

All,

I am the owner of a 1999 Volvo V70 and while not a mechanic I do like to do minor repairs on my car to save money. Recently the master window switch controller (Part 8638452) went out on the car. When the local dealer wanted \$236 to replace the part I did some research on this site and decided I could do it myself. I purchased the part on the internet for \$125 (including S&H) and installed it myself. Total installation time was less than 8 minutes.

Here are the steps I took to change out the part.

1. Removing the Part from the Door

Use a small flat tip screwdriver to gently pry up on the part.



The part is held in place by four metal pressure/friction clips, two on each side. The clips are exactly 1-1/2 inches from each end. So when prying, try to be in this general area to get the best results. If you are going to reinstall the same part don't worry too much if you scratch the part while removing it because most scratches will be hidden by the door.

See the scratch I put on the part just left of the left clip.



2. Removing the Wire Clips

There are three wire bundle clips (gang clips) connected to the bottom of the master window controller.



Never try to remove the clips by pulling on the wires. On the side of the clip is a small button/lever used to release the clip.



At first I had difficulty removing the clip. Then I pushed down on the wire clip and at the same time pushing in on the button/lever and then pulled up on the clip and it released. I did the same for the other two clips and had no problem.

3. Installing the New Part

The rest was simple. I just clipped the wire bundle clips into the new part. Listen for a slight 'click' to ensure the wire clips 'lock' into position. Before replacing the master switch back into the door arm rest I cleaned out the area to make sure it was free of dirt and general 'crap' that builds up in an armrest over the years (see dirt in Photo #4). When replacing the part I had just a moment's trouble getting it to fit in correctly. I found that if the part goes in even a slight bit un-level it won't fit. The part is an exact fit so make sure the part is level when installing. While cleaning the dirt I used a Q-tip with a bit of WD 40 which helped the part slide into place.