

1984 – 1992 Lincoln Mark VII Hood Release Cable Replacement

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So..... You thought it would be impossible to replace the hood release cable without removing the fender, eh? Well. You'd be half right. Just to let you all know that no fender mounting bolts were harmed in the replacement process; there were no fender/body alignment issues to deal with either.

The first step is to turn off the Air Suspension switch located on the driver's side of the trunk above the spare tire well. Next, raise and support the front of the vehicle with safety jack stands. Remove the driver's side wheel. Scribe with an awl or mark with a marker the location of the latch where it attaches to the header/radiator support. This will avoid a lot of alignment trial and error when re-attaching it.

The next steps are to remove the plastic locking clips that hold the inner fender on. The following pictures will show the locations:



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The next step is to remove the screws that hold the wheel well trim:



There are two more screws that need to be removed and they are located directly under the front edge of the door:

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CAREFULLY remove the inner fender. It'll take just a bit of coaxing but it will come out:

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Now, when you look up into the fender well, you'll see a small plastic clip that holds the hood release cable to the inner body. That needs to be removed.



This next step is the most important of them all..... COFFEE BREAK!!!!

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Next, remove the two screws that hold the hood release cable bracket and also remove the driver side kick panel.



Once that is done, you'll be able go to the front of the car, and disconnect the cable from the latch mechanism.

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Pull the cable from inside the car, all the way through until it's clear of the firewall. The grommet on the firewall may come loose.

Putting it all back together is just a reversal of the removal. Making sure you get the grommet on the cable (latch end) feed the cable up and over the first set of lines and hoses (cruise control, etc)



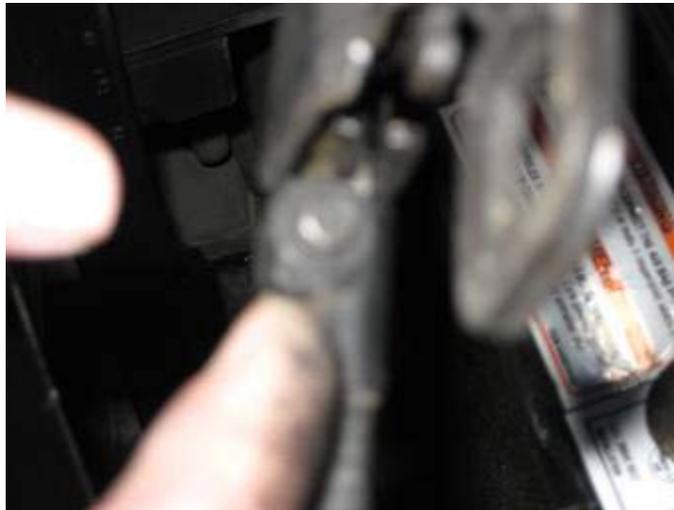
Then route the cable under the washer fluid reservoir remembering to replace the clip on the cable and attaching it back onto the inner body.

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Keep routing the cable until it comes out to the rear of the light housing.

Re-attach it to the latch mechanism.



Re-attach the latch to the header/radiator support.

Go back inside the car and re-attach the driver side kick panel and re-attach the Hood Release Cable.

If all went as smoothly as it did for us, you should have a perfectly functioning hood release cable. Be sure to lubricate the lock mechanism. We used this:

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Circa 19-something J

An added attraction..... I had the right side trunk lid torsion bar snap so that was also replaced and also a new Motorcraft Battery was installed! Now, a wash, wax, and detailing of the Beast and it'll be as good as new!

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