# **CHILTON**LIBRARY



## **Removal & Installation**

#### **REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION**

#### **REMOVAL**

**REMOVAL** 

#### WARNING

To avoid serious or fatal injury on vehicles equipped with airbags, disable the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) before attempting any steering wheel, steering column, airbag, seat belt tensioner, impact sensor or instrument panel component diagnosis or service. Disconnect and isolate the battery negative (ground) cable, then wait two minutes for the system capacitor to discharge before performing further diagnosis or service. This is the only sure way to disable the SRS. Failure to take the proper precautions could result in accidental airbag deployment.

#### **WARNING**

To avoid serious or fatal injury when removing a deployed airbag, rubber gloves, eye protection, and a long-sleeved shirt should be worn. There may be deposits on the airbag cushion and other interior surfaces. In large doses, these deposits may cause irritation to the skin and eyes.

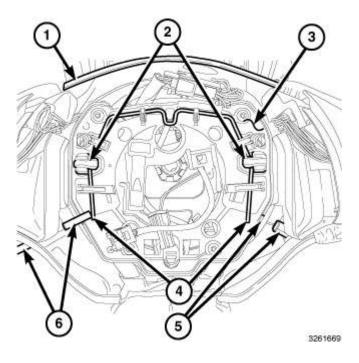


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## **NOTE**

The following procedure is for replacement of an ineffective or damaged Driver AirBag (DAB). If the airbag is ineffective or damaged, but not deployed, review the recommended procedures for Handling Non-Deployed Supplemental Restraints. (Refer to Restraints - Standard Procedure). If the DAB has been deployed, review the recommended procedures for Service After A Supplemental Restraint Deployment before removing the airbag from the vehicle. (Refer to Restraints - Standard Procedure).

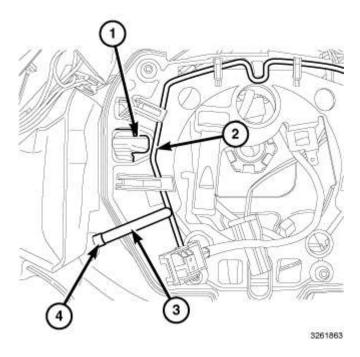
- 1. Disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. If equipped with an Intelligent Battery Sensor (IBS), disconnect the IBS connector first before disconnecting the negative battery cable. Wait two minutes for the system capacitor to discharge before further service.
- 2. Locate the access hole dimples (2) in the lower surface of the steering wheel (1) hub rear trim cover near each of the two horizontal spokes.



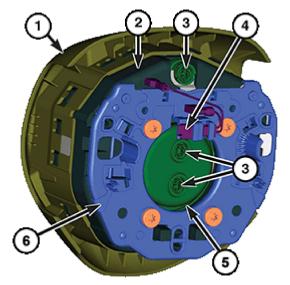
## **NOTE**

The graphic for this procedure shows the Driver AirBag (DAB) mounting/horn switch plate (3) and the retainer spring (4) engaged under the hooks (2) of the armature within the steering wheel hub cavity (1) without the DAB trim cover, cushion, housing and inflator present. This was done to provide graphical clarity of the components involved in DAB retention. The DAB trim cover, cushion, housing and inflator can only be removed as a unit with the mounting/horn switch plate and retainer spring as outlined in the following procedure.

3. Using an appropriately sized pin punch or screwdriver pierce the trim cover at the dimple and insert it through one of the steering wheel access holes. A guide and notch (5) integral to each side of the steering wheel hub rear trim cover (1) and the mounting/horn switch plate (3) will assist in directing the tool to the ends of the retainer spring (4).



- 4. When the tool (3) makes contact with the retainer spring (2), push inward (toward the steering column) on the tool far enough to disengage the retainer spring from under the hook (1) of the steering wheel armature.
- 5. Pull the released side of the DAB away from the steering wheel far enough to insert a trim stick or another long and thin obstacle between the released spoke of the DAB trim cover and the steering wheel spoke hub cavity. This will help to prevent the released end of the retainer spring from becoming accidentally engaged again, while the opposite end of the retainer spring is being released.
- 6. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 for the opposite end of the retainer spring.

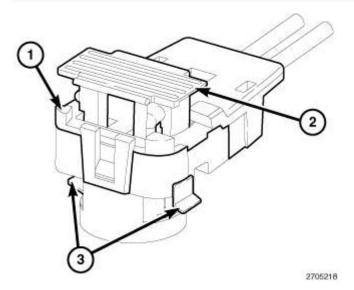


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- 7. Pull the DAB (1) away from the steering wheel far enough to access the clockspring pigtail and steering wheel wire harness connections to the horn switch (4) and the DAB inflator initiators (3).
- 8. Disconnect the steering wheel wire harness connector from the floating horn switch plate connector on the back of the switch plate.

## **CAUTION**

Do not pull on the clockspring pigtail wires or pry on the connector insulators to disengage them from the Driver AirBag (DAB) inflator initiator connector receptacles. Improper removal of these pigtail wires and their connector insulators can result in damage to the airbag circuits or the connector insulators.



- 9. The clockspring DAB pigtail wire connector insulators (1) are secured by integral latches (3) and a Connector Position Assurance (CPA) lock (2) to the airbag tether cutter and inflator connector receptacles, which are located on the back of the floating horn switch plate and the DAB housing. Pull the lock straight out from the connector insulator, then pull the insulators straight out from the connector receptacles to disengage and disconnect them.
- 10. Remove the DAB and floating horn switch plate from the steering wheel as a unit.
- 11. If the DAB has been deployed, the clockspring and stalk unit as well as the steering column must be replaced. (Refer to 10 Restraints/CLOCKSPRING/Removal and Installation). (Refer to Steering/Column/Removal and Installation).

### **INSTALLATION**

#### WARNING

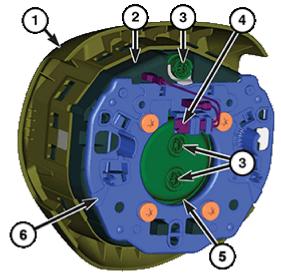
To avoid serious or fatal injury on vehicles equipped with airbags, disable the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) before attempting any steering wheel, steering column, airbags, airbag curtains, knee blocker, seat belt tensioner, impact sensor or instrument panel component diagnosis or service. Disconnect the Intelligent Battery Sensor (IBS)/negative battery cable assembly from the negative battery post, then wait two minutes for the system capacitor to discharge before performing further diagnosis or service. This is the only sure way to disable the SRS. Failure to take the proper precautions could result in accidental airbag deployment.

#### WARNING

To avoid serious or fatal injury, use extreme care to prevent any foreign material from entering the Driver AirBag (DAB), or becoming entrapped between the DAB cushion and the DAB trim cover. Failure to observe this warning could result in occupant injuries upon airbag deployment.

#### WARNING

To avoid serious or fatal injury, the driver airbag trim cover must never be painted. Replacement airbags are serviced with trim covers in the original colors. Paint may change the way in which the material of the trim cover responds to an airbag deployment. Failure to observe this warning could result in occupant injuries upon airbag deployment.



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1. Turn the steering wheel 180° clockwise from the straight ahead position.



2. Position the Driver AirBag (DAB) and floating horn switch unit (1) so that it rests on the steering wheel rim at 45° and the hole in the horn plate lines up with the steering wheel center line.



3. Insert the wire harness retaining clip (1) for the three DAB wiring harness pigtails (2) into the retaining hole in the horn plate. Be certain the clip is fully bottomed in the hole (3).



4. Connect the horn wiring harness connector (2).

## NOTE

The white mark (1) on the male connector will be visible on the top side during installation.

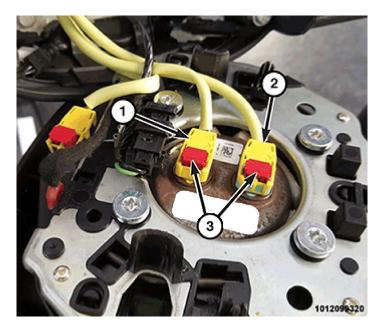
Be certain the connector is fully engaged.



5. Tuck the horn wiring (2) between the horn harness connector (3) and the jumper wire terminal (1).



6. Route the Yellow/Black airbag pigtail and connector over the horn wire (3) and connect it to the dark blue airbag connector receptacle (4). Be certain the connector is fully connected and the red locking tab (4) is completely engaged by pushing it straight into the connector to lock it into place.



7. Connect the remaining airbag pigtail wire connectors (1 and 2) to the airbag connector receptacles by pressing straight in on the connector insulator. Be certain to engage each keyed and color-coded connector to the matching connector receptacle. Be certain that each connector is fully engaged in its receptacle, then push the connector lock (3) straight into the connector to lock them into place.



8. Lift the DAB from the steering wheel rim and carefully position the DAB and floating horn switch unit into the steering wheel hub cavity. Be certain that none of the steering wheel wiring is pinched between the airbag housing or the horn switch and the steering wheel armature.

## NOTE

The DAB should fit easily into the steering wheel cavity.

9. With the DAB in position, push firmly and evenly on the right side of the DAB trim cover (2) until the spring retainer snaps into place under the hooks within the hub cavity of the steering wheel. Then push the left side (1) into place using the same method.



- 10. Turn the steering wheel 180° counter-clockwise to the straight ahead position.
- 11. Do not connect the negative battery cable at this time. The Supplemental Restraint System (SRS)

  Verification Test procedure should be performed following service of any SRS component. (Refer to 10 Restraints Standard Procedure).