Dot Matrix Display Removal and Repair

The steering wheel needs to be removed to gain access to the rest of the dash. First, disconnect the battery and go and have a cup of tea. After 10 minutes the Airbag mechanism will have discharged. With the key in the ignition turn the steering wheel though 90 Deg from the straight-ahead position. Next, using a Torx screwdriver or as shown a Torx bit in a socket set bit driver, insert at the angle shown. The bolts are not at right angles to the steering wheel. Remove the top bolt by inserting Torx screwdriver or driver bit here:



..... and the bottom one:



Insert Torx bit at angle shown

Steering Wheel turned through 90 Deg for access

Dash removal for access to display

Return the steering wheel to the straight-ahead position and remove the ignition key.

Airbag Removal

The airbag is now free with the exception of the electrical connection. There is an orange plug inserted into the middle part of the airbag. The orange plug is shown in Photo 4. Ease the plug out of the airbag with a long thin screwdriver before withdrawing the airbag fully. Photo 3 shows the airbag from the underside once removed.



View of underside of Airbag assembly

View of steering wheel with Airbag removed



Next, unclip both connectors shown in Photo5 and separate each. Undo and remove the central retaining nut which holds the steering wheel onto the steering column.



Disconnect radio controls connector

- Disconnect Airbag supply connector
- Remove central retaining nut for steering wheel
- Slot in steering wheel for connectors and wiring

The steering wheel should now lift off towards you. A sharp tug may be required to pull it free. Once free, thread the cables and the connectors through the slot at the bottom as shown in Photo5. The steering wheel should now be able to be removed form the car completely.



View with Steering Wheel removed

Steering column shroud removal

There are 5 Torx screws which are accessed from the underside of the lower shroud. Remove them and set them aside. Next, gently pull the lower half of the shroud downwards and to the rear of the car. The left hand (RHD) part will be trapped behind the steering column height adjuster. Slacken the adjuster and let the steering column fall. This should create just enough space to let the lower shroud out. Take care to pull out the illumination lamp just above the ignition switch.

Lower Shroud removed



Next, prise the retaining clips to allow the slider for the radio buttons to pull free from the column and let it dangle as shown.

To remove the upper shroud simply pull upwards and to the rear of the car. The trailing edge has a rubber skirt which is tucked under the dash to cover the workings when the column is lowered to its lowest position. With the upper shroud removed the indicator and wiper stalks should be clearly visible.



Dismantling the dash sufficient to reach displays and bulbs

To remove the dash there are 12 fixing screws in total, some Philips some Torx. The locations are shown on Photo 9 (2no shown in Photo 8). Prise off the bezel which holds the alarm LED in place. Prise off the bezel around the heater controls and pull off the slider at the bottom.



Fixing screws

Once the dash is pulled forward the instruments can be accessed from the rear. There is no need to completely remove the dash. It is possible to access all the bulbs and the displays by tilting forwards only. If there's not enough slack in the looms which terminate in the coloured plugs then just disconnect the plugs. They are all colour coded and not interchangeable so you can't put them back in the wrong place !

Rear view of dash



Photo 10

The Dot Matrix display is clipped into place. There are no fixing screws.

Left Hand Dot Matrix display in position



Insert flat blade screwdriver here to prise holding tabs

Photo 11

Dot Matrix Display support frame shown removed for clarity only

This photo shows the carrier frame for the displays and the warning lamps. It is shown here removed from the dash to demonstrate the location of the tabs for the display. There is no need to dismantle to this level for access to the displays or bulbs. Once the two top tabs are free, rotate the display backwards and the bottom two tabs will release by themselves. Don't force things to do something when they resist badly. Remember it's all only plastic.



Insert flat blade screwdriver here to prise holding tabs

Photo 12

Photo showing LH Dot Matrix fully removed from dash



Photo13

Dash removal for access to display