

How to Get Access to Engine for 1996 Hummer Gilbert Herman

To expose the engine, you must remove the console with its trim and then the doghouse. The various aftermarket parts on the console must be detached and reattached in a specific order so you do not have to backtrack on the job.

There are three sheet metal screws found at the front of the console near the window. Remove them and the cup shaped plastic protectors to which they anchor.



Remove the two 10mm bolts on either side of the console.



Set the parking brake. Turn ON the ignition and move the shifter from Park to Neutral. Now you can lift up the console and backward to the limits of the vent hose, about 2 feet.

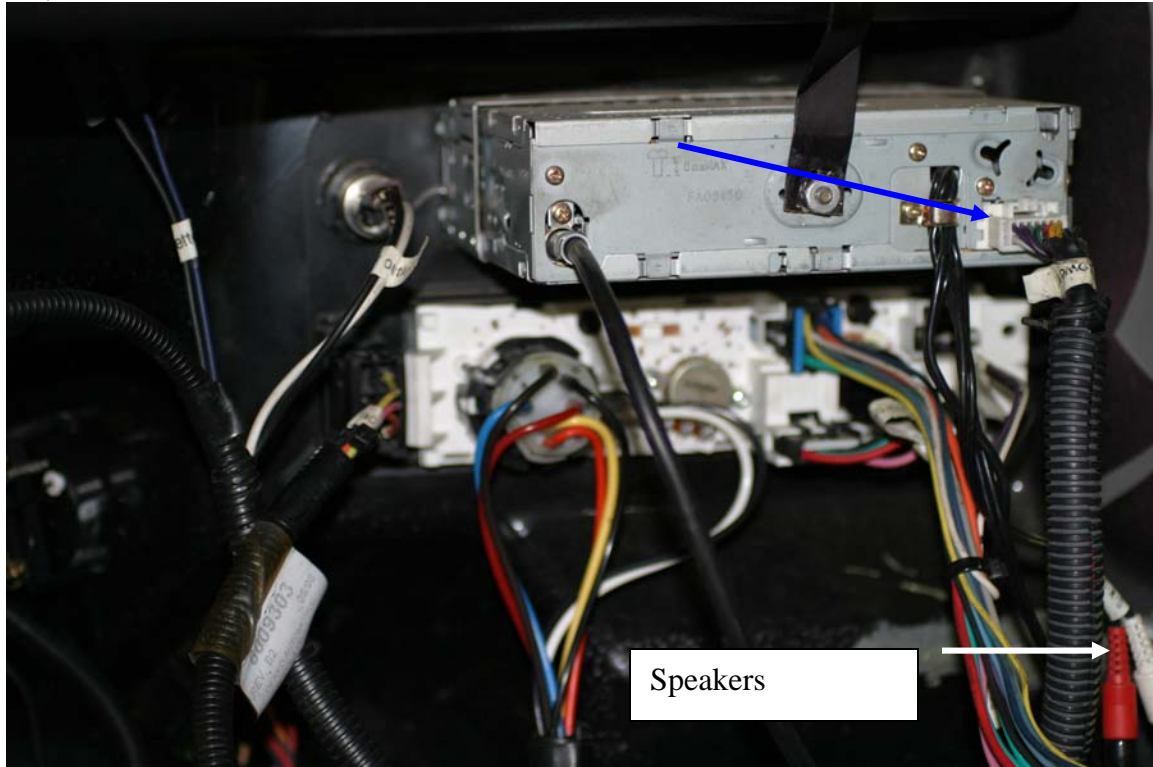


Remove the sheet metal screw to the vent hose and detach the hose from the console vent track.

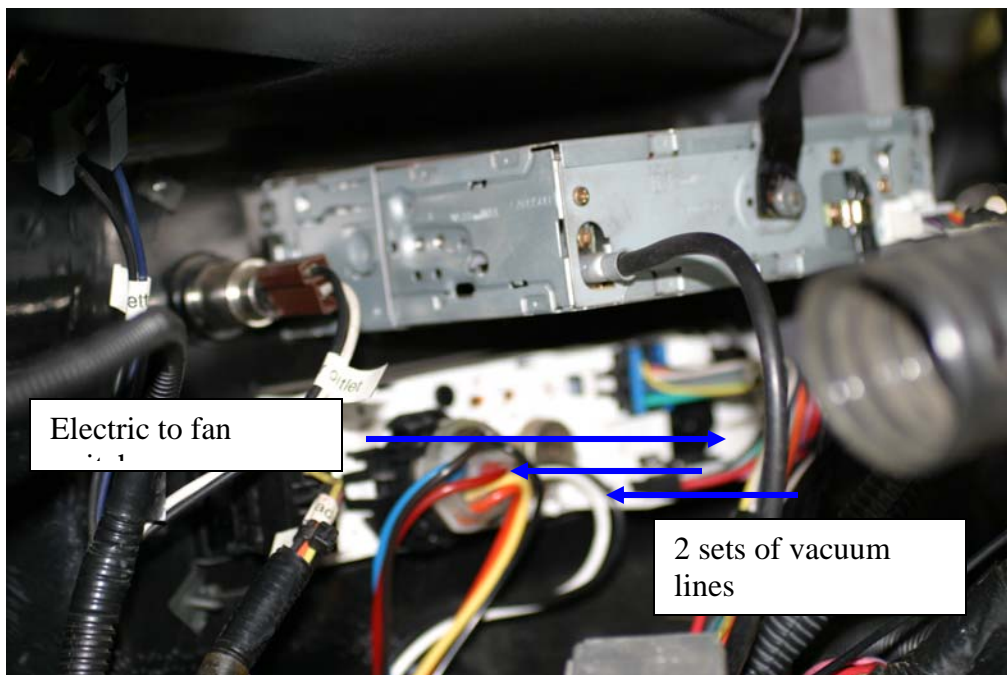
Now you can systematically detach cables from the various console components. I tend to work from the passenger side toward the driver's side. Detach the two cigarette lighters and auxiliary power cables.



Detach the cables to the radio (1 – power, 1- antenna, and 4 speaker cables (2 – white, 2 – red))



Detach the vacuum lines and electrical wires to the HVAC control head.



Disconnect the 4 cables that go to the console window selector switches. You can push the switches out toward the driver and then disconnect the cable.

You can now lift the console out of the truck.

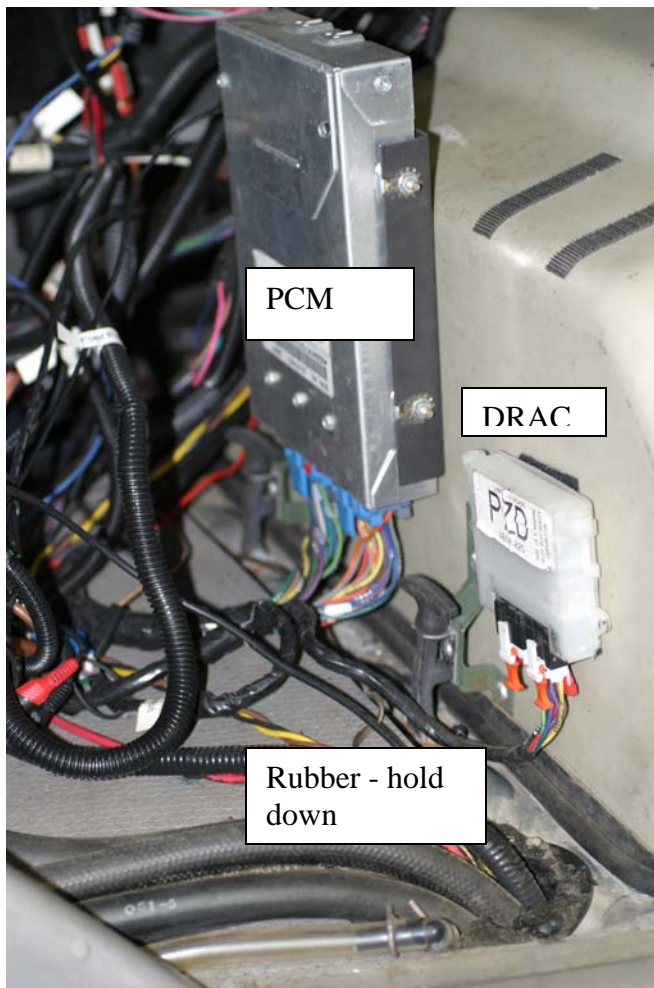
You have now exposed the doghouse that keeps the engine covered, serves as a heat barrier and sound barrier.

Large cables are held down to the doghouse by Zip-Ties. Cut them.



You can either disconnect the right side of the cable from the left by disconnecting the plugs or try to remove the doghouse with the cables intact.

Disconnect the DRAC (digital ratio analogue converter) by pulling the Velcro apart.
Remove the four locknuts from the PCM (Power Control module) and slide it out of the metal cradle.



Pull the rubber hold down out of its metal cradle.

Release the two metal locks on either side of the doghouse.



Unscrew the two large bolts on the doghouse top.



Now comes the fun. Place a pry bar beneath the doghouse and the body floor. Gently pick it up to break the seal of the rubber gasket. Now place large screwdrivers between the black plastic rectangular vent air duct and the doghouse to lift up the duct and slide the doghouse under it. You have to go side to side and back and forth to totally free the top of the doghouse. You will probably need to use a screwdriver to lift the doghouse up and over the shifter bezel as well. Ultimately you will free it up. Now pick the cables up and slide the doghouse beneath these.

You now have the doghouse out. This gives you access to the rear of the engine compartment..

I do not trust mechanics to expose the engine by removing the console and doghouse. They tend to break wires or forget to connect things when reassembling. You can expose the engine in about ½ hour. Then, you can either drive it to a shop or fix it yourself. It is a very HOT and NOISY drive with the doghouse off.