

WHERE DO I PUT A RADIO? PART TWO

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Contributed by: [auto](#)

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Where else were radios fitted, either by dealers or owners, at some stage of the car's history?

What radios are available today that will give quality performance as well as coping with ipods, CDs, MP3 etc?

1. **The cut in the dash option.** A common solution placed in the flat section of the dash under the glovebox .This solved the problem of fitting a standard radio. But somewhat out of a reach for the driver to operate and damaged the dash forever. Perhaps this was the design intention, move the radio closer to the driver was a much safer option.



2. **Mounted under the dash,** either on the passenger's or driver's side. Unfortunately these are perfectly situated to cause limb damage in the case of an accident but any radio could be installed.



3. **In the front speaker enclosure??** Rear view mirror has to be moved to accommodate this.



4. **In a console** fitted to the roof above the windscreen????



You now want to fit a radio to your newly purchased / restored D?

What options are available?

I suppose it all depends on how much of a stickler you are for originality.

The original Continental Edison radios can be found and purchased through ebay. Expect to pay up to \$1200 NZ dollars and you may need to spend up to \$300 to get the radio into full operating condition. The cost of wanting to be original!! However they really give the dash that 'finished' look.



A version 2 Continental Edison fitted in Jeremy's DS 21 Pallas bvm

Be warned, these are 1970's radios and technology has developed somewhat over the last 30 plus years. Your original Continental Edison will look great and give reasonable performance but forget about mind blowing 'sounds', they just cannot deliver this. This can be solved by using a small modern amplifier and modern speakers but you still do not have a CD player or a facility to use your ipod. However you can use your ipod with a FM broadcaster that will run from your cigarette lighter socket(your ipod will be charged at the same time). This will only apply to the two Continental Edison models with FM.

Version 3 Continental Edison fitted to my DS 23 IE Pallas bvw



Where to now? If you have a console fitted to your car it is not a problem as any modern radio can be fitted. That is if you want a console, not everyone's desire as you lose the map pocket. Original consoles can be purchased from a number of the European parts sellers, from ebay or you can make your own.

Other than 'cutting' the dash how else can you fit a modern radio?

Luckily there are two very good options available. These radios are not available in NZ but can be purchased directly from websites or from ebay.

Option1.

Secret Audio. This an AM/FM 200watt modern radio that will fill your D with sound. You can attach your ipod and a 10CD stacker is available as well.

Why Secret Audio? The radio can be fitted anywhere, under a seat, in the boot anywhere where it cannot be seen.

How is it operated? It comes with two systems, a 10 foot long cable with a small remote attached which will operate the radio, ipod and CD stacker if fitted. The best feature is the wireless remote that carries out the same functions from up to 40 feet away, if you need to. They also offer a a 'hidden aerial' which is easily hidden in a D especially a Pallas model.

This is what I have fitted to my car and I am very happy with it. I have placed the radio under the driver's seat, a 10 CD stacker in the boot and the cable remote under the dash. I purchased mine directly from a USA dealer via the internet for around \$800 NZ. Would I use again? Definitely. The manufacturers have just released a new model and this will be going into the DS 21 IE bvm and may even replace the older model fitted in the 23.

Check it out on <http://www.customautosound.com>

Hideaway Audio Solution

Featuring 'RF' (radio frequency) Remote Control

SECRETAUDIO SS Version III



Option 2

Retro Sound. Somewhat similar to the Secret Audio, can be mounted anywhere, has a 94 inch control cable and a remote. Might just fit into that radio space. (could be too long). Available from <http://www.retrosoundusa.com/products/details/id/135>

It will accept your ipod but does not have a CD stacker option.



Option 3.

If you have a radio that is AM only here is another option that you may consider.

<http://www.radiosforoldcars.com/stereoF.htm>

These people will take your existing radio and add new 'innards' to give you a modern 180 watt radio, with both AM and FM and ipod connection.

Not sure of the cost but there are a couple of agents across the ditch. Their contact details are on the above web site.

I have added their catalogue in the Restoration section of the Downloads.

So there it is, now it is over to you. Best of luck.

I will cover speakers in part 3.