



## How To: Install a flip up dash Sat Nav system

Courtesy of **glzzE**







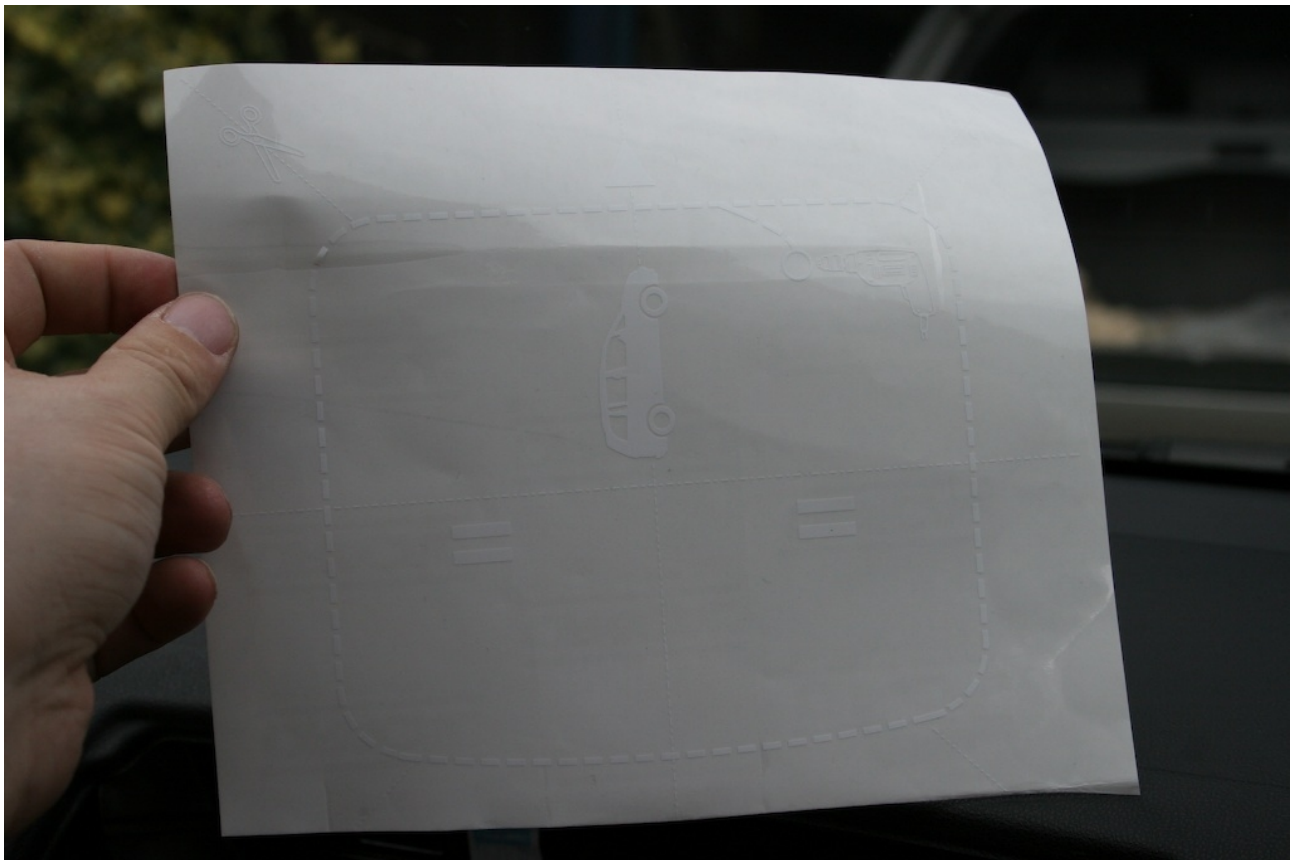
















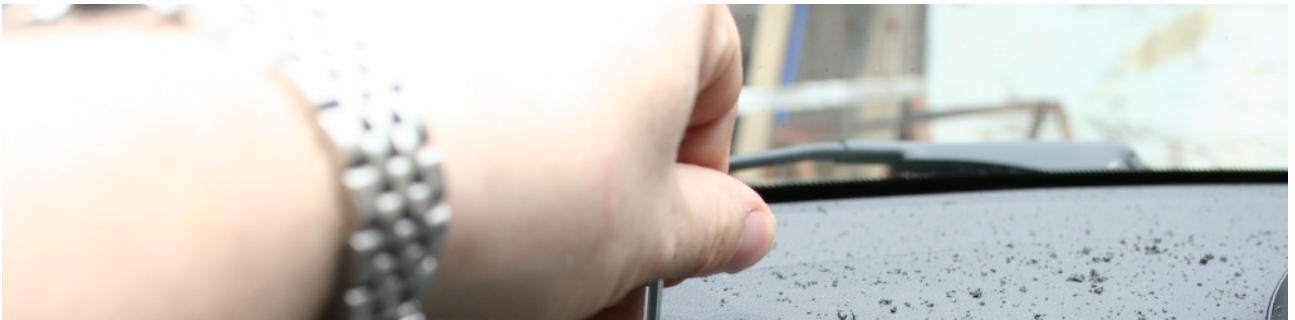








































I had to also add a cable from the battery to the unit for permanent 12v, but this is easy in the 1er, battery in the boot, so run the cable under the boot floor and then under the door sill trim, under the steering wheel trim and into the centre console.



It uses SD, it is just a Navicom system using their Mobile Navigator 6 software.

I had been using it on my PDA and really liked it, so started searching for a stand alone Nav system using the same software and stumbled across this unit from GPStar, so had to have it.  
[http://www.gpstar.de/German/index\\_de.html](http://www.gpstar.de/German/index_de.html)

It took about 10 minutes to run a cable from the back.  
In fact the whole lot took just over an hour.

Cost:€799 plus shipping, so not cheap, UPS ended up taking £530 off me, it was cash on delivery as I needed it next day.

But I would have spent £300 on a stand alone unit and never have been completely happy with it, or £800 on retrofitting the BMW unit, plus whatever BMW charged to programme the car to get it working

#### **Update on usage:**

OK, just driven from Norwich to Italy, via France and Switzerland and this system is awesome, didn't miss a beat. Picked up all the speed cameras, she got the expected time of arrival spot on, well I say spot on, we left Norwich at 9.00am and she said we would be in Dijon for 5.15 and we arrived at 5.03pm. Then this morning she said we would be in Luino at 4.32pm and we arrived at 4.45pm, so pretty good I think.

The map is clear, the directions are spot on and the route she chooses is exactly the way I would go when you select "optimal" instead of "fast" or "shortest".

Even re-routed me round an accident at one point today and that is why it took an extra 10 minutes or so, So a big thumbs up with it, a spot on system, anyone with a PDA I would recommend downloading it and trying it out

I have been using Navigon in the gpstar unit for the last few months, and have to say its route choice is leagues ahead of anything else I have ever used. Garmin being the worst, closely followed by TomTom and the next best I thought was I-Go.

The system is quite slow until you turn off the menu animation, but once up and running with 'Optimal' chosen as your desired route nothing else touches it.

For example, when I come back to Norfolk from Suffolk rather than Essex, with every other system it will either keep me on the main roads with fastest selected, or with shortest selected it will start taking me across country about 10 miles before hitting the ring road, this means I have a good 10 miles of back roads or 10 miles to the ring road, 3 miles round and the 6 miles back out again to get to where I live.

Anyone who knows the area well will take a cut through the back roads around 4 miles from the ring road bringing yourself out right where I need to be, Navigon is the only device that works this out and take you that route. That is just one example, it is the same with routes all over the country and across France, Switzerland and Italy. Very impressive route selection, and for me that is the main reason I buy a device, I don't want an MP3 player, I don't need to be able to view pictures or to be able to look at photos on it, I want a device that gets me from A to B in the quickest time possible, and this wins hands down at that.

I am very interested in the new handheld devices, I have a Garmin 310d with the latest maps for the other car at the moment and it is as good as useless in my humble opinion. I stupidly took it with me on a week up to Scotland and the routes it chose were bordering on the absurd. Mate borrowed it and I used his TT XL for 3 days and that was just as bad, although he thought the Garmin seemed OK, which sums them up a treat I thought. I lent him my PDA with I-Go and after 2 days with that he sold the TT and bought a Mio 520T which he is over the moon with.

So to sum up, if you want excellent navigation the Navigon will not disappoint, if you want to be able to add Yoda voices etc. and don't go anywhere very often there are others that are more fun to use.