

G8 Designs



Cowl Kit For Pontiac G8 & Caprice PPV: Installation Instructions



Your Cabin Air Filter may look like this or worse!



This Kit makes it easier to access your filter and change it!

Your Cowl Assembly is held in place with the following...



Single-Use Fasteners



From the factory, the G8, SS, and PPV use a series of single-use fasteners, and plastic push rivets to hold the cowl assembly in place. These single use fasteners are intended for speedy assembly on the production line, not easy maintenance and service of the Cabin Air Filter or other repairs that may be needed through the life of the car.

Simply prying apart the single use fasteners can break them, but over years of temperature extremes, they become even more brittle. Your cowl assembly won't fit right without proper fasteners.

That's where our Cowl Kit comes in – our engineered fasteners will allow easy access to changing your Cabin Air Filter or any other maintenance that's needed, while ensuring proper fit of your entire Cowl Assembly!



About our development of this kit...

Unlike most other G8 parts sellers, **G8 Designs** doesn't simply re-sell products made by some other company...we pride ourselves on designing and developing NEW and useful products for this car platform – products NOBODY else is making or has even thought of. Products that correct some of the factory design flaws and annoying problems we all deal with. Products that make these cars more pleasurable to own, to drive, and to maintain.

We've worked for months developing this solution for the cowl problem. We've done countless hours of research online, and tried numerous types of screws, fasteners, fixtures, and products. We've even tested magnetic mounts, home speaker grille hardware, and quick release fasteners.

Our goal was to create a kit of parts that work with the car's stock mounting flanges with minimal modifications, so it can be installed with common tools in under an hour. We wanted components that can stand up to weather without corrosion, that can be re-used for years to come. This kit is the culmination of all that research and experimentation.

Thank you for supporting **G8 Designs**, and we hope you'll enjoy and appreciate our product efforts!

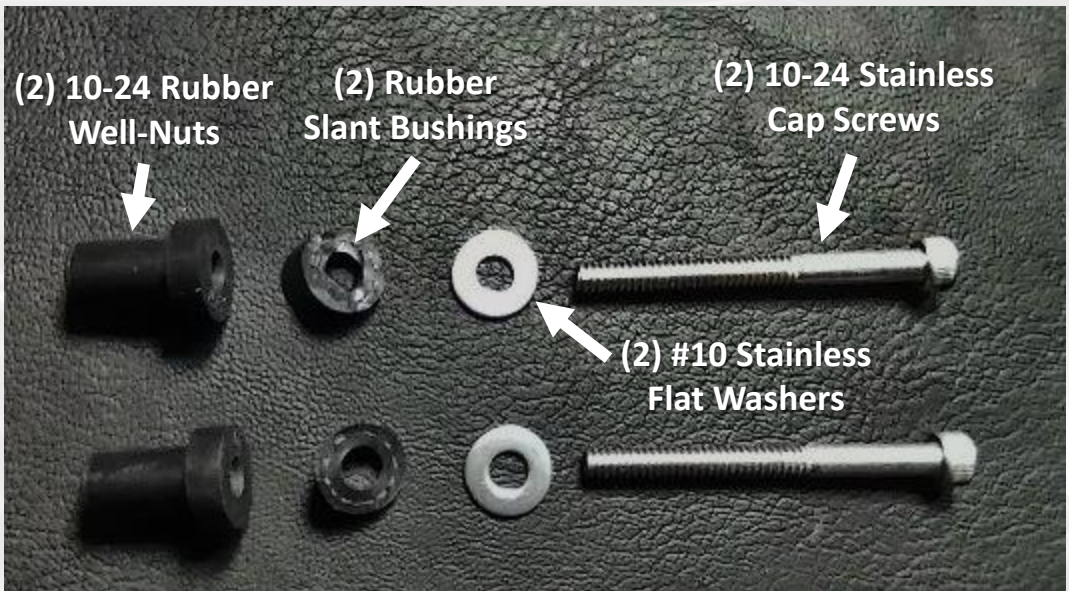
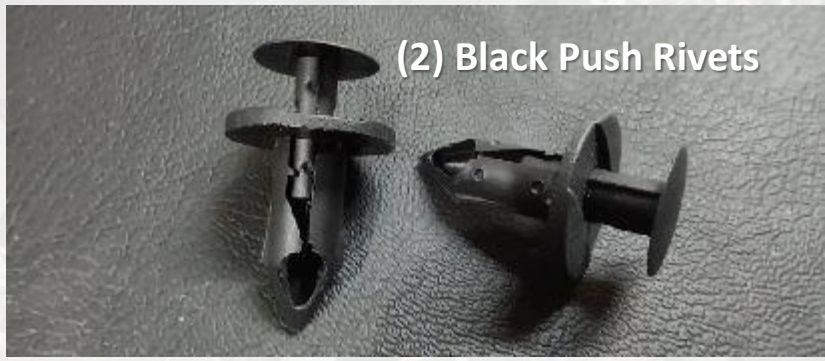
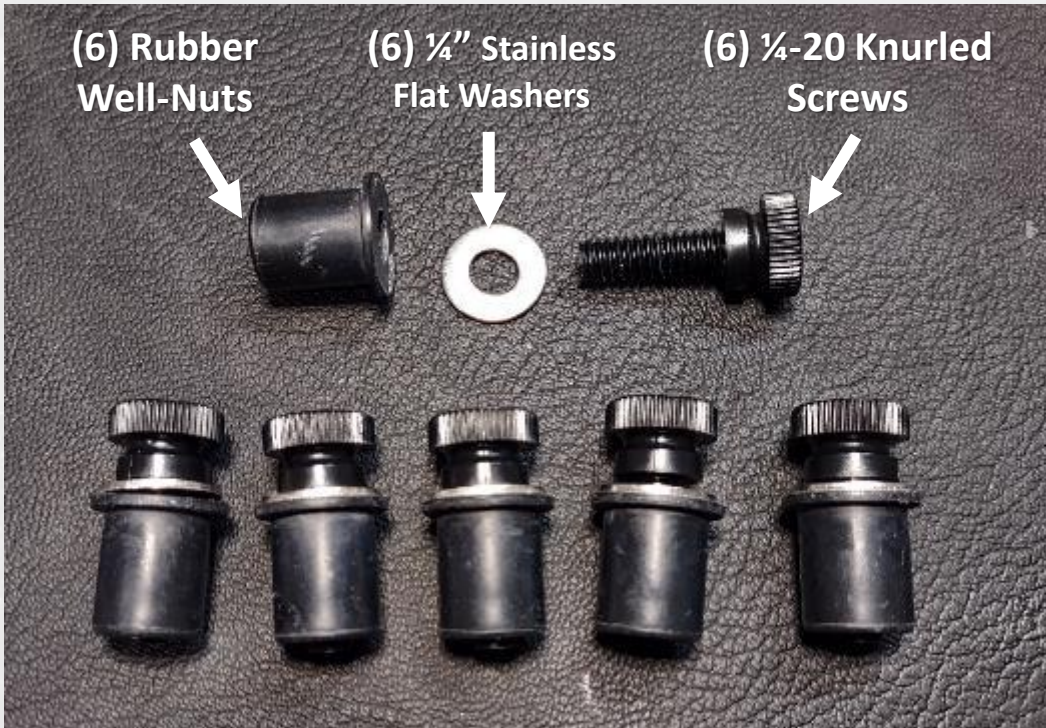


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Kit Components



Your **G8 Designs** Cowl Kit comes with the following items:



You will either need to borrow or own these common tools:

1. Cordless or Corded Drill



2. 1/2" Drill Bit



6. Needlenose Pliers



3. 7/32" Drill Bit

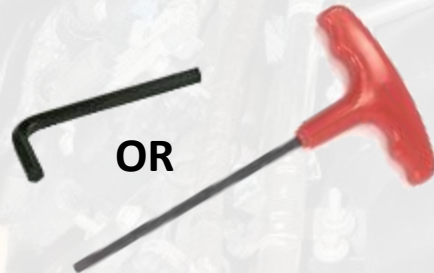


4. Flat Blade screwdriver



7. 15mm Socket and Ratchet

5. 5/32" Allen Wrench



OR





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Step 1: Remove Cowl Assembly



Pull up and remove Rubber Hood Seal

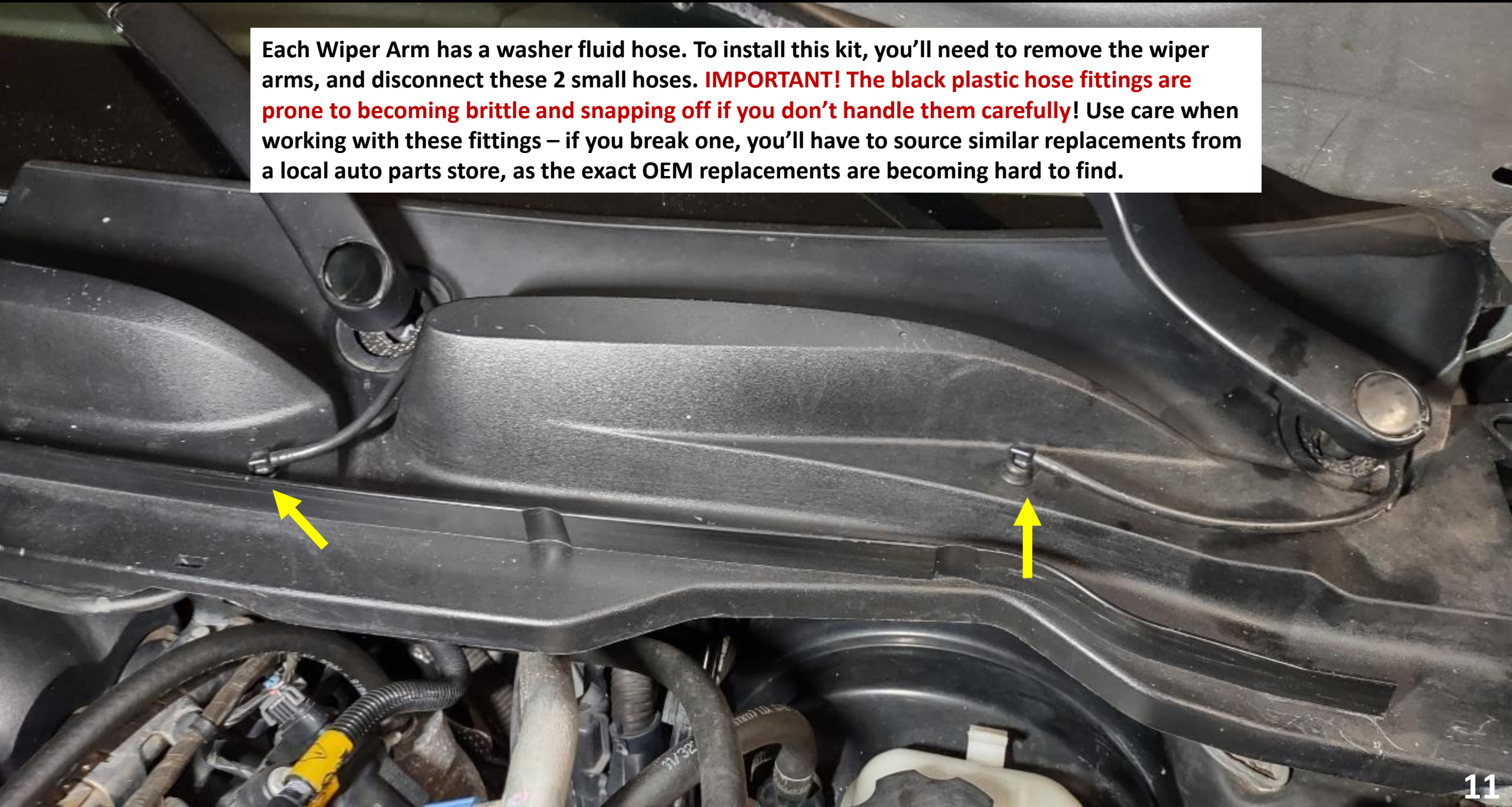


Unclip Windshield Washer Hose from Cowl Assembly



Disconnect Washer Fluid Hoses for each Wiper Arm

Each Wiper Arm has a washer fluid hose. To install this kit, you'll need to remove the wiper arms, and disconnect these 2 small hoses. **IMPORTANT! The black plastic hose fittings are prone to becoming brittle and snapping off if you don't handle them carefully!** Use care when working with these fittings – if you break one, you'll have to source similar replacements from a local auto parts store, as the exact OEM replacements are becoming hard to find.

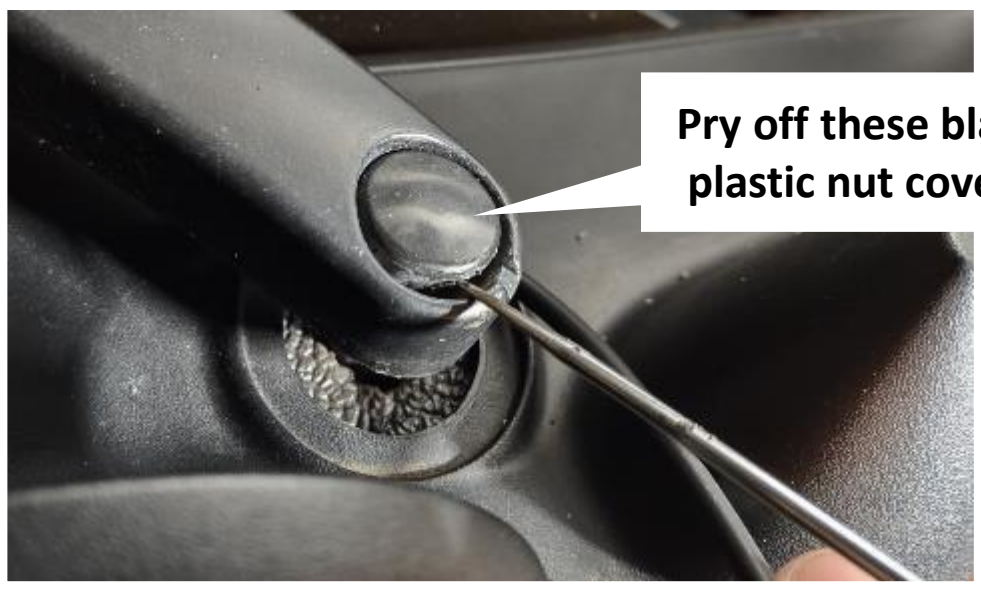


Disconnect Washer Fluid Hoses for each Wiper Arm


Carefully twist these black plastic fittings and pull them out of the rubber grommet.



Unbolt Wiper Arms



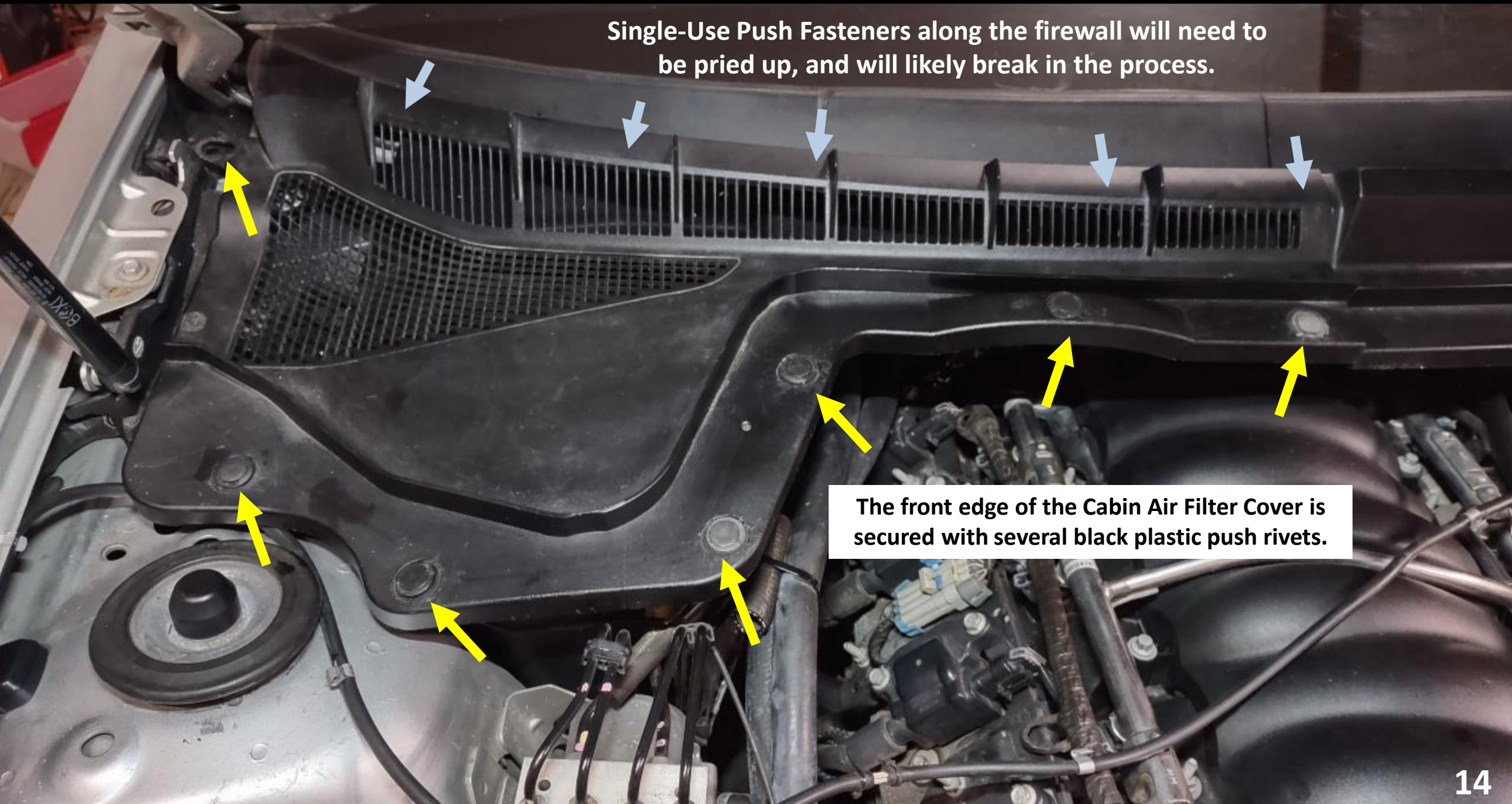
Pry off these black plastic nut covers



Use a 15mm socket to remove the wiper nuts. Flex the wiper arms to loosen them from the shaft, remove them, and set them aside.

Removal Of Cabin Air Filter Cover

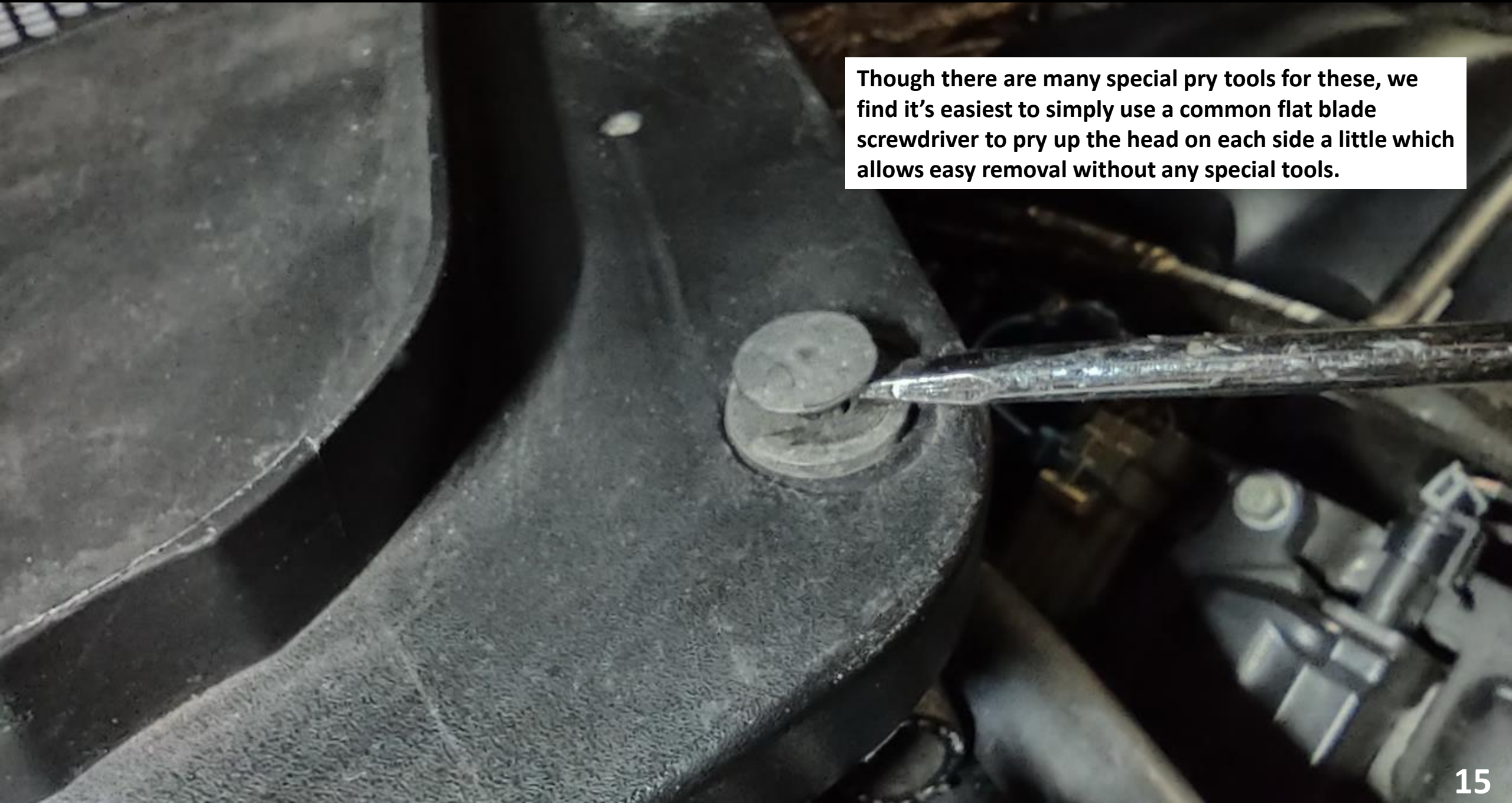
Single-Use Push Fasteners along the firewall will need to be pried up, and will likely break in the process.



The front edge of the Cabin Air Filter Cover is secured with several black plastic push rivets.

Removal Of Cabin Air Filter Cover

Though there are many special pry tools for these, we find it's easiest to simply use a common flat blade screwdriver to pry up the head on each side a little which allows easy removal without any special tools.



Set Cabin Air Filter Cover Aside...



Remove Main Cowl Assembly

Single-Use Push Fasteners along the firewall will need to be pried up, and will likely break in the process.





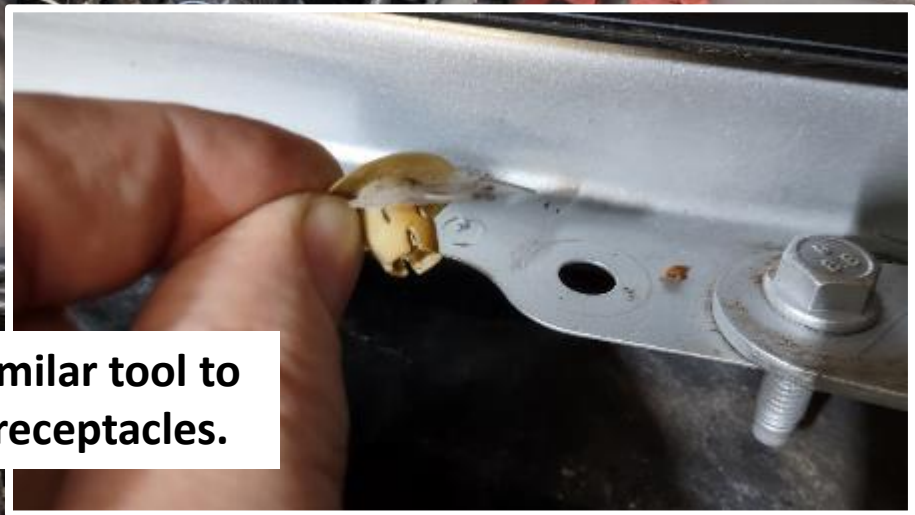
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Step 2: Remove Single-Use
Receptacles from Firewall Flange



Remove Single-Use Receptacles from Firewall Flange

Remove all Single-Use Receptacles along the firewall.



Use needle-nose pliers or similar tool to squeeze tabs and remove receptacles.



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Step 3: Install New White Push
Fasteners on Main Cowl Assembly



Install 7 White Plastic 10mm Push Fasteners on Main Cowl Assembly

This style of 10mm push fastener is used here because they can be used multiple times and fit snugly in the 9mm holes in the car's mounting flange. They're easily and economically replaced if they're ever lost or broken.



7 White 10mm Push Fasteners





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Step 4: Install Two Rubber 10-24 Well Nuts
on Firewall



Install Two Rubber 10-24 Well Nuts As Shown

Install one here

Install one here

Lubricant or petroleum
jelly can help here

These are a tight fit in the holes;
firmly twist the rubber into the
hole until it is seated.



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Step 5: Install Main Cowl Assembly



Install Main Cowl Assembly As Shown

When Properly Aligned, Press Firmly
to Seat the 10mm Fasteners in holes

Carefully Install Assembly With
Wiper Shafts aligned in holes

Be sure the 10mm Fasteners are aligned with
flange holes underneath before pressing down

(7 White 10mm Push Fasteners Are In
Place On The Bottom Side)

Install 2 Black Push Rivets As Shown

10-24 Rubber Well-Nut
Underneath

10-24 Rubber Well-Nut
Underneath

Black Push Rivet

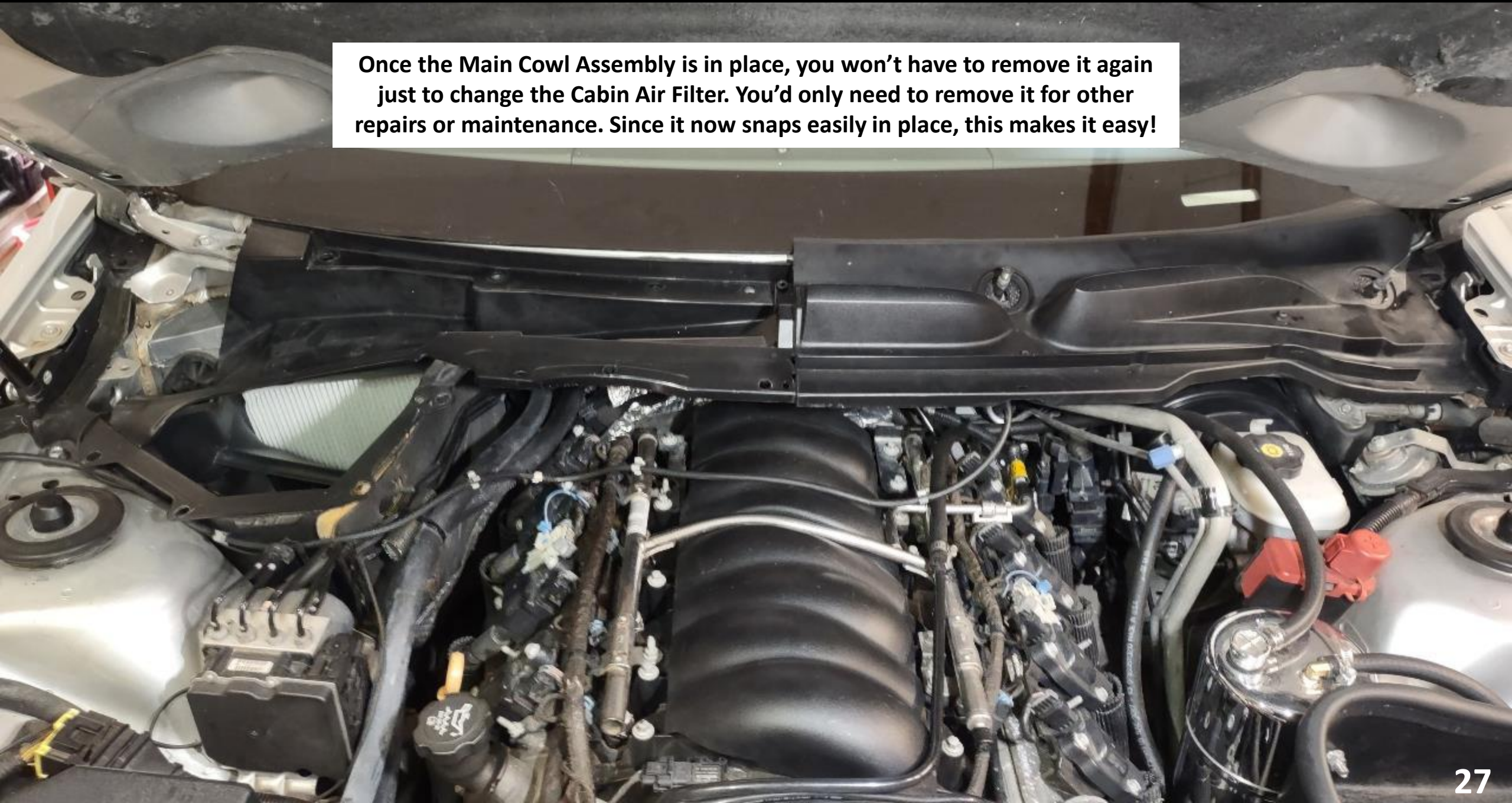
Black Push Rivet



Install the 2 Black Push Rivets,
press into place

Main Cowl Assembly In Place

Once the Main Cowl Assembly is in place, you won't have to remove it again just to change the Cabin Air Filter. You'd only need to remove it for other repairs or maintenance. Since it now snaps easily in place, this makes it easy!





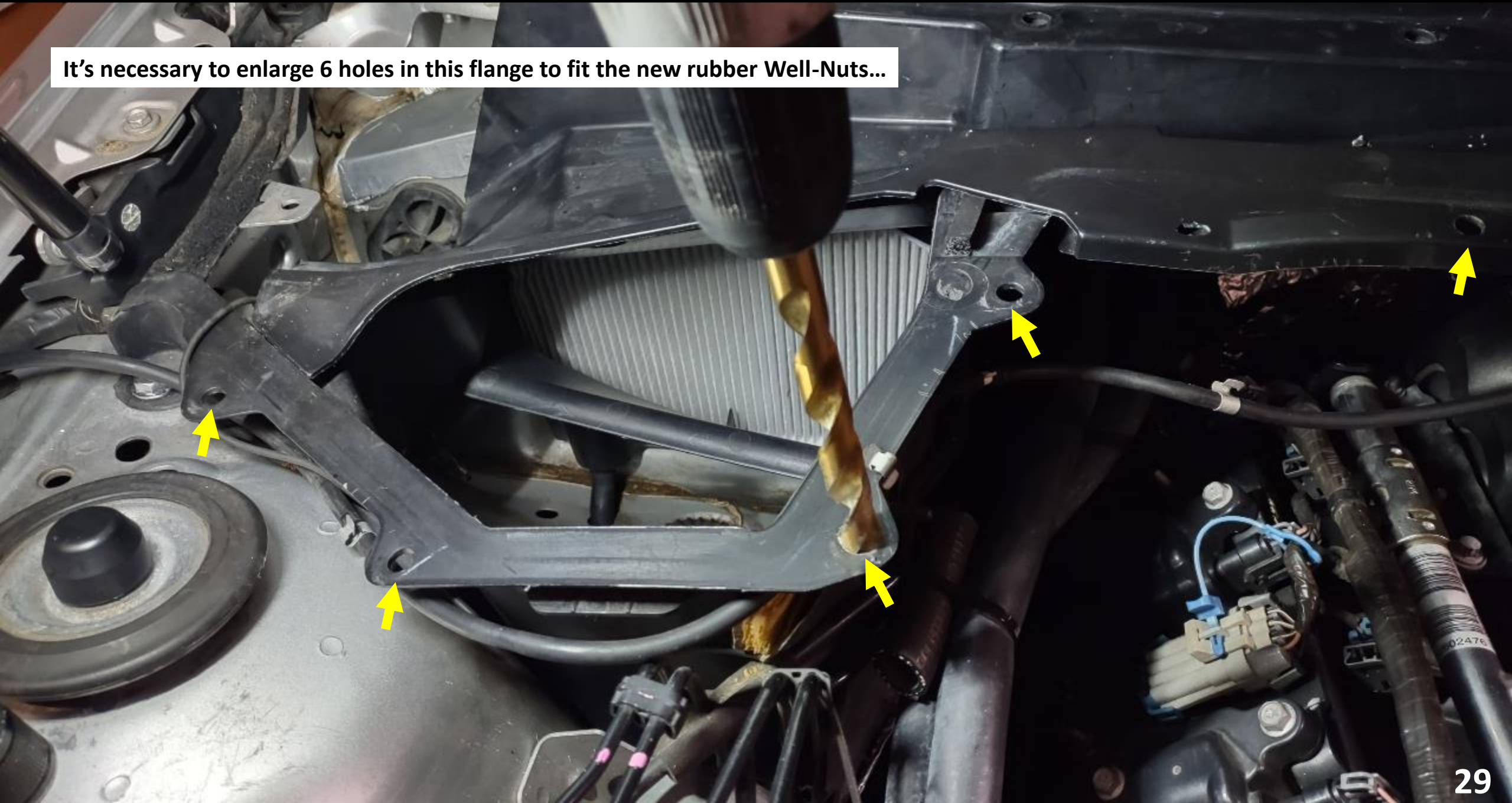
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Step 6: Prepare Cabin Air Filter Box



Drill ½" holes in Cabin Air Filter Box Flange

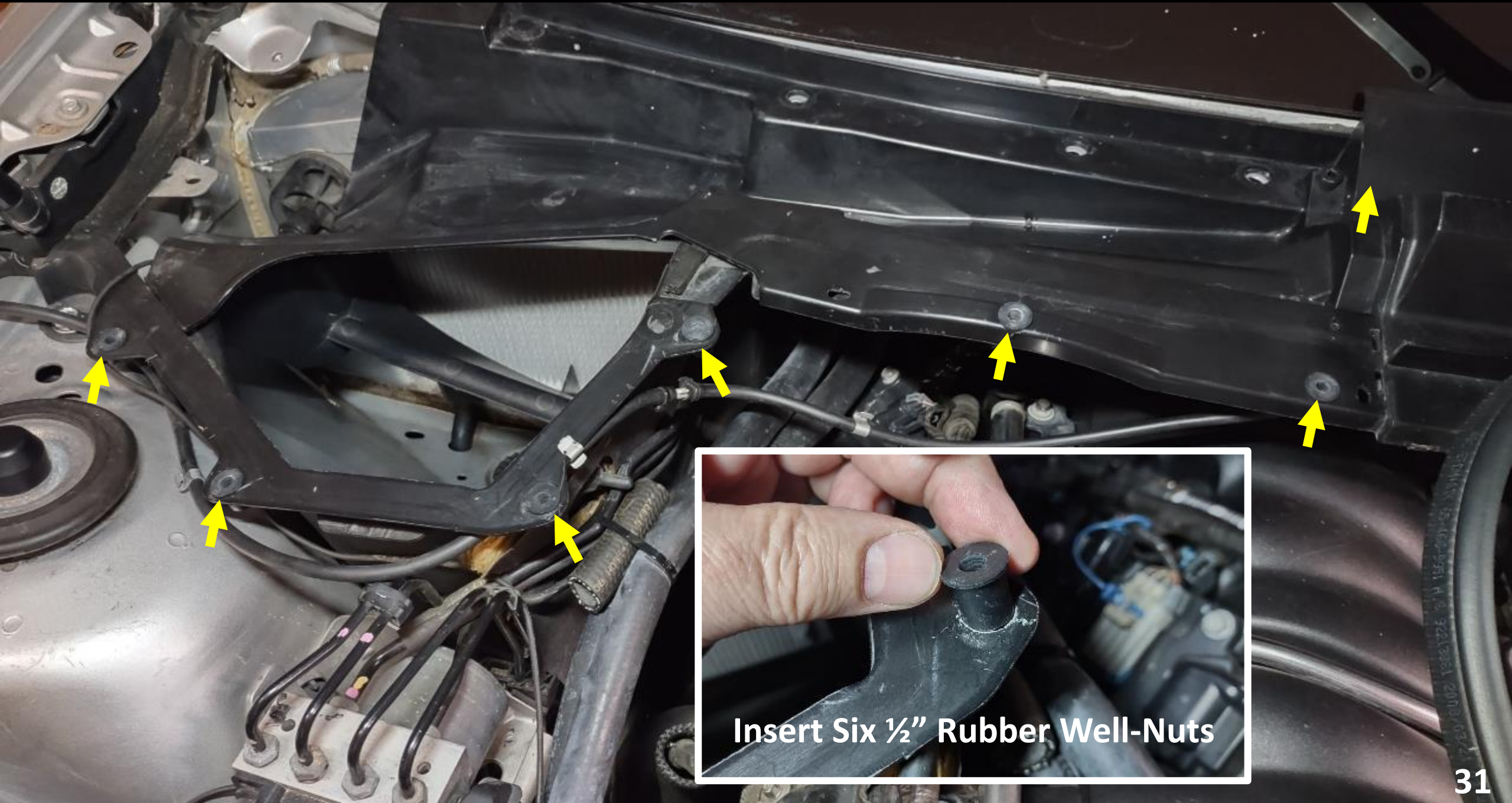
It's necessary to enlarge 6 holes in this flange to fit the new rubber Well-Nuts...



Drill ½" holes in Cabin Air Filter Box Flange



Install Rubber Well-Nuts



Insert Six ½" Rubber Well-Nuts



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Step 7: Drill 2 holes in Cabin Air Filter Cover



This Step May Be Optional For You...

The following steps are for those who want to ensure the rear of the cover fits snugly at the base of the windshield without a large gap. However, you may wish to try installing your Cabin Air Filter Cover with only the 6 front Knurled Screws and Well-Nuts to see how well it fits. Some covers may have some warpage or fit differently than others, so it's easy to try with only the front hardware just to check the fit on your car.

The factory used several of these hidden (blind) single-use fasteners, so they needed a row of them to hold it down. And because they break easily, you have fitment problems.

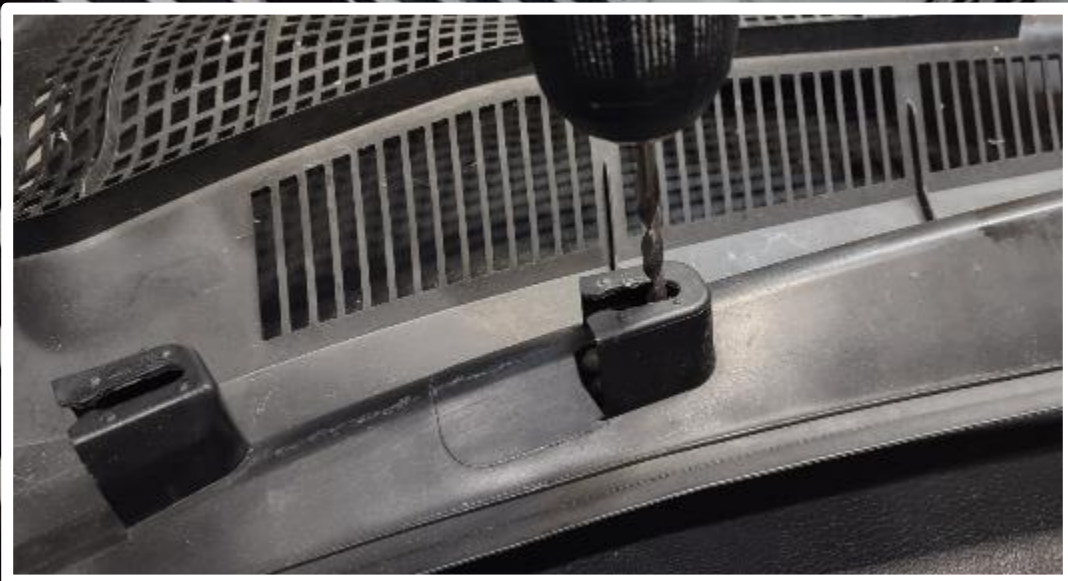
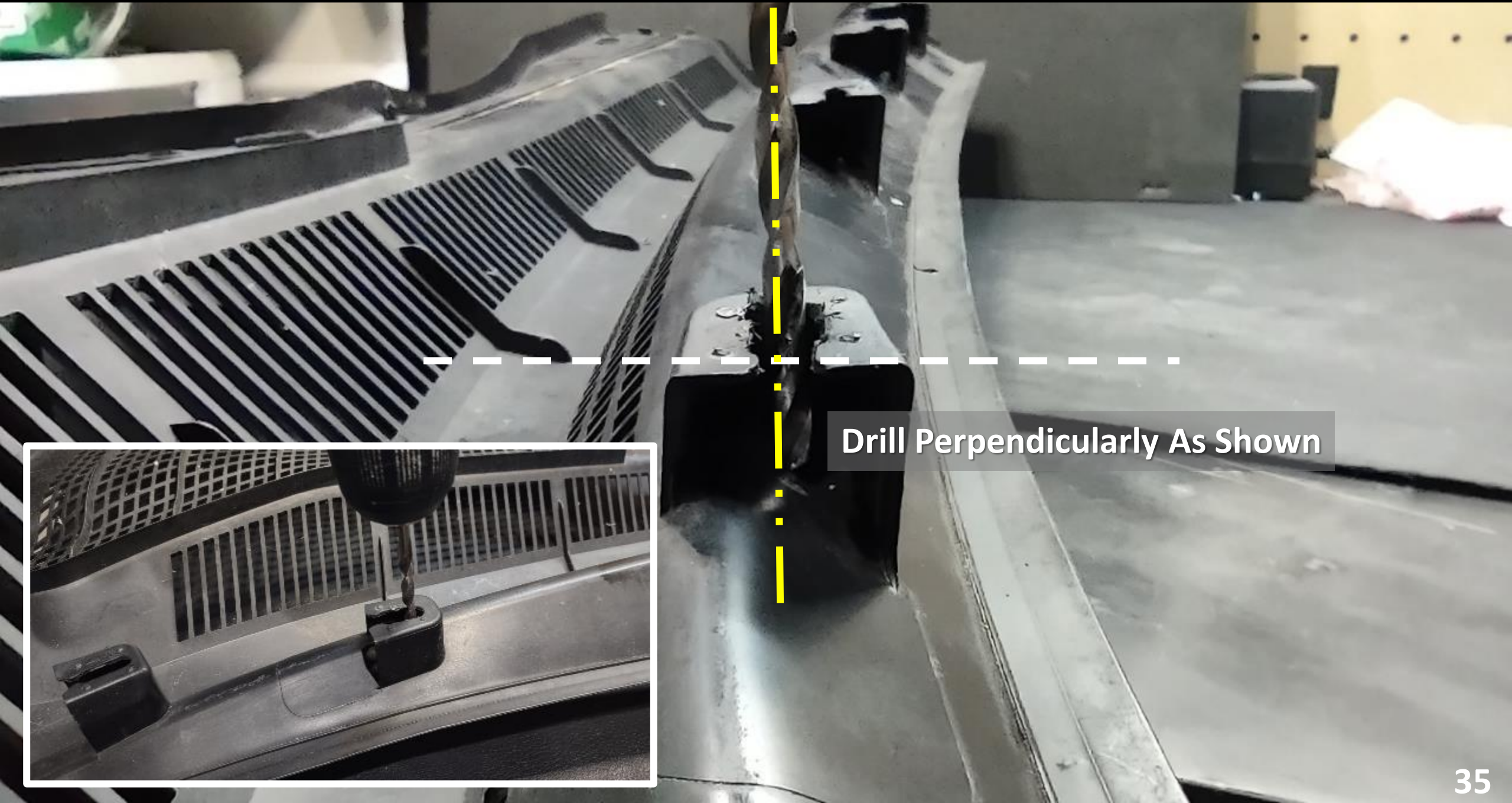
With this kit, since the holes go through the cover and provide easy and snug adjustment, you only need two of our screws to achieve the proper fit at the base of the glass. Having only 2 screws also keeps the installation fairly clean. With only 2 small screw heads visible on top of the cover, and wiper arms in place, they're barely noticeable.

Cabin Air Filter Cover

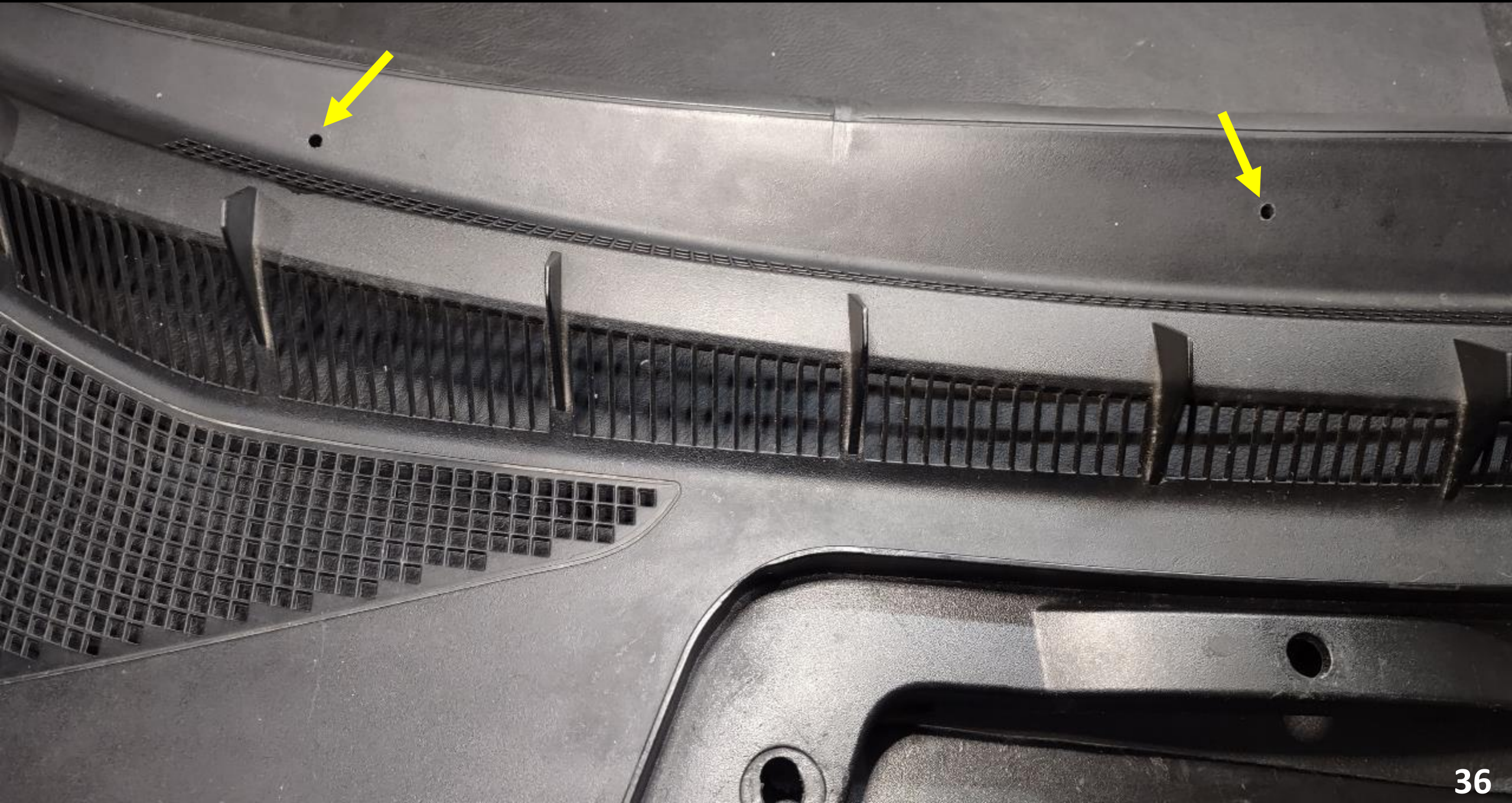


7/32" Holes will be drilled in these slots

7/32" Drill As Shown



7/32" Drill As Shown



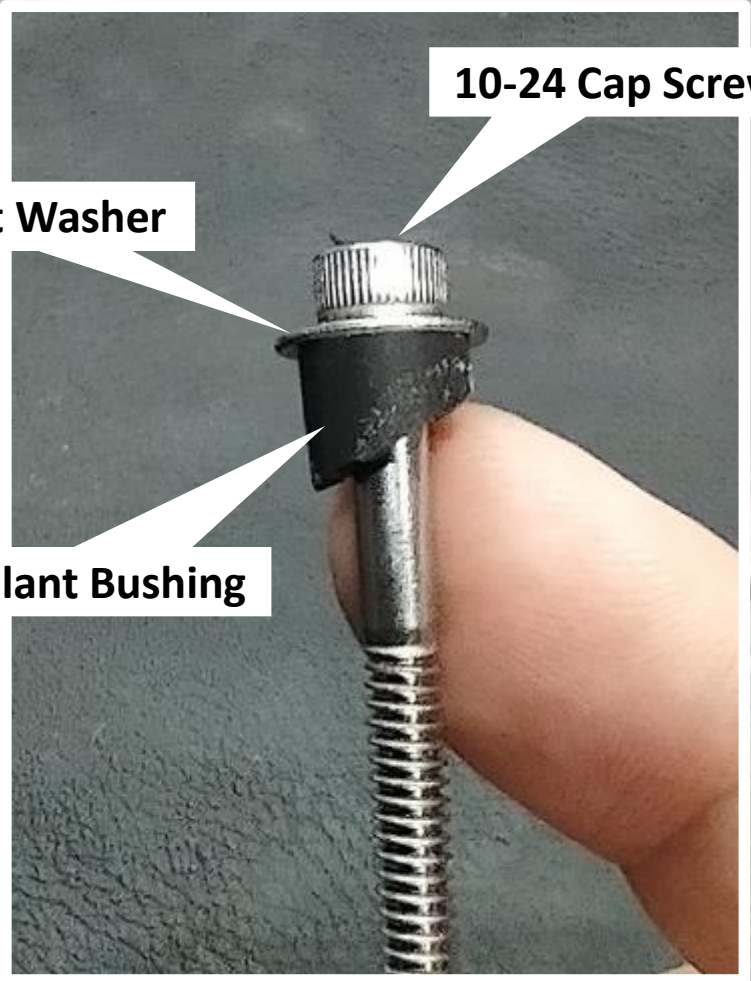
Install 10-24 Cap Screws & Hardware As Shown

Push Screw Down until it engages with threads of Rubber Well-Nut Below and thread in carefully.



#10 Flat Washer

Rubber Slant Bushing

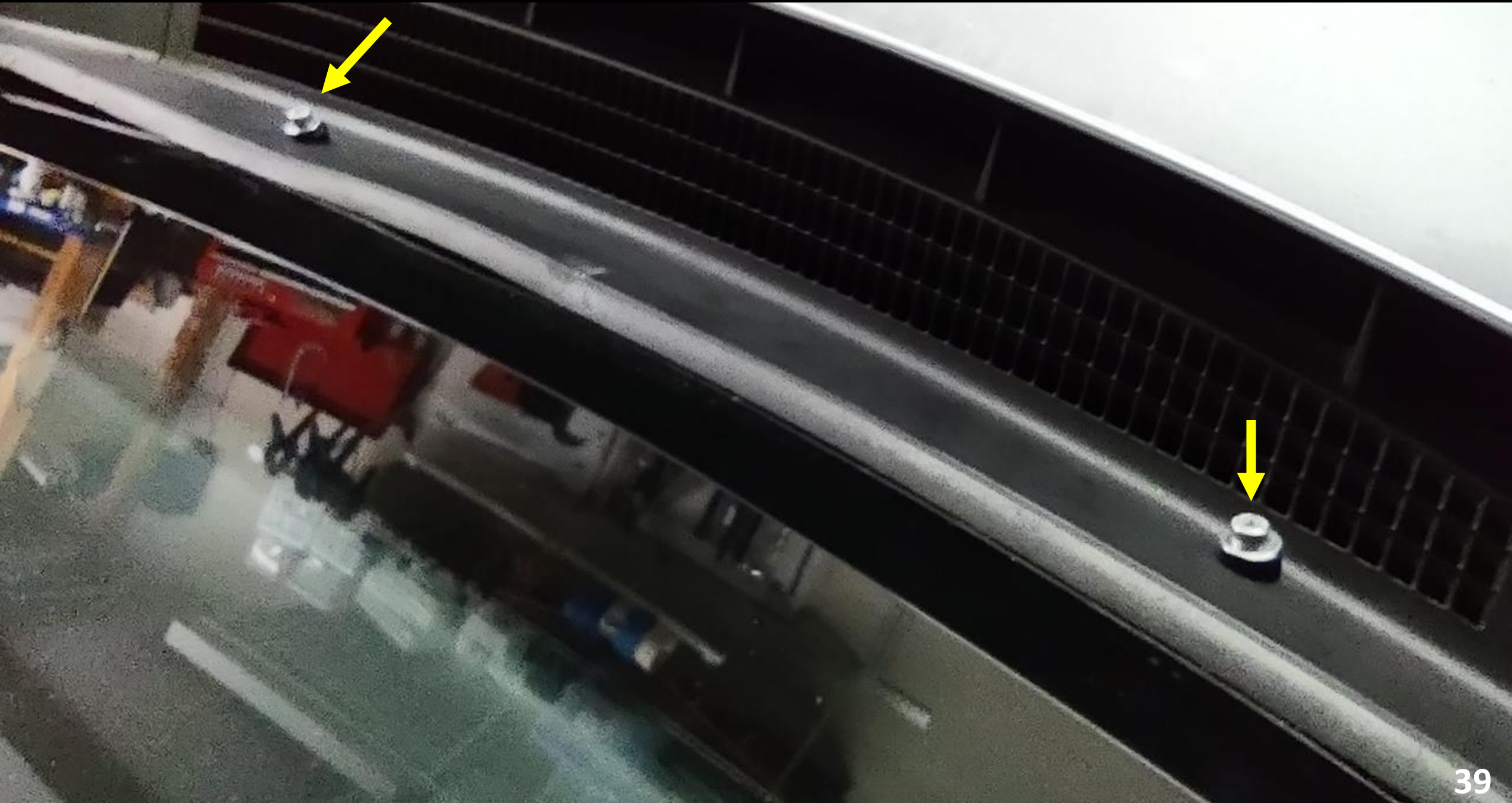


10-24 Cap Screw

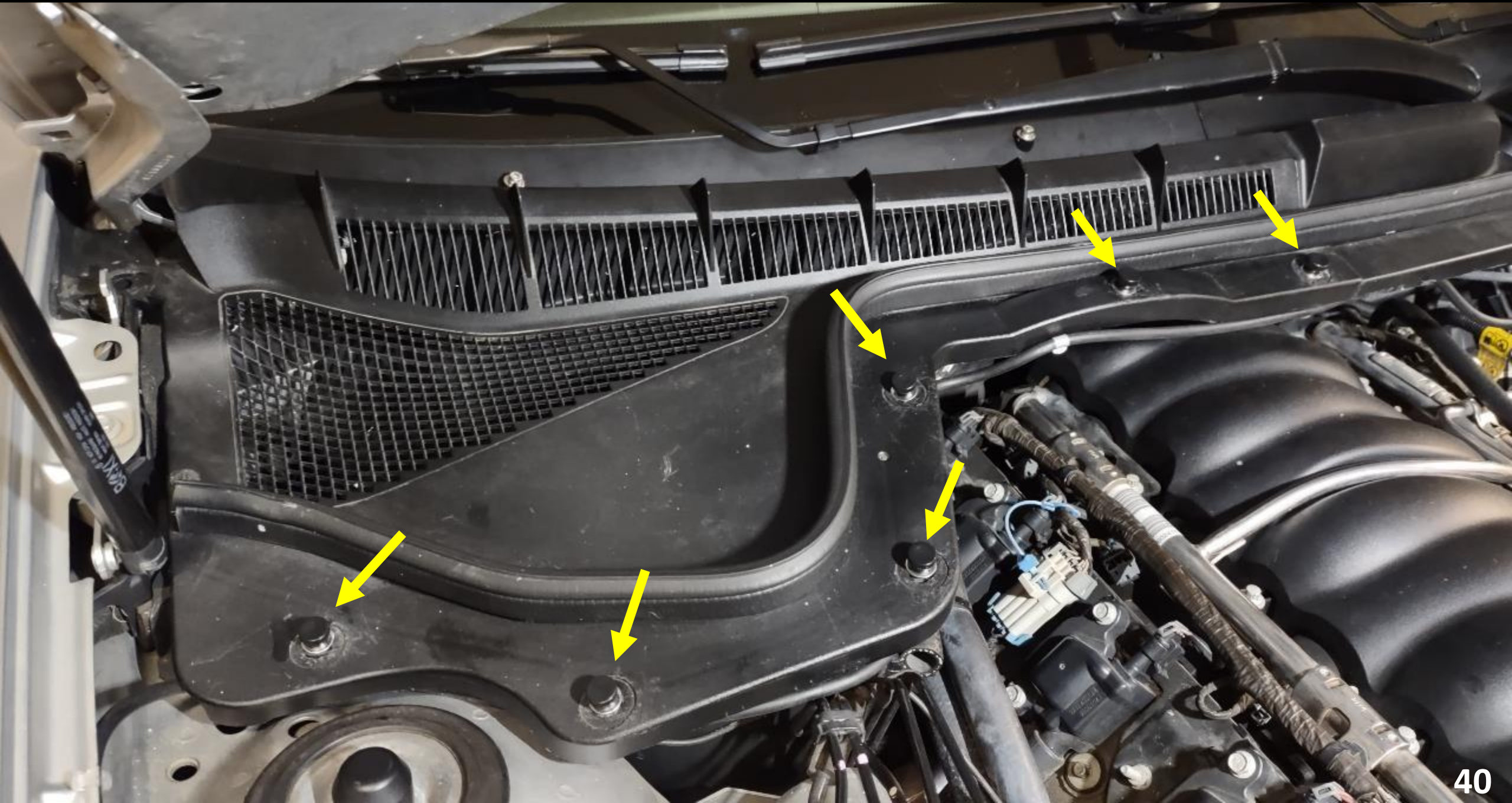
Use Allen Wrench to Tighten Screws

Once you are sure the screw has properly engaged the threads, GENTLY snug it down. It does NOT have to be tight! **You don't want too much pressure on the glass**, so snug will work fine.

Both Screws Installed



Install 6 Knurled Screws for Front of Cover



Install 6 Knurled Screws for Front of Cover



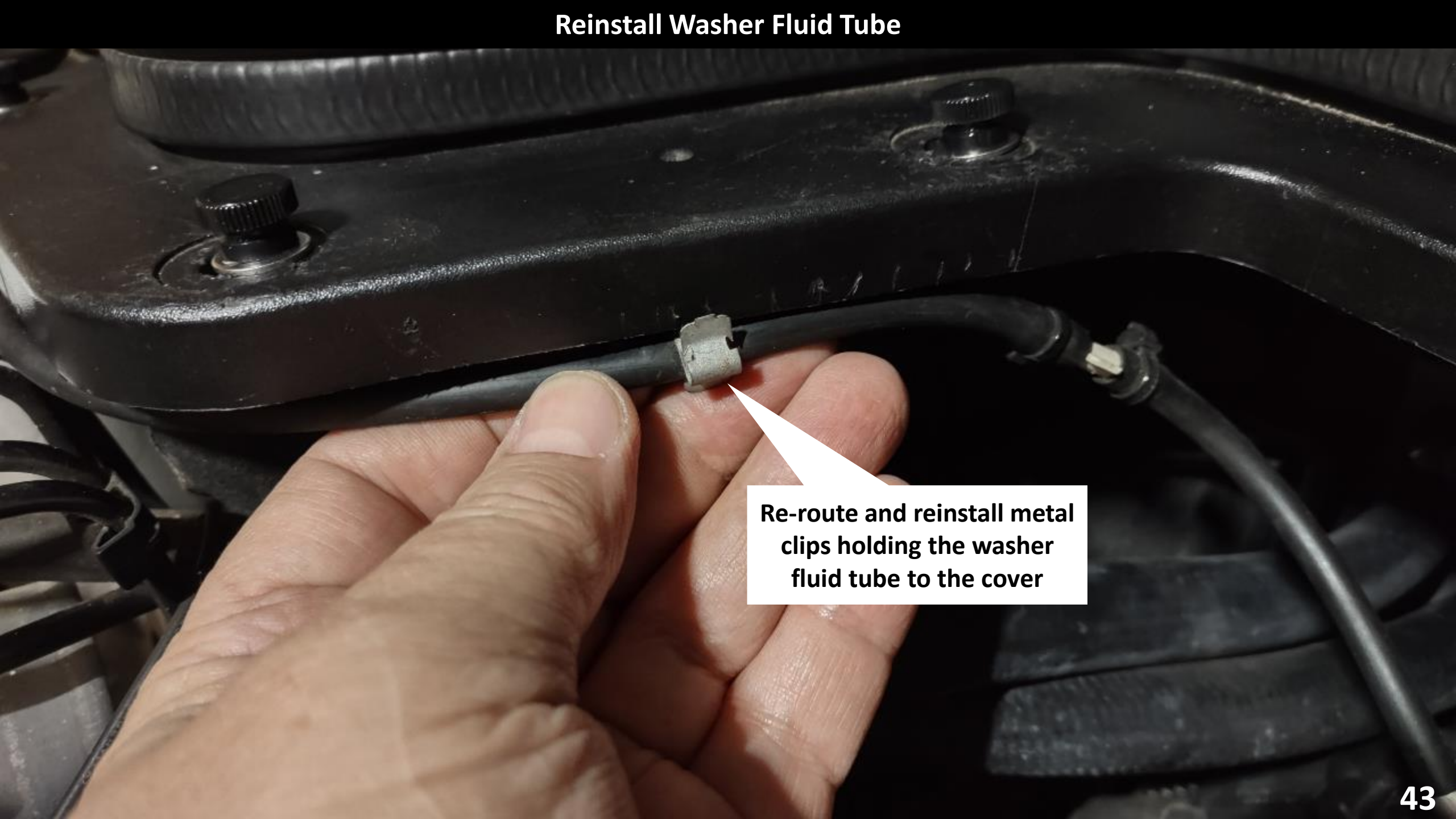


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Step 8: Reinstall Washer Fluid Tube



Reinstall Washer Fluid Tube



Re-route and reinstall metal clips holding the washer fluid tube to the cover

Reinstall Washer Fluid Tube & Hood Seal

A photograph of a car's engine compartment. The hood is open, and the engine cover is visible. Two white callout boxes with black text and white arrows point to specific components. The first callout points to a black rubber seal along the edge of the engine cover. The second callout points to a black plastic tube connected to the engine's washer fluid system. The engine cover has a large black plastic grille on the left side. Various hoses, wires, and mechanical parts are visible in the background.

**Rubber Hood Seal
is reinstalled**

**Washer fluid tube
is reinstalled**



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ADDENDUM: Removing Cabin Air Filter Cover
for Maintenance



Prepare Wiper Blades to Move Arms Up

Wrap Wiper Blades with
Soft Towels



Move Arms Up

Click ignition key ON, flip wiper lever and click key OFF to stop the arms halfway. This gets the arms out of the way to make removing the Cabin Air Filter Cover easy.

Remove Cover to Access Filter



Our Other Fine Products for the G8

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\$650

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\$225 shipped

This product includes stainless steel door sill plates with backlit 'PONTIAC' and 'HOLDEN' lettering and logos in red and blue.



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Main Menu (this site is best viewed on an actual computer!)



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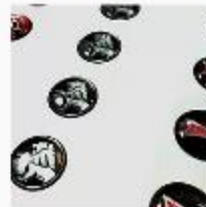
G8 Designs Dash Kit

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Pontiac or Holden Key Fob Badges

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END

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