

# **RichieRescue's broken center console repair**

For the 2016 Mazda CX-5, adapted for PDF by Dual

Thread: <http://tinyurl.com/y2b44hfs>

## **Step 1: Gather the correct tools**

- A small slotted (flat-head) screwdriver, or plastic panel removal tool.
- A pair of small needle-nose (or similar) pliers.

## **Step 2: Take the center console apart**

Using the pry bar or small slotted screwdriver, gently... *I SAID GENTLY* wedge the tool under piece of the center console and the soft rubber/vinyl cover (don't pull TOO hard, but you should hear plastic pieces start to pop or separate within the console assembly...).

Pry near the red arrow.



Begin to gently work your way around the perimeter of the console. Eventually, you should be able to get your fingers into the gap and pry the two pieces apart.



Completely remove the plastic piece that contains the console latch and take it to a safe working area. We're going to be focusing on the top portion; where my hand is holding it up.



### ***Step 3: Remove the latch assembly from the plastic backing***

Take a quick second to look over the piece.

Notice the main pieces you're working with are: the plastic backing, a metal rod, a spring, and the plastic latch itself. You'll notice one end of the rod is pointy and the other is knurled. Take your pliers and squeeze the pointy side of the metal rod so as to push it inward. When you have enough of the knurled end sticking out, use the pliers to pull from that end and completely remove the rod.

There are small pieces. Pull the rod out slowly to make sure you gather the spring and the rod. If you lose either one, you'll have to buy the whole assembly, as the new latch does not come with a rod or spring.



*Pushing the pointy end.*



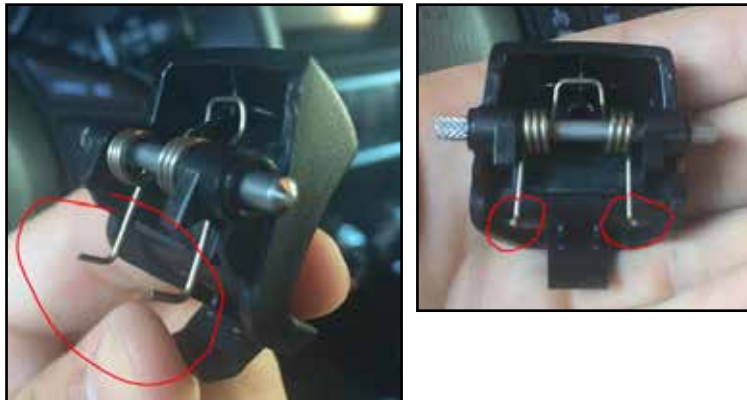
*Pulling the knurled end.*



*The spring and rod.*

#### **Step 4: Placement of new latch**

Take a quick look at these two pictures: the spring and rod together with the latch below (assembled outside of the console for demonstration purposes):



Notice the placement of the spring... the pointy end goes outward. If you put it in incorrectly, the latch will not work properly.

Set the spring on the back of the latch and place it into the plastic backing. Hold the spring with your thumb and run the rod through the hole on the left side, pointy end first (the way you found it, originally). The rod will run through the holes on each side and through the coils on the spring. It should look like the picture below half way through...



Push the rod as far as it'll go with your fingers and finish the job with the pliers; until the pointy end is showing on the right side and the knurled end is flush with the left side:



Test to make sure the spring is working correctly by pressing on the latch release multiple times. Place the plastic backing back into the console cover and snap into place. Squeeze around the sides (similar to closing the lid on a tupperware container) to ensure it's seated properly.

Close the console lid. As long as it stays closed and opens when you press the release, you're all done! (If it doesn't work properly, go back through steps 1-3 to ensure the spring is set properly.)



**ALL DONE!**

An addendum: **ExExplorerGuy** wrote: "It's a poor design. Ours broke in the first six months. Replaced it ourselves with the instructions posted earlier in this thread (Thanks!). To keep the new one from breaking, we filled the voids with epoxy, as shown in the pics below. Bulletproof!"

