

## Tech Notes

By Howard

Have you seen the new C5 center console doors in the West Coast Corvette online catalog? We ordered one for the '01.

Installation was a snap and it looks real good. (see photo)

To install:

First, you remove the console lid by removing the 4 screws at the hinge. The hinge is double-jointed so it can be lifted to get to the lower screws. This double-jointed hinge allows the new cover to sit flat on the console, even with the added material thickness.

Next you remove the 2 screws that hold the latch catch to the lid. Note that the latch hook faces forward. Then remove the 5 screws that hold the lid liner to the console cover.

The kit comes with double-back tape that you lay in around the edge of the original console cover. Put the tape about 3/8 inch below the edge of the cover, except in the hinge area. You should have a 4-6 inch piece of tape left over that you'll use later.

Put the original console cover inside the new cover. There are holes in the new cover to line up with the nut plates. I had to add a small hole for one of the alignment pins at the hinge point.

Pull the material of the new cover tight, aligning the precut holes with the nut plates and press the material onto the double-back tape (you may have to cut a hole for one of the alignment pins at the hinge). Use that extra strip of double-back tape to hold the material at the hinge area. Be sure the top side of new cover is wrinkle free.

Now, reinstall the lid liner and latch hook to the old console cover, which is now inside the new cover. Then reinstall the assembly to the console hinge.

The kit also came with a color matching piece of leather to go around the piece forward of the console door. (The piece with the ride selector on it.) This piece just snaps out with a small screwdriver. Lay in the ribbing piece and snap the part back into place. You may need to play with it a little to get the ribbing to lay just right.

The job took maybe all of 30 minutes, and the results really dress up the inside of the car.

