

REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION

REMOVAL

WARNING: To avoid serious or fatal injury on vehicles equipped with airbags, disable the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) before attempting any steering wheel, steering column, airbag, seat belt tensioner, impact sensor or instrument panel component diagnosis or service. Disconnect and isolate the battery negative (ground) cable, then wait two minutes for the system capacitor to discharge before performing further diagnosis or service. This is the only sure way to disable the SRS. Failure to take the proper precautions could result in accidental airbag deployment.

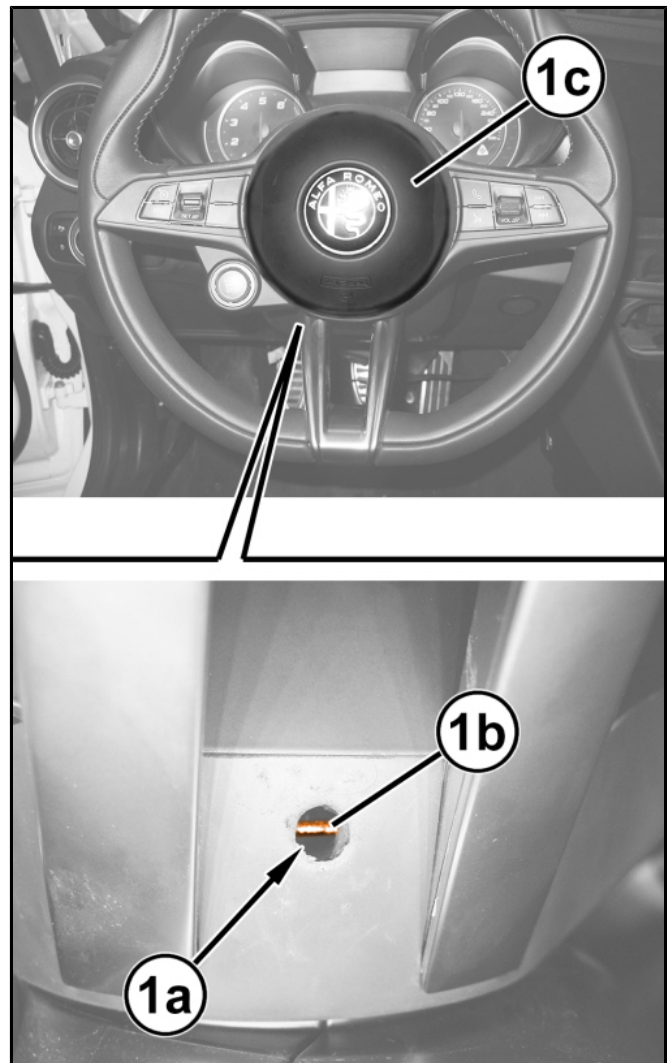
WARNING: To avoid serious or fatal injury when removing a deployed airbag, rubber gloves, eye protection, and a long-sleeved shirt should be worn. There may be deposits on the airbag cushion and other interior surfaces. In large doses, these deposits may cause irritation to the skin and eyes.

NOTE: The following procedure is for replacement of an ineffective or damaged Driver AirBag (DAB). If the airbag is ineffective or damaged, but not deployed, review the recommended procedures for Handling Non-Deployed Supplemental Restraints. (Refer to 10 - Restraints - Standard Procedure). If the DAB has been deployed, review the recommended procedures for Service After A Supplemental Restraint Deployment before removing the airbag from the vehicle. (Refer to 10 - Restraints - Standard Procedure).

1. Disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. Wait two minutes for the system capacitor to discharge before further service.
2. Locate the access hole (1a) in the lower surface of the steering wheel hub rear trim cover between the two lower vertical spokes.
3. Insert an appropriately sized flat-blade screwdriver through the steering wheel access hole far enough to engage the blade of the screwdriver with the spring wire (1b) of the DAB.

NOTE: When the spring wire retainer is released, the DAB is spring loaded to pop out from the steering wheel slightly.

4. Push the spring wire (1b) to the end stop, and hold it in this position while slightly pulling out the airbag module (1c), if necessary, from the steering wheel.

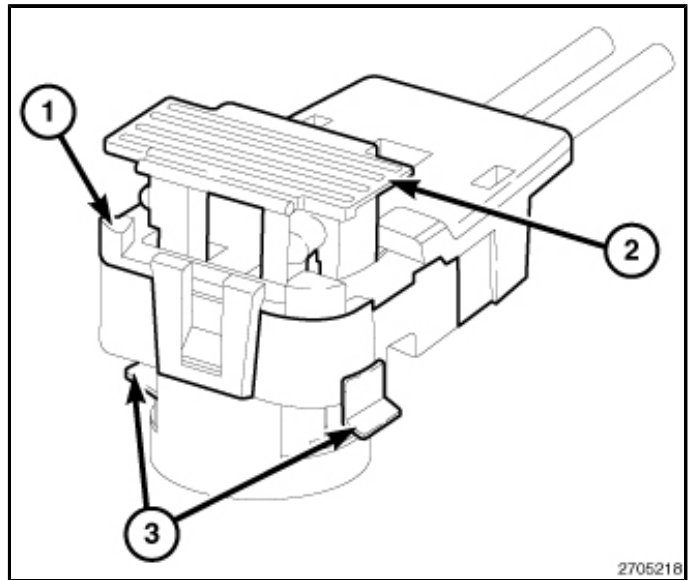
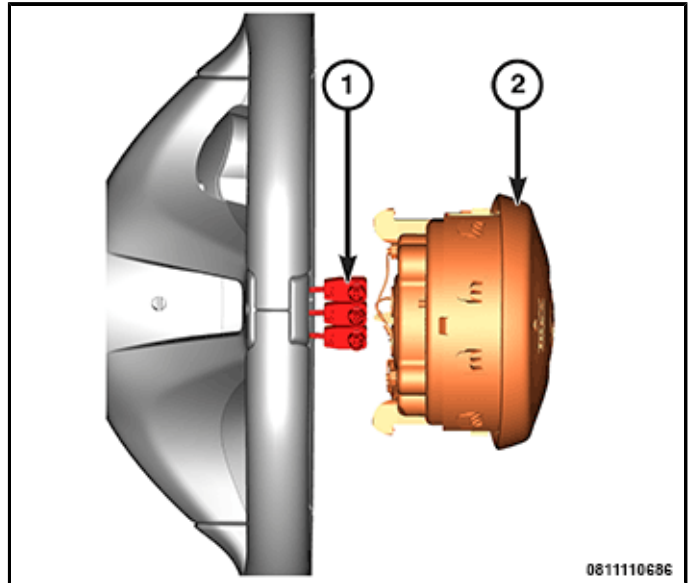


NOTE: Do not use excessive force while removing the DAB. Damage to the DBA wiring or connector may result.

5. Pull the DAB (2) away from the steering wheel far enough to access the steering wheel wire harness connectors (1) to the horn switch and the DAB inflator initiators.
6. Disconnect the steering wheel wire harness connectors (1) for the horn switch and the DAB inflator initiators.

CAUTION: Do not pull on the clockspring pigtail wires or pry on the connector insulators to disengage them from the Driver AirBag (DAB) inflator initiator connector receptacles. Improper removal of these pigtail wires and their connector insulators can result in damage to the airbag circuits or the connector insulators.

7. Each DAB pigtail wire connector insulator (1) is secured by integral latches (3) and a Connector Position Assurance (CPA) lock (2) to the airbag inflator connector receptacle, which is located on the back of the floating horn switch plate and the DAB housing. Pull the lock straight out from the connector insulator, then pull the insulator straight out from the connector receptacle to disengage and disconnect it.
8. Remove the DAB and floating horn switch plate from the steering wheel as a unit.
9. If the DAB has been deployed, the Steering Column Control Module (SCCM) as well as the steering column must be replaced. (Refer to 08 - Electrical/8E - Electronic Control Modules/MODULE, Steering Column Control/Removal and Installation) and (Refer to 19 - Steering/Column/Removal and Installation).



INSTALLATION

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WARNING: To avoid serious or fatal injury, use extreme care to prevent any foreign material from entering the Driver AirBag (DAB), or becoming entrapped between the DAB cushion and the DAB trim cover. Failure to observe this warning could result in occupant injuries upon airbag deployment.

WARNING: To avoid serious or fatal injury, the driver airbag trim cover must never be painted. Replacement airbags are serviced with trim covers in the original colors. Paint may change the way in which the material of the trim cover responds to an airbag deployment. Failure to observe this warning could result in occupant injuries upon airbag deployment.

NOTE: The following procedure is for replacement of an ineffective or damaged DAB. If the airbag is ineffective or damaged, but not deployed, review the recommended procedures for Handling Non-Deployed Supplemental Restraints. (Refer to 10 - Restraints - Standard Procedure). If the DAB has been deployed, review the recommended procedures for Service After A Supplemental Restraint Deployment before removing the airbag from the vehicle. (Refer to 10 - Restraints - Standard Procedure).

1. Position the DAB (2) and floating horn switch unit close enough to the steering wheel to access the steering wheel wire harness connectors(1) to the horn switch and the DAB inflator initiators.
2. Connect the steering wheel wire harness connector(2) to the floating horn switch connector on the back of the horn switch plate.
3. Connect the steering wheel wire harness connectors to the airbag inflator initiators by pressing straight in on the connector insulator. Be certain to engage each keyed and color-coded connector to the matching connector receptacle. Be certain that each connector is fully engaged in its receptacle, then push the connector lock straight into the connector to lock it into place.
4. Carefully position the DAB and floating horn switch unit into the steering wheel hub cavity. Be certain that none of the steering wheel wiring is pinched between the airbag housing or the horn switch and the steering wheel armature.
5. Using both hands, push firmly and evenly on both sides of the DAB trim cover until both latch features have snapped into place under the spring wire retainers within the hub cavity of the steering wheel.
6. Do not connect the negative battery cable at this time. The Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) Verification Test procedure should be performed following service of any SRS component. (Refer to 10 - Restraints - Standard Procedure).

