

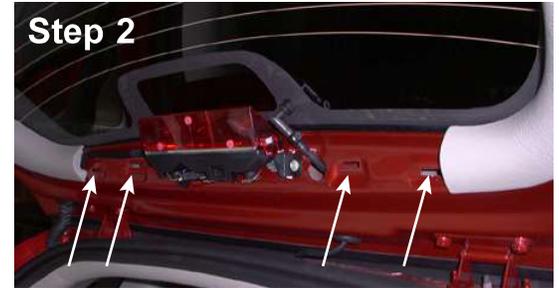
The first step is to take off the 3rd Brake Light plastic cover. The cover is held in place by 5 metal retaining clips. You can see two of the clips in the photo above. One is directly in front of where my finger is pointing, the other is towards the right end of the cover.

Start at one end of the cover and slowly pull the cover until the clips begin to give way. Work your fingers behind the cover and work towards the middle, popping the remaining clips.



The lens has its own built-in retaining tabs. Very carefully bend one of the retaining tabs out and away from the light housing. At the same time give the lens a little upward pressure.

Once you pry the tab far enough out to slip over the housing, the lens will pop off easily. Again, be sure not to try this in extremely cold weather.



You can see the slots for the clips in the photo. The fifth slot is hard to see and is in the light housing. Make sure that it's not too cold when trying to pry the plastic cover off. The plastic needs to give and bend and colder weather may make it brittle.

Now that you have the cover off it's time to remove the red plastic brake light lens.



With the lens out of the way there is a more unobstructed area to work in. Place the Diffuser Lens temporarily in place with a couple pieces of masking or similar tape. Align the lens so it is about 1/4" away from the washer hose fitting (right under the masking tape on the right). Align the lens so it is spaced evenly between the upper & lower window black-out which looks dark gray in the photo.

At this time you can close the lift gate and look through the back window to see what adjustments for alignment need to be made. Repeat the process until you have it aligned where you want it. Have someone step on the brake pedal when you close the lift gate so you can better see where it is lined up.

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It is also a good idea to loosely hold the plastic cover in place. Guide the retaining clips into the slots but don't push them all the way in. What you want to do is see how much (if any) of the diffuser lens is sticking out beyond the plastic cover.

In the photo above there is about 1/8" of the lens extending out. You will see in the next steps why this is needed. If it is sticking out too far for your liking, re-align the lens and move it down farther. Try to keep the edge of the lens at least lined up with the edge of the plastic cover.



Once you have the lens exactly where you want to install it, place a third piece of tape along the top (in the photo) to hold it in place.

At this time you will install the first piece of black vinyl tape that will serve to permanently hold the lens in place. The white arrow on the left shows the tape. Place it half on and half off the lens and press firmly in place with your fingers.



Remove the two pieces of tape at the ends but leave the top piece in place for now. Take the provided shorter pieces of black vinyl tape and put them in place as shown above. Keep them towards the light housing. Hold up the plastic light cover in place once again to make sure these tape pieces do not extend beyond its boundary. If they do, remove them and press into place once again.

It may be a good idea to trace around the cover with a pencil when it is in place - that way you know exactly where it sits. Once the two side pieces of black tape are in place, the top piece of masking tape can be removed.



Carefully install the red lens cover back into place. I found it easiest to place one tab in, then work the other end into place. Be careful not to bend it too far!

One last check before reinstalling the plastic light cover; Close the hatch and have someone hit the brake for you. If all looks good, snap the cover back into place. Align all of the retaining clips into the slots. Start at one end and work towards the other - push directly behind where the clips are located until they pop back into place.

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