Adding Back up Camera and Rear View Mirror
## 2009 Aston Martin Vantage Coupe

Special Thanks to Rich @ Redpants.lol and James at Aston Installations (in the UK) for inspiration and help with the install.

The early Vantage and DB9's have suffered from a lack of current technology. I had installed a new infotainment system in my Porsche Boxster a few years ago and it really transformed how I could use the car. I felt the Vantage could use some upgrades as well.

I attended Redpants' Tech Day in Tampa this past spring, with interest in the back up camera installations. I do not use the Nav system (instead I use Waze with my smartphone) and wanted a solution that could be integrated into the rear view mirror. And I wanted something as close to OEM as I could.

There are already several threads online on installing back up cameras and connecting them to the nav screen with various interfaces, etc. My write up is for the Rear View Mirror.

I found the necessary components all on Amazon and for under $250. I have a permanent mount back up camera installed similar to the OEM spot and type. I found a mirror with built in video screen and auto dimming... While my car also has the Homelink feature, I opted for a mirror without this feature, as it was another few hundred dollars and since I was experimenting, decided I could live with my garage door remote and also NexGarage (a wifi system that can open and close door with an app or geofencing)
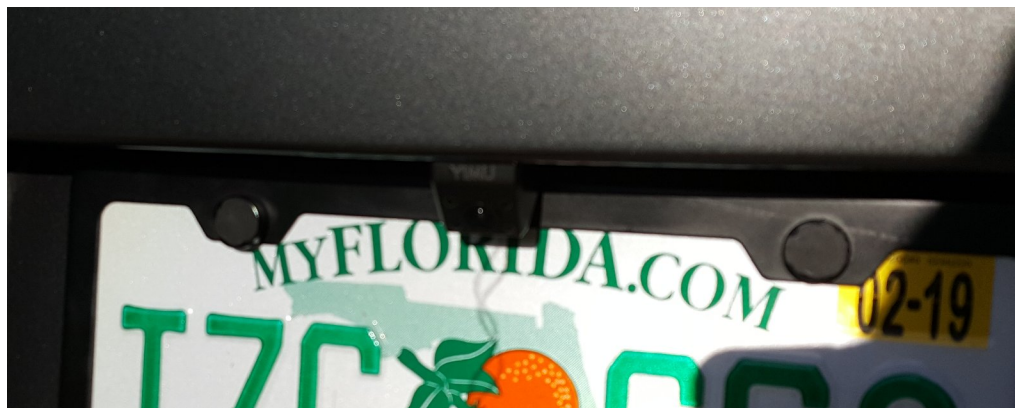
The challenge was to get the OEM look and of course the Aston mirror is not attached to the windshield like 95% of the worlds cars.

I did not want to disassemble my OEM mirror and try to modify the mount so I found a broken manual mirror on EbayUK for about $70 shipped to me in Florida USA.

I took the mirror apart and found I could cut off the mirror mount knob that attaches to the mirror. I also found that I could cut the mount off my new mirror but had the problem of how to connect both together.

Fortunately the new video back up camera mount has a threaded connection into it so all I had to do was bolt the old Aston mount to the new Mirror. It actually took less than an hour to do, once I had all the components together.

I had to modify the old mount with a dremel to get a nice flat spot to install the bolt. I found the mount metal to be rather soft and it was easy to notch out the mount

Once I dry fitted the parts together and I painted the mount with a shot of Plastic Dip I had. I thought about getting some SEM texture paint but felt I was on a roll and wanted to get this done, it was well hidden way and the final product turned out pretty well. If I want to get real anal about it, I could peel off the plastic dip and shoot the part with SEM, but life is way to short for that.

I used a little epoxy glue and a bolt to hold the mount and mirror together
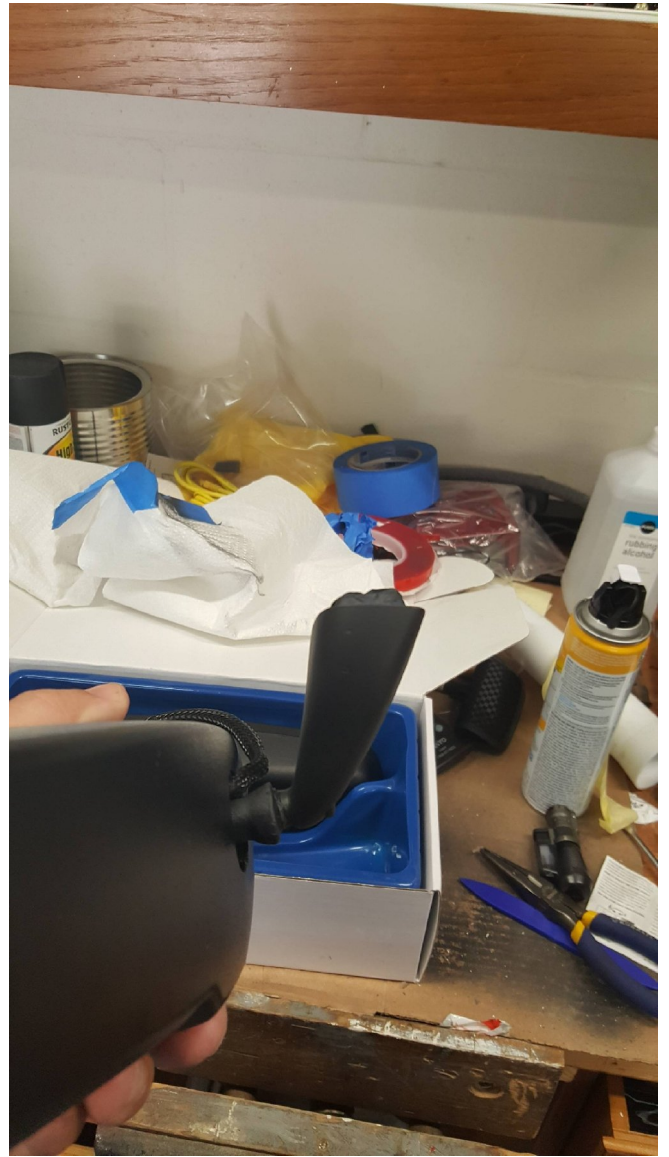
In order to wire up the mirror, I decided to route the wire under the head liner and down the left side of the car to the rear cubby where the nav system is located. This is the spot were I have all the power and camera feeds. Most folks will run their wiring here as it's the place you can tap the Fiber system if you want to also install interfaces for the the Nav screen.
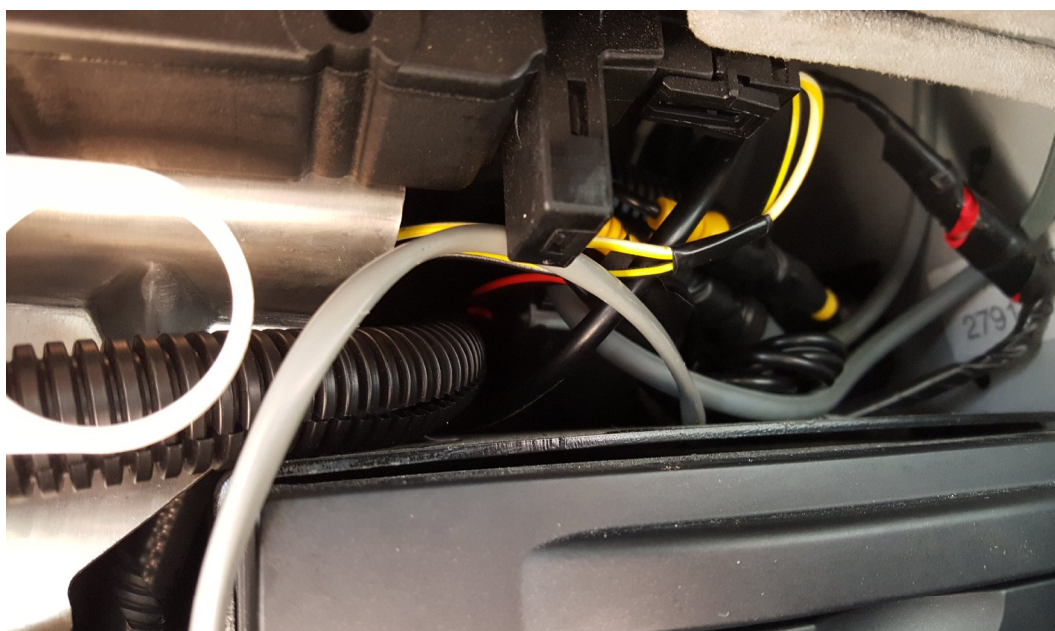
The power cable is only about 3/16" and no large connectors so the wiring was done in a snap. The mirror can get input from two sources, with the primary source using the reverse light voltage to trigger the screen on, so it is easy to wire this into the trigger for the camera. I have also installed a wireless feed for a front camera that I have not installed yet.

The mirror cabling is routed thru the map light housing in the same way as the power cable for the OEM mirror.
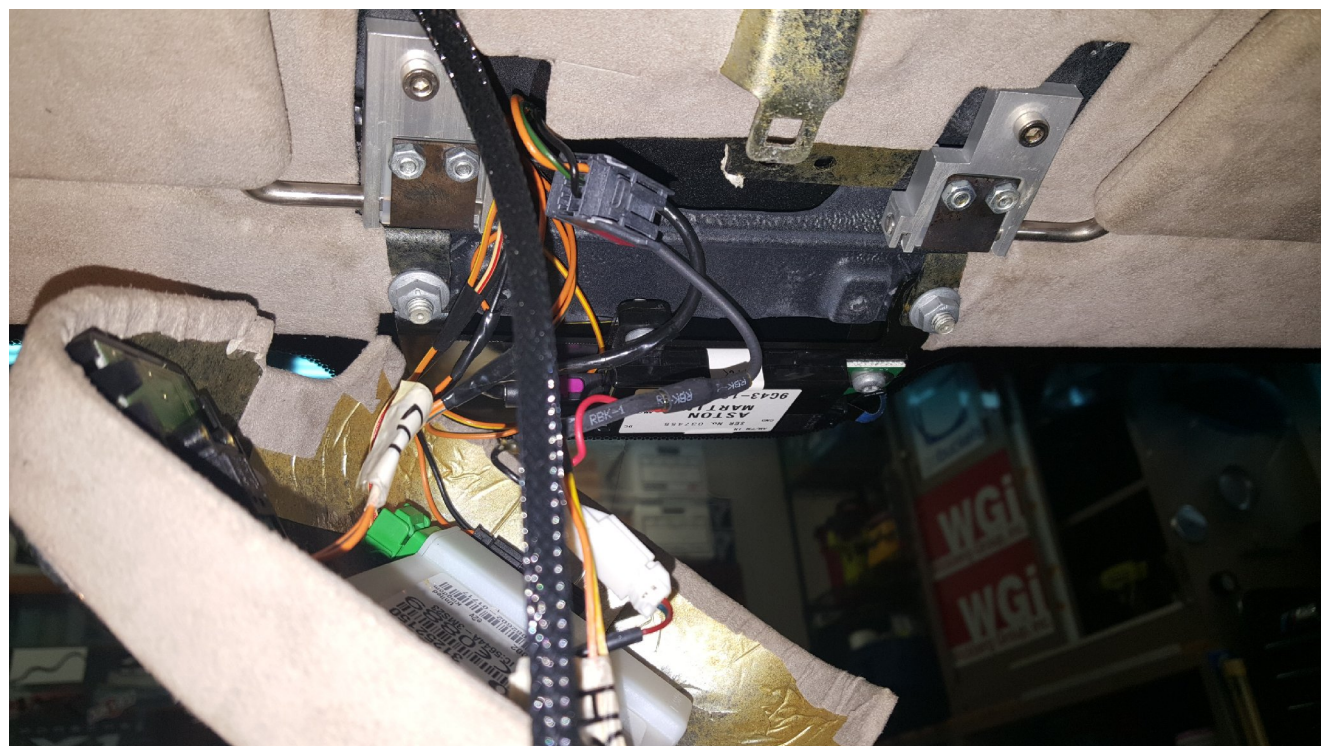
The set up works exactly like I wanted… Rear Camera without the nav screen.
The signal is instantaneous, no lag, no waiting for the nav screen to flip up.

Parts List

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B072KQG664/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o07_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01KDT4XWS/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1