

## Powering A Radar Detector Install C8 & C7 Grand Sport

A Radar Detector is a necessity if you own a Corvette! Even if you stay within 8



miles per hour of the speed limit, not easy, there will be the time when you speed because you didn't see the speed limit change; you're trying to get out of a trucks blind spot etc.

### You're a Target:

The one thing you can be sure, if there is a police officer around when you speed, the

radar gun will be triggered! In my S10 truck I could be in the lead of a pack of cars and watch a patrol car come from the oposite direction and seldom did the radar detector signal. With the Vette, the radar gun is triggered and a warning occurs almost every time!

### Installing a Detector:

I've installed radar detectors mounted to the passenger visor for an '87, '93 and '08 Vette. Even an Escort tech said with a nonmetallic roof, it's fine. I have powered the detector from the passenger visor light and the rearview mirror 12 volt switched power. Bought a new Passport Max. Great detector. It has a new, suction cup mount, however a visor mount is not available. Escort says it mounts too high on the windshield for optimum performance. It's also a heavy detector and could be an issue if mounted to the sun visor.

### Powering the Passport Max:

For my early 2014 GM said can't tap the mirror power as currents are monitored. Used the rear fuse #37 that was for the power receptacle in the console. It was found about mid 2014 that mirror power was usable. Bought a Blendmount mirror tap kit. More complex an install then the simple method that worked for the C6, but the final result is neat and clean. This picture/text PDF shows the steps in this install.

First covered is my C8 install, then a 2017 Grand Sport install.

## Photo Sequence

### C8 Corvette Install

Best way to remove the mirror cap is from the driver's seat with mirror turned to the passenger seat.

I used a small screwdriver and inserted in the bottom center and pried loose.

Stay in the driver's seat for the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the next step.



After Removing Cap, From Driver's Seat, Remove Plug Held By Two Clips



The mirror wire plug is held on the mirror back with two clips. Just lift with a small screwdriver and it comes loose. Well lose enough to turn the plug and find the wires you need to tap.

Then move to the passenger seat and remove the other clip.

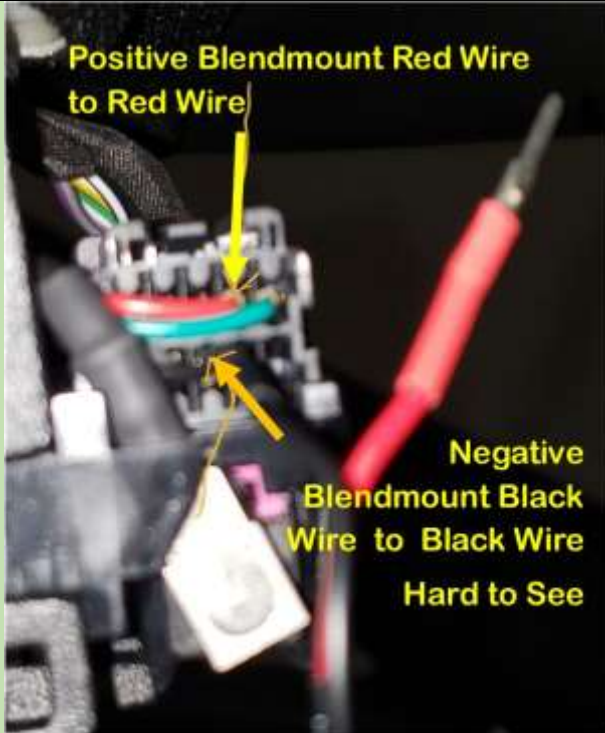
I used the Blendmount wire kit I bought for my 2017 Grand Sport. Where the Grand Sport required the smallest Blendmount wire tips and still needed a "dental pick" pressed into the existing wire to fit.

The C8 not only had plenty of room, I used the large flat tip. Fortunately, had saved the wire tips that came with the Kit!

Note: Used the old wire kit initially but in a further step you'll see I bought a new, longer Blendmount wire tap kit.

I used the Blendmount Wire Kit that I bought and used on my 2017 Grand Sport





Forum Poster *bad moooo foooo* posted this more detailed pic of the mirror plug wiring. The Red Positive wire is very obvious, used the largest pin supplied by Blendmount and it fit fine, did not have to use a “dentil pick” to make room as I did on my C7..

The Black Negative wire is below and slightly to the left of the Red Wire above. NOT so obvious but probed and pushed in and it worked!

Note: when I added the longer wire I used the small piece of shrink tubing supplied with the new kit to cover the pin to wire connection. (*I heated and shrunk the tubing.*)

Used a small round file to make room for the Blendmount wire. But when I added the longer wire decided to make a new larger opening that gave more room and less wire jamming inside the light cover.

The wire now comes out of the top right corner. The supplied shrink tubing connecting the plug pins to the wire supplied with the kit is coming out that top corner.



As I had done with the same detector purchased for my 2014 Z51 and used on my Grand Sport, used the ESCORT “Sticky Mount” that came with it. Each summer on a very hot day IF parked facing the sun the suction cup let lose! The stainless-steel line fishing lure leader acts as a Tether. It’s attached to a very small eye hook screwed into the upper window molding.

The Passport Max has 7 years of “speed traps” I have seen memorized! I nice female voice announces “Speed Trap” as I approach!

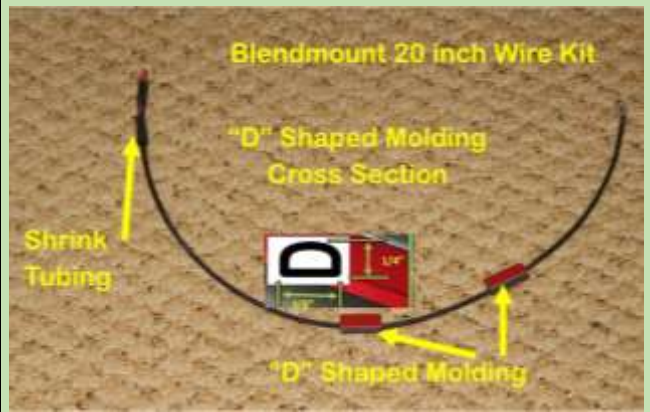
Had 2 problems. First, the 15-inch older Blendmount wire kit was too short and I could only see a small part of the detector.

Second had an intermittent connection that I thought might be the sharp bend in the old wire from the prior install.

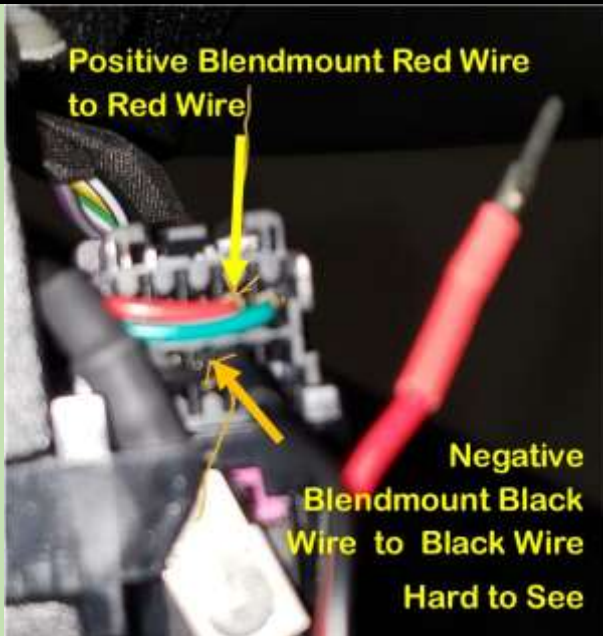
Bought a new 20-inch kit and moved the radar detector a few inches further right.

I installed two short sections of "D" shaped molding to secure the longer wire to the top on the window. It has 3M double sided tape to hold the wire in place..

The kit came with a short piece of shrink tubing I used after installing the new wire.



Preinstalled these pieces on the supplied wire. The shrink tubing was in the kit.



Turned out it wasn't the bend in the original 15-inch long wire it was the Negative connection to the plug causing the intermittent connection. Used a new pin with a largest end as there is a lot of room. Had to push the pins into the plug but could do that with my fingers.

As before the Red Positive connection is obvious and the pin pushed in with modest force. The negative terminal in the plug is NOT as obvious. It is directly below the red wire and slightly to the left. You can feel it slip in.

The radar detector is now fully visible from the driver's seat. The wire loop is needed IF (WHEN) the Escort "Sticky Mount" lets lose! (It did that a few times every summer for the ~7 years I used in on my C7s! Never let lose while driving. It appears the air left in the 'Sticky Mount' suction cup expands from the hot sun and increasing the pressure causing it to "let lose.")

The detector and holder will be held by the Tether, but the power cord must be long enough to not put a strain on the wire.



## INSTALL ON 2017 Grand Sport

This view shows some of the Blendmount wires that come in the kit. I installed these before plugging into the 15-inch-long wire that has the phone plug used by Passport. The dental pick were the best tools to get the plastic cover off and to enlarge the hole in the back of the plug.

It was suggested the SIM Tool be used to enlarge the space to make room for the Blendmount wires. Bought 10 for \$0.99 on eBay free shipping from China. They bent and were too small. Dental picks come in various sizes and worked best.



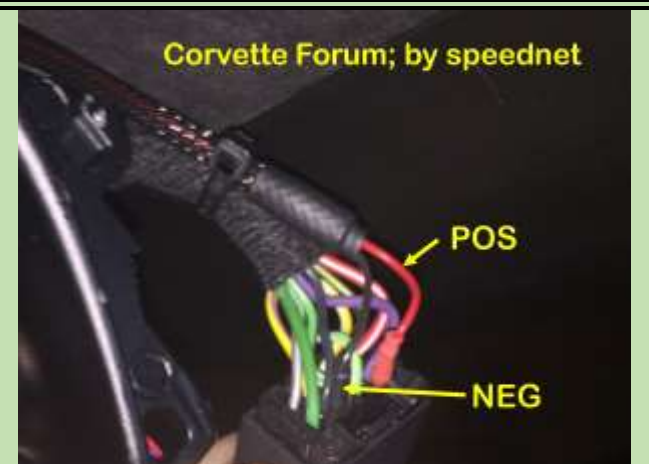
First Step is to pry off the cover behind the mirror. I used a dental pic tool and wedged it in the side of the plastic cover. Have to pull hard but the small clips let go and it comes off.

Some suggest separating the plugs, I saw no benefit. Sat backward in the passenger seat and just plugged the Blendmount wires into the back of the plug, that side going to the car not the mirror.



Forum pics were a great help, particularly this one that showed where the Blendmount wires go, in the cable side from the car not that to the mirror. Negative black to Black Blendmount and the Red Blendmount to the purple wire as shown.

I used the dental pick to provide room for the smallest of the flat end wires (tried the small round one - it bent) Fully inserted with a pair of small needle nose pliers after they were half way in with my fingers.





Connected the Blendmount wires into the 15 inch wire then used several wire ties to secure the Blendmount wires to the car harness wires. He pushed the wires up into the area where the car wires go. Thought I would have excess. Did Not. Could have used another 2 inches! As shown in the top pic on this PDF, I used the Escort Passport Mount Sticky Mount.



Used a rattle file to notch the plastic cover to make room for the wires.

The pressed it back on. Watch that both sides are over the mirror plastic. Found I would have one side over and one inside! Hard to see as you can only see one side or the other. Once both sides were on the outside in snapped back firmly.



Mounting the detector high on the windshield to the right of the mirror eliminates any obstruction to road vision. The wire routed over the detector and just had enough room.

In my 2014, this position worked well for 3½ years. I'll review the tether shown and the reason in the next few pics.

After using the Passport Max for several weeks, noticed that when going over moderately bumpy roads the unit was vibrating.

Found a solution that is pictured on the right!



Added a "Vibration Damper"

*Note: this relatively soft material replaced it with a similar size section of denser material. Works great*

All was fine for several months then when the car was parked facing into the sun on a hot day, found the detector in my 2014 hanging by the power cord! The Sticky Mount had let loose!

That happened few other times under the same circumstances, car parked facing the sun on a hot day! But after the first time I installed a tether! Didn't want it hitting the dash!

Made it from some very fine stainless fishing leader. The clasp was useful to fit into a very small eye hook, painted black. Used a small drill and a pin vise to drill a hole into the top molding. Works great.



The very thin wire and clasp, from a fishing lure, made a secure safety tether.

Wrapped the wire line around one of the Sticky Mount arms and secured with a small crimped sleeve made from the end of an electrical connector.





The detector can still be simply slipped off the mount. To remove the mount, you just unclip the fishing leader clamp.



Found the solution to get the original mount to stick and stay stuck! Used the 3M General Purpose Adhesive Cleaner shown in the pic left in the area where the suction cup mounts. Followed with the suggestion from an ESCORT Tech of pushing the mount against the windshield before pulling the vacuum level. Has held for over 6 months!

The secret appears to be getting the surface very clean. Perhaps alcohol or ammonia would also work.

Even though the "Sticky Mount" has held for over 6 months without falling or every being removed, still think the tether is worth the effort! Gives piece of mind!










## “50” C8, 2017 Grand Sport & 2014 Z51 Stingray Mods, Info Available As PDFs:



50 PDFs discuss improvements or info about a C8, 2017 Grand Sport, 2014 Z51 Stingray function and/or esthetics. Some are minor and others, like the installing the Rear Diffuser & MGW shifter, include detailed install information.

Below are the PDF's available. Click on picture or Blue PDF link or copy and paste the PDF link (Blue type) into your browser. Or email me at [GUtrachi@aol.com](mailto:GUtrachi@aol.com) and state the title desired, shown in Yellow:

<b>C8 Install High Wing</b> <i>How To Remove Rear Bumper- Install Wing</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/C8_High_Wing.pdf">http://netwelding.com/C8_High_Wing.pdf</a>	
<b>C8 FWD Hybrid</b> <i>WFWD Hybrid Provides More Power &amp; MPG</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/C8_FWD_Hybrid.pdf">http://netwelding.com/C8_FWD_Hybrid.pdf</a>	
<b>Rusty GS/C7 Muffler</b> <i>Why the C7 muffler rusts way to turn matte black.</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/Muffler_Rust.pdf">http://netwelding.com/Muffler_Rust.pdf</a>	
<b>Change GS/C7 Oil</b> <i>WHY change your own oil and C7 Lifting Methods</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/Changing_Oil.pdf">http://netwelding.com/Changing_Oil.pdf</a>	
<b>C7 Carbon Fiber Side Skirts</b> <i>How to install C7 side skirts with jacking info</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/Side_Skirts.pdf">http://netwelding.com/Side_Skirts.pdf</a>	
<b>C7 Carbon Fiber Splitter w/End Plates</b> <i>How to install Splitter &amp; Nylon bra fit</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/CF_Splitter.pdf">http://netwelding.com/CF_Splitter.pdf</a>	
<b>C7 Removing GM Plastic Film</b> <i>How To Remove The Rocker Panel Film</i> <a href="http://netwelding.com/Rocker_Panel_Film.pdf">http://netwelding.com/Rocker_Panel_Film.pdf</a>	

### **C8/GS/C7 Mirror Proximity Alarm**

*Limit switch alarm warns when close to door frame*  
[http://netwelding.com/Mirror\\_Proximity\\_Alarm.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Mirror_Proximity_Alarm.pdf)



### **Jacking Pads for GS/C7**

*Manual says Jacking Pads 2 1/2 inch max OD..*  
[http://netwelding.com/Jacking\\_pads.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Jacking_pads.pdf)



### **C8/GS/C7 Radar Power**

*For C7 tapped rear fuse panel. For GS tapped mirror*  
[http://netwelding.com/Radar\\_Detector\\_Power.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Radar_Detector_Power.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Belt Rattle**

*Passenger seat belt rattles against the seat back.*  
[http://netwelding.com/Eliminate\\_Rattle.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Eliminate_Rattle.pdf)



### **Aluminum C7 Chassis and Weld Repair**

*The C7 aluminum chassis. Includes weld repair info.*  
[http://netwelding.com/Aluminum\\_Chassis.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Aluminum_Chassis.pdf)



### **C8 Z51, GS/C7 Z51 Ceramic Brake Pads**

*Performance Vettes have dusty brakes. These US made pads help!*  
[http://netwelding.com/Ceramic\\_Pads.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Ceramic_Pads.pdf)



### **C8/GS/C7 Z51 License Plate Frame;**

*Must Meet South Carolina Law*  
[http://netwelding.com/License\\_Plate\\_Frame.pdf](http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Frame.pdf)



### **Manage GS/C7 Spilled Gas & Door Lock**

*Protect when filling gas. Preventing door lock failure.*  
[http://netwelding.com/Manage\\_Spilled\\_Gas.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Manage_Spilled_Gas.pdf)



### **GS/C7 License Plate & Cargo Lights**

*LED license plate light & cargo area bulbs*  
[http://netwelding.com/License\\_Plate\\_Light.pdf](http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Light.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Rear Cargo Area**

*Rear cargo area storage device and rear protector*  
[http://netwelding.com/Rear\\_Cargo\\_Area.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Rear_Cargo_Area.pdf)



### **GS Rear Diffuser (Fits Any C7)**

*Rear Carbon Flash Composite Diffuser*  
[http://netwelding.com/Rear\\_Diffuser.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Rear_Diffuser.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Door Panel Protector**

*Black plastic protector prevents scuffing of door*  
[http://netwelding.com/Door\\_Panel\\_Protector.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Door_Panel_Protector.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Improved Cup Holder**

*A solution to the cup holder spilling*  
[http://netwelding.com/Improved\\_cup\\_Holder.pdf](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](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](http://netwelding.com/CF_Grille_Bar.pdf)



### **Jacking a C8/GS/C7 Vette**

*Safely jacking either front only or back & front*

[http://netwelding.com/Jacking\\_A\\_C7.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Jacking_A_C7.pdf)



### **Deer Whistle Installed on C8/GS/C7**

*Do they work? Plus Install Info*

[http://netwelding.com/Deer\\_Whistle.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Deer_Whistle.pdf)



### **Replacing C7 Battery**

*Tricks for installing battery!*

[http://netwelding.com/Battery\\_Issues.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Battery_Issues.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Window Valet**

*Lower Windows With FOB Helps Latch Hatch*

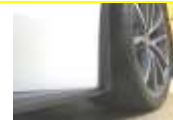
[http://netwelding.com/Hatch\\_Latch.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Hatch_Latch.pdf)



### **C8/GS/C7 Splash Guards**

*GM splash guards. ACS Best Front Guards for GS.*

[http://netwelding.com/Splash\\_Guard.pdf](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](http://netwelding.com/Blind_Spot.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Skid Pad Protector**

*After the air dam, the aluminum "skid pad" hits*

[http://netwelding.com/Skid\\_Pad\\_Protector.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Skid_Pad_Protector.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Wheel Locks**

*Wheel locks, help protect your expensive wheels.*

[http://netwelding.com/Wheel\\_Locks.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Wheel_Locks.pdf)



### **GS/C7 OnStar Lights**

*Rear view mirror OnStar LED's, at a quick glance, look like a police car flashing light! This is a fix.*

[http://netwelding.com/OnStar\\_Lights.pdf](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](http://netwelding.com/Skip_shift_Eliminator.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Catch Can & Clean Oil Separator**

*What is Coking and how to reduce the potential*

[http://netwelding.com/Catch\\_Can.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Catch_Can.pdf)



### **GS MGW Flat Stick Shifter**

*The MGW shifter shortens throw and is more precise*

[http://netwelding.com/MGW\\_Shifter.pdf](http://netwelding.com/MGW_Shifter.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Round Shift Knob**

*A round shift knob shortens throw on OEM shifter*

[http://netwelding.com/Shift\\_Knob.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Shift_Knob.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Stingray Sill Plate**

*Stingray sill plate replaces original.*

[http://netwelding.com/Sill\\_Plate.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Sill_Plate.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Nylon Bra**

*Nylon Bra Stops Bugs. Fits with Stage 3 Winglets*

[http://netwelding.com/Nylon\\_Bra.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Nylon_Bra.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Clutch Fluid Change**

*Clutch fluid after 3000 miles gets dirty*

[http://netwelding.com/Clutch\\_Fluid.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Clutch_Fluid.pdf)



### **C7 Carbon Fiber Hood Vent**

*Replaces Plastic Hood Vent*

[http://netwelding.com/Hood\\_Vent.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Hood_Vent.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Cold Air Intake**

*Low Restriction Air Filter & Duct*

[http://netwelding.com/Cold\\_Air\\_Intake.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Cold_Air_Intake.pdf)



### **GS/C7 Soler Modified Throttle Body**

*For Improved Throttle Response*

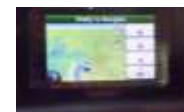
[http://netwelding.com/Soler\\_Mod\\_TB.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Soler_Mod_TB.pdf)



### **Garmin GPS for GS Cubby**

*Garmin Mounts in GS Cubby & Apple CARPLAY*

[http://netwelding.com/GPS\\_In\\_Cubby.pdf](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](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](http://netwelding.com/Red_Dash_Pad.pdf)



### **Jake Emblem/Decals for GS**

*Jake Symbols Support GS Racing Image*  
[http://netwelding.com/Jake\\_Emblems.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Jake_Emblems.pdf)



### **GS Splitter Protector**

*Scrape Armor Protection for Splitter*  
[http://netwelding.com/Splitter\\_Protectors.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Splitter_Protectors.pdf)



### **GS Engine Compartment Mods**

*Cosmetic Additions in Engine Compartment*  
[http://netwelding.com/Engine\\_Compartment.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Engine_Compartment.pdf)



### **GS Vitesse Throttle Controller: Fits All C7s**

*Adjustable Throttle-by-Wire Control*  
[http://netwelding.com/Throttle\\_Control.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Throttle_Control.pdf)



### **Boomy Bass Solution**

*Use Presets to Adjust Bass etc Tone/Balance*  
[http://netwelding.com/Boomy\\_Bass](http://netwelding.com/Boomy_Bass)



### **GS/C7 Air Dam, Functions**

*Why Missing from Z51, Some GS & Z06*  
[http://netwelding.com/Air\\_Dam.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Air_Dam.pdf)



### **Engineering a ProStreet Rod**

*How Our '34 ProStreet Rod Was Designed and Built*  
<http://netwelding.com/Engineering%20Street%20Rod%203-08.pdf>



### **Motorsports Welding Article**

*Wrote a 5 Page Article for AWS March 2018 Journal  
Covers NHRA and NASCAR Chassis Design*  
[http://netwelding.com/Motorsports\\_Welding\\_2018.pdf](http://netwelding.com/Motorsports_Welding_2018.pdf)

