C4 Corvette Tail Light Bulb Replacement

Compiled by Peter Mihaltian NCRS #47240

You must gain access to the C4 Corvette tail light bulbs by removing the license plate and backup light assembly. Use these steps to access the inboard lights and then use the open inboard light holes to access the outboard lights:

- 1. Disconnect the negative terminal on the battery;
- 2. Remove the license plate;
- 3. Remove the backup lamp assembly. This will allow a little extra room to get your arm in behind the tail lamp housing. The lamp assemblies are held in place with 10mm nuts. A 1/4" drive socket and a thumb ratchet will help here;
- 4. Gain access to the outboard lamp assembly through the inboard light hole. It is advisable to replace all 4 tail light bulbs as a part of this project;
- 5. The factory used a dielectric grease to keep moisture out of the bulb sockets and by now that grease will be dry and hard. Chances are that some of the bulbs will break when trying to remove them so have some needle-nose pliers handy. Clean all the old grease out of the bulb sockets and scrape the contacts;
- 6. Install *Sylvania Long Life* bulbs (1157LL) as replacements applying a small amount of dielectric grease to the contact area on each bulb. Lightly coat the socket as well;
- 7. Clean the inside of the lamp housing by squirting in some dish soap and hot water and shake vigorously, let the lamp housings dry while you do the socket cleanup;
- 8. Rinse and dry each lens thoroughly and reinstall bulbs and lamp assemblies.