

How to Improve Ford Car Stereo Reception



Sick of the annoying signal drops or interference when trying to listen to your [Ford car stereo](#)? Then check out these four ways to improve your car radio reception:

- **Check if the antenna mast is extended**

If your car has an electric or manual retractable antenna mast, the first thing to check is whether it's extended or not. This may sound like basic stuff, but it's really common for manual antennas to be retracted and then left that way. Because there isn't any mechanism to prevent these masts from being retracted, anyone can walk by and shove your antenna down. It's very common for car wash attendants to push these in to keep them from breaking off in the wash, and if someone doesn't remember to pull it back, it's pretty easy to just drive away.

- **Check the antenna connections**

If the antenna cable is poorly seated in your [Android car stereo](#)

[eo](#), or any of the connections are worn, loose or corroded, you'll often find it difficult to tune into your favorite station .

So firstly, check the connection between the antenna cable and the back of your head unit. If that's properly seated, then you may want to find a station you can tune into and then gently wiggle the antenna itself back and forth. You shouldn't notice anything if the connection is solid. If the connection is loose, you'll probably notice the tuner drop and then reacquire the signal. If that happens, you should tighten the antenna and check the grounds.

- **Install a signal booster**

If you can receive a signal from a particular station, but it's very weak, then you can install a signal booster to improve your reception. However, boosters won't be helpful if the issue is related to obstructions like tall buildings and hills.

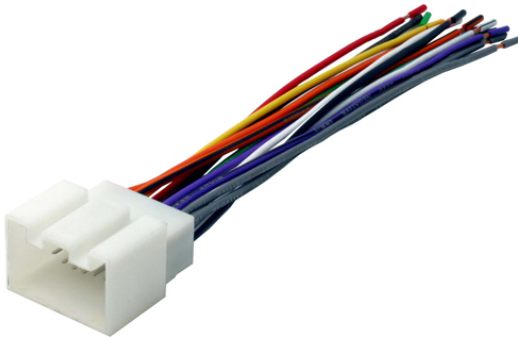
- **Buy a new antenna**

If you find the antenna mounting hardware or mast is rusted, corroded or broken, you need to replace the antenna. Corrosion and rust could prevent the antenna from making a good connection with your car head unit, so you can get better reception by replacing it.

Source: Cartech.about.com

[How to Disconnect the Mazda 3](#)

Car Stereo Wiring Harness



A bad car stereo wiring harness can prevent your [Mazda 3 car stereo](#) from working. When this happens you either need to pay a mechanic to replace it, or you need to replace it yourself. The first step is to disconnect it. For the novice who knows little about a car's wiring, this is a simple task that can easily be performed. Here's how:

Things you'll need:

- Screwdriver
- Flashlight

Step 1 – Remove Your Dash Console

To get a clear view of your car's panel, how the stereo is installed in your car, and where you'll find the wiring harness, remove the dash panel. Disconnect the stereo unit by removing any screws that connect the unit to your dash panel. Put the screws aside for use in replacing the stereo and panel. If the screws are stripped or corroded, replace them before continuing.

Step 2 – Disconnect the Wiring Harness

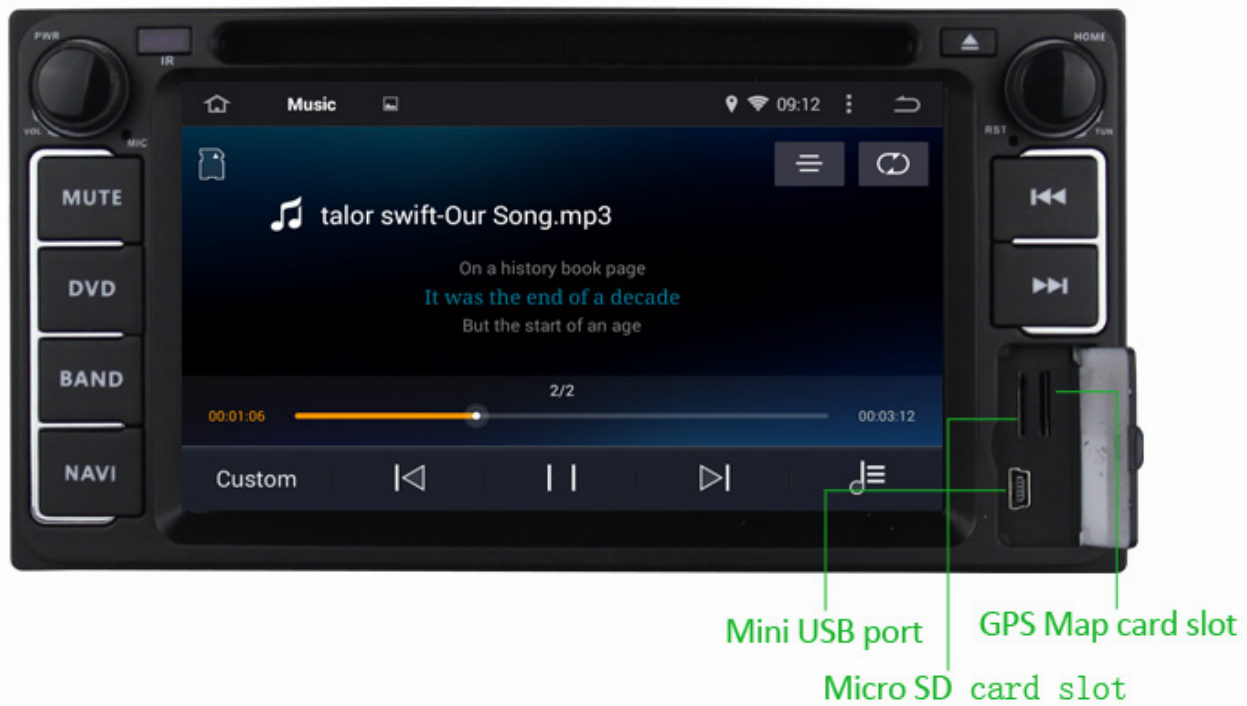
Pull the stereo unit out from your dash panel. On the back side

e of the unit you'll see a number of wires connected. This is your wiring harness and will likely be clipped to the [Android car stereo](#). Unplug the wires from the harness. Finally, identify the wires that are coming from your speakers and are connected to the harness and disconnect them by pulling them loose from the harness.

Source: Doityourself.com

3 Advantages that a Car Radio SD Card Slot Gives You

As technology moves forward, more options are available for stereos, including a car radio SD reader. This is similar to an MP3 player, but much smaller. SD stands for Secure Digital, and these small cards are used to store information for handheld devices. They are commonly found in digital cameras, laptops and more recently, [touch screen car stereo](#). There are several reasons to consider this over other types of stereos.



1. Size

An SD card is much smaller than other types of music media, including MP3 players or CDs. An SD card can easily fit in a wallet, and is simple to keep tucked away when not in use. If you don't need to listen to tens of thousands of songs, an SD car stereo may be a great option. In most cases you can get around 1,000 songs on each SD card, depending on the size of its memory.

2. Easy to Replace

Also unlike an MP3 player, an SD card is cheaper and easier to replace. Replacing one of these if they become damaged or lost can be as little as \$20. Replacing an MP3 player can be well over \$100. You can also find replacement SD cards very easily; most retail locations and drug stores will carry them.

3. Video Formatting

For those who have an audio/video system set up in their vehicle, some cards will allow you to upload videos to the card. This can be a benefit if you're traveling with young children. Y

ou can just pop the card into the [Nissan car stereo](#) and the video will be played on the video system.

Source: [Autos.com](#)
