

Block OnStar Blue and Red Lights C7/GS



A Corvette Forum question caused me follow through with what I had thought I might do about the Blue and Red OnStar LED's in the rear view mirror. It asked, "Does anyone occasionally become paranoid about the Blue OnStar lights in the rear view mirror?" Funny, I felt the same way! Particularly now with my eyes spending a lot of time glancing in the rear view mirror looking for anyone who might be talking on a cell phone or even worst, texting! Having never had an accident in over 50 years of driving (and fast cars at that) and have always used the car mirrors extensively. In the C7 Corvette, since the rear view is limited, that now includes properly positioned side mirrors, small oval blind spot mirrors, and the center rear view mirror,. Guess I have trained my mind to scan these mirrors looking for a close car, one passing and now someone with a phone in their hand or talking to themselves!

I do not spend any time looking at any one mirror but my quick glances have, from time to time, caused a second take in the rear view mirror to be sure that the OnStar Blue light (or Red one) was not a police car! Since I have no intension of paying for OnStar when the free trial is up (soon) - why do I need those lights!?

Thought I might use the "Click and Clack" solution for an old car with a check engine light for a minor issue; cover the lights that are no use to me!!

This picture story provides some perspective.

Photo Sequence

This is a picture of the OnStar lights when the headlights are on. I was most concerned for daytime driving, so the bottom bright Blue "ON" light was of most concern. The Red "SOS" light was also causing a paranoid reaction. The upper lights are only on when the headlamps are on, at night and are located behind the silvered mirror.



At a quick glance, was that Blue light a police car flashing light requesting I stop!?! It causes a double take!



Even though it was only an instant, the thought quickly evokes a response, "Oh boy, was I going to fast!" Far better to be paying attention to the road and cars around then looking at the speedometer and thinking about a possible unnoticed speed limit change, etc.!

I recalled a Click and Clack radio program, where a solution to a check engine light on an old car was suggested. Fixing the minor problem would be expensive and for the limited use made of the car, it was suggested black tape over the light was a viable solution for that problem!

Since the bottom mirror inset area, where the lights are located, is a gray color thought I would make two small gray circles from some stick-on label stock. Printed the gray color and used a hole punch to make the right size, perfect circles.





The gray labels were placed over the lights in this photo. However, the LED's are so bright they still showed through the gray labels! The paper stock and ink on the label material was not heavy enough to block the light. If the covers were going to be used, might as well be sufficiently opaque so no light could be seen.



The solution was to cut some hole punch rounds from black electrical tape.

That black tape did the job, no Blue or Red lights are visible on the new Grand Sport! Could add extra circles to cover the other lights that come on with the headlights, but believe the two used are all that will be needed. Also the upper lights are only indicators and are behind the silvered mirror where the bottom lights are in their own gray area and are also touch activated switches.



Bottom Line:

Perhaps I am a bit paranoid, but have always followed the Andy Grove (former CEO of Intel) philosophy of "Only the Paranoid Survive!" He wrote a book by that name!

I try to have a thought through response to possible problems so a viable reaction can be applied quickly, should it be necessary. In addition, if the cost is low, why not do something to possibly prevent a negative event, where possible. Black tape is a low cost solution that will help keep my eyes and thoughts where they need to be when driving! *After over 6 months of stopping the OnStar subscription, the lights are still lit! But now behind the black covers!*

Other 2017 Grand Sport & 2014 Stingray PDF's Available:



Some 40 items discuss improvements or information about a 2017 Grand Sport and 2014 Stingray function and/or esthetics. Some are minor and others, like the installing ceramic brake pads, include detailed install information.

Below are the PDF's available. Click on picture (may need Ctrl pressed.) Or just copy and paste the PDF info (Blue type) into your browser. Or email me at GUtrachi@aol.com and state the title desired, shown in Yellow:

Note: GS indicates the info was updated from that available for the C7 Z51 PDFs.

Rusty GS/C7 Muffler

*Why the C7 muffler is rusted and a simply way to make rust turn matte black.
Bottom pic rusted, top pic treated*

http://netwelding.com/Muffler_Rust.pdf



Change GS/C7 Oil

*WHY change your own oil and HOW to do it
Revised, includes C7 Lifting Methods*

http://netwelding.com/Changing_Oil.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Side Skirts

*How to install side skirts with jacking information for
DIY's without lifts*

http://netwelding.com/Side_Skirts.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Splitter w/End Plates

How to install Splitter & Nylon bra fit

http://netwelding.com/CF_Splitter.pdf



C7 Removing GM Plastic Film

How To Remove The Rocker Panel Film

http://netwelding.com/Rocker_Panel_Film.pdf



GS/C7 Mirror Proximity Alarm

Limit switch alarm warns when passenger mirror is too close to door frame

http://netwelding.com/Mirror_Proximity_Alarm.pdf



Jacking Pads for GS/C7

Jacking Pads must 2 1/2 inch max OD. Made four. Bought 2 1/2 inch OD x 2 inch high pads after installing side skirts; Bought pads right for the GS.

http://netwelding.com/Jacking_pads.pdf



GS/C7 Radar Power

For C7 tapped rear fuse panel. For GS tapped mirror

http://netwelding.com/Radar_Detector_Power.pdf



GS/C7 Belt Rattle

Passenger seat belt rattles against the seat back. The solution, add a shoulder belt pad.

http://netwelding.com/Eliminate_Rattle.pdf



Aluminum C7 Chassis and Weld Repair

The C7 has an all aluminum chassis, made from 117 welded pieces

http://netwelding.com/Aluminum_Chassis.pdf



GS/C7 Ceramic Brake Pads

The Z51 has very dusty brakes. These pads help!

http://netwelding.com/Ceramic_Pads.pdf



GS/C7 License Plate Frame;

Must Meet South Carolina Law

http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Frame.pdf



Manage GS/C7 Spilled Gas

Protect the side of the Vette when filling up with gas

http://netwelding.com/Manage_Spilled_Gas.pdf



GS/C7 License Plate & Cargo Lights

LED license plate light & cargo area bulbs are brighter and whiter

http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Light.pdf



GS/C7 Rear Cargo Area

Rear cargo area needs storage device and rear protector

http://netwelding.com/Rear_Cargo_Area.pdf



GS/C7 Door Panel Protector

Black plastic protector added to prevent scuffing of door when exiting

http://netwelding.com/Door_Panel_Protector.pdf



GS/C7 Improved Cup Holder

A solution to the cup holder spilling under hard braking or sharp turns.

http://netwelding.com/Improved_cup_Holder.pdf



GS/C7 Wheel Chatter/Hop

Why sharp, low speed turns with cold tires causes the front tires to chatter/hop.

http://netwelding.com/Wheel_Chatter.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Grille Bar

Install genuine carbon fiber grille bar overlay

http://netwelding.com/CF_Grille_Bar.pdf



Jacking a GS/C7 Vette

Safely jacking either front only or back & front

http://netwelding.com/Jacking_A_C7.pdf



Deer Whistle Installed on GS/C7

Do they work? Plus Install Info

http://netwelding.com/Deer_Whistle.pdf



Replacing C7 Battery

After using a GM type charger and showing fully charged a voltage low, replaced battery with AGM!

http://netwelding.com/Battery_Issues.pdf



GS/C7 Window Valet

Lower Windows with FOB

Window Valet Helps 2014/2015 Latch Hatch

http://netwelding.com/Hatch_Latch.pdf



GS/C7 Splash Guards

GM offers splash guards for the C7 Corvette. An easy DIY installation. ACS Best Front Guards for GS.

http://netwelding.com/Splash_Guard.pdf



GS/C7 Blind Spot Mirror

Smaller rear and side windows cause C7 blind spots. Small "blind spot mirrors" help

http://netwelding.com/Blind_Spot.pdf



GS/C7 Skid Pad Protector

After the air dam, the aluminum "skid pad" hits driveway ramps etc. Plastic protector helps.

http://netwelding.com/Skid_Pad_Protector.pdf



GS/C7 Wheel Locks

Wheel locks, torqued to required 100 ft-lbs, help protect your expensive wheels from theft.

http://netwelding.com/Wheel_Locks.pdf



GS/C7 OnStar Lights

The OnStar LED's in the rear view mirror, at a quick glance, look like a police car flashing light! This is a fix.

http://netwelding.com/OnStar_Lights.pdf



GS/C7 Skip Shift Eliminator

Skip Shift Eliminator install with suggestions on jacking a C7.

http://netwelding.com/Skip_shift_Eliminator.pdf



C7 Catch Can & Clean Oil Separator

Direct inject engines like the LT1, are particularly subject to "coking." What is Coking and how to reduce the potential?

http://netwelding.com/Catch_Can.pdf



GS/C7 Round Shift Knob

A round shift knob shortens throw.

http://netwelding.com/Shift_Knob.pdf



GS/C7 Stingray Sill Plate

Stingray sill plate replaces original.

http://netwelding.com/Sill_Plate.pdf



GS/C7 Nylon Bra

Nylon Bra Stops Bugs on Front and Grill. Fits with Stage 3 Winglets

http://netwelding.com/Nylon_Bra.pdf



GS/C7 Clutch Fluid Change

Clutch fluid after 3000 miles gets dirty
http://netwelding.com/Clutch_Fluid.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Hood Vent

Replaces Plastic Hood Vent
http://netwelding.com/Hood_Vent.pdf



GS/C7 Cold Air Intake

Low Restriction Air Filter & Duct
http://netwelding.com/Cold_Air_Intake.pdf



Garmin GPS for GS Cubby

Garmin Mounts in GS Cubby
http://netwelding.com/GPS_In_Cubby.pdf



GS Splitter Stage 3 Winglet

Stage 3 Winglets Integrate with Spats
http://netwelding.com/Stage_3_Winglets.pdf



GS 2LT to 2.5 LT

Red Upper Dash Pad Like 3LT
http://netwelding.com/Red_Dash_Pad.pdf



Jake Emblem/Decals for GS

Jake Symbols Support GS Racing Image
http://netwelding.com/Jake_Emblems.pdf



GS Splitter Protector

Rugged Plastic Protection for Splitter
http://netwelding.com/Splitter_Protectors.pdf



GS: Vitesse Throttle Controller

Adjustable Throttle-by-Wire Control
http://netwelding.com/Throttle_Control.pdf



May Be Of Interest:

Engineering a ProStreet Rod

*How Our '34 ProStreet Rod Was Designed and Built
8.2 Liter Engine, 4 Wheel Disk Brakes & Coilovers*
<http://netwelding.com/Engineering%20Street%20Rod%203-08.pdf>

