

**2012 Fleetwood Discovery 40X
Interior Tac Light Installation
Description: LT-INT 12V TAC 3/8 X 28
Part Number 592515**

Note: Safety First: Always Disconnect the AC and DC Power when working with or around electrical sources or connections. Failure to do so could cause great bodily injury or even death.

The following is a description, along with photographs, depicting the removal and replacement of my interior courtesy light at the base of the step leading into the rear bedroom. This is the flexible PVC lighting strip (**see photo**) with 9 miniature incandescent bulbs that's used as a nightlight at floor level and controlled by a single on/off switch in the bathroom. It is terminated (sealed) at one end and the other end comes with about 20 inches of 2 wire/18 Ga. lamp cord for the electrical connections. Being that the lighting is incandescent, polarity is not an issue so in other words, you don't have to worry about connecting positive to positive or vice versa, it will work either way you connect it. The flexible PVC has a half-inch attachment point the runs along the top, so you can decide if you want to re-staple or use small pan head wood screws to re-attach the new one. I chose pan head screws because I'm certain this won't be the last time I replace this light.



Let's get Started

1. Removal of the old light is very simple, lift up the carpet about two inches at the **driver's side wall** with your fingers and pull that portion of the light (actually the end) out from behind the floor molding. You can use a flathead screwdriver to get behind the PVC because it is only fastened with small staples along the length of the step. I just pulled on the PVC light strip as I worked my way toward the other end at the bathroom wall and let the staples stay embedded in the wood step. For me, I really didn't see any need to remove them.

2. When you have worked your way over to the opposing end at the bathroom wall, you'll see the ends of the lamp cord (**see photo**) as it goes up and into the bathroom through the wall. Stop right there. Go inside the bathroom and remove the very bottom right side drawer of the vanity. To remove it entirely. Slide the drawer all the way out and then with your fingertips on both sides, lift up on the pointed metal retention clips and pull the drawer completely forward and out of the drawer slides.

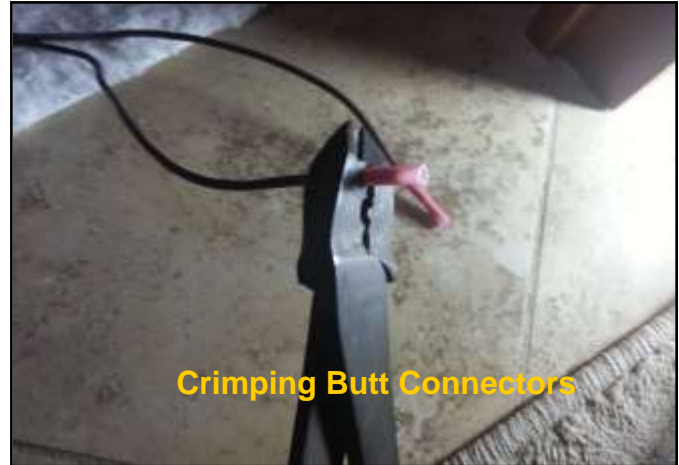


3. With the drawer out, this is what you will reveal underneath (**see photo**). You have a whole bundle of wiring harnesses running beneath the vanity, but finding the connection for the TAC light was very easy. Just pull on the end of the PVC light strip outside the bathroom door and watch in the lower right hand corner of the vanity to see



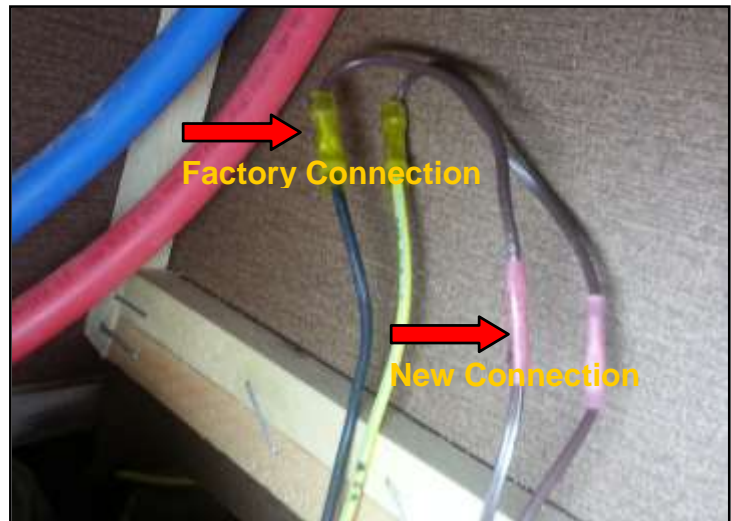
where it is connected. If you look closely at the photo, you can see the connection (**arrow**) to mine just at the end of the drawer slide. The brown lamp cord is connected to a black ground wire and a yellow w/green stripe wire that provides your 12 volt power. Now that you have identified the connection, go back to the hallway and cut the lamp cord where it goes through the bathroom wall. Then, pull the lamp cord through from the vanity side and let it hang out of the drawer. Discard the old light strip.

4. Now, since Fleetwood used 16 gauge wiring to the TAC light and the brown lamp cord is 18 Gauge wire, I left the original butt connections intact and cut about 8 inches of the original lamp cord beyond that. This allowed me to use the 18-22 Gauge butt connectors I had on hand and crimp the appropriate size wires (i.e., lamp cord to lamp cord) together for a nice tight connection.



5. After you crimp on the butt connectors to the new TAC light, insert the crimped ends through the outside bathroom wall and into the bottom of the vanity where the connection will be made to the opposing lamp cord you cut previously.

6. Yes, you can buy step-down butt connectors or solder with heat shrink if you want to eliminate the original factory connection and have only one single butt connection, but my reasoning was the factory splice was solid and with the excess lamp cord from the original installation left about 8 inches long, I have 8 consecutives times to replace the TAC light while I own the coach and use up all the 18-24 butt connectors I have amassed over the years!



7. After you have completed the butt connections, go out and **turn on** the battery disconnect switches at the inverters and then....the battery disconnect rocker switches inside the coach to restore power. Flip the switch in the bathroom and confirm the TAC light is working. Touchdown Miami!!!



8. Now that the light is working, our next step is to secure it to the step again. Instead of using staples, I chose to use #6 3/8 inch stainless steel pan head screws for a few reasons....they are self-tapping, you use less (I used a total of 5) and they can be removed and re-used when, not if, you replace the TAC light again. Again, lift the carpet



and start to the far right and insure that the end of the light goes all the way behind the floor molding. I used an awl to punch a small hole through the 1/2 inch PVC attachment point and screwed the light to the wood step. Progressively work your way to the bathroom wall while maintaining some tension on the light strip to insure it remains tight against the floor. Once the light is in place, tie-wrap the connections/wires inside the vanity to one of the wiring harness there so it doesn't bounce around and then replace the bottom drawer. Then, ceremoniously celebrate your installation with the beverage of your choice.....your finished!



Thanks to Keith Lindholm

