



vortex forums

news

features

galleries

resources

marketplace

about vortex

Passat - All Other Models


[My Profile](#) | [Active Users](#) | [Help](#) | [Search](#) | [Google Search](#)
You are logged in as [izzo](#), [Log out](#)
[VWvortex Forums](#) › [Passat - All Other Models](#) › [DIY: Smoked Tail Lights \[Archived\]](#)
[Post New Topic](#) [Start New Poll](#) [▶](#) [▲](#) [✎](#)


PRINTABLE VERSION

EMAIL THIS TOPIC TO A FRIEND



TRACK THIS TOPIC

Help

izzo
Member

DIY: Smoked Tail Lights

[◀](#) [▶](#) 9:34 AM 6-29-2004

[Reply](#)


Online

 Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

 W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI


[img]

[/img]

so.....my next cheap-ass mod 😊 nice alternative for pricy smoked tails!
first i wanted crystal clear taillights, but those seem to be hard to find
about the B3 then i decided smoked...now, biggest question that i did a lot
of reading on - IZZ IT LEGIT???well, hell... depends on where u live and
what u want. basically, as long as when u hit brakes the car behind sees
you from a good distance, U COOL! so - let's go...

what i bought [after checking local auto stores n being denied] is:

1. 10oz canister of VHT Nite Shades window tint spray.... approx \$10 [eBay]
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ebaymotors...WN:IT>
2. a canister of clear coat - \$3 [walmart]
3. some steel wool - \$3-4 [lowes] as well left from the door sill mod...

first try to spray a lil bit somewhere on a plastic surface with both the
tint and the clear coat to see how it works and what distance should u have
between the spray and the object, very important is NOT to overspray!
i experimented on my trash can 😊 worked as a training 😊
then take off your tail lights... it is a snap, only three bolts
hold the left and right tails, but i removed as well the lights that have
the white reverse light - they are on the trunk hood, note:
those are on three bolts each too, u DO NOT need to remove the plastic cover
that holds your licence plate but I DID just to clean it and as well
[img]



[/img]

i put one clear coat layer on it just to match the rest after that, it is holded by two screws from the inside - u need to remove the fabric cover inside the screws are underneath it AND two big a\$\$ screws which are under the licence plate so u will have to take that off.

then wash the tail light lenses WELL and let them DRY well.

i as well scrubbed them a little bit with steel wool - removes all \$hit. now is good time to try and with a piece of cloth to clean the reflectors inside, it is not that easy cuz these DO NOT disassemble u need to reach through the small bulb holes. after all that is cleaned and dry, i masked the black plastic frame with masking tape cuz i did not want tint on it, just wanted to paint the lenses. if u r patient enough u might put some strips on the lenses and paint over them and remove the strips after that making yo tails look even mo' cool but i did not do that, whatever.



[img]

[/img]

i put a coat of VHT tint once and let it dry, fortunately it does real quick-like fifteen minutes or less. then applied another one for a total of TWO, not more tint layers. tell u why, cuz when i put the tinted lights on the car, it looks even DARKER cuz car is white! and i do not want some fool to rear end me cuz he did not see my braking light!!!

then i removed the masking tape and applied two layer of thick clear coat all over and again let it dry. meanwhile vacuumed car, did not want to try putting the taillights too soon and have my fingerprints there!



[img]

[/img]

when, total of two-three hours later, installation back is a pleasure, and here is how it looks like:

later 2nite we went 2 see 'white chicks' and gathered in applebees, and i had my friend **vasillalov** to sit in my car and try turn signals and brakes and rear light so i can ensure myself that tint was not WAY too much.. well, it was not, so i can sleep well now, not worried that when i go to inspect my car next year sum jerk will make me strip all the nice black tint down 😊 here is how it looks now:



[img]

[/img]

hope u like it as i do!! and after that i freshen a lil bit the side trim with mother\$ back2black so now it looks great as well, i just smile when lookin' @ da passator 😊

edit:

next week i am doing the front turn signals, should even take less, and i am putting the sidemarkers also smoked, bought 'em from importvision for like fifteen bucks and will replace the ugly VR6 badges on the sides... just need to run additional two wires from the turn signals to the sidemarkers...

any ideas on that?

if sum1 did not notice, i am trying to turn the passator to a sleeper0
i DO NOT want nowhere outside to be seen that it is VR6,
also removed the passat badge from the trunk hood as seen on pic!!! 🗨️

Modified by izzo at 3:48 PM 4-14-2006

VWbay

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis! 

mk2stutter
Member



<< >> 1:54 PM 6-29-2004

Reply



Offline

Member Since
9-29-2003
637 posts

somewhere in pa
2001 GTI GLS 1.8t



very very sexy, but real quick - as i am not familiar with DIY smoked tails, so i'll probably sound like a moron, but whatever -- do you spray the tint & clearcoat on the outside? or do you have to find some way to do it on the inside? :| : 🗨️:

1986 2D Golf (sold)
1997 Passat GLX (RIP 😞)
<http://forums.vwvortex.com/zerothread?id=2731891> buy my lip/springs/seats/quick release/front stabilizer bar
<http://www.f-min.us/carpics/> <http://www.f-min.us/carpc>

2001 GTI GLS 1.8t

pianomansam
Member

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (izzo) >>

<< >> 5:05 PM 6-29-2004

Reply



Offline

Member Since
3-13-2004
425 posts

Grand Rapids MI



now might be a good time for those here who are knowledgable whether tinting your taillights is legal or not in your own state to chime in. please, only one per state... 😊

shortys7777

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (izzo) >>

<< >> 5:14 PM 6-29-2004

Reply

wow those are nice i did 3 coats on mine and they arent that black. how many coats are on those beasts??? looks great. i still havent clear coated mine but i dont think thats going to make them look any darker

91 passat 16v 🗨️

Member



Offline

Member Since
4-7-2004
1297 postsPlymouth
NH/Andover MA
1991 VW passat GL**MP3DUB**
Member Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (shortys7777) [»](#)[«](#) [»](#) 5:19 PM 6-29-2004[Reply](#)

Offline

Member Since
1-26-2002
1394 postsElk Grove Village IL
1993 VW Passat**ritzta**
Member Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (MP3DUB) [»](#)[«](#) [»](#) 5:24 PM 6-29-2004[Reply](#)

Offline

Member Since
6-10-2004
32 postsDaytona Beach FL
1997 VW Passat VR6

According to Florida Statute:

Title XXIII
MOTOR VEHICLES Chapter 316
STATE UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL

316.224 Color of clearance lamps, identification lamps, side marker lamps, backup lamps, reflectors, and deceleration lights.--

(1) Front clearance lamps, identification lamps, and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle shall display or reflect an amber color.

(2) Rear clearance lamps, identification lamps, and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.

So I guess that's illegal here in the sunshine state.

tcrida72 Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (izzo) [»](#)[«](#) [»](#) 6:01 PM 6-29-2004[Reply](#)

Member

Offline

Member Since
6-16-2004
4 posts

Knoxville TN
'95 Passat GLX



Those look good Cuzzo!!! 🌐

izzo

Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI



Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (tcrida72) >>

<< >> 6:09 PM 6-29-2004

Reply



uhhh, first - i did ONLY TWO TINT COATS AND TWO CLEAR COATS!
the clear coat makes 'em look even darker, and the contrast
between the white car and the black taillights makes it even more....

yes, i sprayed on the OUTSIDE, as can be seen on pics...
the reflectors on the B3 are not detachable in any way,
u will have to brake those to disassemble them 😊

MP3DUB - the PASSAT badge on the right side of the trunk I HATED!
so i took it of, was hold by FOUR pins with FOUR holes...
i filled that with body filler, smoothed it out after that
with 1 of them machines and sprayed over with white paint,
all i need now is to clear coat the trunk hood
with enamel metal surface coat....prolly on sunday....when
i will do my sidemarkers and front turn signals as well...

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!

MP3DUB

Member



Offline

Member Since
1-26-2002
1394 posts

Elk Grove Village IL
1993 VW Passat



Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (izzo) >>

<< >> 8:27 PM 6-29-2004

Reply

Thanks. Thats what I thought, as I'd prefer to have the Passat badge gone as well.

-Nick
Since when is insanity a bad thing?
mp3vw.com

m5am

Member



Offline

Member Since
3-3-2004
3099 posts

Portland OR

>>

<< >> 1:03 AM 6-30-2004

Reply

FYI: You do want to use an Enamel based clear coat, almost all paints now are enamel based and the last thing you want to do is use a laquer base. I just tinted mine the other day but I didnt do them all black, I left the red and I personally think its looks better and will not interefere with the law. Nice work anyhow.

'03 Denali XL

SAM



pianomansam

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (ritzta) >>

<< >> 4:24 AM 6-30-2004

Reply



Offline

Member Since
3-13-2004
425 posts

Grand Rapids MI



Quote, originally posted by ritzta »

(2) Rear clearance lamps, identification lamps, and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.

So I guess that's illegal here in the sunshine state.

um, you might be able to still do it as long as it still looked red... izzo's would probably be too dark, but maybe one layer of night shades wouldn't be... hey, it'd still be darker than OEM... 🙄

B4 VDub Guy

Member

>>

<< >> 5:42 AM 6-30-2004

Reply



Offline

Member Since
6-8-2004
525 posts

NJ
1996 VW Passat GLX
VR6(Sold), 2006
Nissan Altima 3.5 SE,
1995 Mitsubishi
Eclipse, 2002 Nissan
Pathfi



Quote, originally posted by m5am »

FYI: You do want to use an Enamel based clear coat, almost all paints now are enamel based and the last thing you want to do is use a laquer base. I just tinted mine the other day but I didnt do them all black, I left the red and I personally think its looks better and will not interefere with the law. Nice work anyhow.

Whats the difference in the enamel/laquer based clear coats in terms of the way the lights will turn out?

m5am

Member

>>

<< >> 5:55 AM 6-30-2004

Reply



Offline

Member Since
3-3-2004
3099 posts

Portland OR
'03 Denali XL



SAM

izzo

Member

Re: (m5am) >>

<< >> 6:50 AM 7-8-2004

Reply



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004

baabump 🌐

5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI





Modified by izzo at 6:41 AM 4-26-2007

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!

izzo
Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI



Re: (izzo) >>

<< >> 10:13 PM 7-8-2004

Reply



post 😊

last sunday i did the sidemarkers, bought them from importvision, like tewnty dollars shipped, just had to splice two wires each side from the front turn signals, the sidemarkers are OEM and fit perfectly, just tinted them and clear coat does the rest... today i removed the front mask and tinted the front turn signals, piece of cake, now the passator is black eyed all around 😊



once again, if someone does this, BE CAREFULL NOT TO OVERSRPAY!



the only PITA as that i painted the front signals without taking them down from the car, was too lasy, but if you have the time-

it will save you a lot of nerve! 😊 here is how it turned to be, i really like it:



btw, still concerned if the tint worsened the visibility, i checked the taillights and the new black sidemarkers the other night once again... left the passator on emergency lights and went likeseventy feet away on the parking - everything OK!

Modified by izzo at 3:48 PM 4-14-2006

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis! 

izzo
Member




Online
Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI



m5am

Re: (izzo) >>

<< >> 10:16 PM 7-8-2004 [Reply](#) 

tru this:

<http://s90674009.onlinehome.us...h=289>

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis! 

>>

<< >> 12:01 AM 7-9-2004 [Reply](#)

Member



Offline

Member Since
3-3-2004
3099 posts

Portland OR
'03 Denali XL



izzo

Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI



Ron L

Member



Offline

Member Since
2-17-1999
2940 posts

Group W Bench,
Livonia MI
1997 Jetta, 1993
Fox, 1990 B3 Variant



izzo

Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93

I dont like the front signals at all. They are too dark. If i was to do it I would do 1 coat mabye. Then again I would probaly just leave mine orange.

SAM

Re: (m5am) >>

<< >> 1:48 AM 7-9-2004

Reply



it is all up 2 u, i appreciate the opinion anyways 😊
these are just two tint coats,
it actually is not SO dark however the white color of the car
just makes the lenses look darker!
i like it now - just black/white!

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!

Re: (izzo) >>

<< >> 1:55 AM 7-9-2004

Reply

In the pics, it looks like the front markers are missing because they're so dark. I tried tinting mine and I dont' like it, from across the parking lot, the car looks like a racoon, and they're not nearly as dark.

I guess for me, clear markers w/b the way to go.

Ron

The Paint Guy & Official Curmudgeon

Detroit Area Chapter - Terre Haute Torque and Recoil Society

<http://www.michiganvw.org>

"Even in Hell, my suffering will be legendary."

Re: (Ron L) >>

<< >> 2:18 AM 7-9-2004

Reply



i had the thought for clear side markers but those are expensive, and rare to find for the B3.
furthermore, they look good with clear headlights....

[VWbay](#)

Audi B3 TDI



Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!

VR6_MAN
Member

Re: (izzo) >>

<< >> 4:22 AM 7-9-2004

[Reply](#)

SUBARU

Offline

I brought clear turn signals over from Europe. They come stock over their. Original Hella's for about \$15 a piece. I should start importing them.

Member Since
12-11-2003
1125 posts

Rochester Hills MI
2007 Subaru Impreza
/ 1993 Passat GLX
(VR6)



Quote, originally posted by Jeremy Clarkson »

If you stop and think for a moment, how can it take two years to build 14 miles of road? The Romans could do 10 times better than that 2,400 years ago.

VR6_MAN
Member

Re: (VR6_MAN) >>

<< >> 4:23 AM 7-9-2004

[Reply](#)

SUBARU

Offline

I also could have bought new tails with the turn signal clear instead of orange. It would hav cost me about \$200 for both. I choose not to buy those.

Member Since
12-11-2003
1125 posts

Rochester Hills MI
2007 Subaru Impreza
/ 1993 Passat GLX
(VR6)



Quote, originally posted by Jeremy Clarkson »

If you stop and think for a moment, how can it take two years to build 14 miles of road? The Romans could do 10 times better than that 2,400 years ago.

kayser` soze
Member

Re: (VR6_MAN) >>

<< >> 7:03 AM 8-17-2004

[Reply](#)



Offline

PASSATOR-A e numero 1 fo real

Member Since
8-14-2004
417 posts

The Dark Side of The Moon



bump

izzo

Re: (kayser` soze) >>

<< >> 7:13 AM 8-17-2004

[Reply](#)



Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

4 sheeze, foo

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!



kayser`soze
Member

Re: (izzo) [»](#)

[«](#) [»](#) 5:45 AM 8-18-2004

[Reply](#)



Offline

Member Since
8-14-2004
417 posts

pozdrاف za my n***a - Azis - Avtomontior.mp3 ;]]]

The Dark Side of The
Moon



Wrenhaven
Member

Re: (kayser`soze) [»](#)

[«](#) [»](#) 8:09 PM 8-18-2004

[Reply](#)

SUBARU

Offline

Member Since
6-12-2001
4587 posts

Good job, I'm a fellow nightshades tail light tinter

VIVA LA CTA
02 Subaru Ver8'd
WRX / 04 Toy
Sequoia

2002 Subaru WRX
2004 Giant TCR Composite 1
Pics [WRX](#), [Passat](#)



qwikxr
Member

Re: (Wrenhaven) [»](#)

[«](#) [»](#) 8:52 PM 8-18-2004

[Reply](#)

SUBARU

I redded mine out, but the tinted rocks!



Offline

Member Since
2-9-2003
5952 posts

[Cure Autism Now Foundation](#)Help find a cure
[Asperger's Disorder](#)

Quote, originally posted by mgyip »

I know how poorly I react as a passenger on the street let alone when I'm at the track - let's just say that I've been known to make diamonds...



L33TX43RT

Re: (qwikxr) [»](#)

[«](#) [»](#) 4:23 PM 8-19-2004

[Reply](#)

Member



Peep the results to my B4 - just done a few weeks ago... 🙌 😊

Offline

(REFER TO SIGNATURE LINK, FOR PICS)

Member Since
10-22-2002
2562 posts

Modified by L33TX43RT at 10:29 AM 8-19-2004

Living it up in FL
'03 Jetta 1.8T



- Michael

pg1syncro
Member

Re: (VR6_MAN) >>

<< >> 5:05 PM 8-19-2004

Reply



Quote, originally posted by VR6_MAN »

I also could have bought new tails with the turn signal clear instead of orange. It would have cost me about \$200 for both.

Offline

They have those in Europe?!?!? 🇪🇺 Dang!! I would have liked to see those!!

Member Since
3-21-2002
1974 posts

Montreal Quebec
Dual Passat syncros



Pierre
pg1syncro
pg1@total.net

izzo
Member

Re: (qwikxr) >>

<< >> 6:23 PM 8-19-2004

Reply



Online

i just love the top curve of the rear bumper of the B3 wagon...
generally i do not like wagons, but that a nice one...

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

btw - there's a lotta ppl from bulgaria in winchester 😊
i might be coming there not this one, but next weekend....

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!



izzo

Re: (L33TX43RT) >>

<< >> 6:26 PM 8-19-2004

Reply

nice job u've done 😊

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis!

Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TQ, 93
Audi B3 TDI



qwikxr
Member

Re: (izzo) >>

<< >> 7:29 PM 8-19-2004

Reply

SUBARU

You let me know! We'll definitely hook up!

Offline

Member Since
2-9-2003
5952 posts

Funchester VA
'02 WRX Stg2



[Cure Autism Now Foundation](#)Help find a cure
[Asperger's Disorder](#)

Quote, originally posted by mgyip »

I know how poorly I react as a passenger on the street let alone when I'm at the track - let's just say that I've been known to make diamonds...

TheB3e.Com
Member

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (izzo) >>

<< >> 3:13 AM 7-27-2005

Reply



Awsome DIY man! 🍷

I am going to try my hand at tinting mine all red.. I hope mine turn out as nice as yours..

Offline

Member Since
1-23-2005
218 posts

GTA ON
1991 Passat
16V/1996 Passat GLX
VR6

One thing I noticed is red spray tint is really hard to find in my area. The only thing I have found so far is a product made by Testors (spray enamel) .
Not sure how this stuff is going to work but I do have an extra set of tails to screw around with..

Keep up the good work on the B3 ..



<http://WWW.THEB3E.COM> TECHNICAL INFO / PASSAT PARTS@GREAT PRICES

verboden1
Member

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (TheB3e.Com) >>

<< >> 3:15 AM 7-27-2005

Reply

Offline

Member Since
6-30-2001
6171 posts

MI

testors candy apple red





Michiganvw.org
1987 Scirocco 16V
2001 Wolfsburg Jetta
Gone: [1995 Passat GLX](#)
stripped: 1984 GTI 2.0 16V, 1996 Passat GLS 2.0

izzo
Member



Online

Member Since
3-18-2004
5473 posts

W Va
94 B3 GLX, 97 GTI,
84 Rabbit GTI, 06
Citroen C5 HDI, 00
Audi A4 1.8TO, 93
Audi B3 TDI

Re: DIY: Smoked Tail Lights (TheB3e.Com) >>

<< >> 5:43 AM 7-27-2005 [Reply](#)

It's not because of your area... it's just rare....









Modified by izzo at 6:43 AM 4-26-2007

[VWbay](#)

Es ist wirklich eine Liebe - hassen Sie Verhältnis! 

[First](#) [1](#) [2](#) [>](#) [Last](#)

» [Return to Passat - All Other Models](#)

Passat - All Other Models

6

[Quick Reply](#)

For advertising information Click [Here](#)

Powered by [ZeroForum](#) 2.1.2. ©2005 RelyNet, Inc.

L