

How To: Add a OEM SIRIUS tuner to 135i

Courtesy of lannypoffo

How to: Add a OEM SIRIUS tuner to 135i

Note that Sirius is not available in the UK, this guide is primarily for the USA. It is about \$13.99 a month for service. Then 1/2 price for any additional radios. I have always had 2-3 subscriptions at any time, for all my cars and house radios also.

The contents:

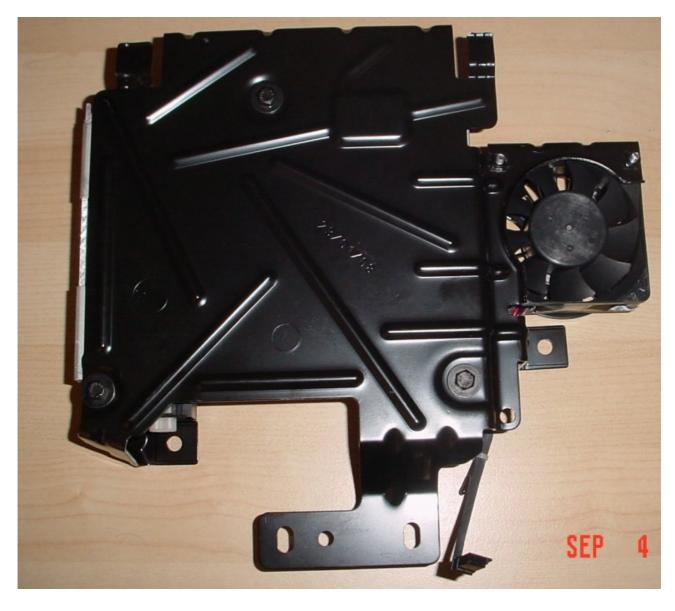
- 1 mounting bracket
- 1 fan
- 1 SIRIUS tuner
- 1 bag of bolts

The tuner itself:

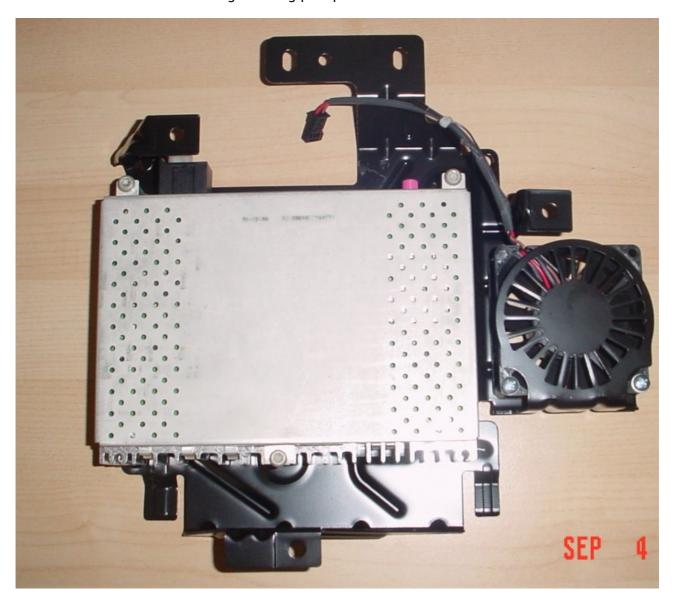




The tuner bolts to the bracket with 3 bolts that use an 8mm socket:



The fan bolts to the bracket using two long phillips screws:



I need to determine which way that fan is supposed to flow. The install directions mention nothing about which way the air should flow. I will stage it in my bracket and try and determine the air direction for myself.

Here is what my trunk looks like when I lift my trunk mat. I do not have Bluetooth or I-drive, the only option the car has is USB + AUX inputs. (I just realized I appear to have a Bluetooth box in my trunk!) The velcro bundle you see is my pre-wired SIRIUS harness ready to go:



I put the fan blowing "UP" for now. I hope someone with SIRIUS can check their setup for me and see which way their fan blows:



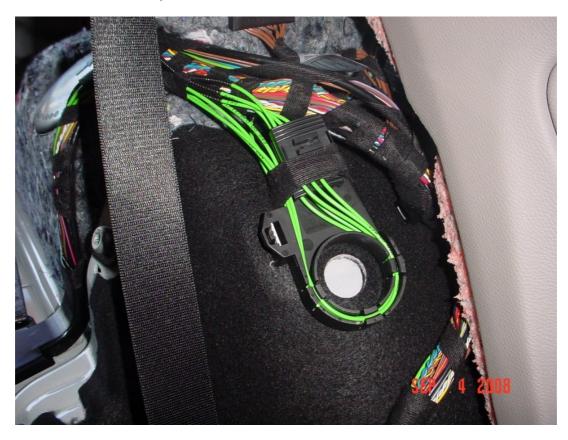
Or if their fan harness is at the TOP like mine:



This is after I slid the satellite bracket under the two tabs on the left, and then tightened the two 11mm socket nuts on the right:



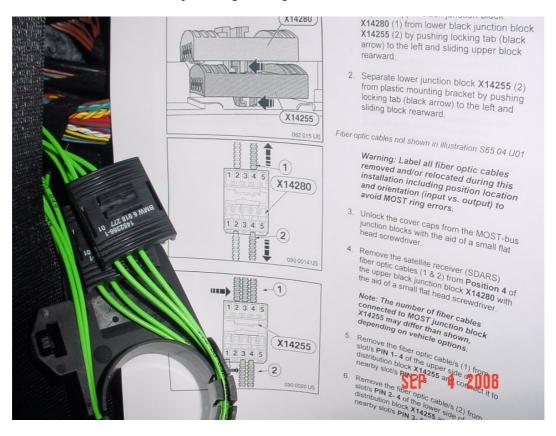
I then luckily found out how to remove the side cover next to the rear seat. It was actually too easy. I removed a few panels before realizing you just pretty much pull from the top. It pops right out. This is the first view of my MOST bus:



The top harness is the "DEAD" unused storage bus. It is just where unused wires are stored. The bottom harness is the "live" harness which is active:



Notice in step 4 of the next pic. It tells me to remove the #4 wire from the TOP harness. Since I have no #4 wire in my top harness I decided to stop there and let the dealer finish this install. I only have wires 1,2 and 3. I would just be guessing and its not worth it.



So I jumped in to tackle the fiber cables.

I took my top block and had to find the cable set which was SIRIUS satellite radio. I started with #1 and then #2. It turned out to be wire #3.

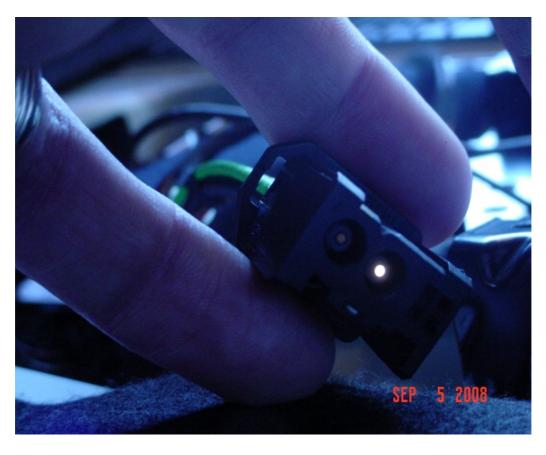
To find out, I had removed wire #3 on top side:



I then shone a flashlight into the glass inside the cable:



At the same time, I unplugged the SIRIUS tuner harness and looked for a light on that end. this is what I saw:



I then knew that wire #3 had to be moved to the "live" lower junction block. As per the multiple directions above, I put my satellite wires in spot #1 upper, and spot #2 lower.

To do this I had to move the 2 upper cables one slot to the right to free up slot #1.

I also had to move the lower cable which was in slot #2 one slot to the right, to free up slot #2 for my new cable.

You can see my satellite cables plugged back in with duct tape to mark them:



I then turned on my radio just to make sure I didn't get some crash error from bad cable hookup. And look what I found...





Activation worked, I didn't need to go to the dealer for anything.