

Before we begin, I should point out that I am not a mechanic, engineer or electrician, however I have a reasonable understanding of electrics & electronics (to a DIY level); with this in mind, I hope that this guide is written in plain English, and won't be too confusing.

The vehicle in the photos is my own 2007 Passat 2.0TDI SE, and although specifications differ throughout the Passat range, most of this guide will apply to all models; this installation is very simple, but it is **your car** and therefore **your responsibility** to make sure you understand what you are about to do before commencing – if you really don't have a clue what you are doing after reading this guide, please **do not** attempt the installation yourself.

### **You will need:**

- 1 x flexible 12v LED strip (mine was very swiftly supplied from an Amazon Marketplace seller, [www.brightlightz.co.uk](http://www.brightlightz.co.uk) )
- Chocolate block connector (4 connections to be made)
- Self-amalgamating tape
- Torx Screwdriver (T20)
- Small, flat head screw driver
- Mug of tea (should just about last long enough to see the end of the job)
- Short length (1m) of 13-strand, 2 core cable

### **Step 1**

Remove the carpeted spare wheel cover from the car, then remove the trim piece from the offside of the car (where the existing boot light is), by releasing three trim clips along the top section (right), one Torx screw on that screws into the boot floor (below), a second Torx screw just inside the boot adjacent to the rear lights (circled, below right), and finally one more trim clip that lives at the front edge of the boot (arrowed, below right). Pictures here show trim removal on the nearside, but the offside is identical.

NOTE – as the trim comes off, you will need to unplug the 12v cigarette lighter style socket, and the boot light.





## Step 2

Cut the plug for the boot light off the wire, leaving yourself enough length to reconnect to; **ONLY** cut one wire at a time, as with the bootlid open, power will still be flowing through these wires (not enough to hurt you, but allowing them to short out could potentially damage the car electrics).

Make sure that the wire ends left in the car are not able to touch each other or the body of the car (use a small piece of tape to cover the ends to be sure).



Bare the ends of the wire that is attached to the now removed plug, and then using your length of wire and chocolate block connectors, make a cable up that looks like this:





### Step 3

Connect the end of your new cable that has the plug for the original light back onto the corresponding wires in the car, and once content that your connections are sound and secure, insulate thoroughly with self-amalgamating tape.

Take your self-adhesive strip of LED's and stick them to the metal at inside the top of the boot – first photo of this guide shows a suggested location that will illuminate the boot, whilst keeping the LED's out of sight from outside the car – don't forget to make sure that you have the wire coming out of the LED strip at the offside of the car.

Reconnect the original boot light, and see that it is lit – if not, close and reopen the boot and it should now be lit.

Now, you need to determine which cable on the LED lights goes to which connection – LED's will only light if they are wired observing the correct polarity (an ordinary light bulb will light up no matter which way you connect it); the easy way to do this is to simply touch both wires onto the metal connection of the chocolate block (one wire to each connection), and see if the LED's light up – if they don't, switch the wires round and try again. Once you know which wire is which on the LED's, simply connect them fully, and then ensure that you insulate the connection thoroughly with self-amalgamating tape.

All that remains is to refit the trim, put the carpet in, and finish your mug of tea!

