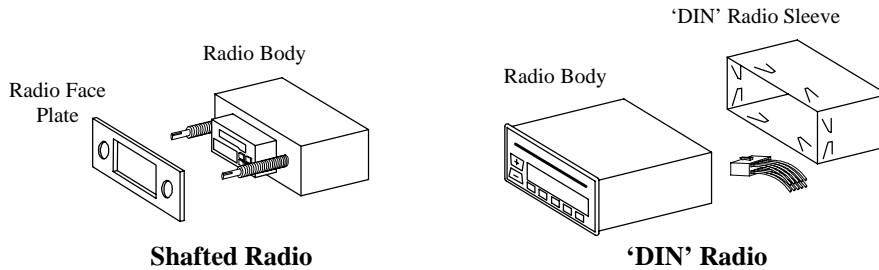




# **Mounting Your New Radio To An Indash Installation Kit**

Document# 999007

## Radios That Might Need An Installation Kit



For additional information on similar topics, please consult the following technical documents:

**999005** Why Use Radio Installation Kits (Why Do-It-Yourself Installs Look Amateur - Do It Like The Pros)

**999006** 'DIN' vs. Double 'DIN' vs. Shafted Radios (Before You Buy, Learn The Fundamental Differences)

**999010** Radio Security (How To Stay One Step Ahead Of Thieves)

## What Is A Radio Installation Kit?

In the simplest explanation, the auto makers factory radio is different in size and/or shape than a new replacement radio. An installation kit, also called an indash stereo installation kit, allows a new replacement radio to be mounted into the opening where the auto makers factory radio was installed.

## A Kit For Every Car

It is important to understand that there are HUNDREDS of radio installation kits and styles available. No vehicle is alike. Many auto makers may use the same radio style in the majority of their vehicles, but it is a good bet that none of the dashes are the same. When purchasing a new replacement radio, just remember that there will be many kits on the market for all types of vehicles. But, for your particular vehicle, there may only be one kit design specifically for that vehicle. Since certain auto makers, such as General Motors, use the same radio for most of their vehicles, a "multi" kit may be available which can be used for many of that particular auto makers vehicles. (one kit fits all philosophy) Most kit packages will list the vehicles that it will fit. Make sure your particular vehicle is listed. Also remember that auto makers change the body style of their vehicles every few years. Just because a kit will work on your vehicle several years earlier does NOT mean it will work on the year of your vehicle.

## Mounting Preferences

Today installers usually have options when mounting a radio to kit and then mounting the kit to the vehicles dash. The companies who design and manufacture kits for the car audio industry make this possible. These kits are usually designed to allow an installer the flexibility on how the kit is prepared to be mounted to the dash. Certain auto makers use the same style of radio in virtually all of their vehicles but because each dash is different, each radio must be mounted differently to the dash. In order to allow the same radio to be mounted in different vehicles, these auto makers design their radio to accept different mounting brackets which simply bolt onto the radio. Because these brackets bolt onto the auto makers factory radio, these brackets can be unbolted and bolted onto the installation kit used to install the new replacement radio. General Motors is very good example to this. This allows an installer to select a "multi" installation kit designed to fit into many different vehicles from the same auto maker. For General Motors vehicles, the brackets attached to the factory radio can be unbolted and bolted directly to the General Motors installation kit. This allows the multi kit to fit exactly into the dash, just as the auto makers factory radio.

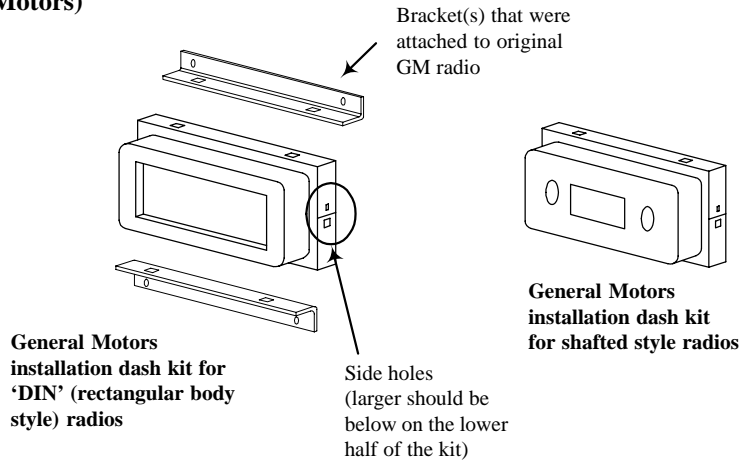
Other kits designed for other auto makers vehicles may have mounting tabs attached to the kit. Many time the kit manufacturer will attach brackets for several different styles of vehicles of that auto maker. When an installer prepares the kit, the installer can break away the tabs not needed for that particular vehicle, leaving only the tabs that are needed.

Just as important, most kits are designed to accept both "shafted" as well as 'DIN' style radios. Kit manufacturers have cleverly designed their kits to allow the shafts of a "shafted" radio to mount to the kit, but the pieces that mount the shafts break away when mounting a 'DIN' style radio. This allows one kit to used when installing both "shafted" and 'DIN' radios.

## Mounting Your Radio To A Kit

### Attaching A Factory Radios Brackets To A Kit (General Motors)

Unbolt the mounting brackets from the General Motors radio. Depending upon the vehicle, the brackets may be attached to the top and bottom or on the sides. The new installation kit should be packaged with (4) nuts and bolts. Use these nuts and bolts to secure the brackets from the General Motors radio to the installation kit. Most General Motors kits are designed to mount these brackets to the kit. The manufacturers of these kits have predrilled holes into the top and bottom as well as sides of the kits to allow direct mounting of these brackets. Make sure to align the brackets the same as they were mounted to the General Motors radio. To orient the kit properly, we need to find the top and bottom of the kit. Look at the sides of the kit. Notice two screw holes. Notice one hole is bigger than the other. The proper positioning of the kit requires that the larger hole be BELOW the center of the kit. See drawing to right.



### Mounting Your Radio To A Kit

(Illustrations show one kit style. All kits should be similar in the basic function regarding 'DIN' and "shafted" radio installations)

'DIN' Radios (Rectangular Body Style)	Shafted Radios
<p><b>What you need to mount your radio</b></p> <p>Installation dash kit for 'DIN' (rectangular body style) radios</p> <p>New Radio</p> <p>New radios installation sleeve</p>	<p>Installation dash kit for shafted style radios</p>
<p>When the installation sleeve is fully inserted and the front edge or lip is seated against the front face of the installation kit, bend the tabs of the installation sleeve behind the rear surface of the installation kit to secure the installation sleeve. Bending the tabs secures the sleeve to the kit.</p> <p>Slide the radios installation sleeve into the mounting kit. (some sleeves may be marked with "TOP" to note the top of the sleeve)</p> <p>Front edge or lip of installation sleeve. Slide installation sleeve into the mounting kit until the front edge or lip meets the installation kit.</p> <p><b>Radio slides into sleeve after sleeve is mounted to the installation kit</b></p>	<p>New Radios Face Plate</p> <p>Slide the radio through the backside of the installation kit. Slide the radios front face plate onto the front surface of the installation kit. Notice how much of the radios shafts are protruding past the front of the kit. You will need to remove the excess by adjusting the depth of the new radios shaft spin nuts. Pull the radio out of the installation kit and spin on the nuts that are included with the radio. Slide the radio back into the installation kit. Adjust the nuts by spinning them forward or back to adjust the depth that the new radios shafts protrude out the front of the kit. To assure a "flush" and professional appearance, make sure that the new radios front face plate is flush with the new radios display box that is visible through the opening of the installation kit. Complete the installation by securing the front face plate with the remaining nuts provided with the new radio. The new radio is secured to the installation kit by "sandwiching" the installation kit between the new radios front face plate and the nuts spun onto the shafts of the radio behind the installation kit.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="812 1738 1153 1906"> <p><b>CAUTION:</b> Do not overtighten the spin nuts securing the front face plate. Tighten to secure the radio without cracking the plastic.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1201 1738 1494 1906"> <p><b>TIP:</b> If your radio manufacturer provides 6 spin nuts, use 4 to secure the radio to the installation kit and 2 to secure the front face plate.</p> </div> </div>