

Radiator Grille Store

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2020+ Chevrolet Corvette Front Radiator Grille Installation Procedure



Note: it is best to protect your paint with painter's tape during the installation procedure. Though not necessary if care is taken.



Note: The RGS C8 kits come in different formats, aluminum powder coat and ABS full kits (include brake ducts and side intake grilles). This instructional guide will cover all (the large radiator openings have the exact same installation procedure).

Tools Required

Gloves as the grilles can be sharp. Painter's tape for paint protection if you would like. An oven or hair dryer. A whole bunch of patience to install the side intake grilles!

Procedure for Large Front Grilles and/or Brake

Ducts

1. The installation of the 2020+ Chevrolet Corvette C8 front radiator grilles are quite straightforward. Utilize gloves as the edges are sharp. Painter's tape is an option to protect portions of your vehicle during the installation, though not necessary with care.
2. The underbody panels in the front of the vehicle are to be removed. Access to jack stands or a lift will help with the removal of the panels. The photo here details the body panels and where some of the screws are. Please see the Corvette Forum or your owner's manual for lifting the vehicle safely and under panel removal.



3. Remove the approximately 10 torx screws and 9/32 or 7mm bolts on each of the side panels and the panels drop down giving you room to fit the grille behind the stock fascia. The center panel does not need to be unfastened.



4. If you have the brake duct grille, this is the time to insert it into position. The brake duct grille inserts tightly into the brake duct area, the grill will slip about 1/2 inch behind the center section of the bumper. Don't worry about alignment, we will final align after the large radiator grille is in place.

NOTE: for the ABS center brake duct piece on NON-Z51 cars, the top row of honeycomb will require trimming to fit. As you will see when placing it in the cavity, it will get stuck. Z51 cars have this area open and does not require trimming. Trimming can be accomplished with side cutters, aviation snips or strong kitchen scissors.

5. Next place the large radiator grille in place. You may need to hold the top outer corner of the grille to prevent contact with the condenser and ease the installation.



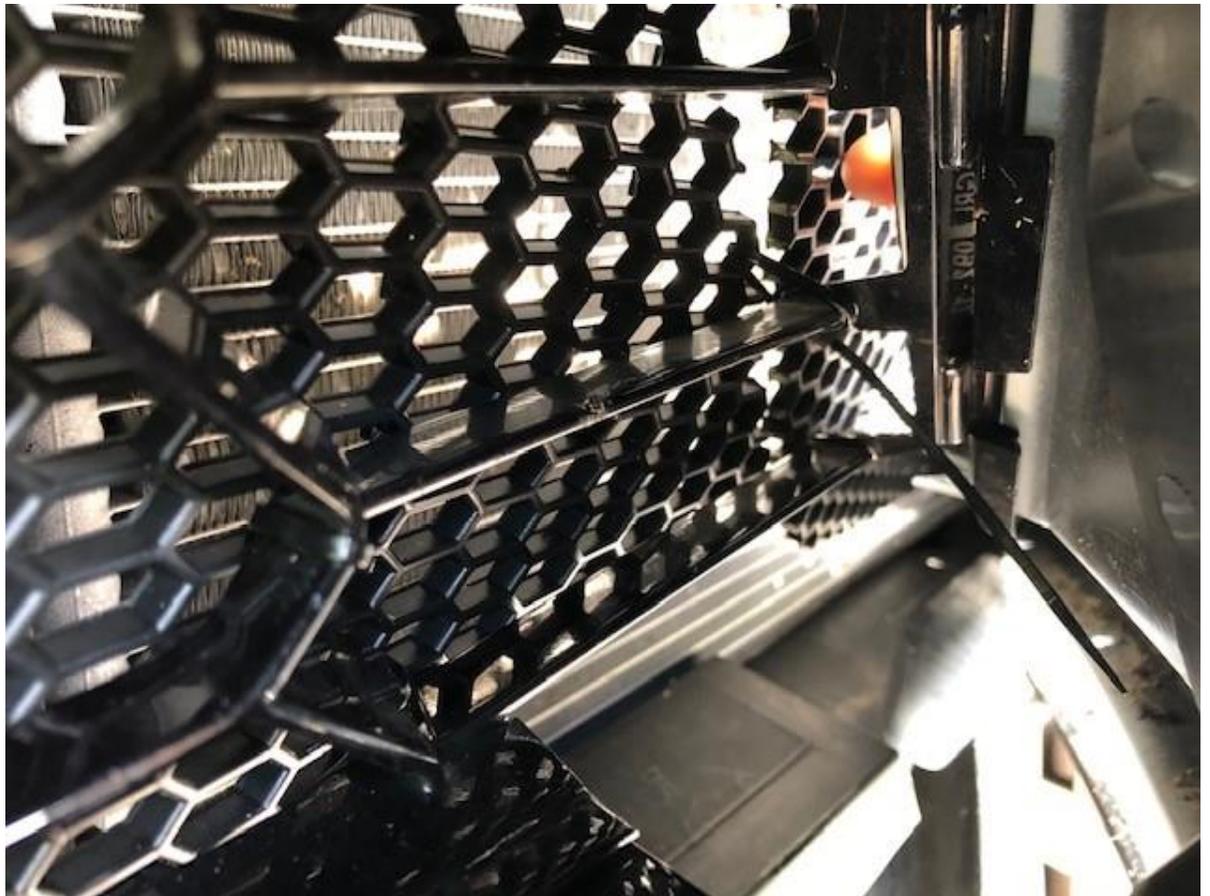
6. As the grill is fed through, it should be guided up towards the top of the radiator cavity. Align the grille and insert the cable ties where necessary, do not tighten. Insert all cable ties that you desire. You can see in the photo the locations we chose (the red circles on the bumper indicate cable ties behind, one for the brake duct grille and one to tie the brake duct grille to the large radiator grille). Loosely secure.







Showing rotating the receiving end of the cable tie behind the grille, to hide it even further.



Showing tying the brake duct grille and the large radiator grille together behind the bumper cover.

7. Final align the grille with an allen key or other tool. Rotate cable ties so that the receiving ends are hidden, then tighten cable ties. Clip off the ends of the cable ties for your completed installation! Repeat for the other side. There should be a small gap at the bottom to allow for any debris cleanup and easy accessibility for a vacuum cleaner. Button the underbelly back together and you are all set! Post up photos of the install on Facebook groups or C8 forums!

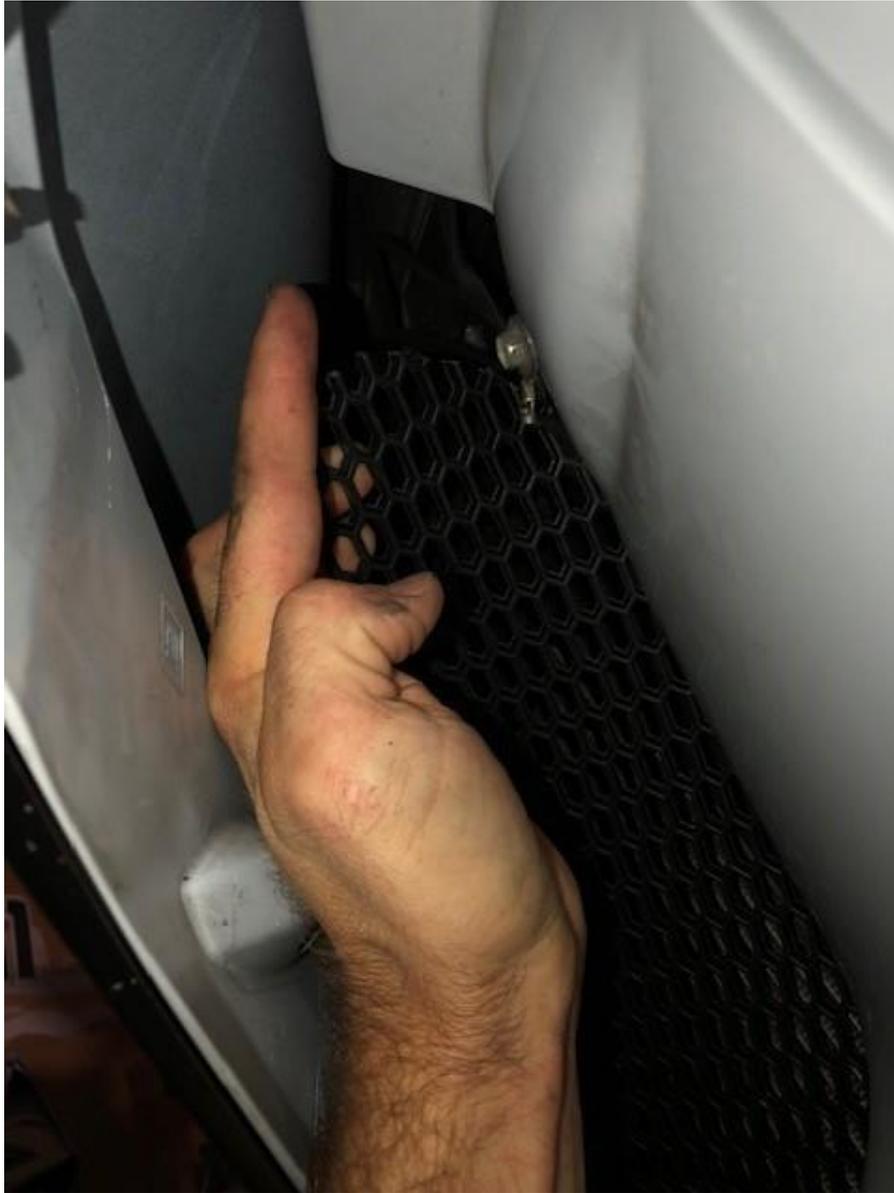
Procedure for C8 Side Intake Grilles

1. For those with the side intake grilles, take a deep breath and pat yourself on the back. The easy part of the install is behind you. Practice those swear words and stretch those hands. The install involves no tools, except your hands. The install is a series of movements with the plastic that require some slight bending and tweaking. Do not do this with cold ABS plastic as it can crack if bent too far in cold conditions.
For an exponentially easier installation, heat the grille up to 160 degrees with a hair dryer or oven. Trust us, so much easier! You can also help ease the installation by warming the grilles in the sun or with a hair dryer prior to installation.
2. The grille has a rectangle protrusion, that goes to the outside of the intake. That will differentiate them from drivers and passenger sides. Insert the grille into the side intake cavity as shown for the passenger side. Note the orientation of the small rectangle protrusion.



3. Slide the top portion up to the top of the cavity. The passenger side should align with the ground strap at approximately 6-7 rows of hexagon holes down from the top (The driver's side, start the tip of the grille at the foremost Torx bolt at the top of the cavity, photo below shows the rear Torx just to the left of the green sticker). Once that alignment is achieved start getting the portion of the grille that is near the cockpit, in behind the inner body panel. Pull the grille forward to only get the inner part behind the body panel that is near the door.
 - a On the driver's side, be careful of the gas filler neck sensor. Place in front of that sensor and slide up to where the peak of the grille should almost be touching the closest torx bolt (you can see the far one in the photo below at the top of the photo, peaking out near the green sticker). Then tuck the grille behind the inner body work. (go to step 4).





Passenger side houses the Z51 cooler if optioned. Place the top of the grille towards the top of the cavity, align the grille for height with the green ground wire at approximately 6-7 hexagon holes down for the peak of the grille.

4. As the grille is slid into position, grasp the outer portion of the grille to start the process of cussing, I mean, the gentle, peaceful installation! The grille will need to be contorted to fit in front of the lower external side intake mounting screw and so that the small rectangle protrusion sits flush with the outer portion of the side intake. Once the alignment to the inner body panel is complete from the above steps, now it is time to access your inner yoga instructor.
 - a Open the car door, this allows you to sit on the door sill allowing more space for you to move.
 - b Turn your top hand upside down (thumb pointing down) and grab the top $\frac{3}{4}$ of the grille with your thumb in the middle of the grille, and grab with your lower hand around the protruding tab and place your thumbs in the middle of the grille.
 - c First, start by bending the grille with the top hand toward the inner body about 2 inches before starting the next step.
 - d We need to decrease the radius of the lower section to clear the lower body mount and place in its final position. With the lower hand wrapped around the tab, thumb in the middle of the grille, create a small “taco” with the lower hand by putting pressure with your thumb in the middle of the grille, decreasing the diameter of the lower section at the tab. This will decrease the width enough to pull the bottom portion of the grille in front of the body mount screw at the bottom of the cavity. Start with the top pulling forward, but closely follow with the bottom portion until it clears the body mount screw.
 - e Pull your hands out and ensure proper alignment.





The circle shows where the side intake mount bolt now resides. All hidden and pretty now! Also, this shows where the rectangle protrusion contacts the outer grille body part. Once in position you are done! Rinse and repeat! Contact us with any questions, we are here to help!!