

Mazda RX8 – No sound in driver’s door solution

Symptoms:

All of the speakers in the car work, besides the driver’s door speakers. In case with Bose edition, driver’s subwoofer does work, but not loud enough, main speaker does not work.

Cause:

Sound for driver’s door channel passes through navigation system unit which is (was) installed in between the rear seats. This is because navigation system mixes in the assistant’s voice, such that whether there is music playing or not, driver can hear the directions.

Solution:

When removing navigation unit (to install DVD, install different navigation, or any other reason), sound wires must be connected together.

Credits: www.rx8club.com members who figured the issue

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This guide is provided ‘as is’. Whatever you do, you do at your own risk and responsibility.

1. Turn off ignition, remove key from the ignition
2. Place of interest is located behind the navigation unit, under the plastics:



3. To get there, first, remove the gear stick cover. In order to do so:
 - a. Unscrew gear stick handle, counterclockwise (Yellow on the picture)
 - b. Remove navigation system controls, by grabbing it with a thin plastic tool. Pull it out, and disconnect the connector (Purple on the picture)
 - c. Remove the plastic cover, by sliding the plastic tool along the edges of the part (Red on the picture)



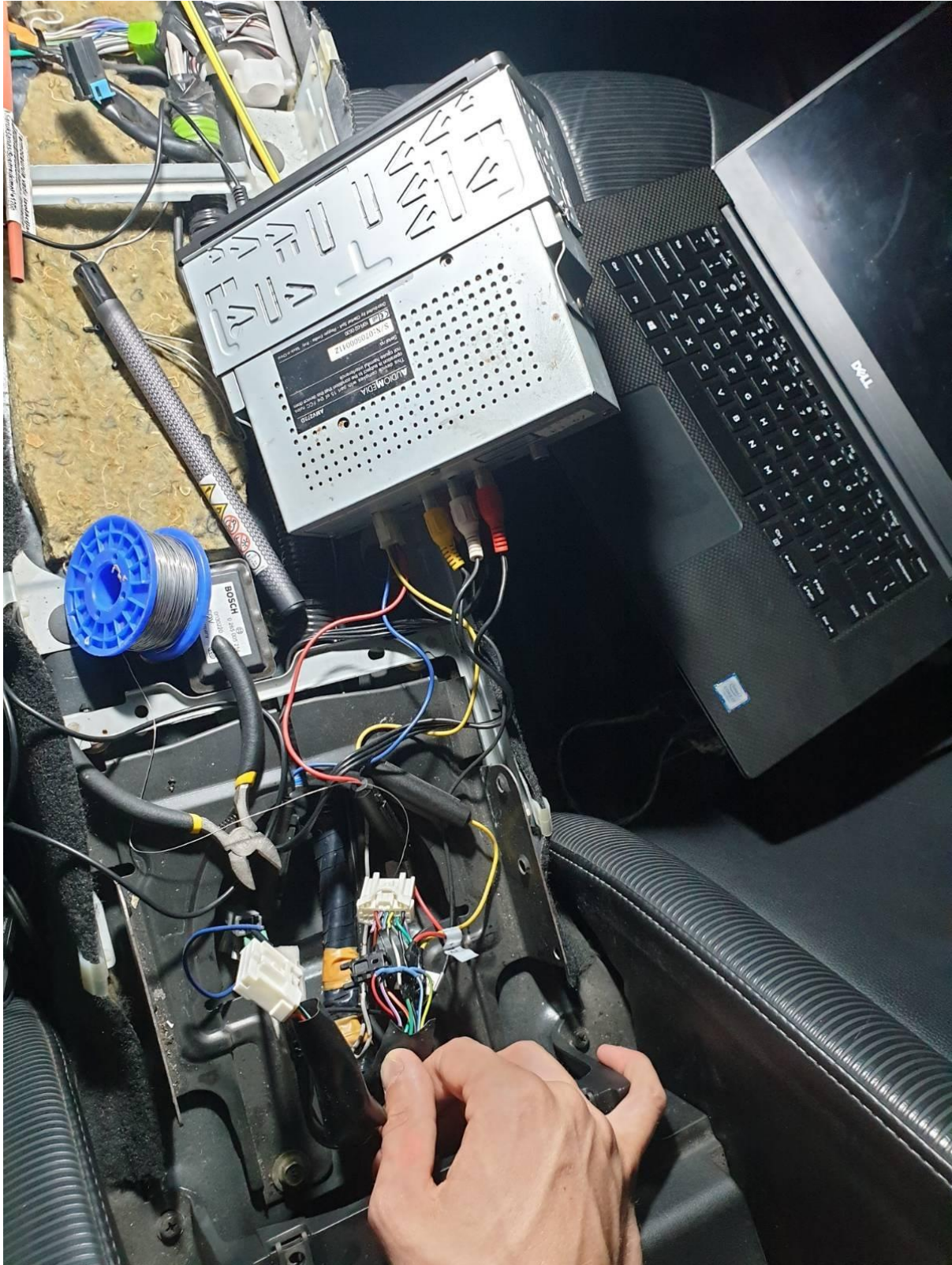
4. Open the middle storage, lift up the fabric, and unscrew the 2 screws. Remove 12V socket by pulling up the bottom part of it, and sliding it out, and finally undo the power connector. Previous step will uncover another screw in the center, remove it as well.



5. Open the DVD/navigation system cover, lift up the fabric, and unscrew the 2 screws. Remove back mid-seat storage place by opening it and lifting it up, to find 2 more screws

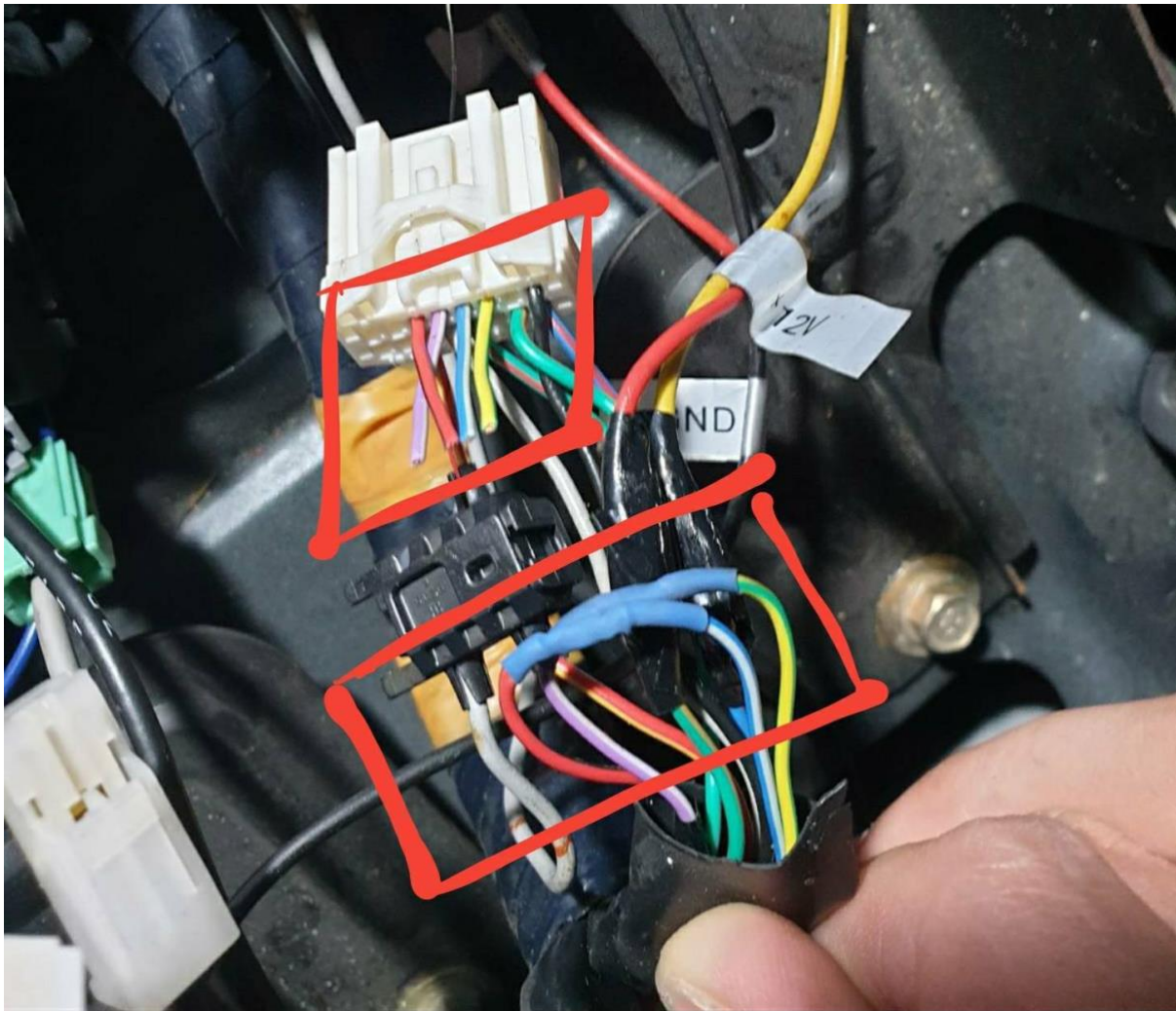


6. Now that all of the screws were removed, the complete central console can be lifted up. Keep in mind it still has plastic clips along the edge. Start by lifting up from the most rear side of the vehicle, going forward, until the complete middle section is separated from the car. Take it outside. You should now observe the following:



7. You should find two white connectors, which were used for navigation system. You need the smaller one.
8. Cut off *yellow/green, blue/white, purple/white, red/black* from the unused connector.
9. Do NOT twist the wires together. Make sure to either solder them or use automotive clips. Twisted wires will oxidize, and it is just a matter of time when connection will be lost, and you will start hearing on/off noises in your speaker. Also, if they are twisted, they may simply fall off due to vibrations, and you will have to redo everything.
10. Solder together *blue/white & red/black*
11. Solder together *purple/white & yellow/green*

ATTENTION: *This manual was written for the right wheel car. If you have left wheel car, wires might be different color and/or location. In that case, you would have to figure what is what. My guess would use the same physical location of the wires in the connector, even if color is different*



12. Turn ignition on, and make sure the speakers work. Turn ignition off again, and follow reverse order to assemble everything back.