

1955-57 DOOR HINGES WITH HIDDEN WIRING HARNESS UPDATED



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Randy has been involved in the Chevy parts business for over 30 years. He is a wizard at creating, making and modifying custom parts for Chevys.

With so many accessories being added to the Tri-Five cars like power windows, power door locks and door speakers, it can get tough to get all those wires from the body over to the door with out creating a wiring nightmare. The door jambs on the Tri-Five cars close up so tight that using the universal spring type wiring conduits really don't work very well. The spring conduits get crushed in the door jams and than the wires get pinched, break and short out. The conduits that Chevrolet used when power windows were installed work fine but look like an antique part and in no way are trying to hide the wires. The goal anymore is to smooth everything out and hide stuff. You want that guy to walk up to your car and say "how did he do that?" and watch him stand there and try to figure it out. Eckler's Classic Chevy has developed a slick, simple and safe way to route up to ten wires from the cowl to the doors and will be totally out of sight - only you and your restoration guy will know for sure. The door hinges with hidden wiring **P/N 54-134** are modified original door hinges that include removable billet aluminum conduits that include a special quick disconnect harness with 10 wires from the body to the doors.



Parts Needed:

54-134 1955-57 Door Hinges With Hidden Wiring Harness

To order parts call 1-800-456-1957 or visit ClassicChevy.com

Tools Needed:

Impact Screw Driver And Phillips Bit
1/2" Socket
9/16" Socket

Ratchet And Extension
Hammer And Punch
9/64" Allen Wrench

Time Frame:

3 Hours



Photo #1a & 1b: The original door conduits work great but do not really conceal the wires and to install them you have to do some drilling and cutting on painted surfaces.



Photo #2a & 2b: To install the new modified door hinges, the doors will need to be removed. The upper and lower door hinges are bolted to the door with three bolts each. Remove the six bolts and the door will slide off the hinges.



Photo #3a & 3b & 3c: The modified door hinge can be used as the upper or lower door hinge. We chose to use the modified hinge as the lower hinge. The hinge box is held to

the cowl with two Phillips screws and two 1/2" bolts up inside the hinge box. Remove all four fasteners and the hinge and box can be removed from the cowl.



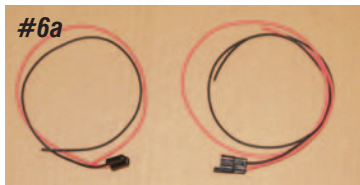
#4a



#4b

Photo #4a & 4b: To remove the hinge from the hinge box, the hinge pin will need to be removed. Using a hammer and punch, drive the pin out of the box and hinge. Always use plenty of PB Blaster or WD40 here.

Photo #5: The modified door hinges have been cleaned; the old hinge pin bushings are removed and have been painted black primer. New hinge pin bushings are supplied with the kit. The new bushings should be installed after the door hinges have been painted body color.



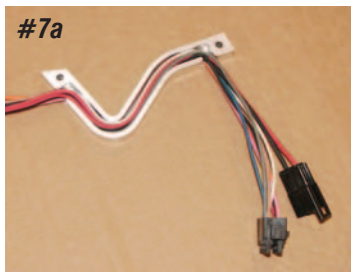
#6a



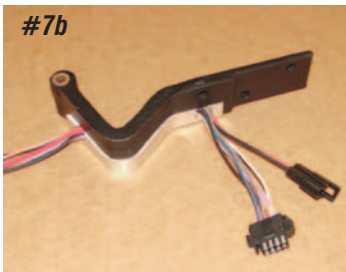
#6b

Photo #6a & 6b: The door hinge kit includes two wiring harnesses, both with male and female jacks allowing the door harness to be unplugged if the door needs to be removed in the future. One harness has a RED and BLACK 14-gauge wire for a common power and ground. The other harness has eight

different color 16-gauge wires for the door accessories like power windows, power door locks, speakers and so on.



#7a



#7b

Photo #7a & 7b: The cowl side of the wiring harness has three feet of wire and the door side of the wiring harness has two feet of wire. The billet aluminum wiring conduit will hold all ten wires comfortably and is held to the bottom of the door hinge with two #8-32 machine socket head screws. Lay the wires in the conduit leaving 5" of wire hanging out of the conduit on the door end of the hinge. This will leave enough wire on the door side of the hinge so that the wire and jacks can be routed up inside the door out of sight and clear of the door panels. The conduit is removable so if there is ever a problem with the wires, they can be serviced. The door hinges

can be painted body color and the conduits can be left the natural aluminum finish, polished or painted the same color as the hinge to make them totally disappear - it's your choice.



Photo #8: Next install the hinge back into the hinge box. The hinge pin installs from the top. Make sure to lubricate the hinge pin and bushings with light grease.

Photo #9: Now install the hinge assembly back into the cowl. With the kick panels removed, you can see there is plenty of wire there to work with, making it very easy to connect all your accessories.

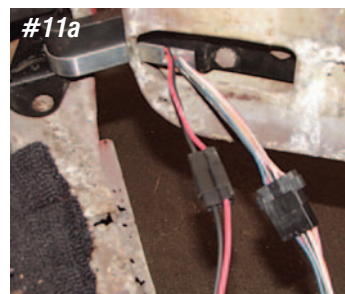


#10a

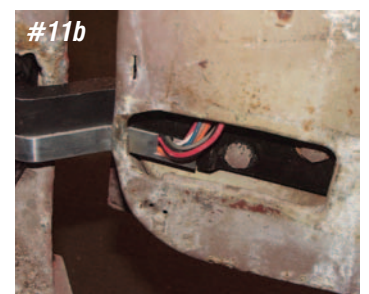


#10b

Photo #10a & 10b: The slot in the front of the door for the hinge is large enough for the hinge and the two wiring harness jacks to pass through. Install the door back onto the hinges and adjust accordingly. The conduit will keep the wires clear of any sharp edges.

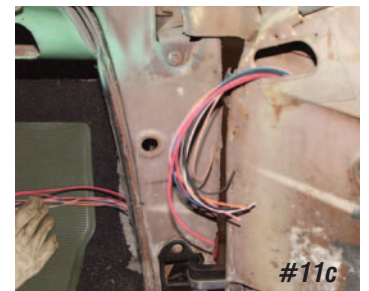


#11a



#11b

Photo #11a & 11b & 11c: Now the door side of the harness can be plugged into the cowl side of the harness and routed up inside the door. There is also plenty of wire on the door end of the harness to connect all your accessories.



#11c

With the wires routed through the hinge conduit they are out of sight and there is no chance of the getting pinched in the door jamb. Good Luck. ▼