

Chrysler Crossfire Interior Door Pull Handle Repair

As you all probably know, the interior door pulls will eventually, one day, end up in your hand when shutting the doors.

The plastic molded handle has very weak points where the plastic goes thru the door panel. The cost to replace the door handle is around \$230 for the base and \$42 for the cover; a ridiculous amount IF you can even find them.

My wife's car had this issue. The driver's door pull broke off in my hand when shutting the door. Here is the fix, in detail, that I performed.

1. As the driver's side broke completely free from the bases, all that was left to do for removal was to unscrew the base out of the door panel. This is a torx-head screw, but a 4MM allen key works great. (pic of pass side as I already repaired the driver's side) The passenger side hadn't broken yet, but I did the same fix to match the driver's and also to prevent the usual break from happening. On this side, I only needed to remove the two torx-head screws and do the cover mods.



The cover pops straight off if your base is still in one piece on the door...see pic below



2. Once you have removed the broken base pieces from the door panel (only held in by the screw but also have detents that make it a little difficult to pull out), they can be discarded.
3. Now you have to prepare the pop-on cover to accept the new stainless screws.
I drilled a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole for this purpose. The great thing is, where the hole needs to be in the cover, there is a perfect pilot on the backside. There is a molded square exactly where the screw hole needs to be on each end. Place the drill in this square and slowly, carefully drill thru the cover.



See next pic also of the complete $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole:



4. Once this is completed, you will need to countersink the other side so the screw is flush when installed. I did this by using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " drill bit IN MY HAND not in a drill. The plastic is very soft and will be destroyed if you use a drill. I carefully placed the $\frac{1}{2}$ " drill bit in the hole on the front side of the cover and turned it slowly to remove the plastic and create the countersink.



5. Now that you are going to be attaching using a screw from the front cover, you will need to purchase these screws. They are #14 x 4" stainless screws. I bought them on eBay for \$2 each. If you do both doors, you will need 4 of course.



6. Now simply pop your cover back on the broken base or like my passenger side, just pop the cover back on the unbroken base that is still attached to the door panel. Make sure if yours is broken completely off, you turn it the proper direction to replace.



7. Insert screws and wiggle until you find the hole they need to be screwed back into in the door panel.



8. Tighten up with a Phillips screw driver evenly. In the passenger side case, I just had to tighten completely. On the driver's side since the broken pieces were now gone, I carefully, evenly tightened each end to make sure they were properly seated. Don't over-tighten since the bases are broken and removed and you will collapse the door panel and maybe also place the screws too deep and possibly cause internal damage.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR FINAL LOOK. If you do not like the look of the screws, there is a company that makes leather wraps to cover the door pulls. They also sell on eBay. I like the look as it seems original if done properly.

Final Results (very strong)

