

Adding 12V always on into center console Model 3.

(also showing the part used for providing for a switched 120VAC 40W inverter, two 12V cigarette receptacles and two 2.4A USB always on connectors.)

Please refer to my previous writeup of the installation of an always on Blackvue Dashcam for the Model 3 in order to see where the 12V line was attached and where it came in cabin. That paper is found here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8wbsp18c2op6ai/Dashcam%20install%20in%20Model%203.docx?dl=0>

This paper takes the 12V from the previous install, and brings it into the center console where always on power is provided. You have the option of continuing to use either or both of the existing USB inside the console plus two additional always on 2.4A USB connectors. In addition, there is a switchable on/off 40Watt inverter provided plus two 12V cigarette receptacles for accessories.

In this install I brought the cigarette plug from the Blackvue into the center console instead of it being connected to a single 12V cigarette receptacle that was stuffed behind the passenger upper right footwell area.

This modification to the Blackvue install is an upgrade providing additional functionality. The part I found and used had a very high rating on Amazon and coincidentally was named "Tesla's"! This is the part:



The link for the part on Amazon is here: https://www.amazon.com/Teslas-Inverter-Outlets-Cigarette-Included/dp/B0756BRG3K/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1519694427&sr=8-1&keywords=tesla%27s+power

Amazon prime is \$23.99 currently.

The fuse in the above power panel is 15A. That matches what I already used in the line coming in so there was no need for the Cigarette plug w/fuse on this part. I cut the cigarette adapter off and connected the Tesla's power cable directly to the 12V lines coming in. Note the ground wire is the lead with the white writing on it. The power lead has ridges on it. You can see and confirm that if you open up the cigarette adapter.

So going back to the prior installation, with wires exposed before I tucked them in, we had:



The black and red leads are coming from the Tesla Model 3 12V battery with 15A fuse. The female cigarette receptacle was removed so imagine the red and black leads not terminating at the little yellow re-useable connectors. The Blackvue power cable with cigarette plug was cut off and re-connected inside the console.

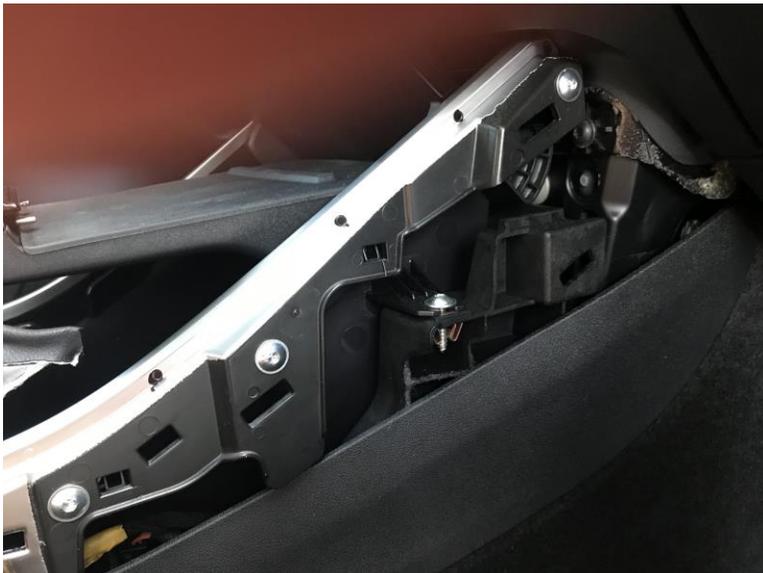
To get started you need first to remove one long panel running along the top side of the entire console.

This panel has a number of clips. Start at the back where it tapers down and pull it straight out. Then move forward and it will pop right out. Easy peasy. Here are pictures of the back of the panel starting from the tail end so you can see the little clips that snap in/out of the side of the console.



The front end of the panel looks a little raggedy but that's just the way it is. Due to the material wrapped around and excess and the end looks like it was cut off by hand. Nevermind, when you put it back it's out of sight.

When you remove that panel, here's what's behind it on the side of the forward center console:



If you're going to put in wires from the side, you need to make sure they won't interfere with the tray for the cell phones. The best spot I found was here:



That spot is the sidewall of the center console. It's plastic and there is a kind of fabric glued onto it inside. It's about 1/8" thick. I used the same Dremel tool that I used to bore thru the rubber grommet to bore thru this and routed out a hole about 1/4", enough to allow the wires from the Tesla's power panel out and the thin wire from the blackvue power cable in. I didn't have a grommet handy and would have used one but it's plastic and I don't anticipate a lot of motion on those cables so I felt it was ok to let the rubber cables rest against the plastic panel. There is good insulation on the Tesla's power panel wire and I used black electrical tape to supplement the blackvue power cable to be safe.

Here is the cable from the Tesla's power panel and the Blackvue power cable coming out of the hole. Those speckles are the plastic from grinding out the hole. Cleaned up later.



Here's a picture of the cable from the inside of the console. Those two wires shown plugging into the USB ports of the little Tesla's power panel are the two wires provided with the car. You can also see the two USB connectors that come with the car but turn off when the screen goes off. Again the plastic specks were cleaned out afterward.



Here's another view with both Blackvue power and Tesla's power panel going out the hole from inside:



Tuck the wires outside and run them along top left side of the passenger foot well area and stuff excess into the top left corner of the footwell where they were stowed prior with the Blackvue cigarette male and female connectors in prior install. If this is your first install, you can refer to the location where it's easy to tuck and stow excess wires.



After you're routed and tucked the wires, put the panel back starting from the rear moving forward as you push in the clips. Here's the completed look.



Now I have always on power options for my Model 3 from inside the forward console and my Blackvue is plugged into it so it's always on, taking up one of the two cigarette lighter sockets. The two amp fuse for the Blackvue is inside the Cigarette plug.



Feel free to leave comments, questions. If this helped you, let me know. My Tesla referral code link is:

<http://ts.la/norman6716>

if you wish to contribute crypto 😊

ETH: 0x42d5d7EEf6bAD946C9FA0be2d9C9c8Cc645Bd97D

BTC: 1N857zoxwSZNiyuGX4Q8A16Wqhs4F2Rqbm

LTC: LSJ84sFYUh254bS9ojFh1Vd3eLT8pN7qQQ

BCH: qzw9jszhmrc25a9qptwe66v8wec88pphyuf0e6r3cj

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