

Headlight Cleaning Procedure :

Tools:

Philip Screw Driver
Small Flat Blade Driver
Nut Driver
Needle Nose Pliers

Soft Cleaning Cloth
Cotton Gloves (Optional)
Canned Air (Optional)

This procedure was written and carried out on my own vehicle (1995 A6). I do not know if other models are the same. I created this procedure as a hobby and providing this for informational purposes. When servicing do one side at a time so you can reference the untouched side. Take caution when cleaning the silver painted pieces, any cleaning solution, waxes or abrasive clothes will dull or remove finish.

-Remove the 2 short screws holding the top part of the headlight

-Remove screw #1 holding the rubber flap

-Remove screw #2 holding the metal cover

-Pull the washer forward and lightly lift the locking tabs that hold the cosmetic cover on. Remove the cosmetic washer cover.

-Keep the washer extended out and remove the metal plate below the headlight by pulling left on the drivers side or right on the passenger side.

-Remove the two longer screws that are behind the metal plate removed in the previous step.



I suggest covering your workspace with a soft towel(s) so you won't damage the internal components in the next coming steps.

-Remove the side marker by turning the gray screw ¼ turn clockwise.

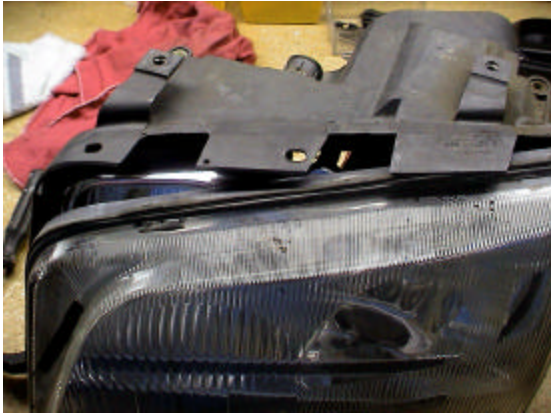
-Now squeeze the gray tab and slide the side marker forward until separated



-Remove the 8 clips by lightly prying with a small screwdriver. There are three on top, three on bottom and one on each side.



-Remove the wire strap holding the rubber ring by lifting the hook out of the hole on the bottom.



-Insert a screwdriver between the plastic housing and lens to pry lightly. Work around the lens to break the seal. Remember the seal has not been broken for nearly 10 years so it won't come too easy

-Remove the ring by pulling it forward. There are three attachment points where this ring just snaps around a plastic shaft. Make sure your hands are clean, as you don't want to get them loaded with grease and oils. You may want to wear a set of cotton gloves.



-To remove the inner cluster you must open the three adjusting fasteners. Two fasteners are located on one side and the third on the opposing side.

-Use a small flat bladed driver to move the tab back enough to lift the lens cluster out. Repeat the process on the remaining two clips.

-Once the lens assy. is out remove the three bulbs. Also remove the ground strap of the fog light off the ground post.

Note: Some of these components are bi-directional so make a mark on one corner of the lens housing it's respective mounting point.

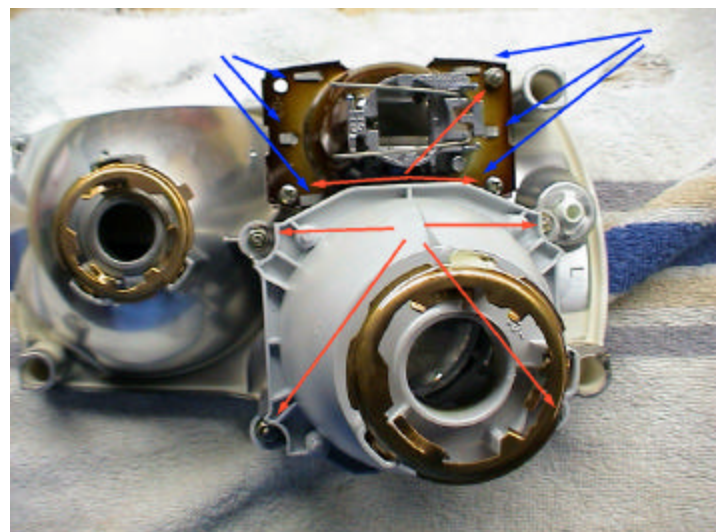
-Remove the four nuts on the larger lens housing using a nut driver (red arrows). Using a screwdriver that allows for different bits without the bit attached will work fine.

-Once the lens assy. is removed, take out the four Philip screws to clean the lens element using only a cloth. I did not use cleaner.

-Remove the fog lens via two Philip screws and the single nut (red arrows)

-Bend the tabs (blue arrows) on the fog assy. to remove the lens element.

-Clean the lens element and the reflector using only a very soft cloth. Solutions will remove or dull finish. Always test a small area first.





Here you can see a side by side comparison. The left before cleaning is milky and the right clear.

-Fix the fog light element by inserting the tabs back into the reflector and bend the tabs using a needle nose plier.

-Before assembling complete you may wish to use canned air to remove any dust.

-Clean the inside of the headlight lens and reassemble in the reverse order.

Passenger side cleaned



Driver side before cleaning