

## Speedo Face Installation for V-Star 1300

Prepared by Albert Hernandez

You will need:

- A set of metric hex wrenches
- Two Philips Head Screwdrivers – one small and one big
- A napkin or soft small piece of cardboard
- A fork

Drape a towel over your gas tank so you don't scratch or dent it accidentally.

1. With the hex tool, remove the four screws that are securing the chrome piece around the speedo face. There are two on either side of the speedo face, and two more near the ignition key plate.



The screws near the key plate – on left and right sides:



After removing the four screws, the chrome cover just comes off by pulling it straight up.

This is what the speedo looks like without the chrome cover.



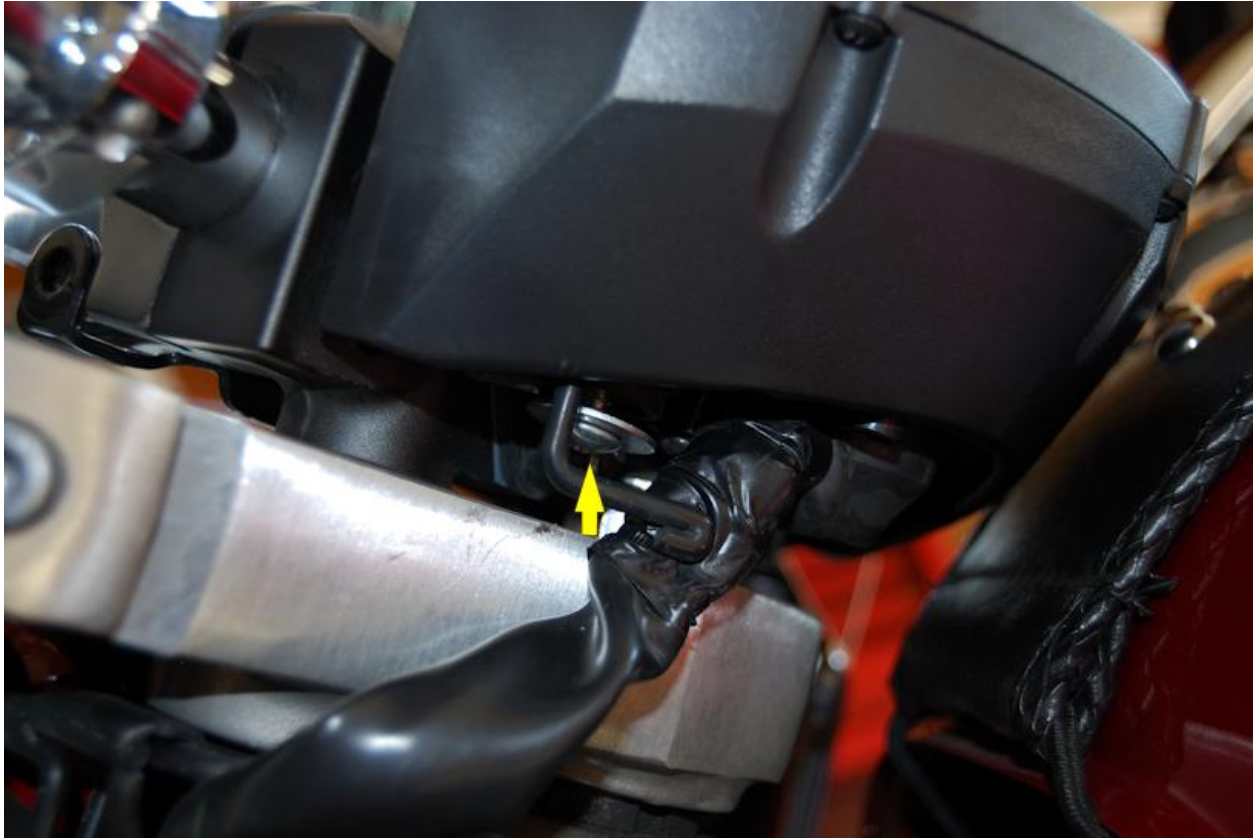
2. On the bottom of the speedo housing unit, there are two screws you need to remove, one on each side. These screws hold the speedo unit in place.

Crouch down on the right side of the bike, and look at the underside of the speedo unit.

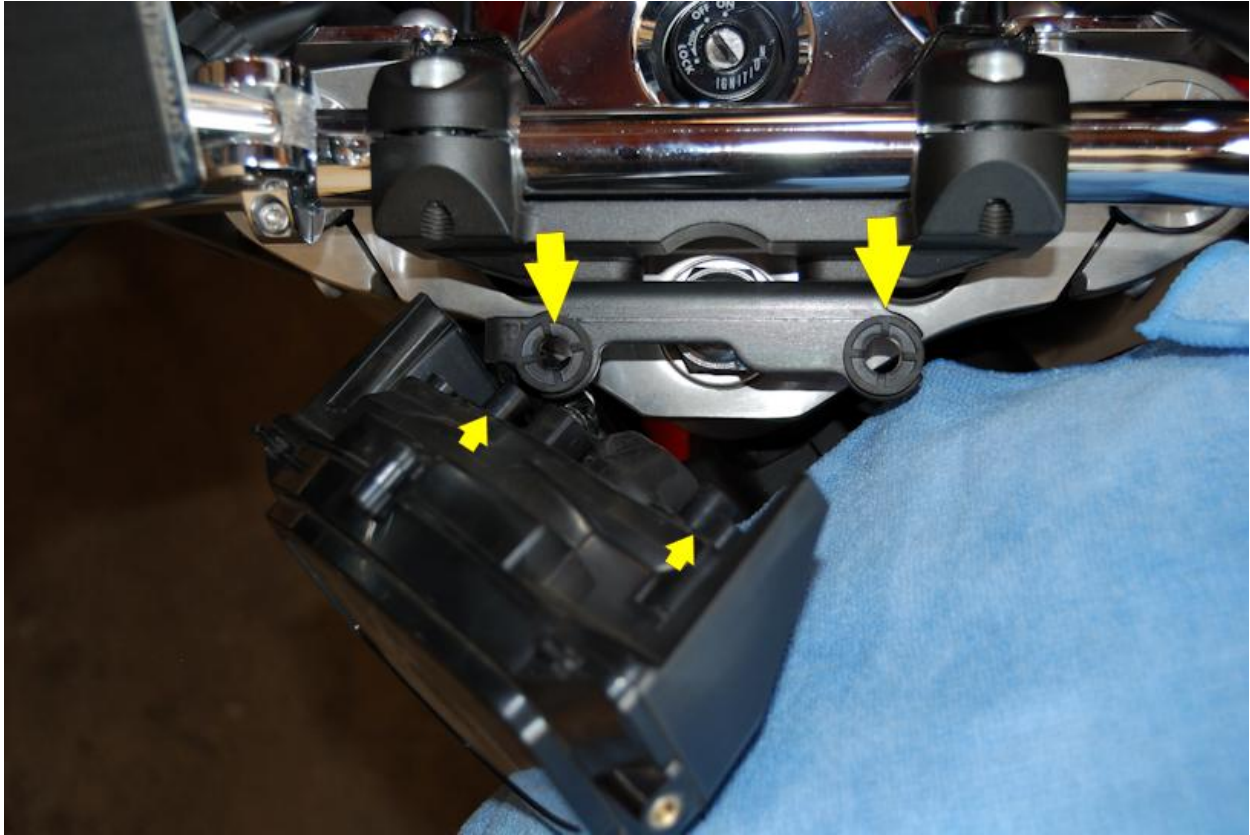
This is the screw you need to remove on the right side, under the speedo unit.



This is the screw on the left side under the speedo unit, remove it as well. This one is a little harder to get to... you may need to cut the little zip-tie and gently push the wire bundle out of the way to be able to get to the screw with the screwdriver.



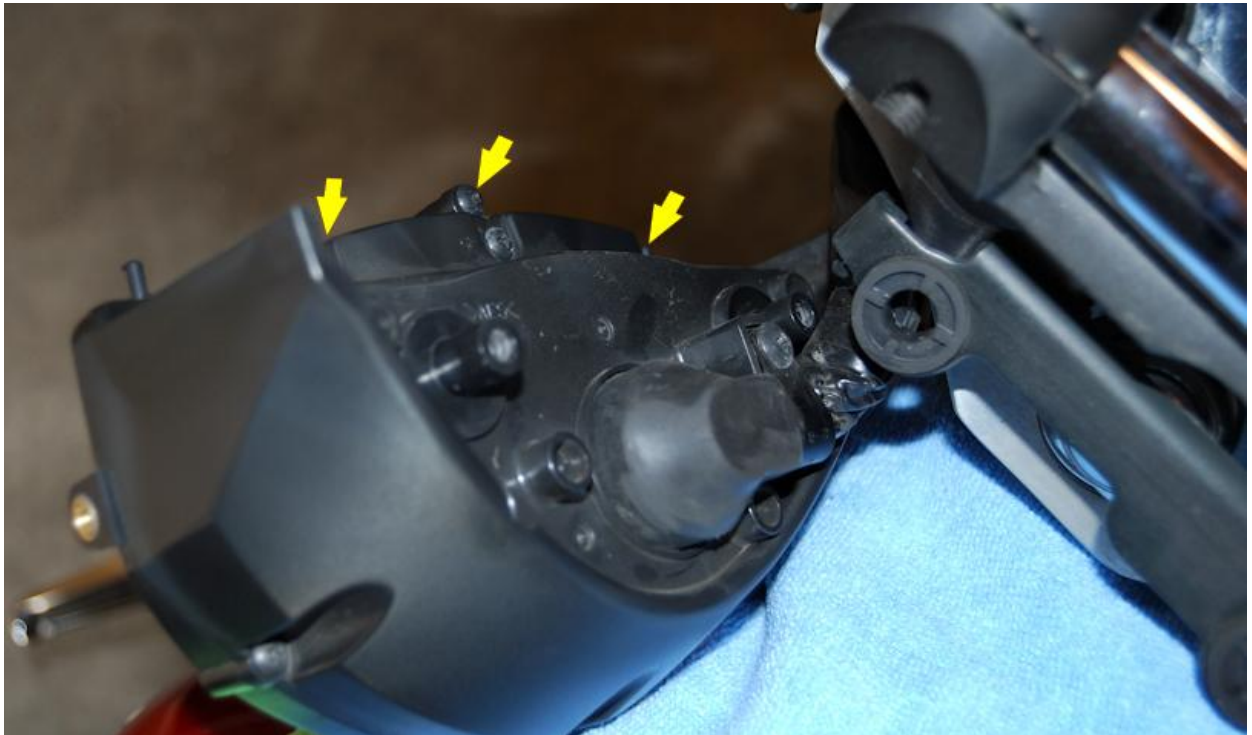
3. Once the two bottom screws are removed, pull up on the speedo unit... there are two posts that slide out of the two holes (indicated by the arrows). The wire bundle is still holding on to the speedo – I wasn't able to find a harness connector to unplug the speedo unit, but the speedo unit moves around enough to be able to work with. However, if you can unplug and remove the speedo unit to work on a table, that would be better, but leaving it attached worked fine for me.



4. You will remove six screws from the back of the speedo unit. Three are shown here...



... and three more here. This will allow removal of the glass front.



5. Here is the glass front removed, revealing access to the speedo face. Be careful not to touch the inside of the glass.



6. OK, now this is the part that takes patience and a firm yet gentle touch.

If you need a potty break, this is the time to take it so that you're not in a hurry; you don't want to rush this 😊

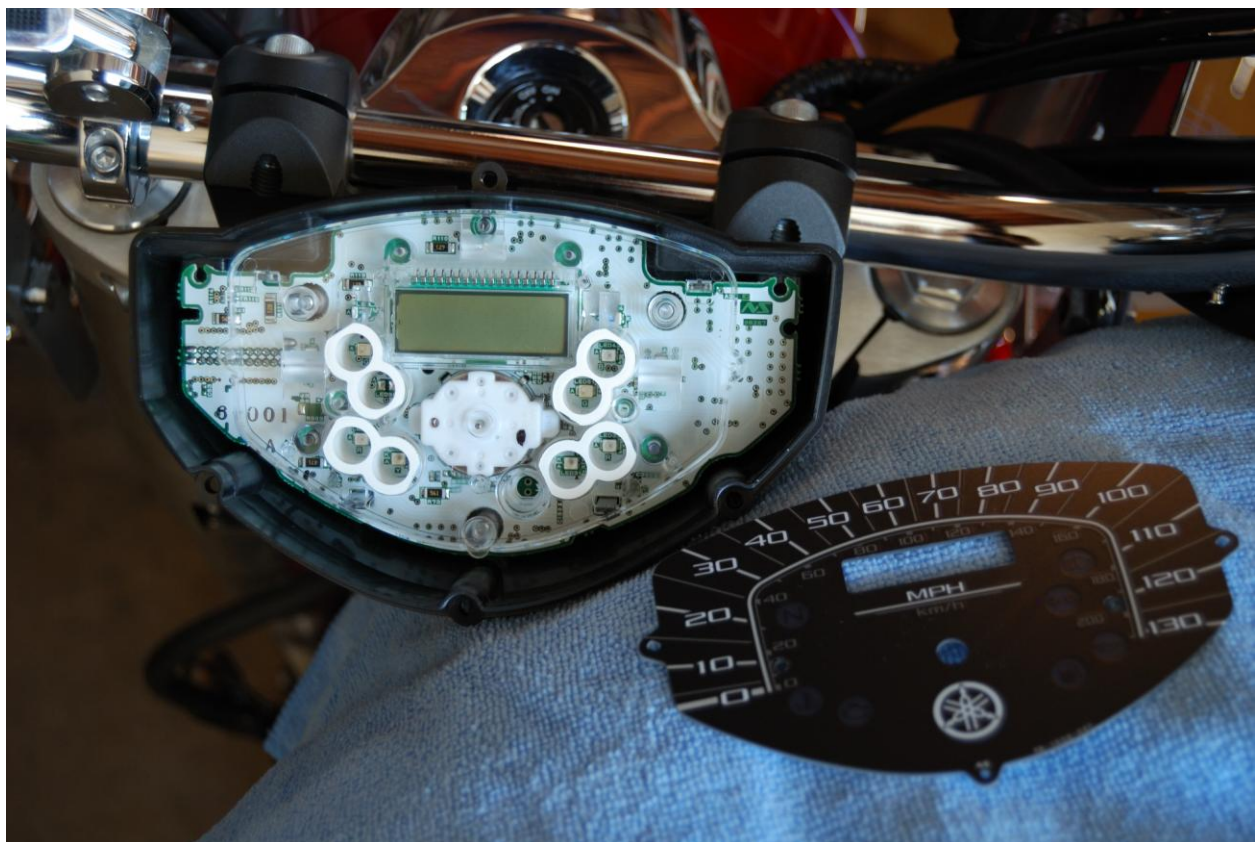
Lay the napkin or thin, soft cardboard against the speedo face (so you don't scratch the face), just above the speedo needle base. Gently wedge two prongs of the fork underneath the round center base of the needle. Using the curvature of the fork as leverage, gently pull the needle straight out off of the pin it sits on. This takes a little bit of force, but be very careful and don't apply too much pressure so you don't break the needle, it is plastic and very fragile. You may want to place your other thumb over the round base of the needle to keep it from flying off once it releases, and to better control the prying action with the fork.



7. With the needle off, remove the two little screws holding the speed face in place.



Gently remove the ugly and boring... er... I mean... original speedo face plate.



8. Place the new cool looking speedo face plate on the base, making sure the three holes are aligned. Put the two small screws back in place and tighten.

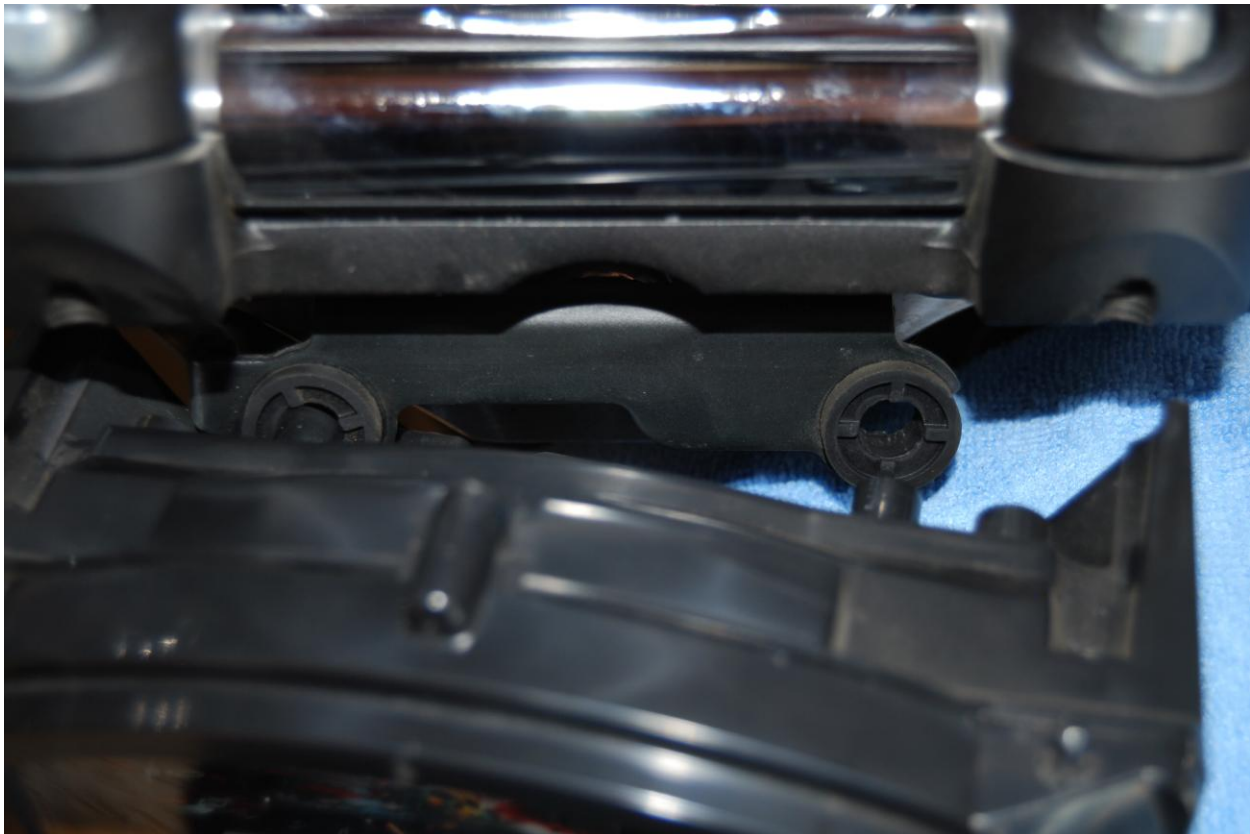
At this point, turn the key in the ignition to the on position, so that the needle pin makes its cycle and resets back to 0. Gently and firmly push the needle back into place with the needle pointing to 0, try not to move the needle around. Make sure the needle goes down far enough onto the pin, you will feel a little soft snap when it sits correctly. Turn the key off, then on again to make sure the needle rests on 0 again after it completes its little trip around the speedo face. If it's not where you think it should be (at 0), then do the fork thing again to pry it off and then put it back on – adjusting the placement of the needle accordingly... but the new ink on the speedo face may scratch more easily, so try and get it right the first time.



9. Re-install the glass front housing with the six screws you removed earlier. Be careful not to touch the inside of the glass. Oh man – looking pretty awesome!



10. Insert the two posts on the back of the speedo housing unit into the two holes from which you pulled it off of earlier.



11. Insert and tighten the left and right screws underneath the speedo unit to secure it in place. The speedo unit will still feel a little loose and “spongy” after tightening these screws, that’s fine; this is how it’s supposed to be.

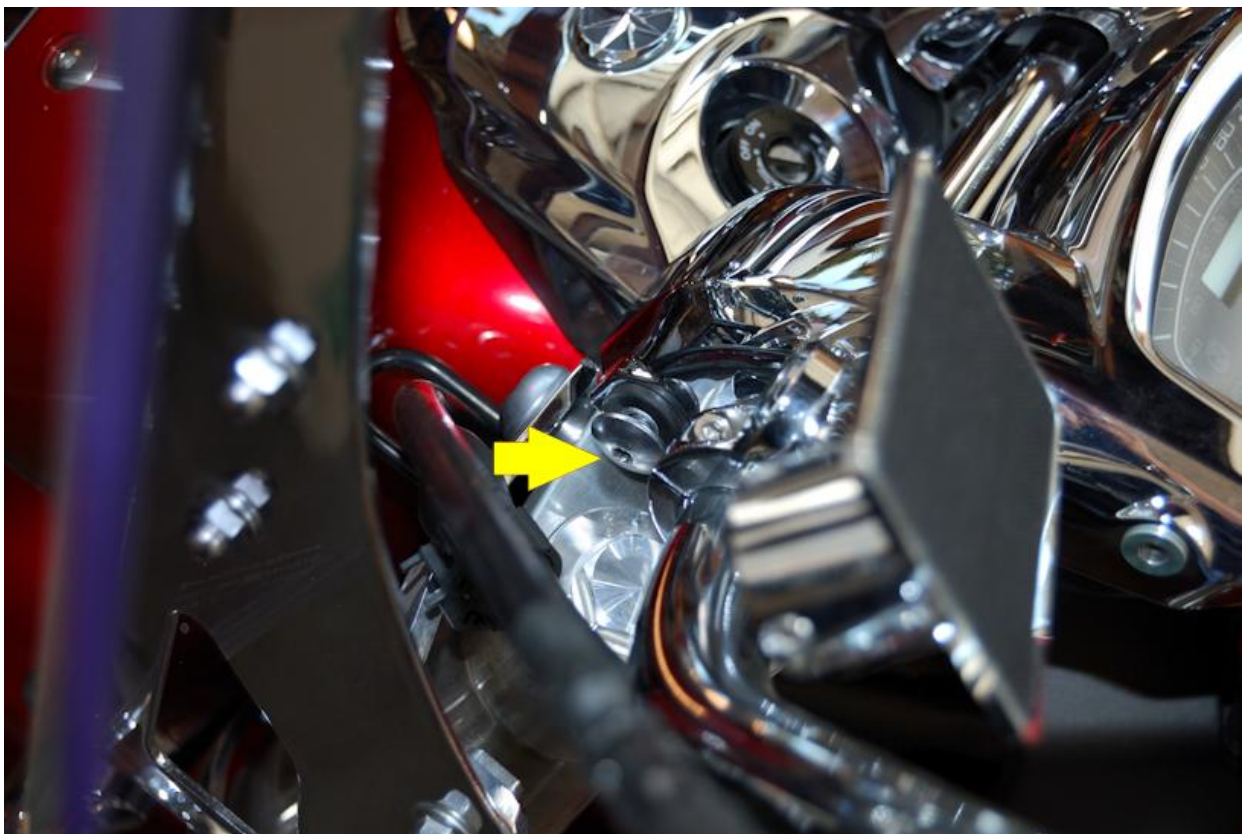
Left:



Right:



12. Place the chrome cover around the speedo housing and tighten the four screws (two on top and two on the bottom front).



Sit back and enjoy your work :-)

