

# Down South Vettes Leather emergency brake handle Installation Instructions.

**Difficulty:** 3 out of 5.

**Time:** Plan on about 20 minutes.

**The tools used are:**

- ? **A small blade screw driver or flat tweezers to reseal the new boot around the base of the e-brake handle.**
- ? **A T15 Torx driver to take off the console cover.**
- ? **A Phillips head screwdriver to remove the e-brake handle.**
- ? **A flashlight may help get a better look at the screw location as you start.**



**The original OEM boot and handle to replace.**



The first step will be to remove the center console cover so you have access to the screw that holds on the e-brake handle. Open the center console to expose 4 T15 Torx screws. Now, remove the center console cover.



Once the center console cover is off, pull down the e-brake boot to reveal a Phillips head screw which holds the e-brake handle in place.



Once you remove the Phillips head screw, the only thing holding the handle in place at this point is the brake release button at the top. The button is held in place with a friction fit and a detent in a notch. To remove (easiest from the passenger side), grip the OEM handle firmly and pull (slide) the handle off which will "pop" the brake release button off the top of the handle. You can now slide the handle off with ease.



Now that the handle is off you need to remove the OEM brake boot. Take a minute to examine the new Down South Vettes boot. This will give you a better understanding of the four attachment points on the OEM boot.



The boot is held in place by two press to fit clips on the drivers side and two angled clamps on the passenger side. Start at the front and lift up and towards the windshield and the front two clamps will come out. The rear clamps are a little harder to get. Next pull up near the rear press fit on the driver's side. Last, pull the boot up over the handle to get the metal frame underneath back to level and work to pull up and forward to unseat the last clamp. Once this is complete the boot will lift off of the brake handle.



**Take the new Down South Vettes brake boot and place it over the top of the handle set at a convenient angle. Through a combination of movements the object is to get the frame and leather boot over the handle and back to level so that you can press it into the four retaining points on the console. Snap everything firmly into place.**

**Now we need to get the handle back on. Your new shift boot is considerably thicker than the OEM boot and as such it is difficult to screw the handle back into place. Move back to the drivers side of the car and get the handle, the Phillips head screw and your screw driver ready in the open console.**



Using your right hand, compress the boot as far down as you can and see if you can get a clear view of the hole on the side where the screw needs to go. You may need to twist and maneuver the boot a bit to get it compressed enough to allow the screw to be reinserted. This will take some effort but it will go. Once you are comfortable that you can compress the boot, hold the boot down and place the handle back on the arm. Now use the handle to hold the boot down in place with your right hand and try to start the screw with your left. Once you get it started, use the screw driver and tighten screw to a stop. Be careful not to drop the screw into the boot as you will need to remove the boot to retrieve it and start over again. Once the handle is screwed back in place press fit the silver brake button over the black cap and down into the hole on the emergency brake handle. Press it down well and it will snap back into place.

Now it is time to get the boot reseated on the base of the handle. Using both hands work the boot around the base starting in the back (or top) as pictured below. Once the boot is started you can twist counter clockwise while pressing the boot up into place. This will allow the boot to seat the rest of the way around the base of the handle.



Now all that's left is to put the console cover back on using the four T15 Torx screws, sit back and enjoy the look of your new leather.



<http://www.dsvettes.com/index.htm>