

How to remove the radio head unit in a 2000 Lexus LS400.

Remove the center vent assembly by pulling the spring loaded retaining clip on each side inward with a small screwdriver while gently prying the assembly out with a non-scarring trim removal tool.



Slide the vent assembly out, move the hazard flasher connector, and set the vent assembly aside.



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Block the car wheels to prevent the car from rolling when the gear shift is moved from Park. ALSO SET THE PARKING BRAKE. Remove the small cover for the shift interlock switch, press the interlock switch down, and pull the gear shift lever all the way rearward.



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Gently but firmly pry the wood console panel out with a trim removal tool.



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Remove the wood console panel. Disconnect the connectors for the ashtray light, VSC, seat heater switches, etc. Set the wood console panel aside.



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Remove the four 10mm bolts (2 top, 2 bottom) holding the radio/HVAC assembly in place.



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Remove the two bottom 10mm bolts holding the radio/HVAC assembly in place.



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Use a towel to protect the vinyl on the console rails. Pull the radio/HVAC unit out and rest it on the towel.



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Unplug the radio and HVAC connectors from the radio/HVAC assembly.



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Place the radio/HVAC assembly on a workbench with a protective surface (e.g. cardboard). Remove the six screws that hold the radio head unit to the frame – three screws on each side.



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Separate the radio head unit from the frame.



Tips for reassembly:

Ensure that there is no or minimal gap between the HVAC assembly and radio head unit. A gap may make it difficult to reinstall the center vent assembly.

Verify that all electrical connectors have been reconnected. This sounds simple but there are a lot of electrical connectors. Don't forget to plug in the two antenna leads.

This document does not cover removing the amplifier under the front passenger seats. Regardless of what some instructions say, it is not necessary to remove the passenger seat to remove or reinstall the amplifier. Move the passenger seat forward and tilt rear of the seat cushion upward. Reinstalling the amplifier can require an extra set of hands to guide the amplifier retaining tabs into place from the front foot well while the amplifier is pushed into place from the rear foot well.