

Alarm When Pulling C8 & C7 In and Backing Out of Garage

	C6 Z51	C7 Z51	C7 GS	C7 Z06	C8 Z51	C8 GS*
HP	436 hp	465 HP	465 hp	650 hp	495 hp	495 hp + 114 hp FWD
Front Tire Section Width; mm	245	245	285	285	245	275
Rear Tire Section Width; mm	285	285	335	335	305	345
Rear Body Width; in.	72.6	73.9	77.4	77.4	76.1	79.2
Mirrors; Tip to Tip, in.	82.6	85.0	85.0	85.0	84.75	84.75
Mirrors; Tip to Top Retracted; in.	NA	NA	NA	NA	79.75	79.75

* Based on Leaked Information November 2019:

The C8 body width is 76.1 inches. Mirror tip-to-tip is ~84 3/4 inches. With folded mirrors 79 3/4 inches.

The C7 Stingray is 73.9 inches wide and the Grand Sport (also Z06) is 77.4 inches versus 72.6 inches for the C6. Note: That does not included mirrors which are 82 5/8

inches tip-to-tip for the C6 and accurately measuring the 2014, C7 mirror tip-to-tip with a plumb bob and marking the floor, shows it is 85 inches or 2 3/8 inches wider than the C6. The Grand Sport mirror tip to tip is the same as the Base C7.

Pulling the C6 into what is referred to as an 8-foot-wide garage door required some caution. The C7 and C8 require even more! Not much different with the Grand Sport if NOT pulling in at an angle. The mirrors are still ~7.6 inches wider or 3.8 inches per side than the rear fenders. When folded the C8 has 5.25 inches more room. However, when pulling in learned to have the driver's mirror tip clear the door wood trim by 2 to 4 inches, which assured the passenger side (which is harder to see) to clear. Decided bets to pull the C8 in with mirrors extended and can back out with them folded for extra clearance, particularly at night!

Garage:

Our 3 car garage has individual 8-foot-wide overhead doors, measuring 93.5 inches between the moldings. That leaves 4 1/4 inches on either side of the C7 and Grand Sport (& Z06) mirrors– if it is perfectly straight when pulling in. However, the Vette requires backing up to get close to 90 degrees, providing even less clearance.

Backing Out – A Simple Alarm:

Best to plan and manage the possible problem, especially if the cost is small. A simple alarm was built to warn if the passenger side mirror was getting too close to the door edge as the car exits. It might be useful only 1 in 1000 times; however, a damaged mirror would cost far more than this >\$20 device!

The following is a step by step picture summary of what was built.

Photo Sequence

This photo is of the final assembled device that utilizes a limit switch, a 100-dB alarm with a flashing light and a battery pack. It is mounted near the garage door track in the passenger side. It is low cost, simple to assemble and works great!

The red plastic is just a border to make it more visible so it is less likely someone (including me!) will inadvertently walk into the device.



The first step was to build a platform to hold the limit switch, alarm and battery pack. A piece of 1/4 inch plywood was cut to the shape required. A metal "L" bract was attached to the platform and then screwed into the wood panel between the doors.



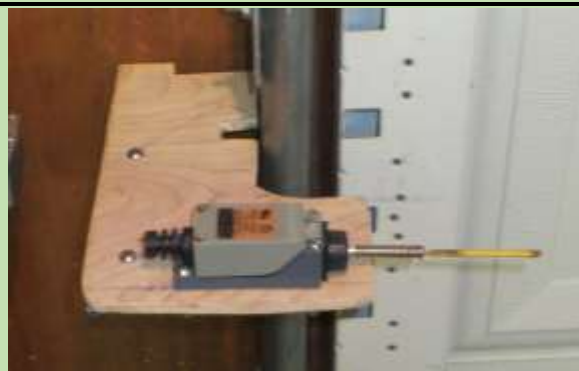
The limit switch selected is a model TZ-8169, a SPDT switch that has a thin, 0.050-inch diameter, 2-inch-long probe wound into a spring that is 1 1/4 inches long before entering the switch. It has both normally closed and normally open terminals. The device only uses the normally open contacts which close if the probe is touched by a mirror.

It was purchased for under \$8 on EBay.



To assure the metal probe does not scratch the mirror, if it ever hits, it was first dipped in liquid plastic. Then a piece of yellow vinyl shrink tubing was placed over the coated wire, extending 1/8 inch past the end. A heat gun secured it to the coated probe.

This shows the limit switch and platform mounted to the rear wood panel. It was decided to have the probe end 2 inches past the edge of the door molding. Another set of holes was drilled to reposition the switch if decided later. In addition, since it mounts with screws to the wood panel it can be adjusted by moving the "L" bracket. When the C7 arrives, it will be positioned with the probe centered on the mirror.



A 100 dB, 12-volt alarm, with a flashing red indicator light, was purchased on eBay for under \$7. The sound is a warble and is readily heard over any engine noise. A quick look to the right while pulling out of the garage will also show a flashing light if getting too close to the edge. The probe remains activated as it bends and until any force is removed.



To supply the 12 volts needed for the alarm buzzer, a holder for 8 AA batteries is used. It was less than \$4 on eBay.

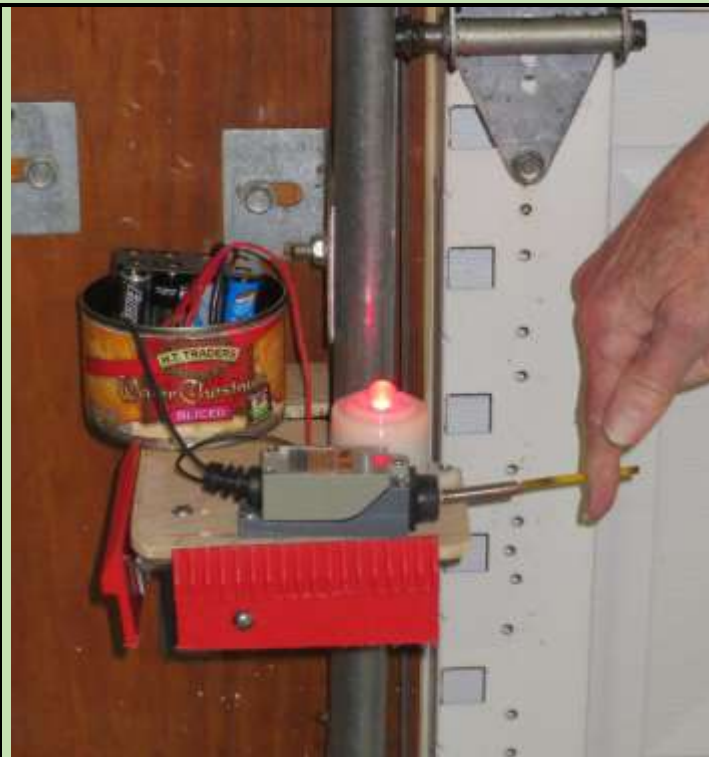


Needed a simple way to hold the battery pack so they could be easily removed when requiring replacement. Have always liked Andy Warhol's Campbell Soup Can pictures so why not use a low height, vegetable can! Opened it with a deseamer so the edges were smooth.



This is the finished assembly with the battery pack in the “vegetable can” holder screwed to the platform! Not quite an Andy Warhol picture but it works. The battery pack can be removed when needed, which hopefully will be seldom.

Since the assembly is at waist height wanted to be sure it was not inadvertently bumped by someone passing. The red plastic borders make it more visible.



When the limit switch is pressed the alarm and flashing light are energized. You can see the light in this photo. If the warbling sound doesn't get your attention the flashing red light will- especially at night. Frankly nighttime is when the extra precaution may come in handy for that once in a thousand occurrence as I get more complacent about pulling the C7 out of the garage! The \$20 cost is 30 times less than a mirror repair!

Had to adjust the height to match the C8 mirror!

My 3LT C8 comes with retractable mirrors. Will use them only when pulling out, especially at night.

When pulling in, don't want to clear the folded mirrors and hit the rear fender as it's almost as wide as my C7 Grand Sport (76.1 C8 vs 77.4 GS!) An issue when pulling in at a slight angle, which in my case is typical what I do after making a 90 degree turn from the driveway (*well as close to 90 as is practical!*) Learned to pull the C7 Grand Sport in with no problems the C8 as it's slightly easier even with mirrors extended.



“52” C8, 2017 Grand Sport & 2014 Z51 Stingray Mods, Info Available As PDFs:



52 PDFs discuss improvements or info about a C8, 2017 Grand Sport, 2014 Z51 Stingray function and/or esthetics. Some are minor and others, like the installing “Low Dust Brake Pads” on C8 & C7s, have detailed information.

Below are the PDF's available. Click on picture or Blue PDF link or copy and paste the PDF link (Blue type) into your browser. Or email me at GUtrachi@aol.com and state the title desired, shown in Yellow:

C8 Install High Wing

How To Remove Rear Bumper- Install Wing
http://netwelding.com/C8_High_Wing.pdf



C8 FWD Hybrid

WFWD Hybrid Provides More Power & MPG
http://netwelding.com/C8_FWD_Hybrid.pdf



Rusty GS/C7 Muffler

Why the C7 muffler rusts way to turn matte black.
http://netwelding.com/Muffler_Rust.pdf



Change GS/C7 Oil

WHY change your own oil and C7 Lifting Methods
http://netwelding.com/Changing_Oil.pdf



C8 Side Skirts & Splitter

Install C7 Carbon side skirts & splitter on C8
http://netwelding.com/Side_Skirts.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Splitter w/End Plates

How to install Splitter & Nylon bra fit
http://netwelding.com/CF_Splitter.pdf



C7 Removing GM Plastic Film

How To Remove The Rocker Panel Film
http://netwelding.com/Rocker_Panel_Film.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Mirror Proximity Alarm

Limit switch alarm warns when close to door frame
http://netwelding.com/Mirror_Proximity_Alarm.pdf



Jacking Pads for C8/GS/C7

Manual says Jacking Pads 2 1/2 inch max OD..
http://netwelding.com/Jacking_pads.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Radar Power

For C7 tapped rear fuse panel. For GS tapped mirror
http://netwelding.com/Radar_Detector_Power.pdf



GS/C7 Belt Rattle

Passenger seat belt rattles against the seat back.
http://netwelding.com/Eliminate_Rattle.pdf



Aluminum C7 Chassis and Weld Repair

The C7 aluminum chassis. Includes weld repair info.
http://netwelding.com/Aluminum_Chassis.pdf



C8 Z51, GS/C7 Z51 Ceramic Brake Pads

Performance Vettes have dusty brakes. These US made pads help!
http://netwelding.com/Ceramic_Pads.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Z51 License Plate Frame;

Must Meet South Carolina Law
http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Frame.pdf



Manage GS/C7 Spilled Gas & Door Lock

Protect when filling gas. Preventing door lock failure.
http://netwelding.com/Manage_Spilled_Gas.pdf



GS/C7 License Plate & Cargo Lights

LED license plate light & cargo area bulbs
http://netwelding.com/License_Plate_Light.pdf



GS/C7 Rear Cargo Area

Rear cargo area storage device and rear protector
http://netwelding.com/Rear_Cargo_Area.pdf



GS Rear Diffuser (Fits Any C7)

Rear Carbon Flash Composite Diffuser
http://netwelding.com/Rear_Diffuser.pdf



GS/C7 Door Panel Protector

Black plastic protector prevents scuffing of door
http://netwelding.com/Door_Panel_Protector.pdf



GS/C7 Improved Cup Holder

A solution to the cup holder spilling
http://netwelding.com/Improved_cup_Holder.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Wheel Chatter/Hop

Why sharp, low speed turns with cold tires causes the front tires to chatter/hop.
http://netwelding.com/Wheel_Chatter.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Grille Bar

Install genuine carbon fiber grille bar overlay

http://netwelding.com/CF_Grille_Bar.pdf



Jacking a C8/GS/C7 Vette

Safely jacking either front only or back & front

http://netwelding.com/Jacking_A_C7.pdf



Deer Whistle Installed on C8/GS/C7

Do they work? Plus Install Info

http://netwelding.com/Deer_Whistle.pdf



Replacing C7 Battery

Tricks for installing battery!

http://netwelding.com/Battery_Issues.pdf



GS/C7 Window Valet

Lower Windows With FOB Helps Latch Hatch

http://netwelding.com/Hatch_Latch.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Splash Guards

GM splash guards. ACS Best Front Guards for GS.

http://netwelding.com/Splash_Guard.pdf



GS/C7 Blind Spot Mirror

Smaller rear and side windows cause C7 blind spots.

Small "blind spot mirrors" help

http://netwelding.com/Blind_Spot.pdf



GS/C7 Skid Pad Protector

After the air dam, the aluminum "skid pad" hits

http://netwelding.com/Skid_Pad_Protector.pdf



C8/GS/C7 Wheel Locks

Wheel locks, help protect your expensive wheels.

http://netwelding.com/Wheel_Locks.pdf



GS/C7 OnStar Lights

Rear view mirror OnStar LED's, at a quick glance, look like a police car flashing light! This is a fix.

http://netwelding.com/OnStar_Lights.pdf



GS/C7 Skip Shift Eliminator

Skip Shift Eliminator install with suggestions on jacking a C7.

http://netwelding.com/Skip_shift_Eliminator.pdf



GS/C7 Catch Can & Clean Oil Separator

What is Coking and how to reduce the potential
http://netwelding.com/Catch_Can.pdf



GS MGW Flat Stick Shifter

The MGW shifter shortens throw and is more precise
http://netwelding.com/MGW_Shifter.pdf



GS/C7 Round Shift Knob

A round shift knob shortens throw on OEM shifter
http://netwelding.com/Shift_Knob.pdf



GS/C7 Stingray Sill Plate

Stingray sill plate replaces original.
http://netwelding.com/Sill_Plate.pdf



GS/C7 Nylon Bra

Nylon Bra Stops Bugs. Fits with Stage 3 Winglets
http://netwelding.com/Nylon_Bra.pdf



GS/C7 Clutch Fluid Change

Clutch fluid after 3000 miles gets dirty
http://netwelding.com/Clutch_Fluid.pdf



C7 Carbon Fiber Hood Vent

Replaces Plastic Hood Vent
http://netwelding.com/Hood_Vent.pdf



GS/C7 Cold Air Intake

Low Restriction Air Filter & Duct
http://netwelding.com/Cold_Air_Intake.pdf



GS/C7 Soler Modified Throttle Body

For Improved Throttle Response
http://netwelding.com/Soler_Mod_TB.pdf



Garmin GPS for GS Cubby

Garmin Mounts in GS Cubby & Apple CARPLAY
http://netwelding.com/GPS_In_Cubby.pdf



GS Splitter Stage 3 Winglet

Stage 3 Winglets Integrate with Spats
http://netwelding.com/Stage_3_Winglets.pdf



GS 2LT to 2.5 LT

Red Upper Dash Pad Like 3LT
http://netwelding.com/Red_Dash_Pad.pdf



Jake Emblem/Decals for GS

Jake Symbols Support GS Racing Image
http://netwelding.com/Jake_Emblems.pdf



C8/GS Splitter Protector

Scrape Armor Protection for Splitter
http://netwelding.com/Splitter_Protectors.pdf



GS Engine Compartment Mods

Cosmetic Additions in Engine Compartment
http://netwelding.com/Engine_Compartment.pdf



GS Vitesse Throttle Controller: Fits All C7s

Adjustable Throttle-by-Wire Control
http://netwelding.com/Throttle_Control.pdf



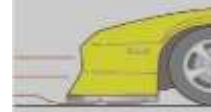
Boomy Bass Solution

Use Presets to Adjust Bass etc Tone/Balance
http://netwelding.com/Boomy_Bass



GS/C7 Air Dam, Functions

Why Missing from Z51, Some GS & Z06
http://netwelding.com/Air_Dam.pdf



C8 Engine Compartment Lights

Multicolor Lights Remote operated
http://netwelding.com/Engine_Lights.pdf



C8 Edge Red Engine Cover

Engine Cover Matches Valve Covers
http://netwelding.com/Engine_Cover.pdf



Engineering a ProStreet Rod

How Our '34 ProStreet Rod Was Designed and Built
<http://netwelding.com/Engineering%20Street%20Rod%203-08.pdf>



Motorsports Welding Article

*Wrote a 5 Page Article for AWS March 2018 Journal
Covers NHRA and NASCAR Chassis Design*
http://netwelding.com/Motorsports_Welding_2018.pdf

