

350Z Clear Corner Lens Installation

These instructions were accumulated from relevant posts/threads and photographs found on www.350zfrenzy.com and www.my350z.com.

Installation Instructions

To avoid mistakes, please read these directions fully *before beginning*. Study the parts and pictures to make sure you know how to reassemble the parts you remove. Disclaimer: We take no responsibility for mistakes or injuries made by anyone using these instructions. This represents the actions performed by 350z peer owners and are submitted as suggestions only.

Here are some personal tips:

1. Begin this project early, in case you do things wrong you still have sunlight.
2. A helping hand is always A+. Be thankful and treat them out to lunch.
3. Please have all the necessary tools ready.
4. Organize all the screws your remove.
5. Re-installing the bulbs and wiring can be a major pain IMO. Please remember how they were originally oriented so you know how to install them.
6. Make sure everything is properly sealed. You don't want water or moisture in there.
7. Like all DIY projects, perform these procedures at your own risk and only if you feel confident in your skills.

Required items:

- 4-6 hours (if this is your first time performing this mod)
- Phillips head screwdriver
- Socket wrench
- Socket wrench extension
- 10mm socket
- Oven (set to BAKE at 225 degrees)
- Adhesive Sealant (like silicon)

Helpful Items:

- Clean soft gloves (ones that won't scratch or mark the clear plastic). Suggest purchase of "mechanics" gloves if you'd like to enjoy dexterity during handling hot headlamps while still protecting your hands from the 225 degree heat.
- Micro-fiber towel
- Goof-Off
- Window cleaner or dish soap
- Service manual (Helm)
- Assistant

REMOVING THE FRONT BUMPER

1. Open up your hood and remove 6 clips on top of your bumper with a flat head screwdriver.



2. Under your car has (8) 10mm screws that need to be removed with a 10mm socket wrench



3. Where you fender and bumper touch, on each side has a 10mm screws. Remove them.



4. The front bumper should come right off, if not please double check for any left over screws that may not have been removed.

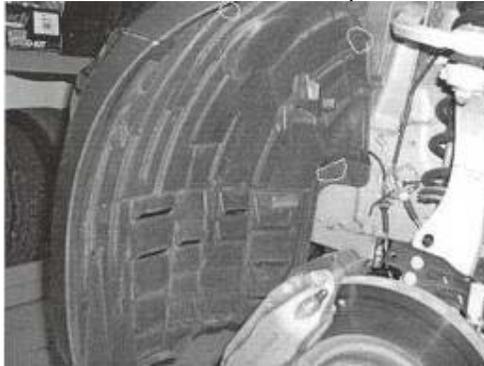


5. From inside, under the headlight should have (2) 10mm screws. Remove them. May also want to remove the bumper bracket for the time-being on each side by removing the (2) 10mm screws holding the brackets in place.

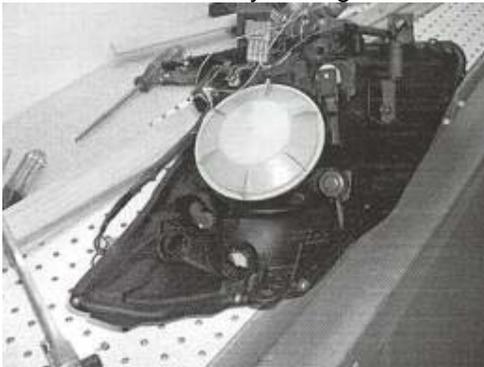


REMOVING THE HEADLIGHTS AND WIRE (HID)

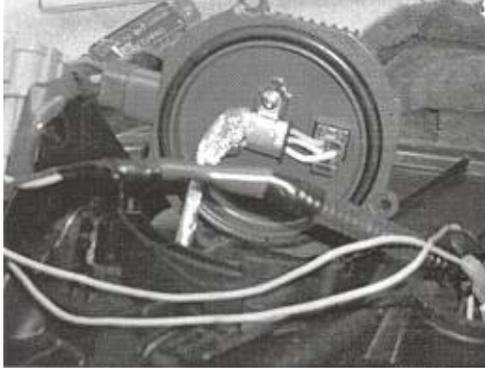
1. Within the front wheel wells there are 3 clips on each side that need to be removed to gain access to the rear of the headlamps.



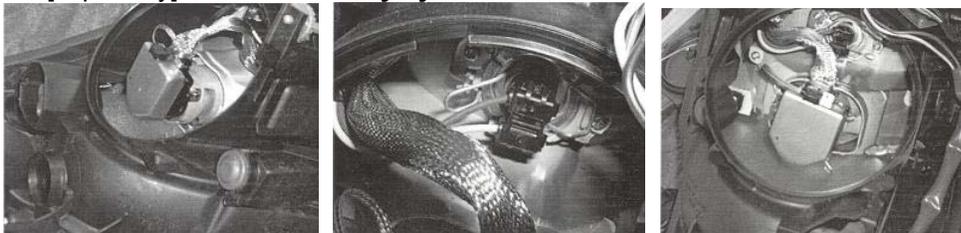
2. Before removing the headlamps (and while still mounted), disconnect the main wiring harness connector clip from the rear of the headlamp assembly.
3. There are (4) 10mm screws that need to be removed with 10mm socket wrench where the headlamp mounts to the car.
4. (Unlike the picture offered below, best to lay your headlamp face-down **on a soft towel** to avoid scratches!) Behind the headlights there is a beige/gray circular weather seal to protect the bulbs. Remove that by turning as indicated -- counter-clock wise



5. If your Z has HIDs, on the bottom of your headlamp assembly, there should be the ballast that needs to be removed using a phillip screwdriver (3 screws each side)



6. Unclip the ballast and remove the wire from it.
7. Remove all turns/parking/high/lowbeam light bulbs. Remove the HID bulbs and wire using a screwdriver. Including the wire clip that hold down the bulb. **BEWARE!!! REMEMBER HOW ALL THIS IS POSITIONED – KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR RE-INSTALLATION!!!** Do NOT handle the HID bulb (or preferably any bulb for that matter) with bare hands...Oils from your hands will transfer to the HID bulb, creating “hot spots” that will ruin the bulb’s life. Handle [especially] the HID bulb **only by its base**.



OPENING UP THE HEADLIGHT

1. On the headlamp edges you should have (5) small phillips screws that need to be removed.
2. Preheat your cooking oven **SET AT ***BAKE*** @ 225 degrees.**
3. You may desire to lay a flat cookie sheet upside down (or something similar) so you’re not attempting to balance the headlamp on the oven rack.
4. Place a single headlamp assembly – upright – on the oven rack / cookie sheet. (Make sure no wires or bulbs possibly still attached are dangling below the rack!)
5. Bake your headlight for 12 minutes *initially*.
6. After 12 minutes, remove it from the oven. The silicone should be melted enough to begin loosening the plastic tabs around the edges (probably won’t come away completely freely at this point...no pressure to get this done too quickly...so take your time ;-).
7. With your hands gloved (preferably) – recommend you use “mechanics gloves” from the likes of PepBoys, etc. – you should be able to pry the two halves of the headlamps apart. If it does not seem to come apart easily, then set headlamp back in oven and continue with another timed series of 12 minutes.
8. While opening, make sure no silicone stick inside your housing. If yes, try to clean it off immediately. A gentle wipe with some fresh Goof-Off on a clean lent-free micro-fiber towel should do the trick.
9. Once the two halves of the headlamp assembly are separated from one another, you’ll note that a secondary chrome housing is attached to the clear front half of the headlamp assembly.

- Remove the visible screws retaining that chrome housing to the clear half of the headlamp cover.
- Remove the chrome housing from the clear half of the headlamp cover (with special attention to *not* getting silicone onto the chrome housing as you remove it).

10. Remove the amber diffuser. It is loosely attached with small tabs.

BLACK HOUSING

These particular instructions for painting chrome internals are offered solely as an additional mod preference during the diffuser conversion process if interested. These procedures of painting the chrome housing are NOT to be followed if you do not desire to paint any portion of your chrome headlamp internals black. *If you do not wish to perform this particular mod, then proceed to "REPLACEMENT CLEAR/SMOKED DIFFUSER INSTALLATION" immediately.*

1. With the amber strip removed from the secondary chrome internal, inspect this chrome part to assure there are no fingerprints, oils, etc. which might affect the adherence of the paint process to the chrome.
2. Paint the outer housing with spray primer suitable for higher temperatures and preferably intended for plastics.
3. Once the primer has set up sufficiently (refer to the primer product label), paint the housing with flat black spray paint (again, this paint should be suitable for higher temperatures and preferably intended for plastics).
4. It is suggested that you only paint the secondary chrome portion, leaving the primary chrome concave reflective portions chromed so that they will reflect lighting as designed. However, you may wish to paint more parts at your discretion. Simply mask off with masking tape any areas you wish to cover so that paint won't be applied.
5. **You need to let the paint dry first before putting everything back together!** Refer to the product label for curing times.

REPLACEMENT CLEAR/SMOKED DIFFUSER INSTALLATION

The clear or smoked diffusers replace the stock amber diffusers. There is a right side, and a left side. And to each there is a "front" (smooth face) and a "back" (rough/reflective jaggies). Simply replace each amber diffuser with the new clear or smoked diffuser.

Please do the following before and during installation:

1. Diffuser Cleaning

The replacement diffusers are packed at the manufacturing location after they have passed the QA process. Because of the way they are made, there will be a film on the diffusers that needs to be cleaned off. You can feel this film; it is just like your hands after eating a good greasy hamburger. Use either glass cleaner or dish soap and water to clean this film off. You will feel when they are clean.

2. Diffuser Reforming & Installing

The curvature on the replacement diffuser may be slightly off due to shipping and may need to be reformed before installation. To reform the diffusers, do the following:

I used 140 degree water and soaked the diffuser for ~ 20 seconds. It felt very pliable once I was done. I then dried the diffuser by shaking off the excess, and using a lint free towel (such as a micro-fiber towel). Then I mounted the diffuser where the amber one was located and let cool for about 10 minutes.

NOTE: Be sure they are dry before you reassemble and reseal the headlamps!

BACK TO THE OVEN!!!

1. Once you've reinstalled your secondary chrome housing with the replacement diffuser installed, push the two halves of your headlight back together as much as you can.
2. Still with a BAKE temperature @ 250 degree place the headlight – upright – on the oven rack as previously instructed. Keep headlamp in oven for 12 minutes.
3. Remove headlamp from the oven and further push your headlight back together as much as your can. Try your best not to have any opening. It should prove that you can squeeze it back into position very well by this point.
4. Reinsert and draw down the (5) screws around the edges of the headlamp assembly.
5. Once the two halves are now completely together, apply an additional bead of silicone sealant (can pick this up @ your local auto or building supply store) and spread it along the housing seam. This effort will cover any open holes.
6. Let the sealant dry before re-installing the headlamps into the automobile.

TADA!!!

Once the silicone is dry, reinstall your headlamps into your automobile by following the earlier removal instructions in reverse order.