

Adding power windows to 1984/85 Fb

This was one of my last pandemic projects that I managed to complete just before I returned to work and in fact an excellent project if you have to remain at home in isolation for 14 days. It's a 2 day job but could stretch to 3 days if you add in power mirror upgrades which I plan to do later.

Why add power windows to your Fb? Well, I happen to have a pair of nice leather GSL door cards that I wanted to install with my leather GSL seats and leather retrimmed steering wheel, handbrake boot and shift boot. And you can't simply create a hole to allow for the manual window crank since GSL door pull handle position interferes.

You need to secure two doors with power windows, remove the electrical loom (with door and body grommets) and window regulators with motors (there is a right and left side). Removing the regulators with attached motors means lowering the glass to access two gold Phillips screws to free the glass, unbolt the regulator and remove through the bottom slot of the door. The glass in the manual system is identical to the glass in the powered system. Test the motors.





Peel back vapor barrier, a nice cool morning will make it easier to detach the adhesive putty.



Separate glass from regulators and tape in up position to keep it out of the way.

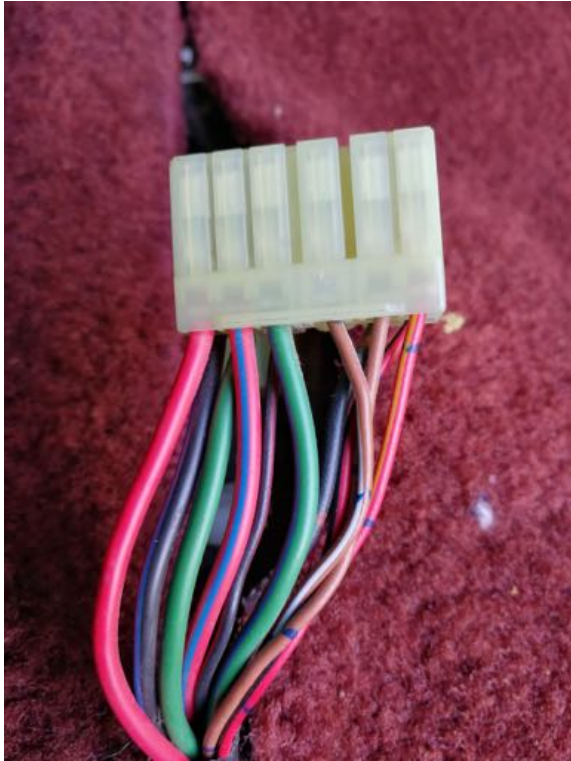


You will need more hex nuts to install powered regulators than removed with manual regulators.

If you kept the entire loom, the driver's door has an extra branch to light up the keyhole which I ignored but did run the branch to the powered side mirrors up to the mirror position and kept it secured in place with two bendable metal tabs built into the door structure. This will also keep the wires out of the way of the moving pane of glass.

You have to remove the front speaker kick panels and speakers to be able to route the door loom through the pre-cut holes covered with rubber stoppers in the door and body. Find the right connectors to plug the loom into under the dash by making sure the wiring colors match.

It would make sense that every Rx7 marching down the assembly line would have the full electrical loom installed to simplify installing the different accessories for each model. This was true in the earlier years, but by 1984/85 Mazda was cost cutting at every opportunity! The Factory Shop Manual showed that the electrical loom ran down under the driver's door sill and across the driver's seat and from there another loom connected to it that ran accessories like the power window switch.



BUT, on my base S model, the subloom for the power window switch was missing, the connector attached to this loom lacked pins for the 5 wires on the left side. Perhaps this allowed Mazda to save a few dollars?



So I removed the wires from the nylon connector body and ran 6 wires of appropriate gauge to the power window switch (which is still available new from Mazdatrix!) and then ran these wires under the carpet.



You will also need a 6mm x 1.5" machine bolt and some #10 wood screws to attach the GSL door card but the system is quite robust and works very well even though now 35 years old.