

Courtesy of: DiscountCarStereo.com  
Serving the internet community since 1995



## **BLU-C5** (v 4.6.21)

### **MUSIC STREAMING MODULE INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR SEELECT 1997-04 CORVETTE**

Created January 16, 2013

Revised April 9, 2021

## 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.


## Introduction

The BLU-C5 module, adds music streaming capabilities to all C5 with original Theftlock AM/FM/CD or AM/FM/Cassette radios (Bose or non-Bose). The BLU-C5 installs behind the radio or (when available) to 10-pin plug in trunk/hatch. When installing in the trunk/hatch, the optional 12-disc changer (if present) must be disconnected or **purchase our A2D-C5 to retain changer operation**. Once installed, pair smartphone, tablet etc. and begin streaming Apple music, navigation, Spotify, XM radio, Pandora, audio books or other audio application while on the way to work or cruising around town.

**Note:** The BLU-C5 does not interfere with existing AM/FM radio operation; however, optional 12-disc changer (if present); must be disconnected.

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

## Installation 1: (To radio with PXHGM4 harness)



Select **PXHGM4** harness to connect the BLU-C5 behind radio cavity. **IF vehicle has 10-pin plug in trunk/hatch, select PXHGM2 harness and connect the BLU-C5—Go to page 4.** 12-disc changer (if present) must be disconnected or purchase our **A2D-C5** to retain CD changer playback.

Radio removal required. (Click links below for radio removal video)

<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 (See Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

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



Fig. 2

PXHGM4 harness

3. Connect installation harness 20-pin black/gray plug (See Fig. 2) to radio 20-pin connector vacated in step 1
4. Ensure module dip-switches #3 and #8 are "ON" or down (See Fig. 3)



Fig. 3

5. Connect installation harness 22-pin Molex plug (See **Fig. 2**) to module 22-pin Molex connector (See **Fig. 4**)



**Fig. 4**

### Revision (4.6.21)

Applies to installations to radio with PXHGM4 or PXHGM4 + USB harness only.

#### What's new:

1. Streaming **now possible up and until radio is turned off.** (Previous revision would turn on/off with ignition switch and required connecting Acc wire to fuse panel).
2. **Routing accessory wire to fuse panel no longer required.** Special circuit added to module. **Skip to "pairing" on page 6.**

**Warning:** Revision 4.6.21 does not apply to trunk/hatch installs using the PXHGM2 harness- **these still require routing accessory wire to fuse panel.** **Skip to "installation 2" on page 4**

**Modules purchased prior to revision (4.6.21); proceed to "where to get 12V ACC/Switched power" on page 4**



New version 4.6.20



Radio power button

Tuck and secure any extra wires away from moving parts and **proceed to "Pairing"**

## Installation 2: (To 10-pin plug with PXHGM2 harness)



If vehicle has 10-pin plug (See **Fig. 6**) in trunk/hatch (reserved for 12-disc changer); the PXHGM2 harness can be used to connect the BLU-C5 at that location. 12-disc CD changer (if present) must be disconnected, or purchase our [A2D-C5](#) to retain 12-disc changer functionality.

1. Locate factory **10-pin** plug (See **Fig. 6**) in trunk or hatch area. (if vehicle has 12-disc CD changer (See **Fig. 7**), locate and disconnect 10-pin plug from changer)



**Fig. 6**

factory 10-pin plug

2. Mate factory 10-pin plug (See **Fig. 6**) to installation harness 10-pin connector (white) (See **Fig. 8**)



**Fig. 7**

12-disc changer



**Fig. 8**  
10-pin connector

3. Tap installation harness red wire to 12V accessory supply in vehicle

### Where to get 12V Accessory supply:

1997-03 vehicles have a 3-pin plug under passenger toe board near BCM (may be covered in black duct tape) -- See Fig. 9

**Yellow wire is ACC.** If vehicle does not have 3-pin plug; go to **Alternate 12V Acc. supply below.**



**Fig.**

**Note:** 3-pin plug may not be present in all vehicles and may have been omitted in 2004.

### Alternate 12V Acc. supply:

We recommend taping fuse #22 or #11 of interior fuse box located under passenger seat behind toe board (See Fig. 11).

The add-a-fuse [mini-tap](#) circuit seen in Fig. 10 may be use for this purpose.

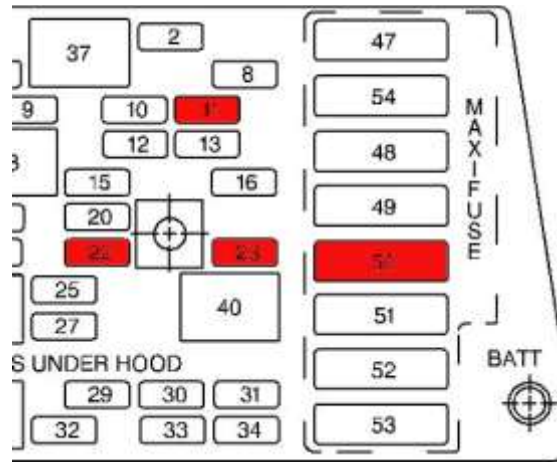


**Fig. 10**  
fuse tap circuit

### How to use the Add-a-fuse circuit connection

3. Strip 1/4- 3/8" insulation from included accessory wire.
4. Look inside blue connector to see where metal ends. Useful in step d.
5. Insert stripped wire to blue connector (See Fig. 10)
6. Hold wire in place and crimp down (crimping tool, pliers etc.) After crimp, **pull wire to verify crimp integrity.**
7. Remove fuse #22 or #11 (if present) from vehicle fuse box otherwise skip to **step g.**
8. Insert factory fuse to empty slot on add-a fuse circuit
9. Insert add-a-fuse circuit to fuse slot #22 or #11

**Noteworthy:** If fuse slots #22 or #11 are vacant, empty slot on add-a-fuse remains empty. Turn ignition "ON" and verify module blue LED is flashing, otherwise check voltage at fuse slot and/or check add-a fuse crimp integrity,



**Fig. 11**

C5 interior fuse box (yours may be different)

**Noteworthy:** If streaming is interrupted when headlights, wipers, defroster, A/C etc. are turned on, the 12V circuit used to power module is drawn down by said accessory. **To resolve find an alternate 12V ACC circuit to power module.**

Also, if smartphone volume is set too high, it may cause module to “clip” and streaming will become intermittent or distorted.

**To resolve, lower volume on audio device. (See FAQ # 13)**

**The BLU-C5 with PXHGM2 installation will turn on/off with ignition key.**

## Pairing:

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

1. Turn Ignition and radio “ON”  
*Blue LED inside module will flash (pairing mode)*
2. On A2DP device: Go to **Settings, Wireless & Networks, Bluetooth Settings**
3. Select **Bluetooth** and turn on.
4. Select Bluetooth settings
5. Tap **Scan (Search) for devices**.
6. Wait for Bluetooth device name to appear (See below) and select it.  
*Blue LED will glow steady (paired) and tone is heard on car speakers.*

Bluetooth



Now discoverable as “King Solomon’s iPhone”.

MY DEVICES

SKY International

Connected ⓘ

**Noteworthy:** On Androids, it is possible to change paired device name (e.g., Sky) to something of your own liking. This option may only be available on older IOS

**Optional equipment:** The following three options are not required for operation; however, these do enhance user experience. To add either to order, tick option on product page.

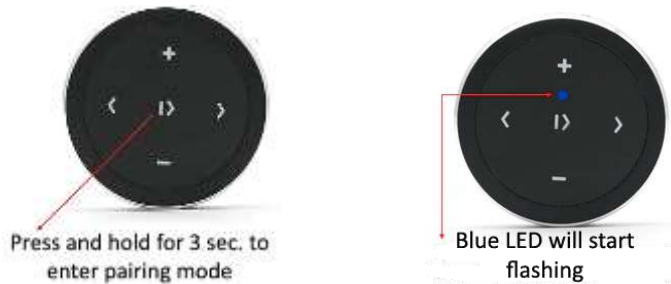
### 1. Smart Remote:

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

Optional smart remote allows users to:

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

### Pairing Bluetooth remote:



### Operation:

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



### Package Contents:



## 2. USB charging kit (not for USB sticks/thumb drives)

Optional USB "Fast charge" option for most energy hungry devices. Custom install USB charging port in a convenient location and discover how this charger is a massive improvement over many anemic aftermarket cigar lighter chargers.

To add USB charging kit to order select **PXHGM4 with USB port**.

### For example:

1. **PXHGM4 (to radio)** connects module to radio but **DOES NOT** include USB charging port.
2. **PXHGM4 (to radio) + USB Charging Kit**, connects module to radio and includes charging port (See Fig. 12), extension cable and panel mounting bracket.

**USB charging kit NOT currently offered for trunk/hatch installations (PXHGM2 harness)**



Fig. 12  
USB Charging port

### USB Charging Notes:

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.)

## Installing optional USB charging kit:

**A. Flush to dash/panel requires drilling a 3/4" hole in the dash**

**B. Flush with Support bracket** (use this option to mount USB terminal without drilling)

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

1. Drill a 3/4" hole to dash or panel using a step drill bit or equivalent (See Fig. 13)



Fig. 13  
Step drill bit

2. Insert 3ft. USB cable (See Fig. 14) through 3/4" hole created in step 1 connect to USB port on install harness (See Fig. 15)



Fig. 14  
USB cable





**Fig. 15**

3. Snap USB head (See **Fig. 16**) to hole in panel until flush with surface (See **Fig. 17**)



**Fig. 16**  
USB head



**Fig. 17**  
Flush mounted to dash

## **B. Bracket Mount (No drilling)**

1. Locate a flat surface at location of choice within 3.2 ft. of radio to mount USB support bracket (See **Fig. 18**)
2. Use tape backing or screws to secure bracket to surface



**Fig. 18**  
mounting bracket

3. Insert 3ft. USB cable through hole in bracket (See **Fig. 19**) and connect to USB port on installation harness (See **Fig. 15**)



**Fig. 19**

4. Snap USB head to bracket until flush (See **Fig. 20**)




**Fig. 20**

**Alternate:** Connect audio device charging cable directly to USB port on harness (See **Fig. 15**) and route to dash area or where audio device will reside.



## Test Operation:

1. Turn ignition switch to "ACC" or "ON"
2. To enter Bluetooth mode, press "AUX" button on radio  
Note: Press AUX button twice if radio contains a DISC or Tape.
3. Launch smartphone or tablet streaming application.
4. Ensure smartphone volume is set to 50% or higher and use radio volume button to set playback level.



Playlist and Track selection \*NOT\* possible from radio. Use audio device built-in controls or optional wireless remote to access and control audio files.

5. If correct operation is confirmed go ahead and reinstall the Radio.



Optional remote custom install in place of factory drive control switch

**Feature comparison:** Hands-free calling only, see Table 1), Music streaming only kits (A2DP); see Table2.

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

Modules	<a href="#">A2DIY-C5CD</a>	<a href="#">C5CD-HF</a>	<a href="#">A2DIY-C5</a>	<a href="#">C5-HF</a>
Retains changer playback	✓	✓ <sup>S</sup>	✗	✗
Requires working CD changer	✓	✓	✗	✗
Audio input jack (Aux in)	✓ <sup>S</sup>	✓	✓	✓
USB charging port	✓ <sup>S</sup>	included	✓ <sup>S</sup>	included
<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)**

Modules	<a href="#">A2D-C5</a>	<a href="#">BLU-C5</a>
Retains changer playback	✓	✗
Requires working CD changer	✓	✗
Audio input jack (Aux in)	✗	<sup>2</sup>
USB charging port	✓ <sup>S</sup>	✓ <sup>S</sup>
<b>Hands-free calling (HPF)</b>	✗	✗
<b>Music Streaming (A2DP)</b>	✓	✓
Connection (To Radio)	✓	✓
Connection (trunk/hatch)	✓	✗
Wireless remote control	✓ <sup>S</sup>	✓ <sup>S</sup>
Controls from radio buttons	✗	✗

<sup>S</sup> Optional (select option during checkout)

\*\*OK Google activation (Not for Siri) may be possible with optional remote control

<sup>2</sup> [PX35](#) or [PX35RCA](#) cable required (sold separately)

## Frequent asked questions

- Does the BLU-C5 require the I2-disc CD changer to work?**  
**NO;** CD changer not required and if present will need to be disconnected. To retain I2-disc changer functionality; purchase our [A2D-C5](#) instead.
- Why does this kit not include a microphone (Does it not support Bluetooth hands-free calls)?**  
**NO;** BLU-C5 module supports Bluetooth music streaming only. For Bluetooth hands-free purchase our [A2DIY-C5CD](#) or [C5CD-HF](#) or our [A2DIY-C5](#) or [C5-HF](#)
- Can I install the BLU-C5 without removing radio?**  
**YES;** If vehicle has a 10-pin plug (See **Fig. 6**) in trunk/hatch, **it can be used** as the connecting point for the BLU-C5. Factory I2-disc changer (if present); must be disconnected. For this install you must **select PXHGM2 installation harness from drop down.**
- Streaming is interrupted when using turn signal, headlights or wipers. Do I have a defective module?**  
In rare occasions users may experience streaming interruptions when using these accessories, but if you do the accessory (e.g. wiper motor etc.) is loading down the circuit to which the BLU-C5 is connected. Please locate alternate ACC supply for module.
- Ignition switch is "ON" but blue LED is not flashing. Why is that?**  
Check ACC wire for power (**Go to page 5**). Also check Add-a-fuse crimp integrity; often times a bad crimp may result in lack of power.
- Nothing changes when pressing radio "AUX" button. What would cause this?**  
Ensure only dip-switch #3 and 8 are "ON" or down, otherwise try resetting:
  1. Disconnect 22-pin plug from module or **disconnect battery terminal (one or the other)**
  2. Set all 8 dip-switches to "OFF" or "UP"
  3. Module or battery must remain disconnected for 5-10 minutes
  4. **After time has expired, set dip-switches 3 and 8 to "ON or down**
  5. Reconnect 22-pin plug to module or reconnect negative battery terminal
  6. Turn ignition to ACC and radio "ON", press **AUX** button. If all went well, radio display should change to **Disc 1 Track 1.****Warning:** Set Dip switches prior to reconnecting module or battery terminal, otherwise you will have to repeat steps 1-6
- It is possible to install the BLU-C5 at radio instead of trunk/hatch?**  
**YES;** select the **PXHGM4 or PXHGM4 with USB installation** harness from [product page.](#)
- I am installing the BLU-C5 in the trunk space of my 2001 Corvette, choosing to disable my I2-disc changer. My question is this: Why do I need a separate 12V connection when the CD harness already has a constant hot? Can I just connect red wire of the harness to the 12V supply for the CD changer?**  
Short answer is **NO.** Modules installed to 10-pin plug in trunk/hatch with PXHGM2 harness, requires routing accessory wire to fuse panel below passenger toe board because the power supply to the cd changer is constantly on (battery power) which is NOT ideal for this install, therefore user must get an accessory supply from fuse panel under passenger seat.
- Can I connect the accessory wire to radio fuse (15A) which appears to powers on/off with ignition switch?**  
**NO!** Radio fuse (5) is battery powered and not recommended. Radio ON/OFF is controlled by BCM. (**See question 12**). Please refer to recommended fuse positions for Acc. Wire on pg. 3 of this guide.
- How do I remove radio from dashboard?**  
Please click video links below for help removing radio:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gcrlufolctc>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTbWYNJTSDs>
- With ignition switch "OFF", radio remain powered but not able to stream, why is that?**  
GM Retain Accessory Power (RAP) feature allows some accessories to remain powered for up to 10 minutes after ignition switch is turned OFF or until driver's door is opened, our module does not work with RAP, however **revision (4.6.20) with PXHGM4 or PXHGM4 +USB installation harnesses** include a special circuit allowing module to turn ON/OFF with radio **PWR** button and as a result music streaming remains active even after ignition is switched OFF. In addition, **users are no longer required to run accessory wire to fuse panel.**  
**Revision 4.6.20 DOES NOT apply to PXHGM2 installations in trunk/hatch (these require connecting ACC. wire to fuse panel).**

12. **Is there any way I can “boost” streaming audio output?**  
Module includes a “bass booster” that is disabled by default, however to enable simply disconnect module from 22-pin plug, set dip-switch 6 “ON” or down, reconnect module and enjoy the boost.  
**Warning:** To avoid damage to module and/or car speakers, do not make dip-switch changes while module is powered. Either turn ignition off or disconnect from 22-pin plug.
13. **Module disconnects and reconnects every few seconds. What is wrong?**  
Check volume setting on audio device, Reduce volume on your device (e.g., Smartphone)  
Note: Audio recordings differ in volume, so it may be necessary to adjust device volume accordingly.
14. **This module does not support hands-free calls, so what happens when the phone rings?**  
Streaming session will mute; answer call using handset or as customary. When call ends music streaming resumes.
15. **I’ve connected the module at the radio (really easy), but when in “AUX” mode I hear both music streaming and the CD changer. What is wrong?**  
For the BLU-C5 to work as described, the 12-disc changer in trunk/hatch **must be disconnected**. Go to trunk/hatch and disconnect factory 10-pin plug from changer and enjoy.
16. **Radio enters aux mode but after a few seconds “Errrr” appears in the display. What can possible be wrong?**  
**Module is bad**—try resetting radio/module by disconnecting car battery of radio fuse for about an hour.  
**CD changer remains connected** – if vehicle has optional 12-disc changer (in trunk/hatch), if must be disconnected from 10-pin plug. (It is not possible to have both CD changer and module simultaneously connect to the C5 radio.

#### 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)