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# BLU-C5 (v2.24)

## STREAMING MODULE INSTALL GUIDE FOR 1997-04 CORVETTE

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## PRODUCT SAFETY & DISCLAIMER

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLING, FAILURE TO DO SO MAY CAUSE PERSONAL INJURY OR DAMAGE TO PRODUCT AND/OR PROPERTY

- This installation guide is provided as a GENERAL installation guide, some vehicles vary and may require additional steps. We do not accept responsibility for third party labor charges or modifications. Exercise due-diligence when installing this product.
- We do not accept any responsibility for vehicle damage or personal injury resulting from the installation of this product.
- Careless installation and operation can result in equipment damage

## Requirement

1997-04 Corvette WITH ORIGINAL RADIO

## Introduction

The BLU-C5 module (V2.24), adds music streaming capabilities to C5 Theftlock CD or Tape radios (Bose and non-Bose). User opts to install module behind radio cavity OR (if pre-wired), to 10-pin CD plug in trunk/hatch. Irrespective of install location, the BLU-C5 replaces factory I2-disc changer (if present). Purchase our [A2D-C5](#) to retain CD changer operation.

**Note:** The BLU-C5 support Bluetooth A2DP2 (music streaming) but does NOT support hand-free calls (HPF). Purchase our [A2DIY-C5](#) for hands-free and music streaming.

For more, see frequently asked question at the end of this guide.

## Installation 1: Installing module behind radio (20-pin harness).



All installs at the radio includes the 20-pin installation harness (See Fig.2) Streaming is possible up and until radio is turned off .If equipped with BOSE; an accessory wire (included) must be routed to fuse box in passenger kick panel. **Go to page 3 for details; however, if harness includes a RELAY, no additional wiring required.**

To install module, radio/console must be removed-*Click links below for radio removal videos:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcrlufoIctc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTbWYNJTSDs>

1. Locate radio 20-pin plug, press black release tab to disconnect from radio (See Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

2. Connect radio 20-pin plug (from step 1), to matting 20-pin socket (white) on installation harness (See Fig. 2).



Fig. 2

20-pin harness

3. Connect installation harness 20-pin black/gray plug (See Fig. 2) to radio 20-pin socket vacated in step 1 (**Ensure plugs are fully snug.**)
4. **Optional AUX input:** Connect included 3 ft. aux cable to module jack and route other end to front of the dash or where aux device will reside.
5. **Optional USB-C** charging kit—**Go to page 7 for installation steps.**  
**If vehicle has BOSE or if harness does not have a relay; go to installation 2 step 3 on page 3.**

## Installation 2: Installing module in trunk/hatch (10-pin harness)



All installs to 10-pin "CD" plug in trunk/hatch includes the PXHGM2 harness (See Fig. 3). **Streaming is possible up and until ignition Key is turned on/off.** There aren't any switched/ACC supply wires in trunk/hatch; therefore, you are required to feed accessory wire (red) to fuse panel in passenger foot well.

1. Locate factory 10-pin CD plug in trunk or hatch area (See Fig.3) Please note: if vehicle has a CD changer, disconnect 10-pin plug from changer (See Fig. 4) which remains disconnected and will no longer function.



Fig. 3  
10-pin CD plug

2. Mate factory 10-pin CD plug (See Fig. 3) to installation harness 10-pin socket (white) (See Fig. 5)



Fig. 4  
12-disc changer



Fig. 5  
PXHGM2 (fits 10-pin CD plug)

3. Route red wire (See Fig. 6) to 12V accessory (switched) supply in vehicle. **This step is required because they are no accessory (switched) supply on 10-pin CD plug. (Do not connect red wire to battery supply)**



Fig. 6  
Accessory wire

**NOTE:** Some shipments from first batch meant to install at the radio did not include accessory wire or relay. If having intermittent power issues, please [contact us](#).

### Where to get 12V accessory (Switched) power.

We suggest 1 of 3 switched power sources for module power wire:

1. 1997-03 vehicles include a 3-pin plug under passenger toe board near BCM (may be covered in black duct tape) -- See Fig. 7

**Yellow wire is ACC (Switched). If vehicle does not have 3-pin plug (e.g. 2004); see #2 & #3 option below.**



Fig. 7

**Note:** 3-pin power plug was omitted in 2004.

## 2. Convertibles:

It is also possible to get 12V from factory antenna wiring behind passenger side trunk area. Simply pull carpet away and locate 3-pin wire plug (orange, pink, black) (See Fig. 8). The **pink wire** will power module when radio is turned on/off. Tap/splice included accessory wire (red) to pink wire on 3-pin plug.



Fig. 8

3. **Fuse #11, #22 on interior fuse box** under passenger toe board (See Fig. 9B).

A **mini-tap** circuit seen in Fig. 8 is included for this purpose.

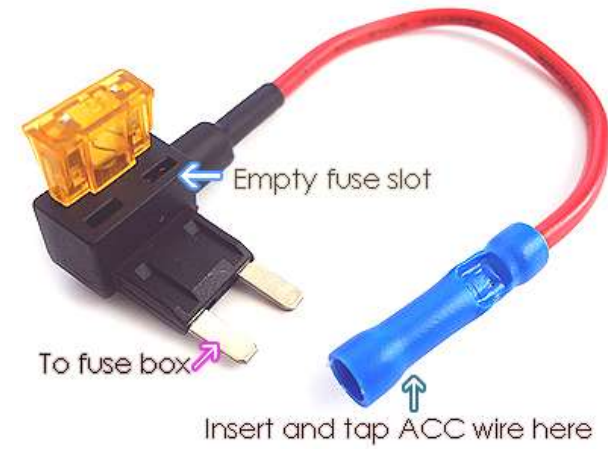


Fig. 9

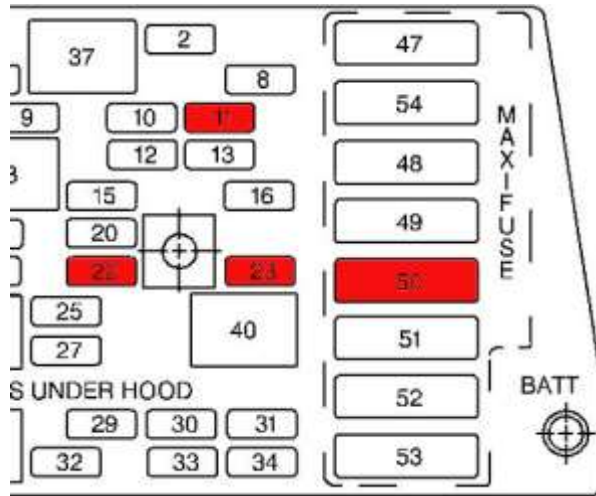
fuse tap circuit

## How to use the Add-a-fuse tap

1. Strip 1/4- 3/8" insulation from red wire. (See Fig. 6)
2. Insert stripped wire into blue connector (See Fig. 9)
3. Hold wire in place and crimp (crimping tool, pliers etc.) After crimping, **verify crimp integrity by slightly pulling wire.**
4. Remove fuse #11 or #22 from vehicle fuse box.  
**If chosen slot is empty (no fuse) skip to step 6.**
5. Insert fuse from slot #11 or #22 to empty slot on add-a fuse tap (See Fig. 9)
6. Insert add-a-fuse tap blades into fuse box slot #11 or #22 vacated in step 4

**Noteworthy:** If vehicle fuse slot is empty, the empty fuse slot on **add-a-fuse circuit remains empty** (See Fig. 9).

Turn ON ignition to verify BLU-C5 module is getting power (look through peephole on underside and verify blue LED is flashing), otherwise check voltage at fuse slot and/or check add-a fuse crimp integrity.



**Fig. 9B**

C5 interior fuse box (yours may be different)

## Pairing:

Pairing process varies among devices but the basic steps are the same. This process is done upon initial install and may not have to be repeated.

1. Turn Ignition and radio "ON"
2. On A2DP device: Go to **Settings, Wireless & Networks, Bluetooth Settings**
3. Enable **Bluetooth**
4. In Bluetooth settings tap **Scan (Search) for devices**.
5. Wait for Bluetooth name to appear (See below) and select it. *(Bluetooth name displayed is based on option selected at checkout).*

Bluetooth 

Now discoverable as "King Solomon's iPhone".

### MY DEVICES

SKY International Connected ⓘ

Bluetooth 

Now discoverable as "King Solomon's iPhone".

### MY DEVICES

DisCarSt Connected ⓘ

### Noteworthy:

1. **SKY international ID:** modules **without AUX**

Supports Bluetooth **4.0** and also announces incoming call number. (Must answer call using handset)

2. **DisCarSt ID:** For modules **with AUX**

Supports Bluetooth **5.0** (does not announce incoming call number).

- Switch to AUX playback by pausing stream, un-pairing or disabling Bluetooth.

## Optional equipment:

The following are NOT required for BLU-C5 operation; however, these do enhance user experience.

To add these options to your order, select from choices on order page.

### 1. Optional smart remote control:

The C5 radio buttons will NOT operate your smart device, so instead of fumbling around, simply pair optional smart remote to smart device and operate select functions from the remote while also keeping eyes on the road. Smart remote able to control smart device:

1. Control music wirelessly
2. Track up/down
3. Play/Pause (Android)
4. Volume up/down

**Smart remote does not operate C5 radio functions.**

### Pairing Bluetooth remote:



Press and hold for 3 sec. to enter pairing mode



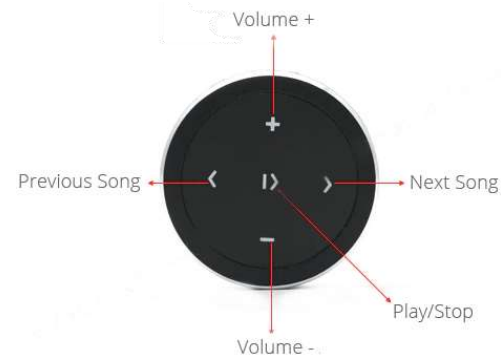
Blue LED will start flashing



Select smart remote to pair BT003 etc.

### Operation:

Use smart remote to perform the following functions on any iOS7.0 and higher or Android 4.4 and higher.



### Package Contents:





Remote control custom fitted to opening for optional C5 drive control switch

## 2. Optional AUX input

AUX input option allows users to also connect and play portable audio devices such as MP3 players, iPods, Zune, Satellite radio kits etc. Simply plug in supplied audio cable to AUX jack (See below) and route audio cable end to front of the dash or where audio device will reside.



## 3. Optional USB type-C charging: (not for thumb drives)

Optional USB -type C "Fast charging" kit helps keep those energy hungry devices charged while on the road. Discover how this charger is a massive improvement over many anemic aftermarket cigar lighter-type chargers.

**Note: Charging kit option is NOT currently offered for trunk/hatch installations.**



USB Type-C charging port

### Charging Notes: (not applicable to iPhone 15)

1. iPhone "Fast charge" kicks in when battery capacity is between 0% and 79%, but stops when it reaches 80%. Fast charge available on iPhone 8 and newer.
2. Supports BC1.2, QC2.0, QC3.0, PE1.1, PE2.0, FCP, SFCP fast charge protocols (Apple, Samsung, Huawei etc.)

### Installation:



Should you decide to add it, we suggest one of 3 installation options:

- A. **Flush to dash/panel requires drilling a 3/4" hole**
- B. **Flush with support bracket** (Mount terminal wherever your installation demands without drilling)
- C. **Freestanding-** (default)

## A. Flush to dash/panel (drilling required)

1. Drill a 3/4" hole in the dash/panel using a step drill bit or equivalent (See Fig. 10)



Fig. 10  
Step drill bit

2. Insert cable through hole created in step 1
3. Locate USB type-C port (See Fig. 11)
4. Connect cable from step 2 to charger USB type C- port



Fig. 11

5. Snap USB head to opening until flush with surface (See Fig. 12)



Fig. 12

Tuck and secure any extra wire from moving parts and test operation

## B. Bracket Mount (No drilling)

1. Locate a flat surface at location of choice within 3 ft. of radio to mount USB support bracket (See Fig. 13)
2. Use tape backing or screws to secure bracket to surface



Fig. 13  
mounting bracket

3. Insert USB cable through bracket hole (See Fig. 14) and connect to USB Type-C port (See Fig. 11)



Fig. 14

4. Snap USB head to bracket until flush (See Fig. 15)



Fig. 15

**NOTES:** iOS devices require lightning to USB-C adapter g cable (not included)  
Android devices requires USB-C to USB-C or Micro-USB cable (not included)



## Operation:

1. Turn ignition switch to "ACC" or "ON"
2. Enter Bluetooth mode by pressing "AUX" button on radio

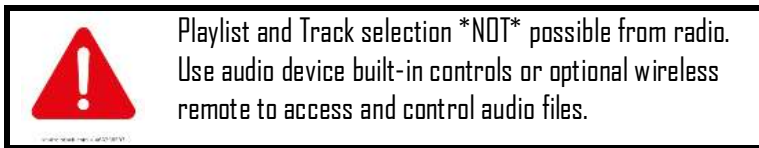
**Note:** Press AUX button twice if radio contains a "disc" or cassette.



Fig. 14

**Note:** If AUX button does not function; reset radio/BMC by disconnecting battery for 10-15 minutes. After reconnection, AUX button should now function. If radio displays and Errr; the emulator and BCM fail to communicate. Please contact us or fill out return form.

3. Launch smartphone or tablet streaming application.
4. Ensure smartphone volume is set to 90% or higher and use radio volume button to set playback level.



### OPTIONAL AUX OPERATION

1. Connect audio device to 3.5mm plug
2. If currently streaming (pause stream), or disable Bluetooth
3. Place aux device in playback mode (set volume to 90% or higher)
4. To resume streaming:

**Re-enable or un-pause Bluetooth operation** on smart device.

**Note:** Paired device has playback priority and remains until Bluetooth device is no longer paired or paused. AUX playback is possible when no device has been paired or paused.

5. If correct operation is confirmed, re-install radio/panels.

## Feature comparison:

Hands-free calling only, see **Table 1**),

Music streaming only kits (A2DP); see **Table 2**.

**Table 1 (Hands-free and music streaming kits)**

Modules	<a href="#">A2DIY-C5CD</a>	<a href="#">A2DIY-C5</a>
Retains changer playback	✓	✗
Requires working CD changer	✓	✗
Audio input jack (Aux in)	✓*	✓
USB charging port	✓*	✓*
<b>Hands-free calling (HPF)</b>	✓	✓
<b>Music Streaming (A2DP)</b>	✓	✓
Connection (To Radio)	✓	✓
Connection (trunk)	✗	✗
Wireless remote control	included	included
Controls from radio buttons	✗	✗

**Table 2 (Music streaming only and aux)**

Modules	<a href="#">A2D-C5</a>	<a href="#">BLU-C5</a>	<a href="#">DSC-GM4</a>	<a href="#">DSC-GM2</a>
Retains changer playback	✓	✗	✗	✗
Requires working CD changer	✓	✗	✗	✗
Audio input jack (Aux in)	✗	✓*	✓	✓
USB charging port	✗	✓*	✗	✗
<b>Hands-free calling (HPF)</b>	✗	✗	✗	✗
<b>Music Streaming (A2DP)</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
Connection (To Radio)	✓	✓	✓	✗
Connection (trunk/hatch)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wireless remote control	✓*	✓*	✗	✗
Controls from radio buttons	✗	✗	✗	✗

\* Optional (select option during checkout)

## BLU-C5 options explained:

1. **To radio:** The included harness allows connection at the radio.  
**Note: Radio removal required for all (To radio) options.**
2. **AUX INPUT:** Select this option for both streaming (wirelessly) and AUX (wired) playback. The AUX input jack is perfect for wired devices (MP3 player, Car play, SiriusXM kit etc.)
3. **USB-C charging:** Select this option for streaming + USB type-C charging
4. **AUX INPUT + USB-C charging port:** Select this option to combine all 3 (streaming, AUX and charging)
5. **To trunk/hatch:** The included harness allows connection to 10-pin CD plug. Please verify vehicle has **10-pin** plug prior to selecting this option. The 10-pin plug is reserved for optional 12-disc changer. If vehicle has 12-pin changer, it must be permanently disconnected.
6. **AUX INPUT:** Select this option for both streaming (wirelessly) and AUX (wired) playback. The AUX input jack is perfect for wired devices (MP3 player, Car play, SiriusXM kits etc.) All connection in trunk/hatch to 10-pin CD changer plug do not require radio removal but **requires routing accessory wire to fuse box under passenger toe board or tapping antenna wire (convertibles)** CD changer (if present) must be disconnected.  
**Note:** At present a USB type-C charging port not offered for trunk/hatch installs.

BOSE or non-BOSE?



System logo found on speaker grills

## Frequently asked questions:

1. **Does the BLU-C5 require a 12-disc CD changer to work?**  
**NO;** CD changer not required. If vehicle has a 12-disc changer it must be disconnected or purchase our [A2D-C5](#) instead.
2. **There was no microphone included (Does it not support Bluetooth hands-free calls)?**  
**NO;** BLU-C5 module supports Bluetooth audio streaming only (A2DP). For Bluetooth hands-free purchase our [A2DIY-C5CD](#) or [A2DIY-C5](#)
3. **Can I install the BLU-C5 without removing radio?**  
**YES;** but only if vehicle has a 10-pin "CD" plug (See **Fig. 3**) in trunk/hatch. To install BLU-C5 without removing radio, **select trunk/hatch install options from drop down.** See question 6.
4. **Does installing the BLU-C5 disable the CD player built-into radio?**  
**NO.** The BLU-C5 adds music streaming to existing system and does not interfere with operation of the CD player built-into radio. Separate 12-disc CD changer (if present) must be disconnected or purchase our [A2D-C5](#)
5. **Is it possible to install the BLU-C5 at radio instead of trunk/hatch?**  
**YES;** select "connects to radio" option.  
**ALERT:** If vehicle has BOSE, the included accessory wire (red) must be routed to interior fuse box under passenger toe board. This step applies to vehicles with **BOSE audio systems.** **Go to page 3 for details.**
6. **I am installing the BLU-C5 in the trunk. Why do I need to route red wire when the CD plug already has a power supply wire? Can I just connect red wire to the 12V supply for the CD changer?**  
**Short answer is NO.** There is no accessory (switched) wire on the 10-pin "CD" plug. All installs in trunk/hatch requires routing included red wire to fuse panel under passenger toe board or tapping antenna wire in trunk (convertibles). This module will not work as described if power supply wire is connected to 12V battery supply (always on) and also risk battery drainage.
7. **Is it easier to remove radio to install module or run accessory wire to passenger toe board?**  
It is probable easier (faster) to run accessory wire to toe board. Gaining access to radio plug is more time consuming, so you must weigh these

options when deciding on install location. Please also check if vehicle has 10-pin plug prior to ordering.

8. **How do I remove radio from dashboard?**

Please click video links below for help removing radio:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcrlufoIctc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTbWYNJTSOs>

9. **With ignition "OFF", radio remain powered but not able to stream, why is that?**

GM Retain Accessory Power (RAP) allows the radio to remain powered for up to 10 minutes after ignition switch is turned OFF or by opening driver's door. All installs at the radio allowing the BLU-C5 turn ON/OFF with radio **PWR** button making it possible to stream until radio is switched OFF. Convertibles maintain this functionality by tapping into pink antenna wire in trunk as explained on page 4.

Unfortunately, trunk/hatch installs **requires routing included ACC. Wire (Red) to fuse panel and BLU-C5 turns on/off with ignition key (will not stream during RAP) except for tapping into pink antenna wire (Convertibles)**

10. **This module does not support hands-free calls, so what happens when the phone rings?**

When phone rings, streaming mutes; call number announced on car speakers (Modules without AUX option only). Answer call using handset as customary. When call ends streaming resumes.

11. **I've connected module at the radio, but when in "AUX" mode I hear both streaming and CD changer. What could be wrong?**

For the BLU-C5 to work as described, the I2-disc changer in trunk/hatch **must be disconnected.**

12. **"AUX" button does nothing or radio display changes to Disc 6 Track 1 for a few seconds then Errr is displayed. What could possibly be wrong?**

To initialize the BLU-C5 emulator, you may have to disconnect car battery for 10-15 minutes. After reconnection, turn radio to FM and wait a few seconds before pressing AUX button. If radio displays an Errr, follow these steps:

- a. Leave module connected (trunk/hatch or to radio)
- b. Press FM button
- c. Turn off ignition and wait until radio powers down (off)

d. Disconnect car battery and wait 10-15 minutes.

e. Reconnect battery turn ignition "ON"

f. Wait for FM station to play

g. Pres AUX button

Note: If radio AM/FM presets were not erased; BCM has not reset.

Disconnect battery for longer (20-30 min) to ensure radio presets and BCM have reset. If Err message is still present, [contact us](#), or fill the RMA form (registered customers)

**Disclaimer**

- This product has no affiliation with GM
- When possible, professional installation is recommended

For additional questions, email [support@discountcarstereo.com](mailto:support@discountcarstereo.com)

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