

Removing Door Lower Interior Panel

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Photos by Nancy Steger

It is necessary to remove the door lower interior panel to gain access to the door lock solenoid, window motor tube assembly and other interior door components. The first step is to remove the upper door interior trim panel. A detailed procedure for accomplishing this was given in the Fall 1985 issue of */DeLorean World/* in the article for Alignment of the Door windows.

Figure 1 shows each of the trim panels and their fasteners.

- 1) Use a Pick to snap off the escutcheon (bezel) which surrounds the interior

door handle and locking switch. The pick is used to depress the detent tabs toward the center of the bezel. These detents snap into the metal portion of the door. This step must be done carefully, to avoid breakage of any of the 5 detents. (Photos 1, 2, 3 and 4.)

- 2) If this is the driver's door, remove the mirror switch, or the filler plate in the same location on the passenger door. Again avoid damaging the detents which must be pushed toward the part being removed. (Photo 5.)
- 3) Remove the two 10mm bolts, or in some vehicles Phillips-posidrive screws, which fasten the grab handle

(lower handle) to the door. (Photos 6 and 7.)

- 4) Remove five Phillips-posidrive screws, or in some cases 10mm bolts, which attach the arm rest assembly onto the metal portion of the door. (Photo 8.)
- 5) With the door open part of the way, sit in the seat, hooking your fingers under the bottom edge of the lower armrest assembly panel. Pull until the "Fir Trees" release from the metal portion of the door. (Photos 9 and 10.)
- 6) Repair desired item within the door (Photo 11), then repeat steps 1 through 6 in the reverse order.

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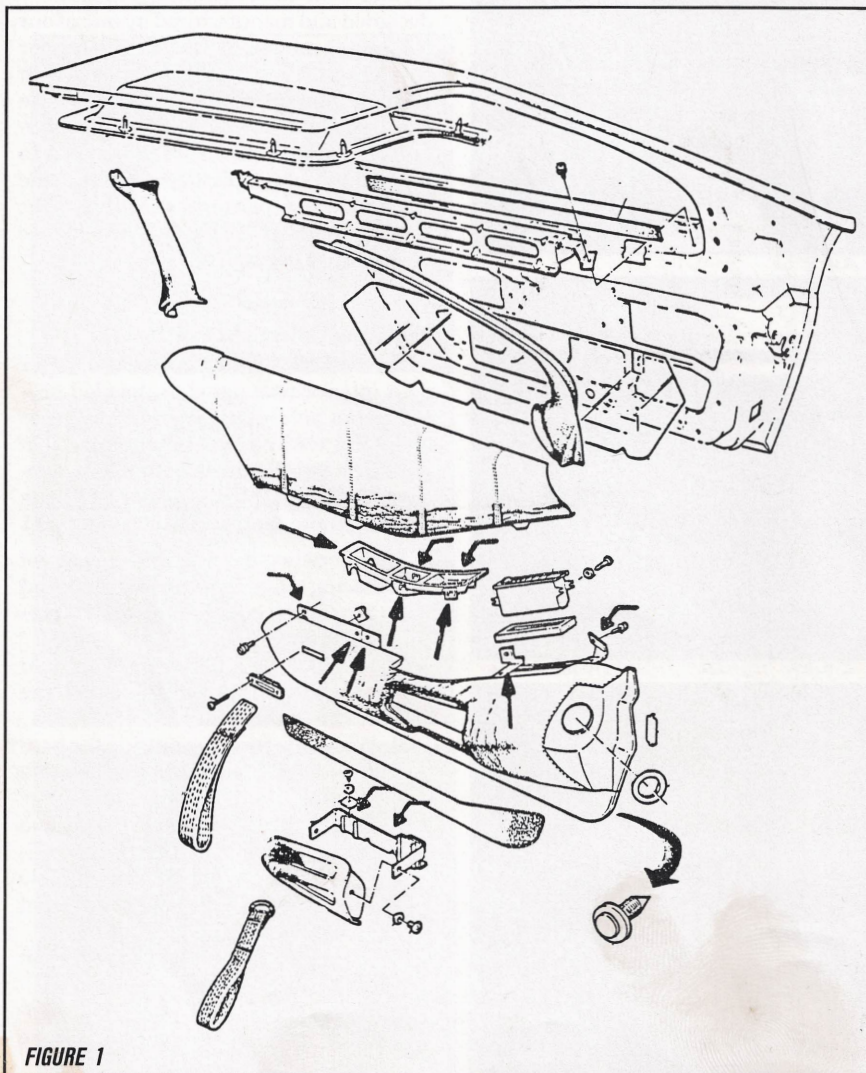
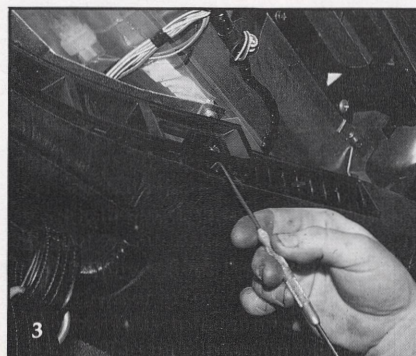
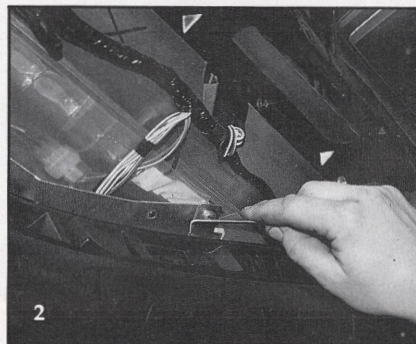
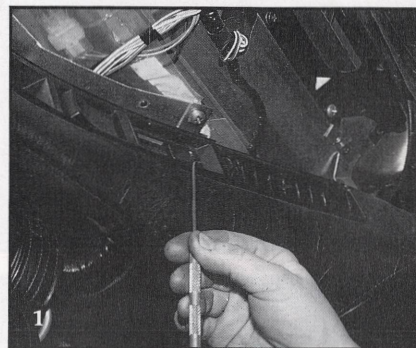
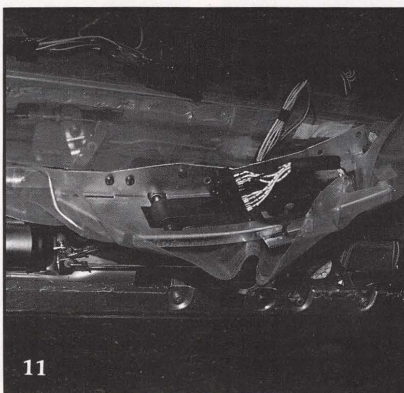
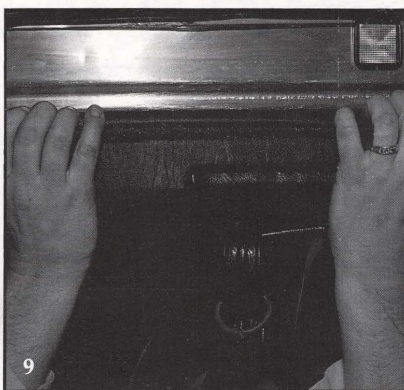
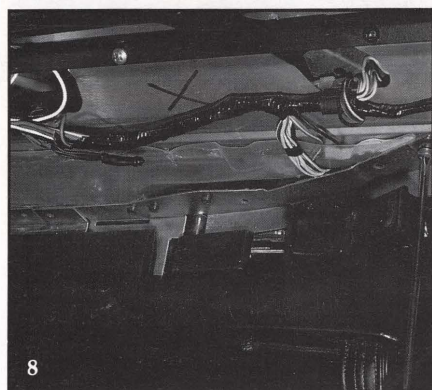
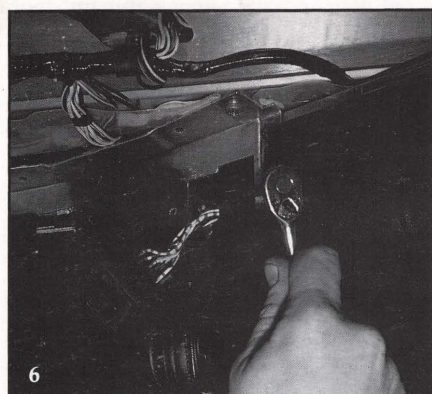
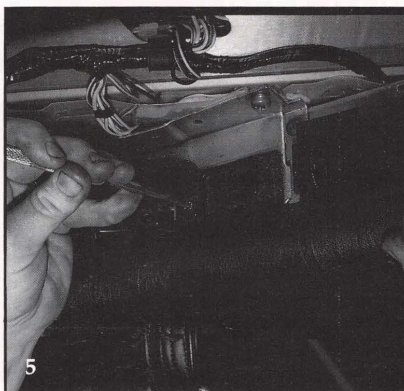
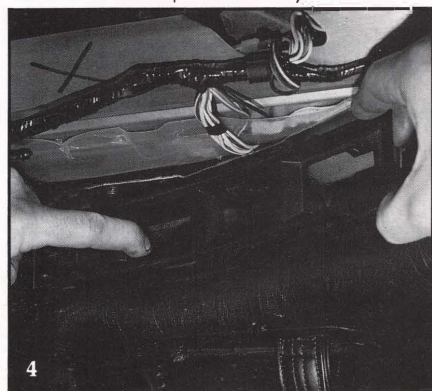


FIGURE 1



DOOR PANEL (FROM PAGE 35)



Replacing Door Handle or Cable

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If you break a door handle or cable **immediately** open one or both windows and leave open until repairs are made. The reason for this is that if by chance the other door handle would fail, you would be unable to enter the vehicle. The only alternative would be to force the front portion of the window off the guide. There is a possibility of window impairment during this operation, or damage to the window trim. There are improved after-market metal replacement door handles. These were designed and manufactured by one of our fellow club members. They have superior characteristics, especially in climates with extreme temperature variations. These handles are available at the major DeLorean Service Centers. It's a good idea to replace the older plastic handles at the same time as replacing a defective cable, especially for cars exposed to extreme temperature variations.

Replacing Defective Door Handle

The first step is to remove the upper door interior trim panel. A detailed procedure for accomplishing this was given in the Fall 1985 issue of *DeLorean World* in the article for Alignment of the Door Window. Once the interior panel has been removed the following steps are performed.

- 1) Experience has shown the value of placing duct tape on the exposed razor sharp edges of the doors' interior surfaces.
- 2) Remove two 10mm nuts located within the door which secure the handle to the door.
- 3) Withdraw from the outside the handle just far enough to allow the cable to be detached. (Photos 1 and 2.)
- 4) Detach the cable from the defective handle assembly. This is accomplished by pulling the inner cable with a pair of needle nose pliers, from the handle assembly. (Photo 3.)
- 5) The outer cable is withdrawn from the 'U' shaped slot in the handle.
- 6) Now, replace with a new door handle in reverse order. Test release operation.

Replacing Broken Door Handle Release Cable

- 1) Repeat the procedure for replacing the door handle through step 5.
- 2) Follow the black cable on the inside of the door, to the Bellcrank. Note the location of the cable, as the new cable will need to be laced in the identical location. Remove the cable, by loosening the lock nut.
- 3) To replace with a new cable: position cable in door.
- 4) Install the cable into the handle, position and secure the handle to the door.
- 5) Position the cable as close as is possible to its initial location, secure the cable to the bellcrank and adjust bracket.
- 6) Test release operation and replace the trim panel.

