  
Audio 10 from the Europimp- CD Changer  
AMG 4 piston Calipers- 13.6" rotors  
Ebrake cover from S- Class to match the other ones.



02-25-2003, 04:23 PM

#22

## C230 Sport Coup

Senior Member



Join Date: Jun 2002  
Location: San Jose, The Pit.  
Vehicle I drive: C230 Sports Coupe, Orion Blue, Oyster leather  
Posts: 469

Oh wait, last pic is clearer, show cut traces, but my other questions remain.....

Orion Blue 2002 -Oyster Leather  
C7 Sport Package- Fuzion (ie Bridgestone) Tires.  
5 spd auto -Panoramic Sunroof  
AMG Sways -Vogtland Springs  
Philips Vision Plus Lo  
Philips 80W Rally Hi  
Audio 10 from the Europimp- CD Changer  
AMG 4 piston Calipers- 13.6" rotors  
Ebrake cover from S- Class to match the other ones.



02-27-2003, 01:08 AM

#23

## lovin\_my\_C230K

Member



Join Date: May 2002  
Location: College Station, TX  
Vehicle I drive: 2002 C230 Coupe  
Posts: 219

Cutting the traces stop any signal from the small Sony Integrated Circuit's line out channels from reaching the radio. When the traces are cut another input can be sent through the same trace.

"1/8th inch jack"

I bought the pretty Monter iPod cable for \$35 from Best Buy. When I got home I could not pull myself to cutting it. If the job didn't work I would be out a stereo and a \$35 cable. eech. Luckily I found a good sony RCA to 1/8 male adapter that was long enough. I figured it was worth sacrificing. A key point... Another reason I didn't use the monster cable is that it was so large. The soldering points were so small. The Sony cable worked great.

About Crypto's caps..

He recommended removing a cap just south of pin 1. I went ahead and cut the trace right before it.

I had a good high quality soldering iron but I didn't have any surface mount desolderers and I thought I could fill my cut trace and get the system working again if need be.

Annoying Beep....

I keep the tape door shut. 🚫

Scematic...

I don't have one for the radio. I did find one for the Sony IC that controlled the tape system. I checked Crypto's pins and he was right.

-Good Luck



-2002 C230 Coupe Black.Automatic.Linguatronic.Thermotronic.AMG Split Spoke 17'.v60 phone.  
-2000 Ducati Monster 900ie.Yellow. Termignoni Pipes.Ducati Performance Ignition  
-Yamaha YSR50 Racebike



05-07-2005, 07:45 PM

#24

## Steve C

Junior Member

Join Date: May 2005  
Posts: 4

### Interested in the conversion

I'm interested in the mod to the tape player. You mentioned pin 1 and 3 on the tqpe cable. I understand that you must join the RCA wires for each channel to those piins but what do I do with the ground part of the RCA wire? Also when you mention the pins on the tape ribbon are they numbered or are they as viewed from the top with radio face pointing towards me? Should I count left to right up to down?

Regards,  
Steve.



[« Previous Thread](#) | [Next Thread »](#)

| Thread Tools                            | Search this Thread              |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Show Printable Version</a>  | <b>Search this Thread:</b>      |
| <a href="#">Email this Page</a>         | <a href="#">Advanced Search</a> |
| Display Modes                           | Rate This Thread                |
| <a href="#">Linear Mode</a>             | <b>Rate This Thread:</b>        |
| <a href="#">Switch to Hybrid Mode</a>   |                                 |
| <a href="#">Switch to Threaded Mode</a> |                                 |

#### Posting Rules

You **may not** post new threads  
You **may not** post replies  
You **may not** post attachments  
You **may not** edit your posts

---

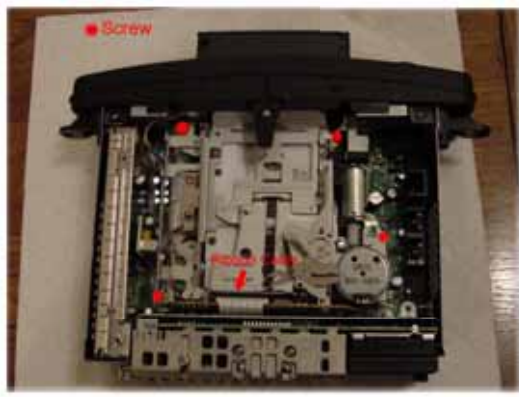
vB code is **On**  
Smilies are **On**  
[IMG] code is **On**  
HTML code is **Off**

**Forum Jump**

All times are GMT -4. The time now is 09:05 AM.

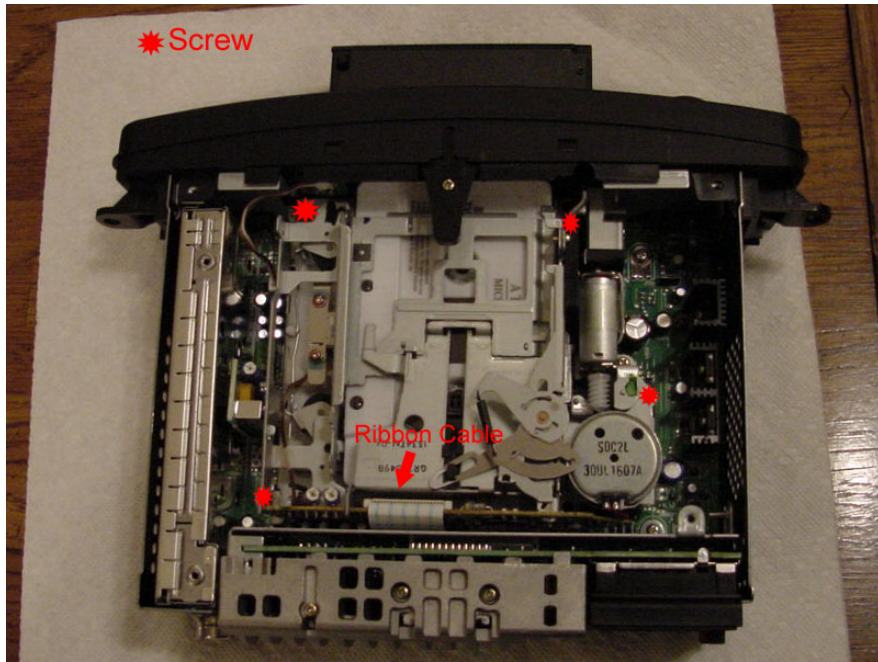
[Contact Us](#) - [MBWorld.org Forums](#) - [Archive](#) - [Privacy Statement](#) - [Top](#)

Powered by: vBulletin Version 3.0.7  
Copyright ©2000 - 2005, Jelsoft Enterprises Ltd.  
Copyright © 2001-2005 MBWorld.org. All Rights Reserved. | [Terms of Use](#)







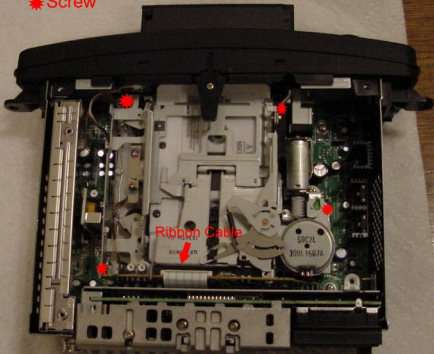


This couldn't have been done without [Crynotic](#).

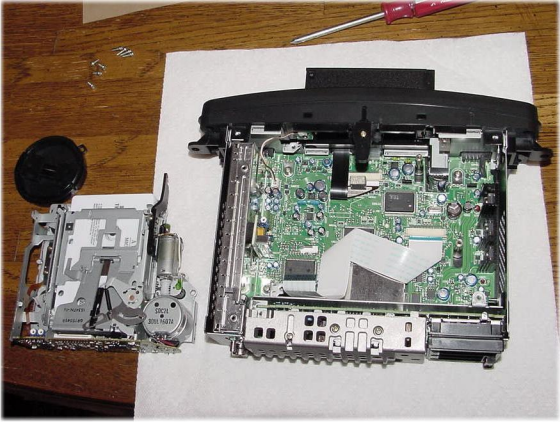
[The original thread](#)

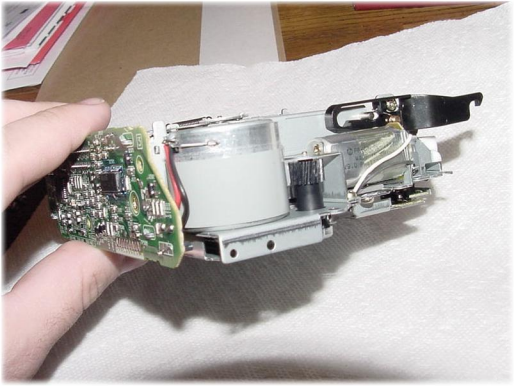
1 5 8 4 [Mbworl.org](#) readers have visited!

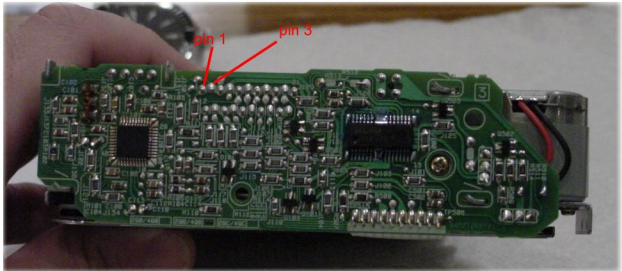
 Screw

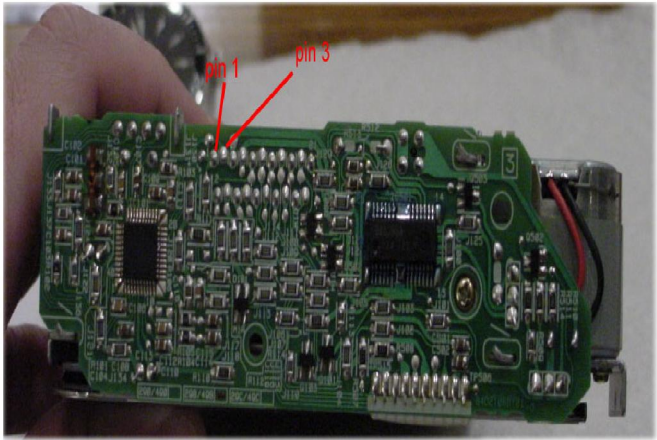


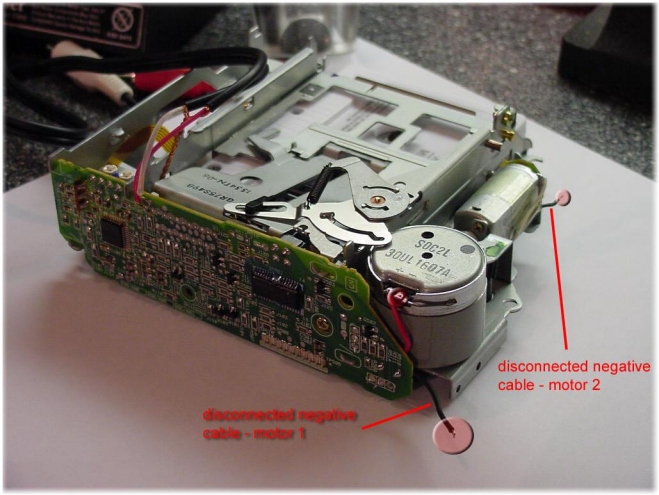
Ribbon Cable











disconnected negative  
cable - motor 1

disconnected negative  
cable - motor 2

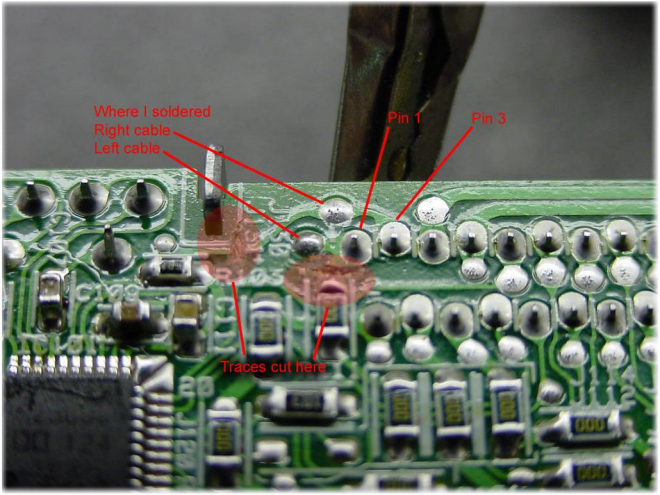


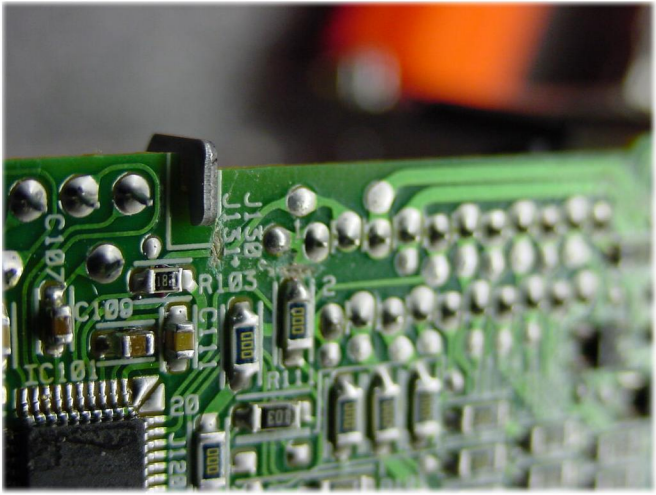
Where I soldered  
Right cable  
Left cable

Pin 1

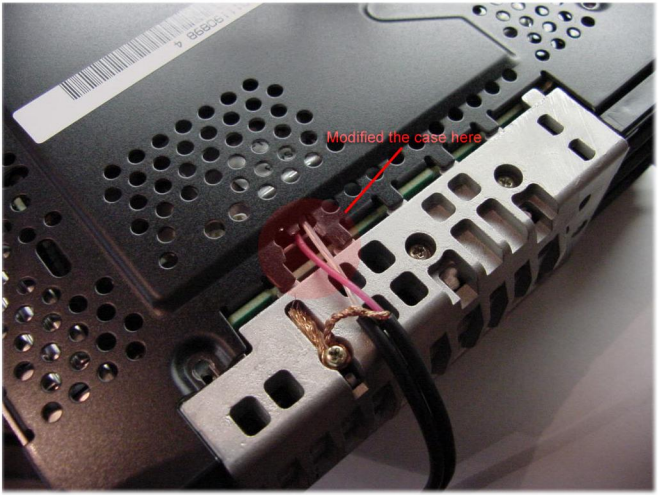
Pin 3

Traces cut here









Modified the case here

Case not completely on (yet)

Ground Cable

