

SiriusXM on Model Y Installation Instructions by dude7

Materials needed:

- Compatible Model S/X radio (details below, I got mine from Ebay)
- 3M Command Strips (clear color is preferable)
- SiriusXM brand antenna (generic ones don't work well)
- Fakra K Curry Female to SMB Male adapter (<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07252FDFD/>)

Tools needed:

- Torx screwdriver (I'm not sure what size. It's small but not tiny.)
- Push clip remover (optional)

IMPORTANT NOTE

From what I've read on forums, only the Intel Atom Infotainment system is compatible. If anyone wants to try using the AMD Ryzen system and reporting back, that would be very appreciated.

Directions:

1. Purchase a radio from a Model S or X that looks identical to the Model Y radio, but has the extra SXM connector. The only difference between these two radios is the SXM connector. This is the "curry" colored connector as circled in the picture. The connector is a male Fakra "Curry" K connector. I found out the hard way that the color of the connector does matter, as different colors are oriented differently.



Front

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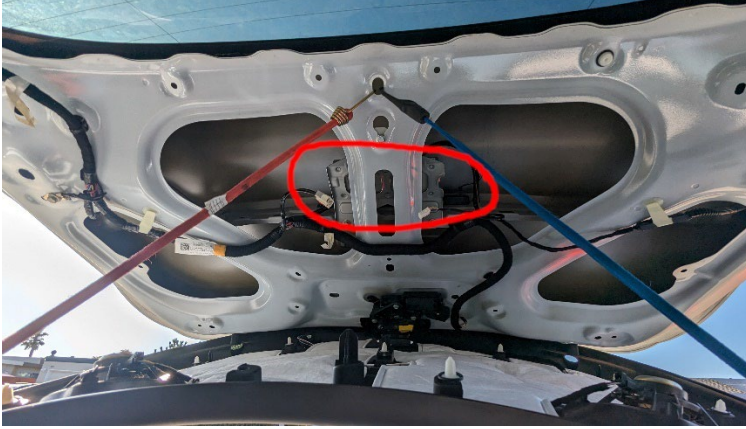
Back

2. The radio is located in the rear hatch, about where the license plate is. You will need to pull off two trim covers. You must pull off the top cover first (the one surrounding the rear window glass and center top brake light). The top cover just pulls off. The bottom, larger cover requires pulling out two push clips as shown in pictures below.



push clips

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Location of radio

3. The mount for the radio is secured by bolts, however, you don't have to take off the whole mount. You can simply unscrew the six Torx screws from the radio and attach the Model S/X radio using the same Torx screws.

I didn't want to figure out how to take the cover off by the latch for the hatch, so I just use two bungee cords to hold the cover in place while I worked on the radio. It wasn't that bad to use the bungee cords.

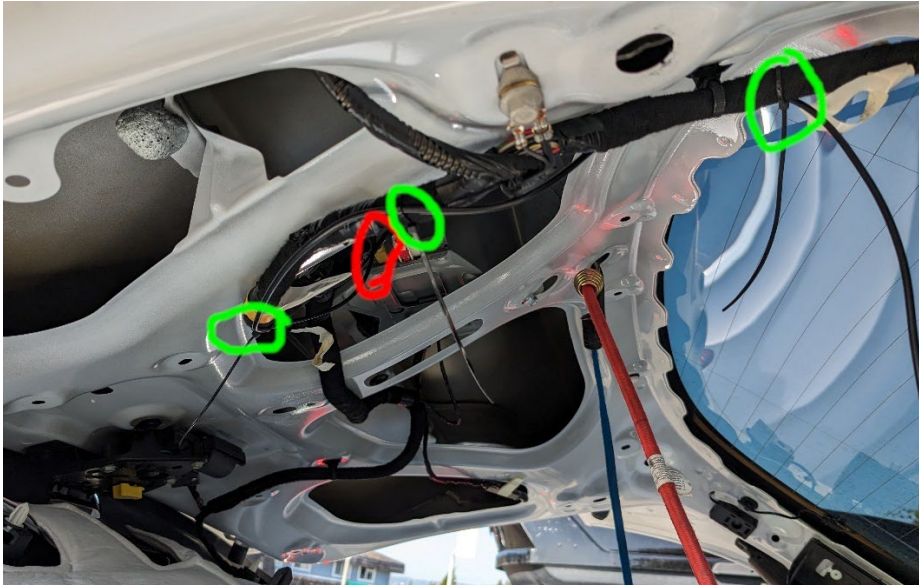
4. You'll need to unclip the two connectors from either side of the Model Y radio. These match the clips on the Model S/X radio and do not need any modification or adapters.



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5. Once the factor connectors are installed, you'll need a Fakra K "Curry" female to SXM radio adapter and an SXM branded antenna. I tried using an off-brand SXM antenna that already had a Fakra K Curry end, but the reception was terrible. Trust me, the SXM branded antenna with the adapter will work much better.

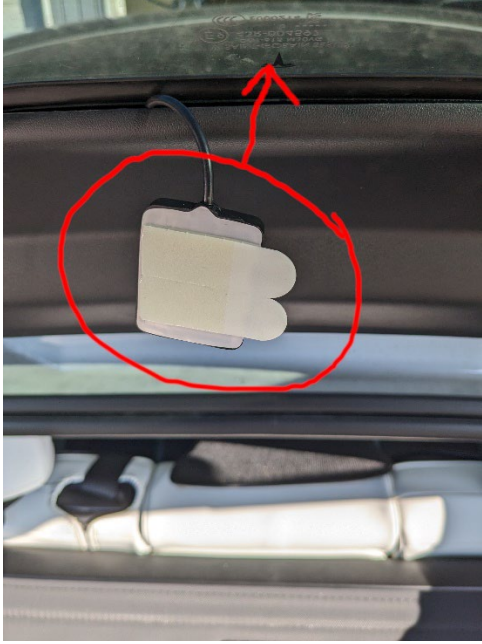
Once the SXM antenna with Fakra adapter is attached (circled in red), I just used some zip ties (circled in green) to route the SXM wire up to the center brake light area.



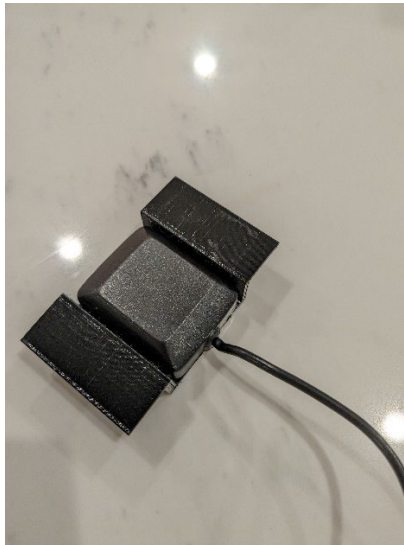
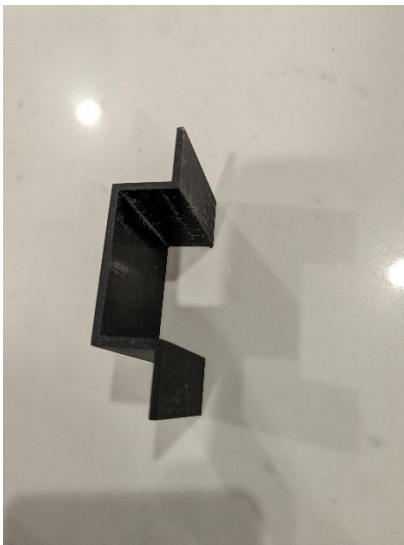
6. The antenna mount location took the longest to figure out. The final placement of my antenna is on the inside of the car, right under the center brake light. At first, it was directly attached using some 3M Command Strips. I've now 3D printed a mount so that the antenna faces "up" towards the sky. I have had no problems with reception this way, and I can easily remove it whenever I want. Additionally, you can't see anything from the outside of the car, especially with the black 3D printed mount and using clear colored 3M command strips. **When you are sitting in the car, you cannot see the SXM antenna from the front seats.**

My first try was without the 3D printed mount and that worked just fine too. The 3D printed mount works for me, but might not be for everyone.

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First attempt at mounting under center brake light.



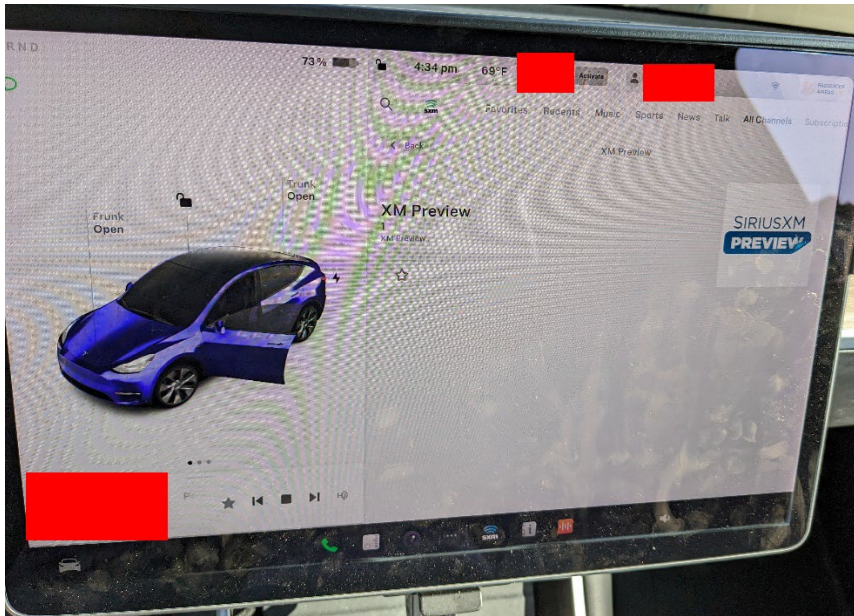
3D printed mounts

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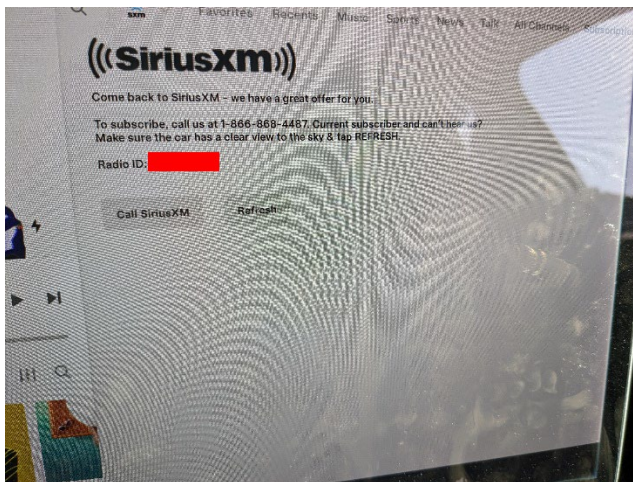
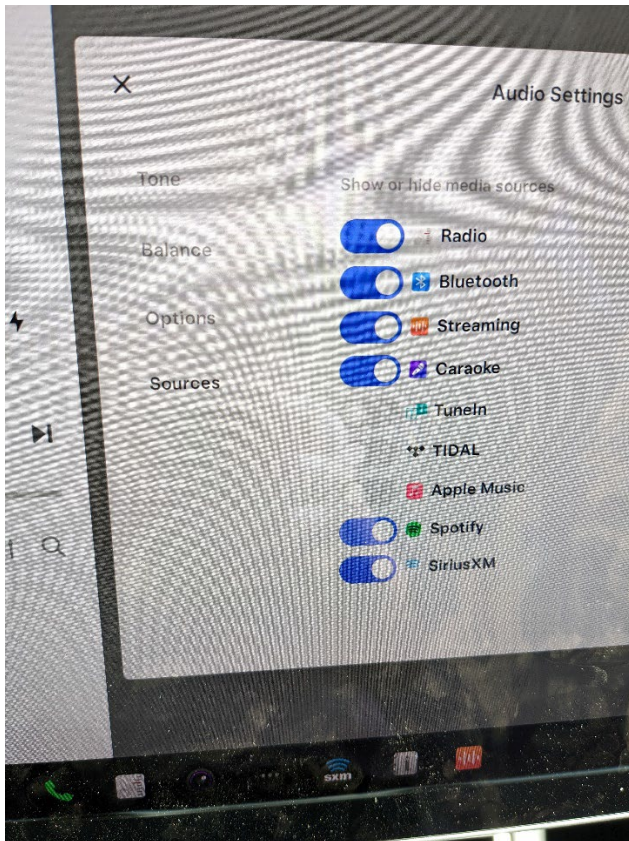


Final mount location.

7. Once you put everything back together, I needed to reset the car by pushing both steering wheel buttons down. When the car restarted, the SXM option was available under sources and the SXM radio ID was available in the SXM app settings. **Activation didn't immediately work for me.** I waited about 20 minutes at first. Then I left the car outside overnight and it worked the next morning.



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8. That's it. The whole process was surprisingly easy.