Remote Door Lock / Unlock Switch

How to install a hidden remote switch

A remote door lock/unlock switch may be installed on a Ram truck that is equipped with power locks. This is done by splicing in to the lock switch circuit in the front passenger door of a four door vehicle or the passenger door of a two door vehicle. (see schematic on next page) There are differences in the electrical/electronic systems between the driver and passenger doors that make it impossible to add the remote lock circuit to the driver’s door.

The door module in the passenger door receives a voltage through a resistor multiplex (built in to the switch) when lock/unlock switch is actuated. Based on the level of that voltage, the door module decides whether to lock or unlock the doors. The door module sends a lock/unlock message to the CBC on the CAN bus. The CBC will send a pulse to the door lock motors. The polarity of that pulse determines lock or unlock.

To access the circuits and route the wires, the passenger door trim panel must be removed. To do this, first remove the window/lock switch assemble and disconnect the electrical connector. (this door harness branch is where you will find the lock switch circuit) There are seven screws in the door trim panel. Six are exposed at the outer edge of the panel. The seventh screw is hidden behind a trim panel in the bottom of the door handle recess. To route the wire, you will need to remove the passenger kick panel and glove box. Route the wires from the desired switch location to a convenient location inside of the cab. It is recommended that the ground be made to the metal frame behind the instrument panel and that the bias resistors be located inside the cab somewhere behind a panel where they will be protected from abuse. Route the single lock switch wire through the wiring boot into the passenger door. Splice this wire to the G160 circuit (VT/LG) near the switch connector that was removed earlier in this procedure.

For a system that provides lock and unlock function, one momentary SPDT switch or two momentary SPST switches can be used. It is possible to have only a lock or unlock function. For this, use one momentary single SPST switch with a 100 ohm resistor for unlock or a 330 ohm resistor for lock.

The resistors should be rated at ½ watt minimum, +/- 5% tolerance.