■ What is the Harley-Davidson part number for that thing I need? [From Frequent Questions] We get this question all the time, due to the fact that while H-D parts counters will order you any part number you give them, they're also supposed to sell you complete kits, which sometimes include things you don't need.

So here's a list of factory H-D part numbers that we've been gathering over the years:

2011-Newer 6.5" Leg Lower Speaker Buckets

Right lower fairing bucket: 57419-11 Left lower fairing bucket: 57410-11 Grills (sold individually): 76000205 Grill mounting screw (sold individually): 10200012

2006-Newer Saddle Bag Speaker Lids (5" x 7" speakers)

Right bag lid: 90200613 Left bag lid: 90200612 Right speaker grill: 76000181 Left speaker grill: 76000180

2010-Newer CVO Road Glide Speaker Mounting Rings (5" x 7" speakers)

Right side ring (FLTR): 76000185 Left side ring (FLTR): 76000184

1998-Newer Speaker Grills and Mounting Rings

1998-Newer Standard Speaker Grill/Spacer, LH or RH (FLHT): 77047-98 1998-Newer Road Glide Speaker Grill/Spacer, RH (FLTR): HD77021-98B 1998-Newer Road Glide Speaker Grill/Spacer, LH (FLTR): HD77022-98B

■ What kind of tools do I need to do a typical system install? [From Frequent Questions] Here's a list of tools needed to work in/around your fairing:

T-40 Torx Wrench T-27 Torx Wrench T-25 Torx Wrench 1/2" Hand Wrench 7/16" Hand Wrench 3/16" Hex Wrench P2 Phillips Screw Driver Wire Crimmpers Wire Strippers Wire Cutters

■ Do you guys do installations or custom work at your shop in Fremont? [From Frequent Questions]

Unfortunately at this time we can't offer installation or customization as a service, as we're really set up to design, test, build, and ship our products. Maybe someday though...

■ What does Sharknose and Batwing mean, and where did the terms come from? [From Frequent Questions]

These are the names given to the 2 touring fairing designs by none other than Harley-Davidson themselves. It's a simple matter of what they look like:

Sharknose Fairing

Looks like the nose of a shark, the fairing used on Road Glides.

Batwing Fairing

Looks like a bat with wings, the fairing used on Electra Glides and Street Glides.

We use this terminology around here because it's usually the only physical difference to deal with when installing an audio system in your fairing, regardless of your specific bike model.

■ Installing a Harman/Kardon Radio On A 2005-Older Bike [From Tips and Tricks] To install a 2006-newer Harman/Kardon radio on a 1998-2005 bike, there's 3 things to consider; physical mounting/fit, wiring, and calibration (programming).

Mounting: The Harman/Kardon radio will fit and mount in exactly the same way as the Radiosound units from 1998-2005, so no problem there. You may need to reroute or relocate some wiring to accommodate a proper fit, but nothing major needs to be changed.

Wiring: There's 2 harnesses involved in installing stock H-D radio's; Main and Auxiliary.

Main Audio Harness (includes power/ground, hand controls, front speaker outputs)
Auxiliary (overlay) Harness (includes rear speaker outputs, accessory connections for XM, intercom, etc.)

The main audio harness is the same from 1998 through 2009, so for power/ground, front speakers, and hand controls, no wiring changes are needed. This means that if you're installing on a 2 speaker bike without additional options, it's a simple plug and play situation.

The auxiliary harness (also known as the overlay harness) is where the radical differences between 1998-2005 and 2006-2009 occur. If you plan to run rear speakers from the H/K radio, or utilize the Harman/Kardon XM or intercom modules (like Ultra Classics), then you'll need to buy and install the 2006-2009 overlay harness on your 2005 bike. It can be done, but it does involve some work. The best thing to do here is to obtain a copy of both factory wiring diagrams old and new, and locate the power/ground/speaker wire connection points that suit your particular needs best.

Calibration: If you can find a Harman/Kardon radio out of a 2006-newer bike that's already functioning, just plug it in, you're done. New Harman/Kardon radios come blank from H-D however, and currently the dealers are the only ones who can calibrate/program them properly. Check with your local Harley-Davidson dealer to see if they are willing to help get your new radio programmed before you install it on your older bike.

E Choosing the right source unit (radio) [From Tips and Tricks] Here's some things to keep in mind when choosing the right source unit for your bike:

Factory Harley-Davison Radios

Pro's:

- Designed with headset and intercom functionality (most models)
- CB, XM*, and MP3 options available (*new Harman/Kardon units)

- Built like a tank to survive the brutal motorcycle environment

- Weatherproof and resistant to vibrations
- Display screen is designed for visibility in direct sunlight
- Hard to beat these units in the reliability category

Con's:

- Choice of looks and design style limited to only a few
- Headset, intercom, CB, XM, etc. are integrated; remove it and you lose those functions
- CB*, XM*, and MP3 options are very expensive (*new Harman/Kardon units)
- Lacks power to drive speakers loud at highway speeds without external amplification
- Speaker selection is narrowed to 2/8 ohm only (*excludes CVO high output units)
- Built like a tank, and heavy as a tank as well

Aftermarket Automotive Radios

Pro's:

- Wide variety of looks, features, and options to choose from
- Relatively inexpensive compared to factory Harley-Davidson units
- Typically lighter in weight, and physically smaller in design
- Wider speaker selection available (with standard 4 ohm outputs)
- Sony radios can be adapted to your handlebar controls

Con's:

- Headset, intercom and CB are not typically supported
- Built for the mild environment of a car, not weatherproof (excluding marine grade)
- Lacks power to drive speakers loud at highway speeds without external amplification
- Display screen is not typically designed for visibility in direct sunlight
- Many aftermarket units fail after a short time on the road (dirt, water, UV exposure, etc.)

If you want to stick with a factory radio, consider getting one of those new Harman/Kardon H-D radios.

Factory Harley-Davison Harman/Kardon Radios

Pro's:

- All the modern features available (MP3, XM, CB, etc.)
- Compatible with your existing intercom and headset equipment
- Built like a tank like its predecessors to endure the harsh environment

- Looks just like a Harley radio should; clean, simple, and black w/ amber display Con's:

- It's expensive compared to typical aftermarket source units
- The optional modules are expensive too
- You may have to buy an overlay harness (for rear channels, options, etc.)
- You have to find a dealer willing to calibrate (program) it for you using a 2006-newer bike ECU.

Now, if you can get an H/K unit out of a 2006-newer bike that's already functioning, it can be installed in 1998-2005 bikes without re-programming (1996-1997 with our adapter harness as well). New H/K units come blank from H-D however, and currently the dealers are the only ones who can program them. See the FAQ Installing a Harman/Kardon Radio On A 2005-Older Bike for more information.

If you choose an aftermarket radio, our HUA360 adapter connects your handlebar controls to a Sony, Pioneer, Alpine, Kenwood, JVC, or Clarion source units that incorporate a wired remote or steering wheel interface port. But no matter what you choose, our amplifier systems will work just fine with any source unit, stock or aftermarket, and get you rocking down the road.