

ACUITY[®]



1981-LHD 4-Way Adjustable Performance Shifter Install Guide

Application:

- 2022+ Honda Civic, Civic Sport, Civic Touring (MT only)*
- 2022+ Honda Civic Si*
- 2023+ Honda Civic Type R*

*This install guide uses illustrations from an Left-Hand-Drive 2022 Honda Civic Si and 2023 Honda Civic Type R, but is generally applicable to all 11th Generation Honda Civics (6 m/t).



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TOOL LIST

- Plastic Interior Panel Removal Tools*
- Phillips Head Screwdriver, #2 preferred
- Angled Pick Tool (Preferably right angle)
- 10mm Closed-End Wrench
- 14mm Open-End Wrench
- 8mm and 10mm Socket and Ratchet with Extension (6"+ Extension preferred)
- Magnetic Pickup Tool
- 5mm Long-Reach Allen Driver



Skill Level: Intermediate

We recommend that only gear heads with a little experience attempt this install. If you've done simple car maintenance operations like oil changes, air filter changes, and accessory belt changes, you can probably handle this. If you have no experience working on cars, we recommend finding a more experienced friend or shop to help you with this install.



Typical Install Time: 90min

(assumes experience with similar tasks, plan for a longer install time if you do not have experience performing installations like this)



Package Contents

Please inspect all of the parts that came with your kit before attempting installation. Your kit should include all of the components shown below:

- 1x Height Adjustment Screw
- 1x Height Adjustment Nut
- 4x Mounting Screws
- 4x Mounting Washers
- 1X Shift Lever
- 1x 4-Way Adjustable Shifter Body



What to expect after installation:

A great deal of effort went into making this shifter robust, reliable, and extremely adjustable to grant drivers the ability to carefully tune shifts for an unparalleled driving experience. With over 2 years of development, testing, and refinement including thousands of hours on ACUiTY's proprietary testing equipment, ACUiTY's **4-Way Adjustable Performance Shifter** for the **11th Gen HONDA CIVIC & the 5th Gen ACURA INTEGRA** is perhaps the most sophisticated shifter ever produced for the Honda Civic.

As a testament to this shifter's competition-ready design, ACUiTY equipped two of these shifters to HONDA'S #25 & #24 FL5 race cars for the 2023 25hrs of Thunderhill race where the cars impressively won 1st & 2nd in class, respectively.

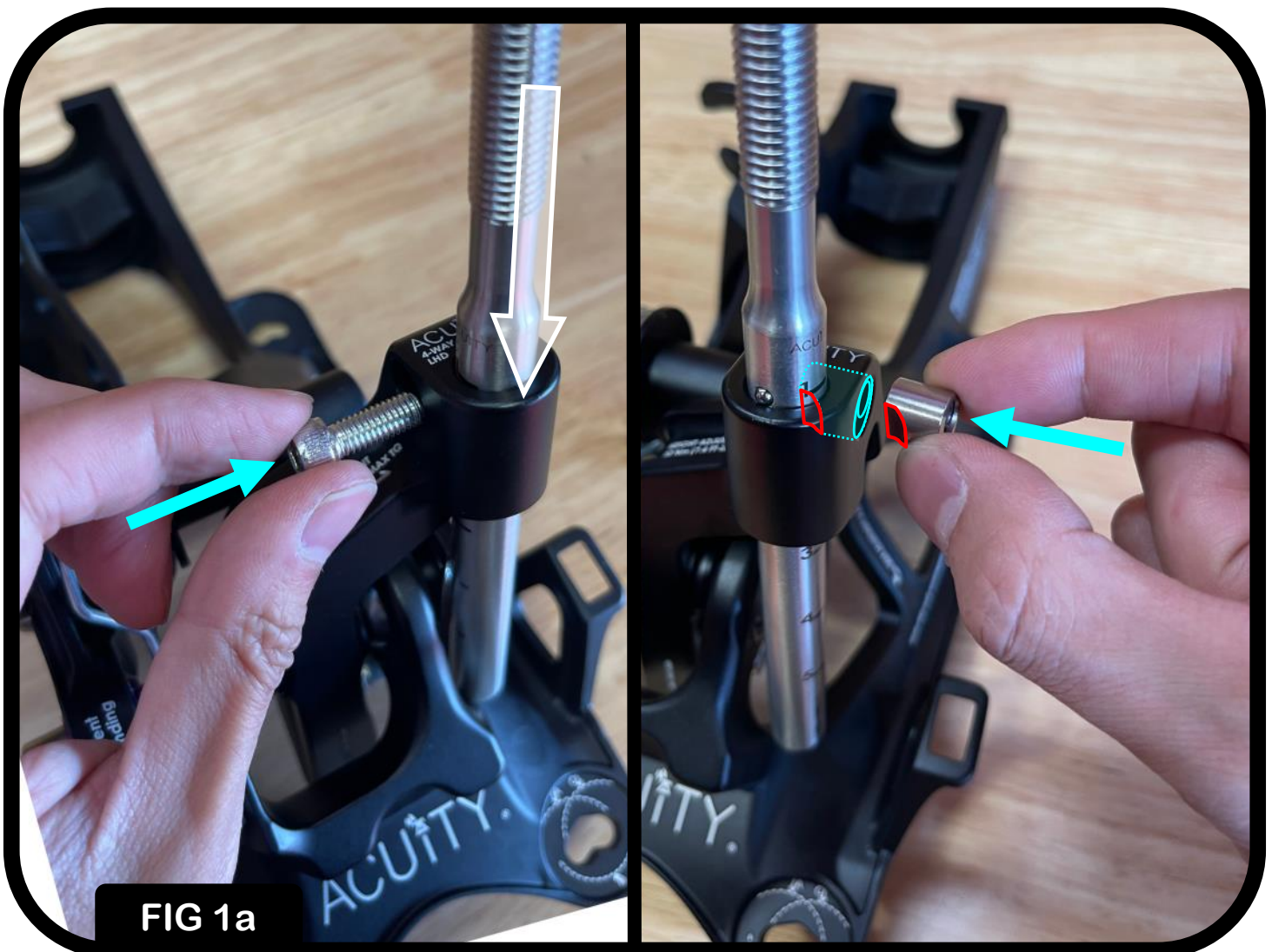
***IMPORTANT:** Qualified technicians should perform installation. ACUiTY LLC assumes no liability for issues arising from improper installation. This installation was performed on a 2023 USDM Honda Civic Si & Civic Type R. If your vehicle was manufactured for another market or has a different trim or year, it may naturally have some slight variations from this guide.*

Assembling Your ACUiTY Performance Shifter

To prevent hardware from being lost inside your vehicle, we recommend installing the upper rod into the shifter before starting your installation. Insert the upper rod into the shifter as shown below in Figure 1a.

Insert the supplied height adjustment screw and height adjustment nut into the adjustment body of your ACUiTY shifter (blue arrows). Use a 5mm Allen key/socket to hand tighten the adjustment screw enough to loosely hold the upper rod in place. You will set and torque the upper rod height adjustment later in **Step 13** of this guide.

Important: The curved cutout on the height adjustment nut (outlined in red) must be aligned with the curved surface of the upper shift rod. If installed properly, the nut should be flush with the side of the adjustment body on your ACUiTY Performance Shifter.



STEP 1 - Disconnect Negative Battery Terminal

Later in this guide, it will be necessary to disconnect several connectors in your vehicle's center console. To be safe, it is best practice to disconnect the battery. Pop the hood and locate the battery in the right rear of the engine bay as shown in Figure 1a.

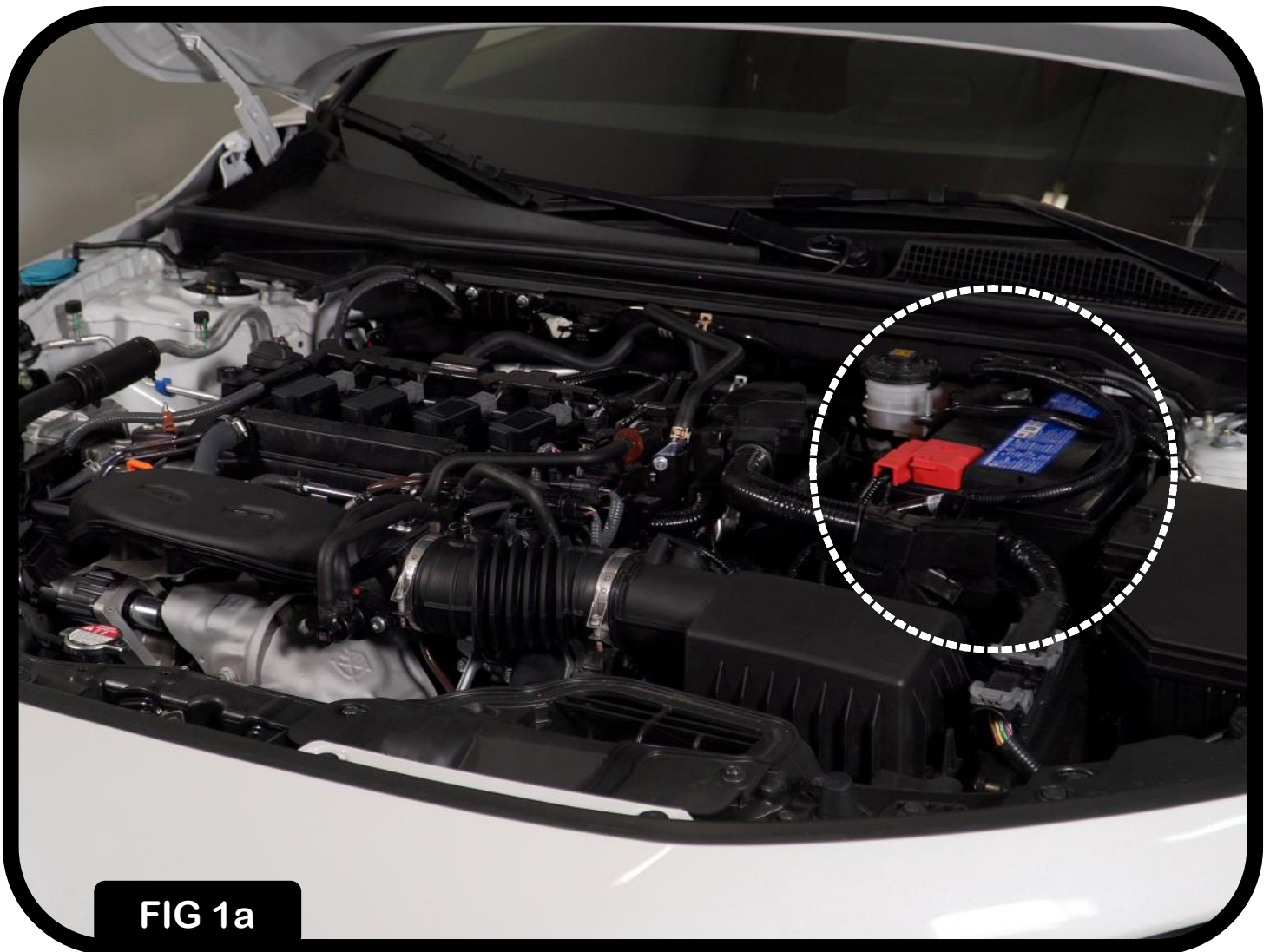


FIG 1a

STEP 1 Cont. - Disconnect Negative Battery Terminal

The negative terminal clamp on the battery is located behind the red covered positive terminal, as circled in Figure 1b. This negative terminal clamp will need to be removed to safely disconnect the power supply to the vehicle.



FIG 1b

STEP 1 Cont. - Disconnect Negative Battery Terminal

Loosen the negative terminal clamp using a 10mm socket and ratchet, or a 10mm closed-end wrench (open-ended wrenches should be avoided as they can damage the terminal).

Reinstallation Tip: When you go to put this back onto the battery, just snug the terminal clamp up using the 10mm closed-end wrench. Snug it up enough so that you can't twist or remove the terminal clamp with moderate force. Don't overtighten this nut as it can damage the terminal clamp.

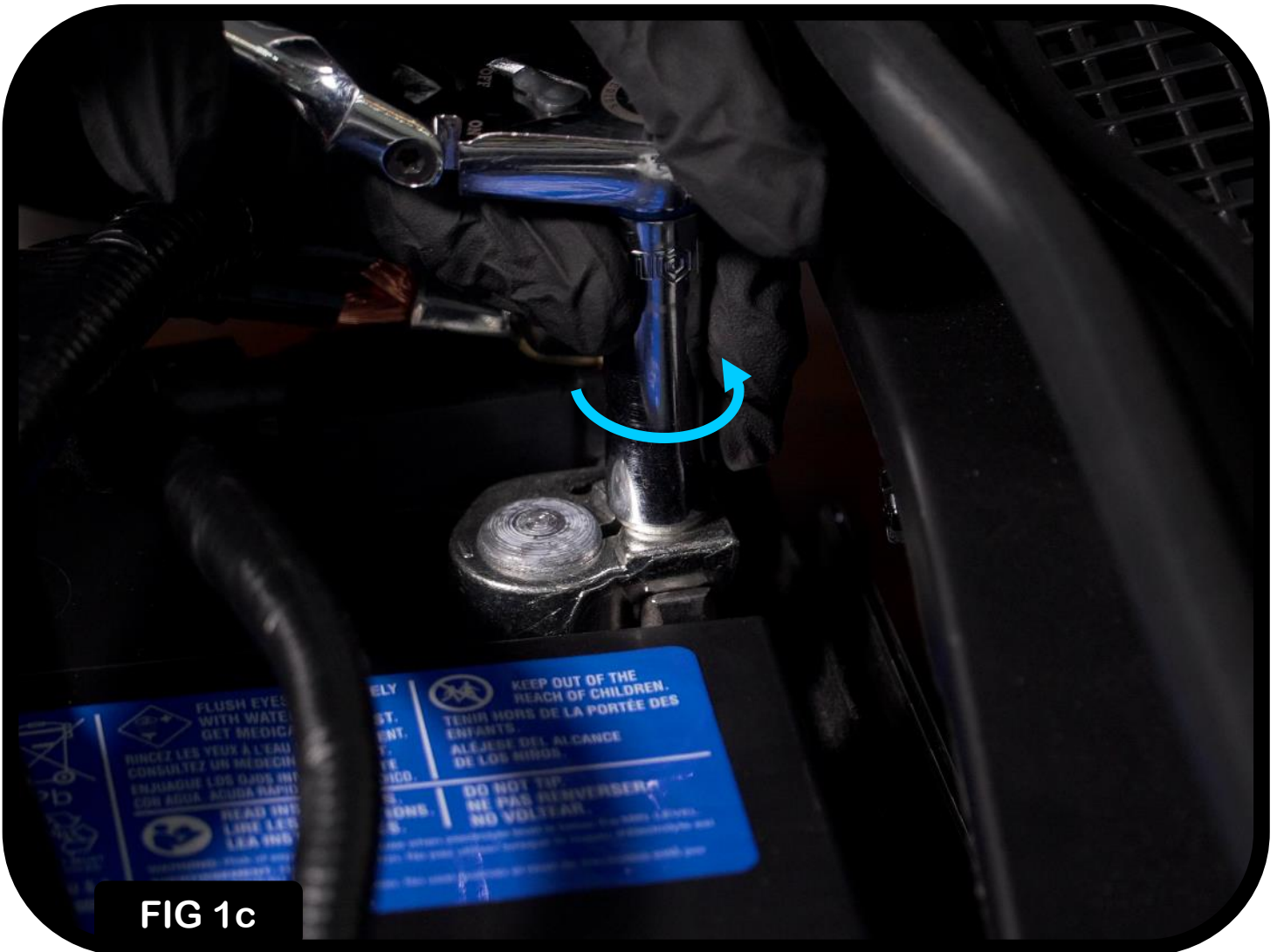


FIG 1c

STEP 1 Cont. - Disconnect Negative Battery Terminal

Remove the negative terminal clamp and set it off to the side as shown in Figure 1d. This helps to ensure that the terminal clamp does not make electrical contact with the positive battery terminal while you are performing your installation.

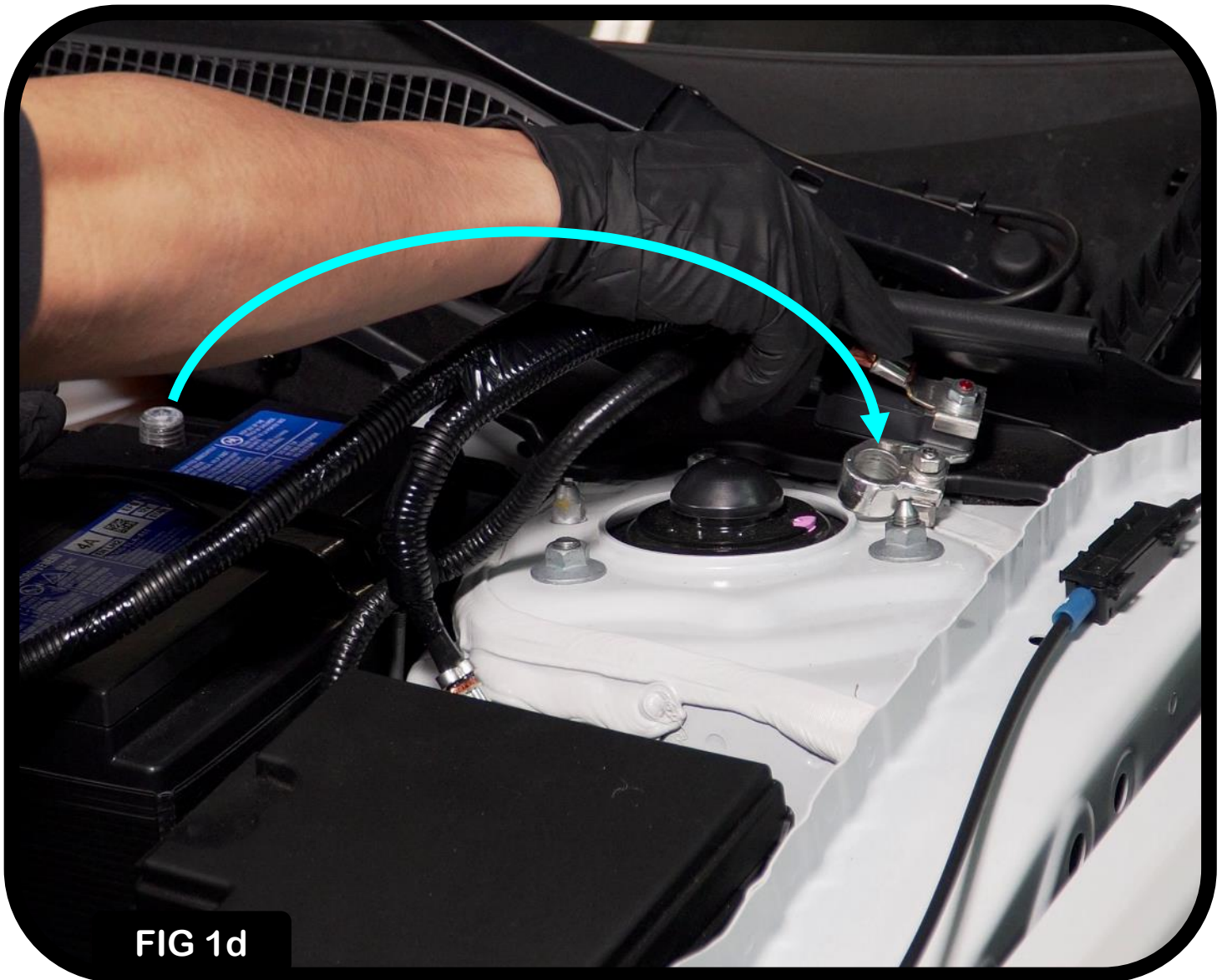
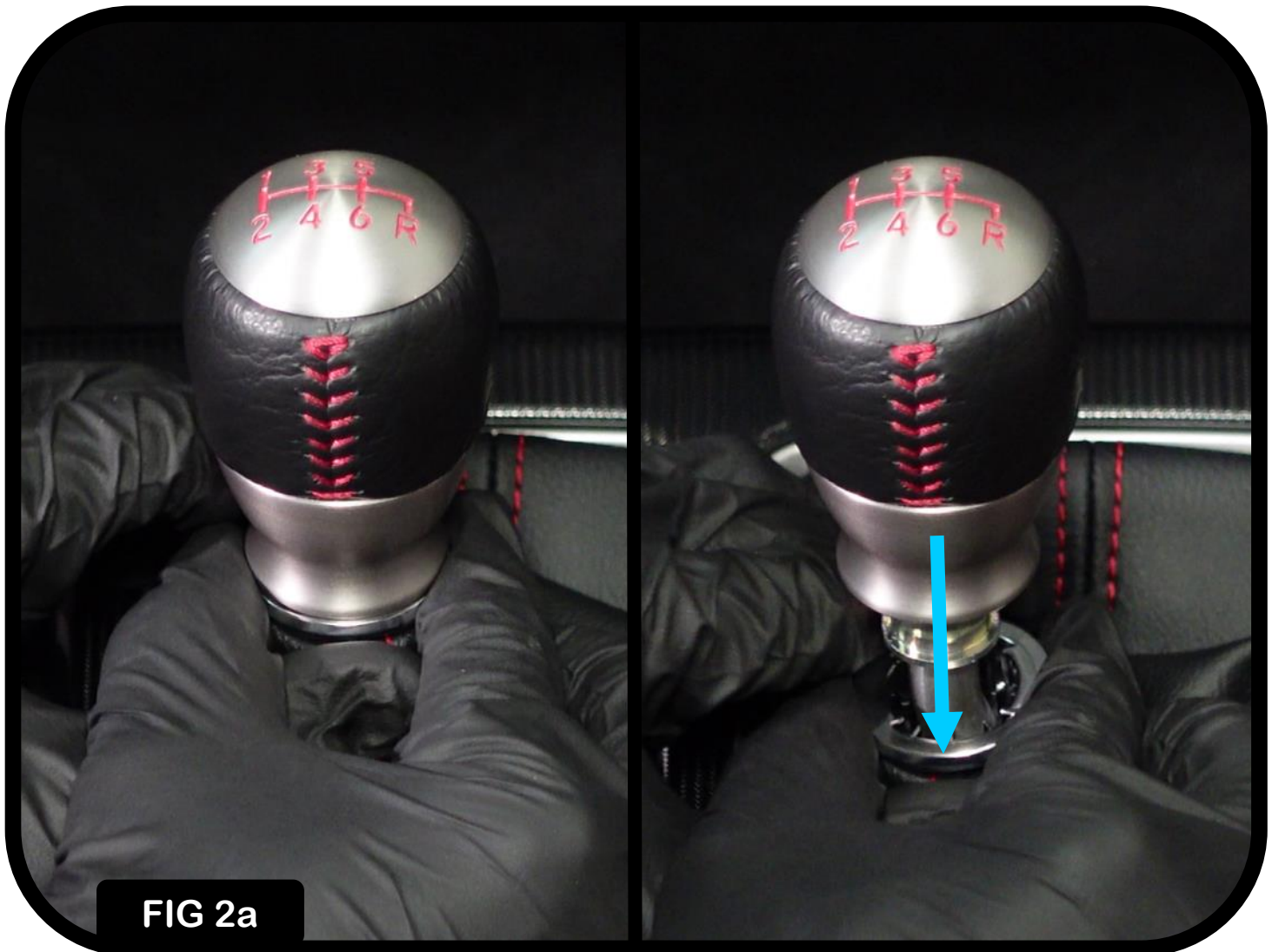


FIG 1d

STEP 2 - Remove OEM Shift Knob

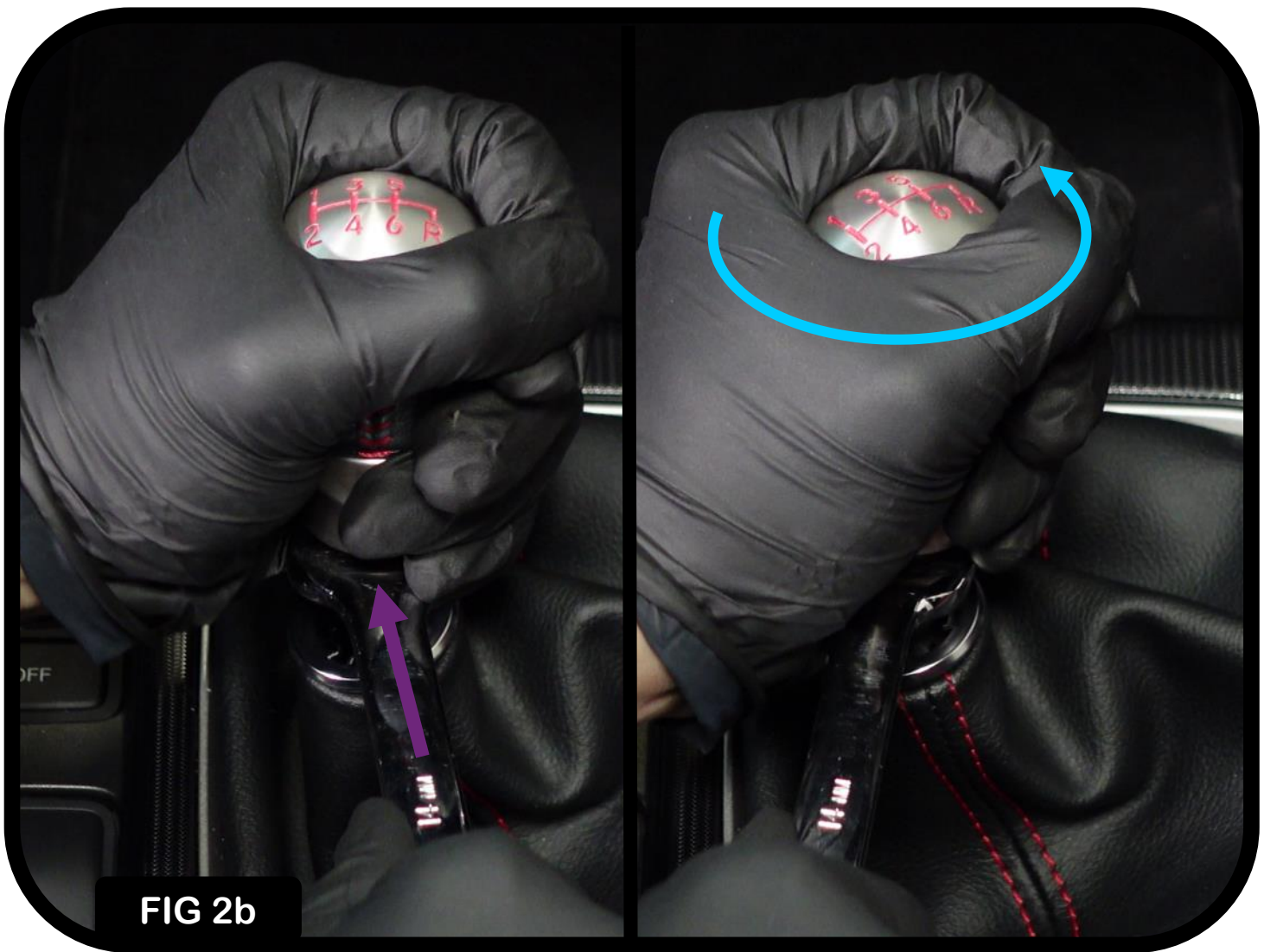
To disconnect the shift boot from the shift knob, grip the boot just below the shift boot collar with both hands, and pull down firmly as shown below in Figure 2a. Use a trim removal tool to pry between the collar and the base of the shift knob to aid with the removal if necessary.



STEP 2 Cont. - Remove OEM Shift Knob

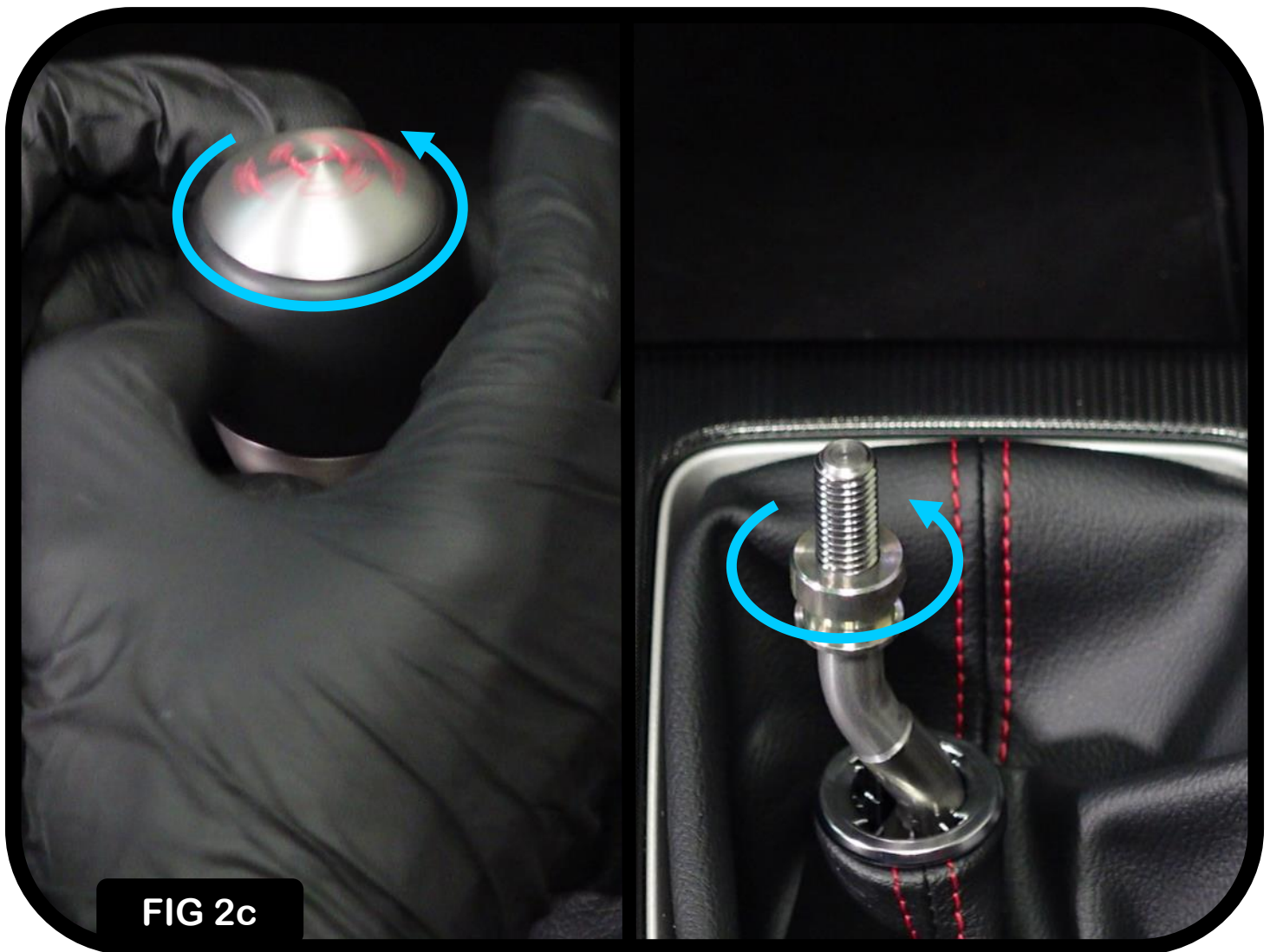
Use a 14mm open-ended wrench to hold the binding nut under the shift knob in place. Grip the shift knob by hand, and twist the shift knob counter-clockwise as shown in Figure 2b to break it loose.

Note: *If you are removing the shift knob from non-Si/Type R model, there may not be a binding nut holding it in place. Simply unclip the boot collar from the bottom of the shift knob, then unthread the knob turning it counter-clockwise.*



STEP 2 Cont. - Remove OEM Shift Knob

Unthread the shift knob and binding nut from the shifter as shown in Figure 2c.



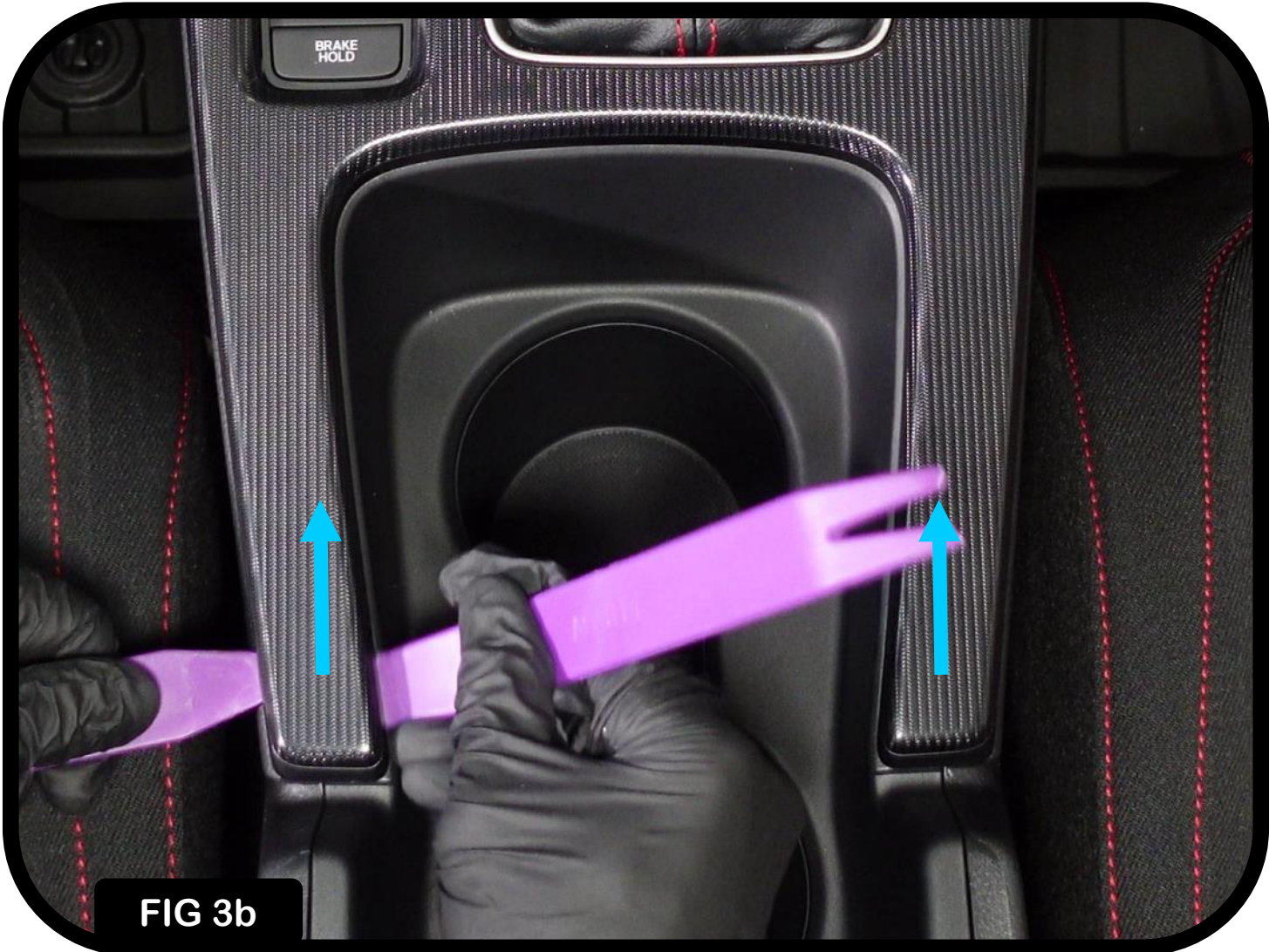
STEP 3 - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Next, the shifter surround trim must be removed. There are several plastic clips that affix it to the upper console panel as shown in Figure 3a (location of the clips shown with blue arrows).



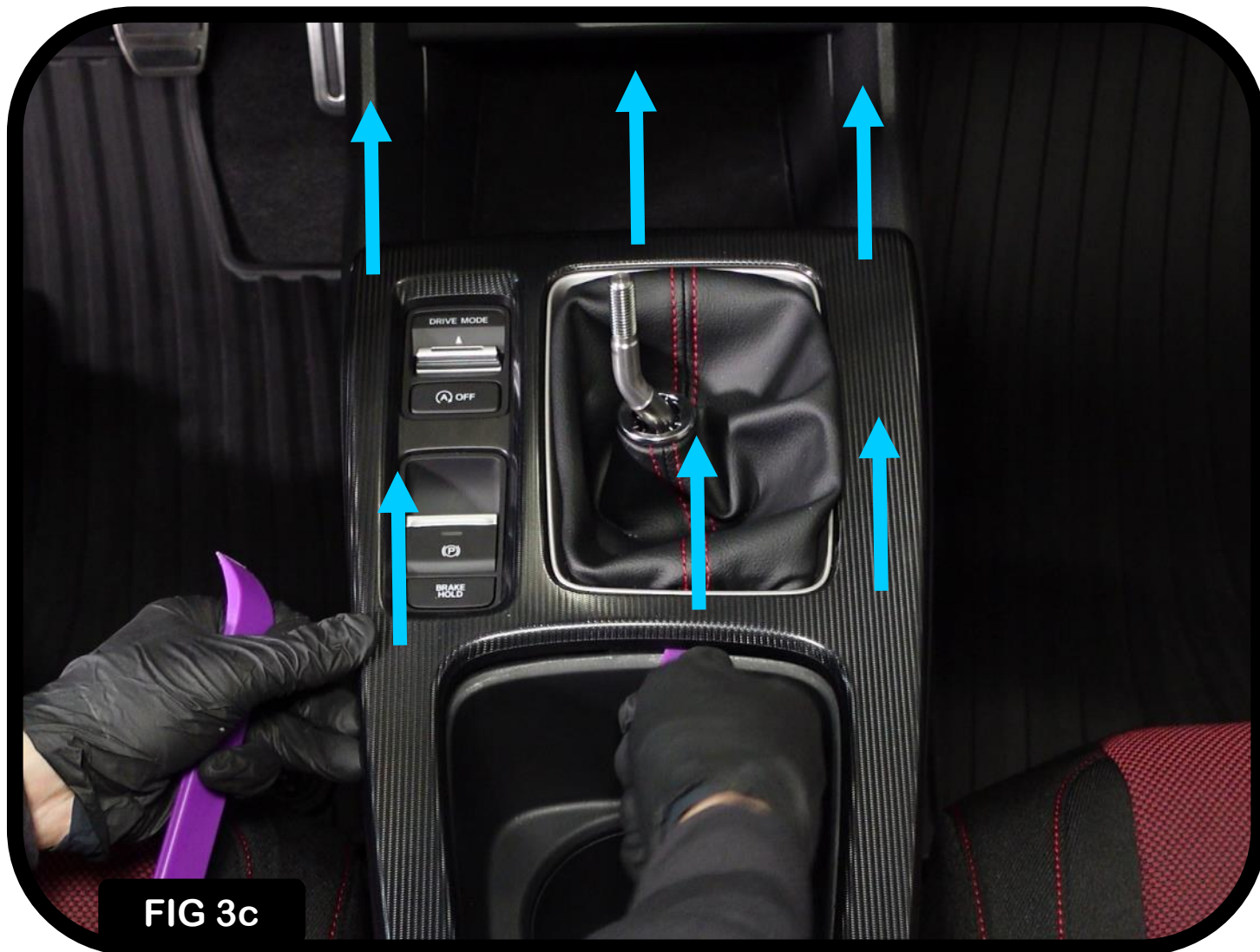
STEP 3 Cont. - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Begin by taking 2 plastic trim removal tools and pry under the 2 rearmost mounting clips of the shifter surround trim (Figure 3b).



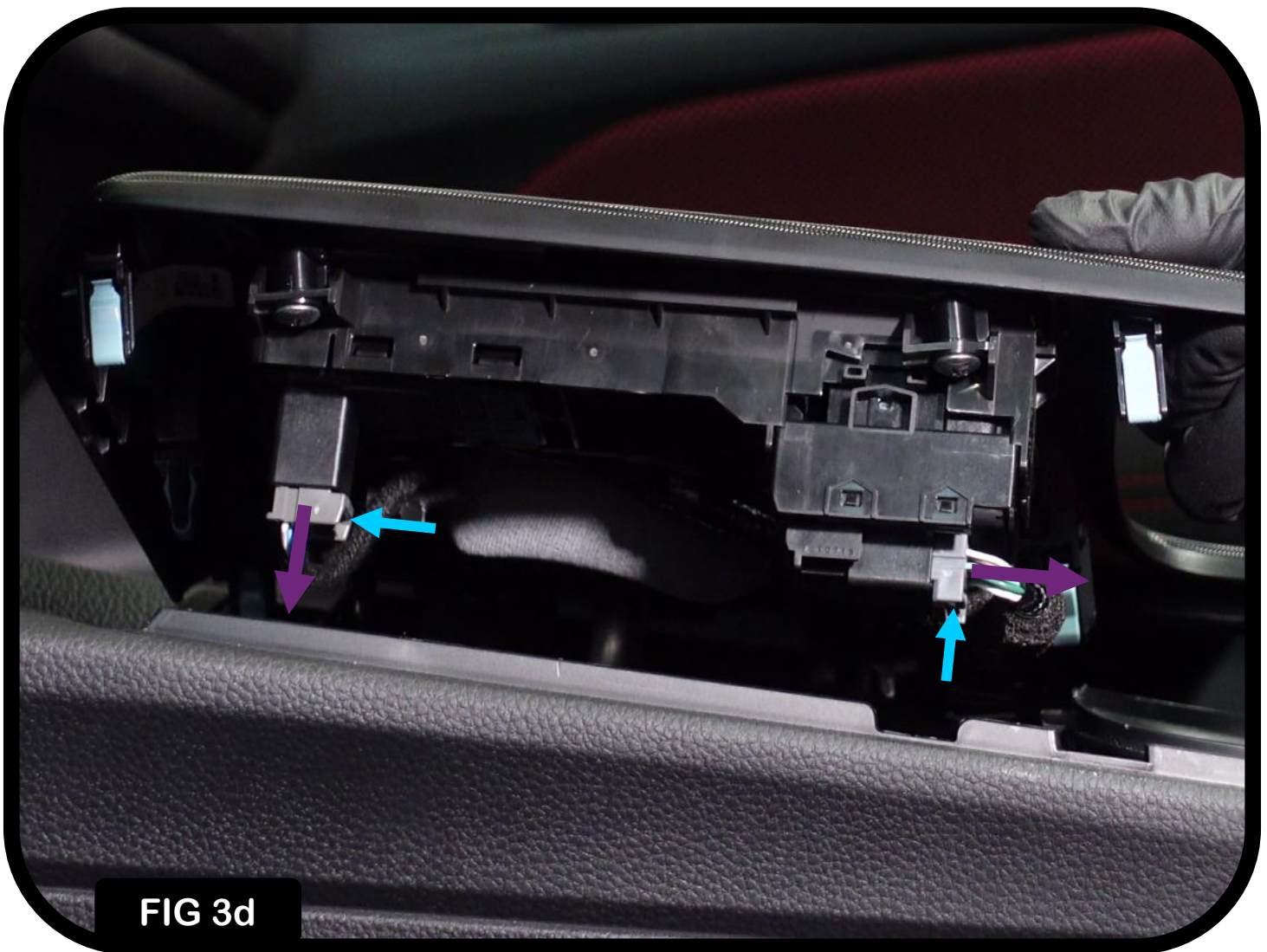
STEP 3 Cont. - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Continue prying up around the middle and top portions of the shifter surround trim to unfasten the remaining mounting clips from the top of the center console (Figure 3c).



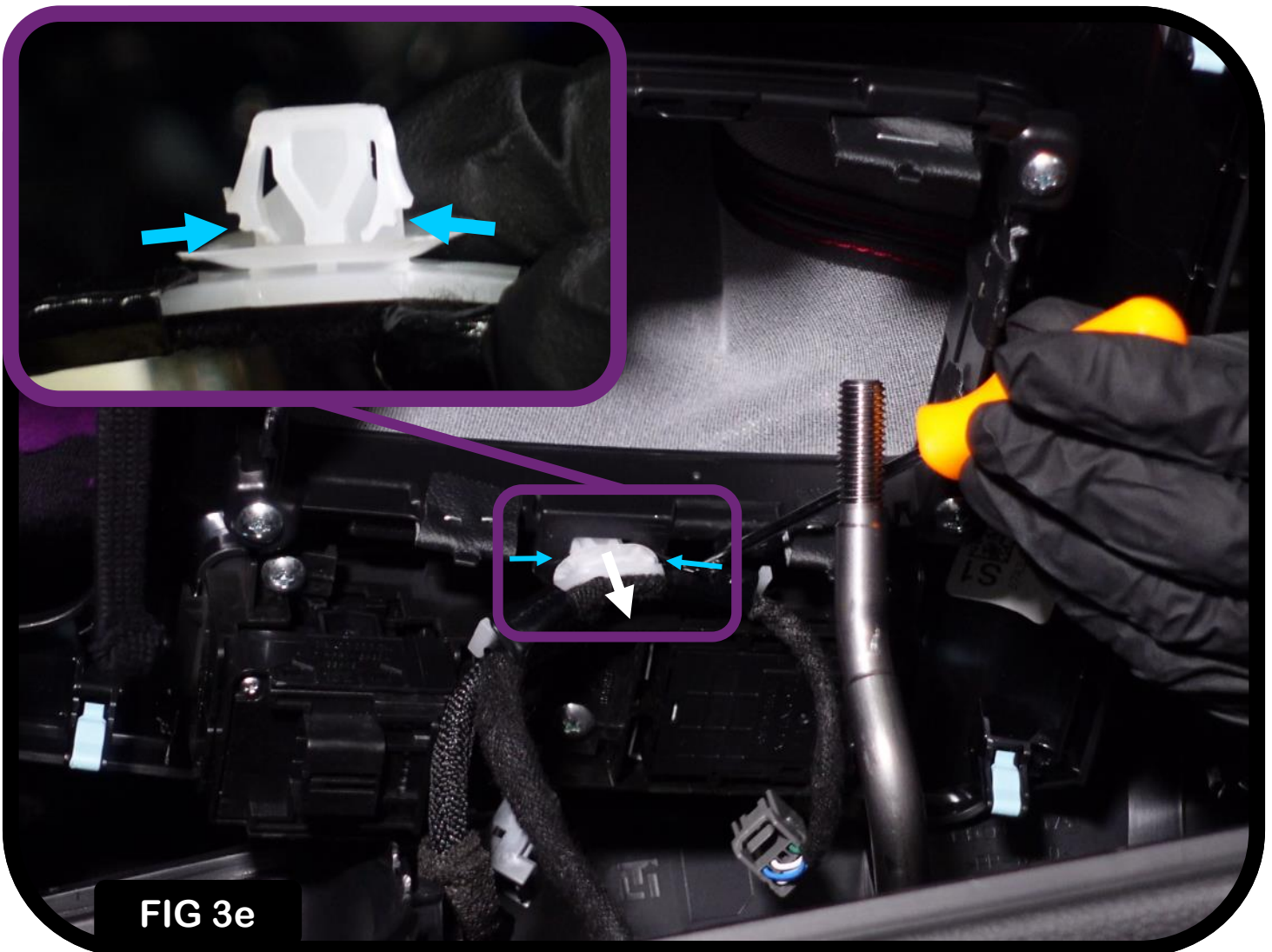
STEP 3 Cont. - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Lift up the shifter surround trim panel and identify the electrical connectors that supply power to the buttons on it. To remove each connector, depress the locking tab on the connector (blue arrows) and pull it out in the directions shown in Figure 3d (purple arrows).



STEP 3 Cont. - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Before you can remove the shifter surround panel, there is one white clip that fastens a wiring harness to the bottom of the panel. Use a pick tool or flathead screwdriver to depress each of the two locking tabs (blue arrows) on the clip to remove it as shown in Figure 3e.



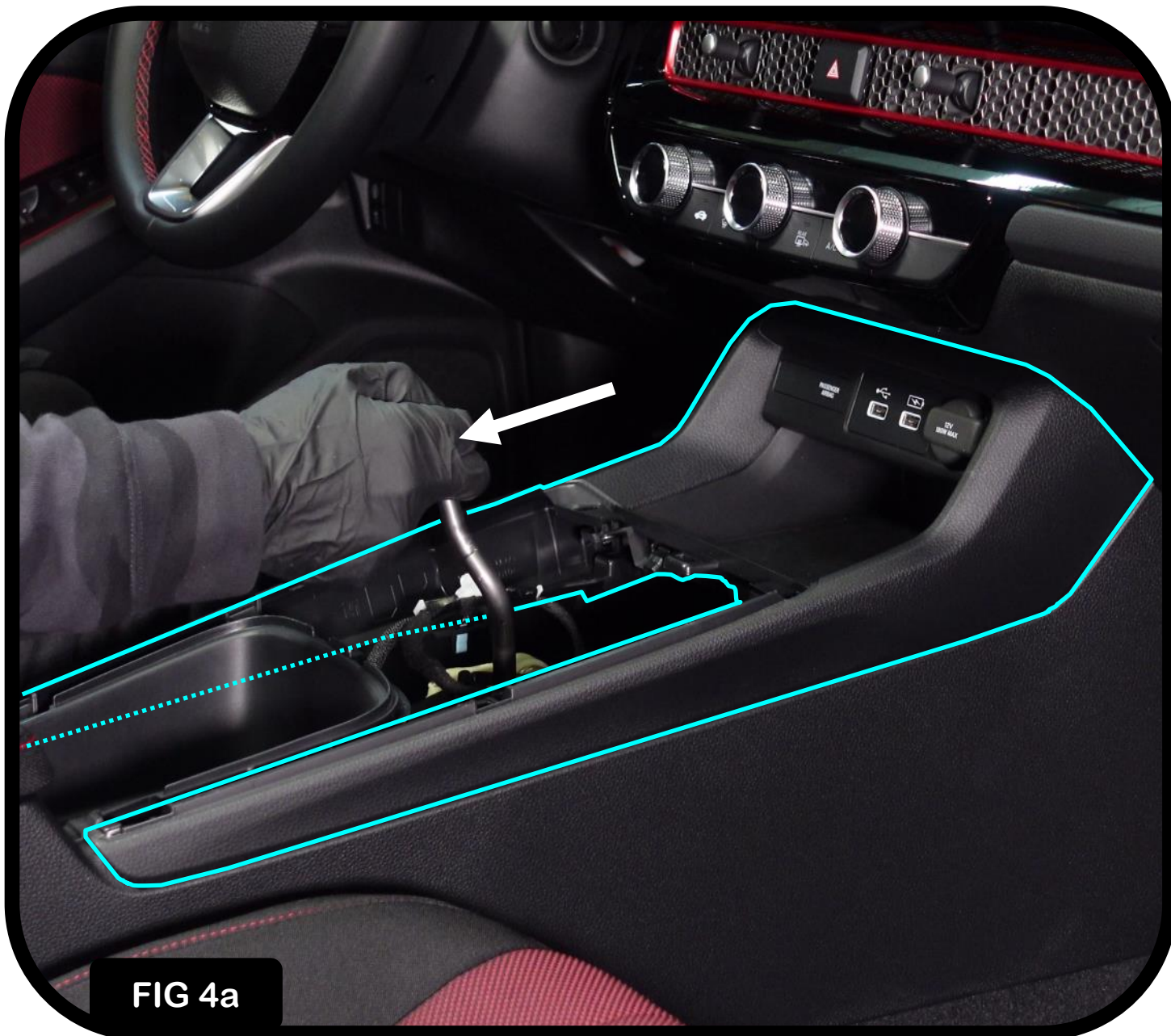
STEP 3 Cont. - Remove Shifter Surround Trim

Figure 3f shows what the entire bottom of the shifter surround panel looks like once it is unclipped from the center console and disconnected from its respective wiring harnesses.



STEP 4 - Remove Upper Console Panel

Shift the transmission into an even gear. Doing so will provide more clearance as you unclip the upper console panel from the center console on the following pages (outlined in blue in Figure 4a)



STEP 4 Cont. - Remove Upper Console Panel

Working your way from back to front, pry up on the upper console panel by hand as shown in Figure 4b.

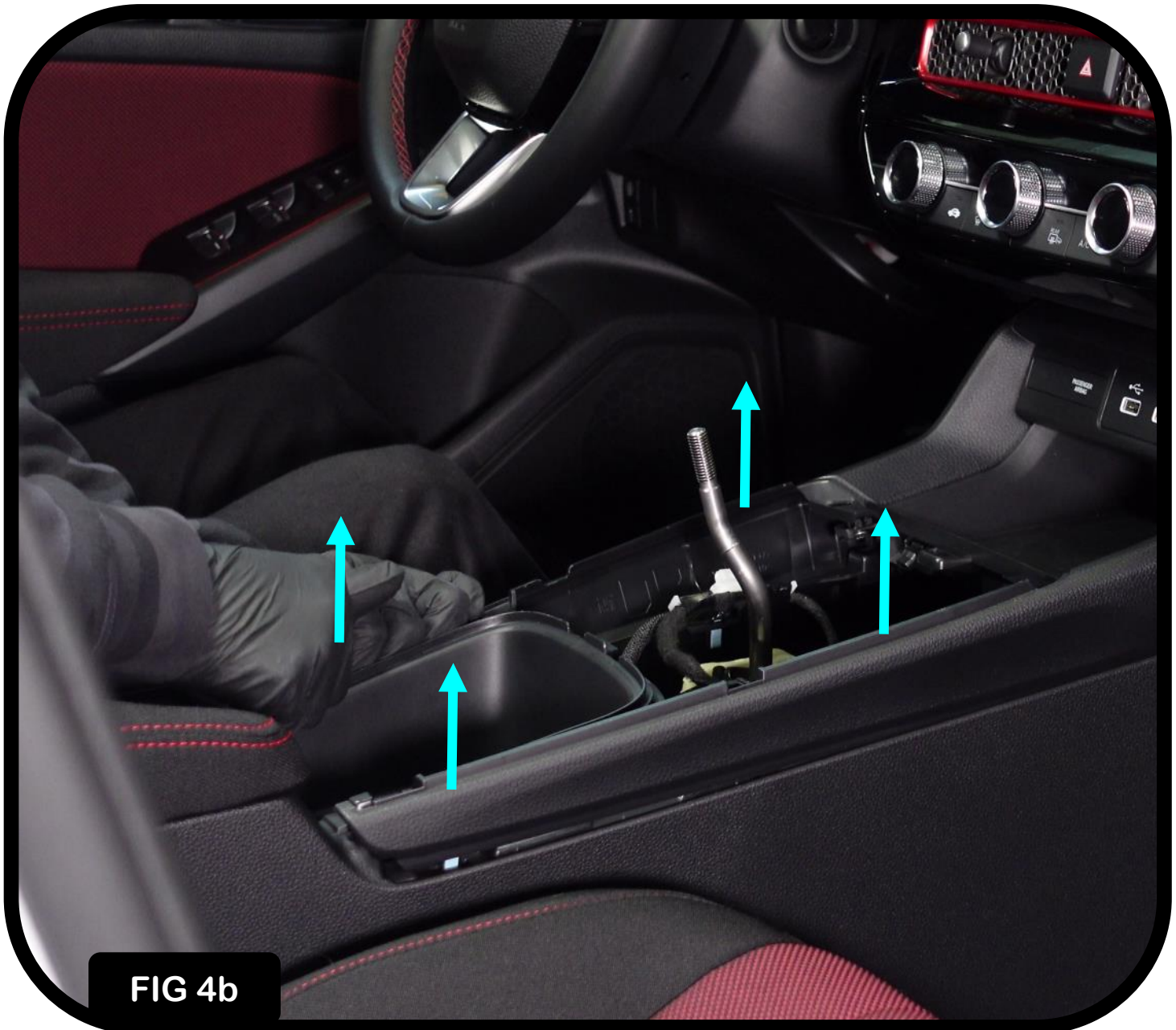
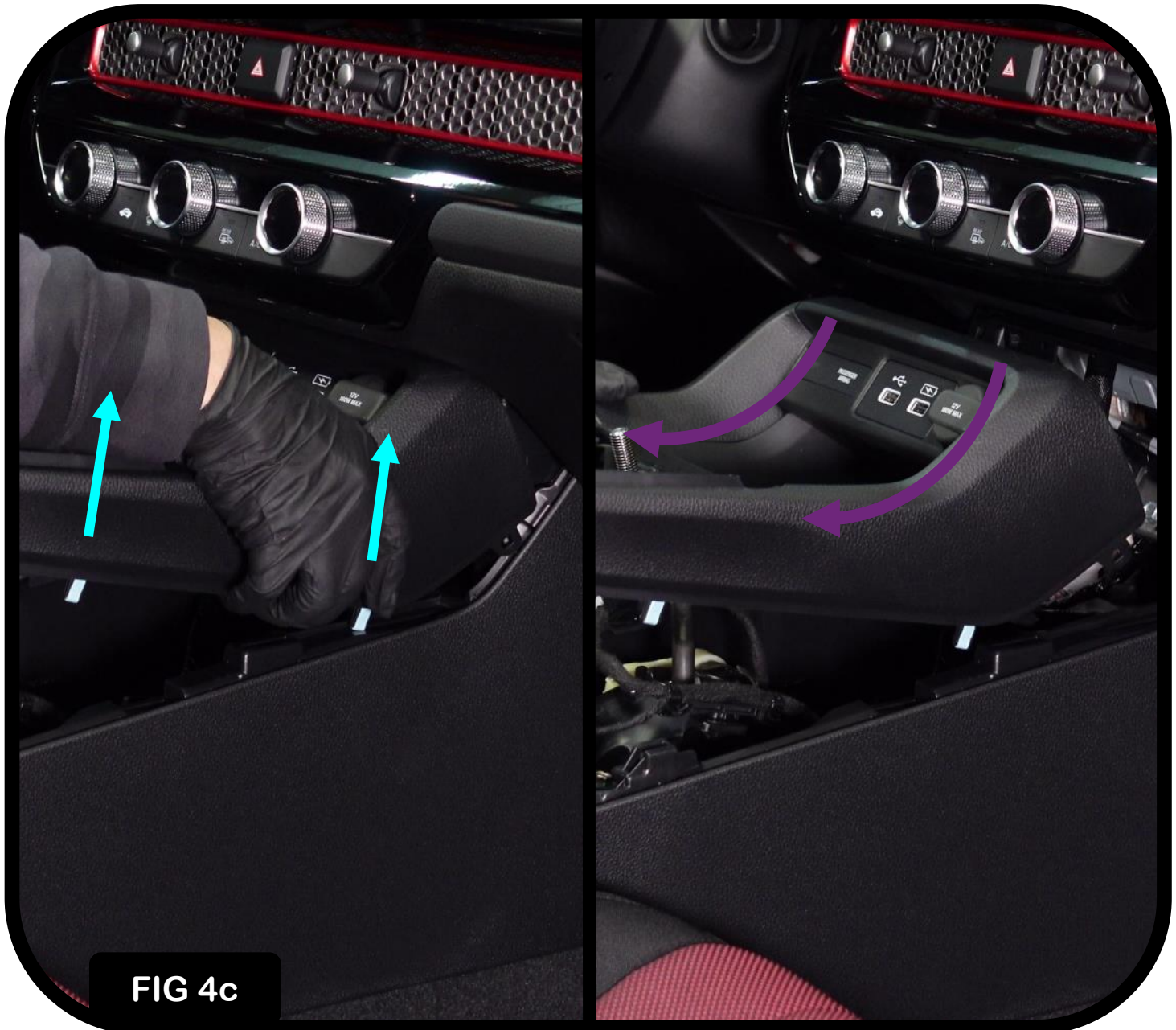


FIG 4b

STEP 4 Cont. - Remove Upper Console Panel

Continue prying up on the upper console panel until you reach the dashboard as shown in Figure 4c. Then pull the front portion of the panel out from under the climate control unit (purple arrows).



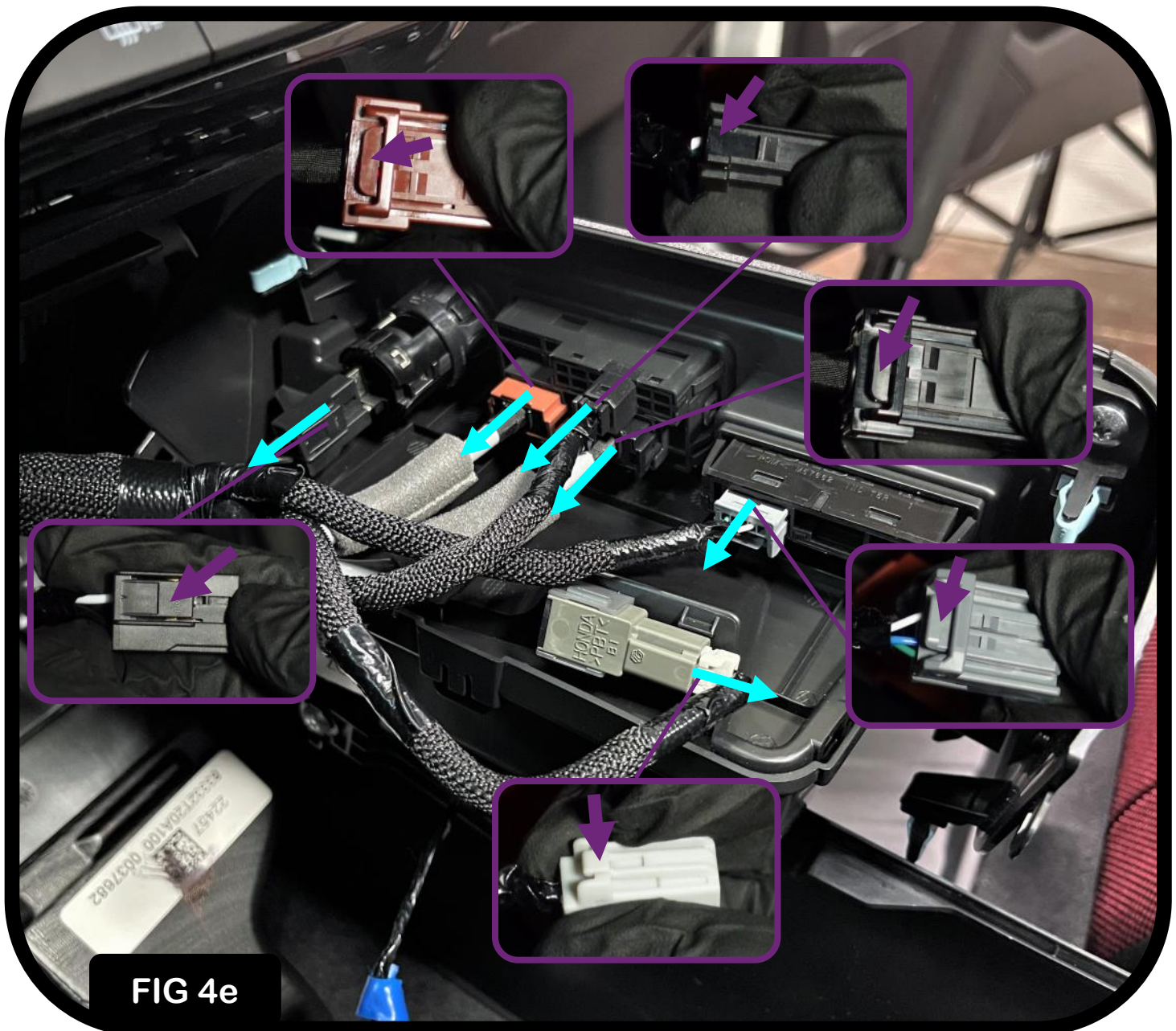
STEP 4 Cont. - Remove Upper Console Panel

Lift the upper console panel off the center console and turn it towards the right side of the vehicle to expose the wiring connectors as shown in Figure 4d.



STEP 4 Cont. - Remove Upper Console Panel

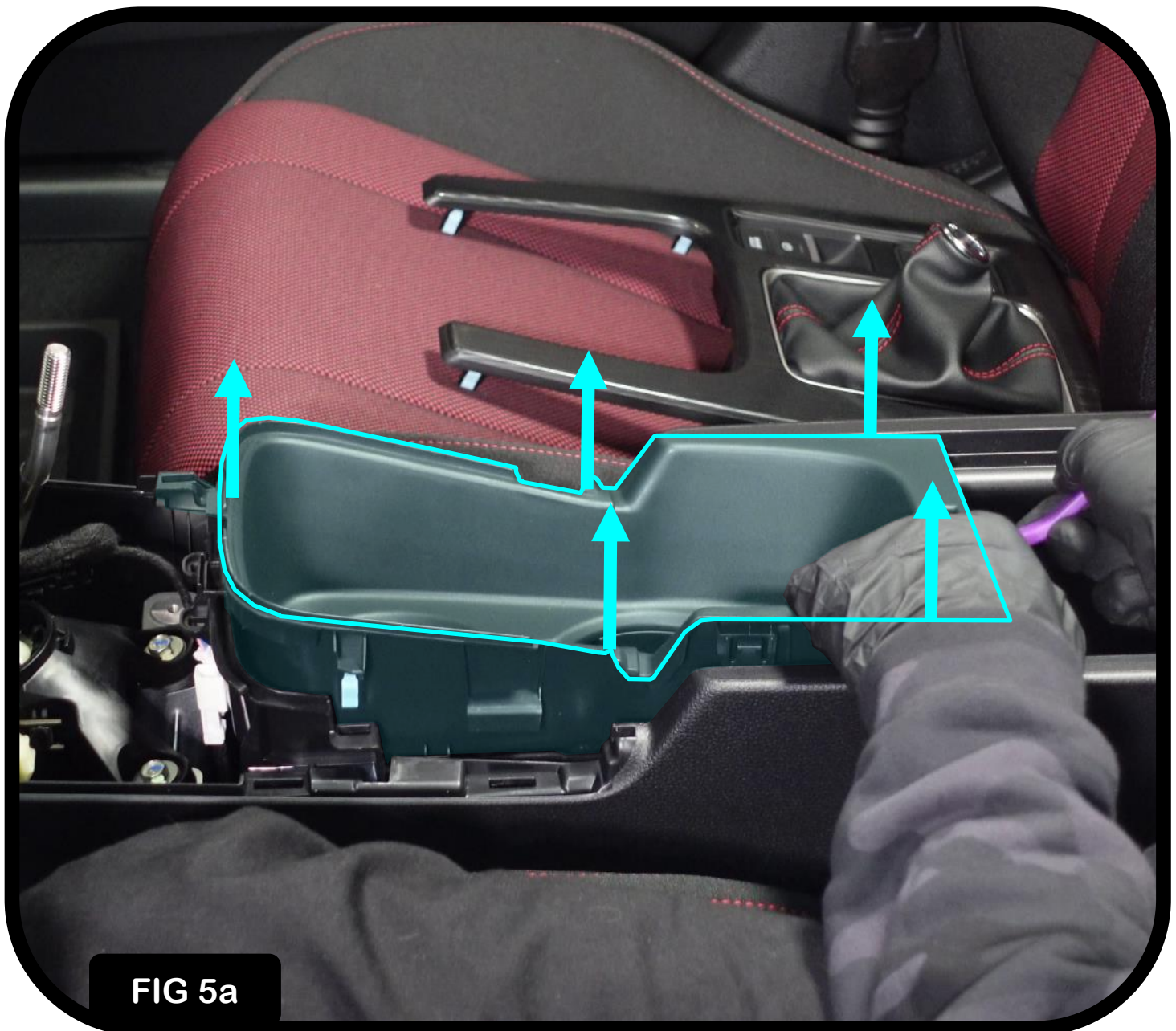
Each wiring connector can be removed by depressing it's locking tab (purple arrows) and pulling it out in the direction indicated by the blue arrows shown in Figure 4e. All connectors shown here are from a USDM 2022 Honda Civic Si, so there may be differences with your specific Civic trim level with the amount of wiring connectors and where they connect to on this panel.



STEP 5 - Remove Cup Holder Assembly

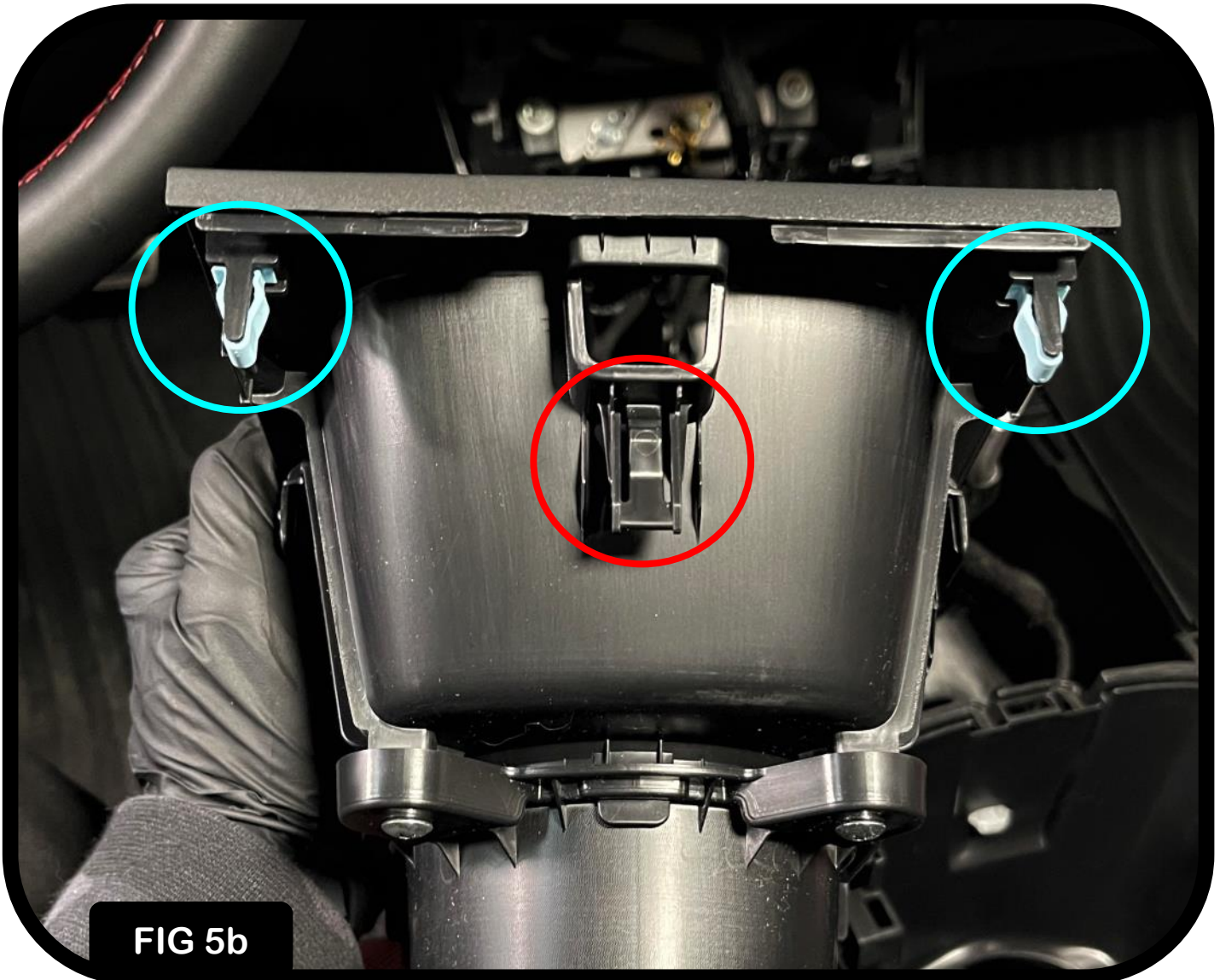
Firmly grab the cup holder assembly and pull up to separate it from the center console (Figure 5a). If the cup holder is stubborn to remove, carefully pry around the cup holder to unclip it from the center console (see the next 3 pages for the location of all the mounting clips for this cup holder panel).

Note: As you pry each clip out from the console, it is important to keep the entire assembly as parallel to the console as possible to avoid damaging the mounting clips.



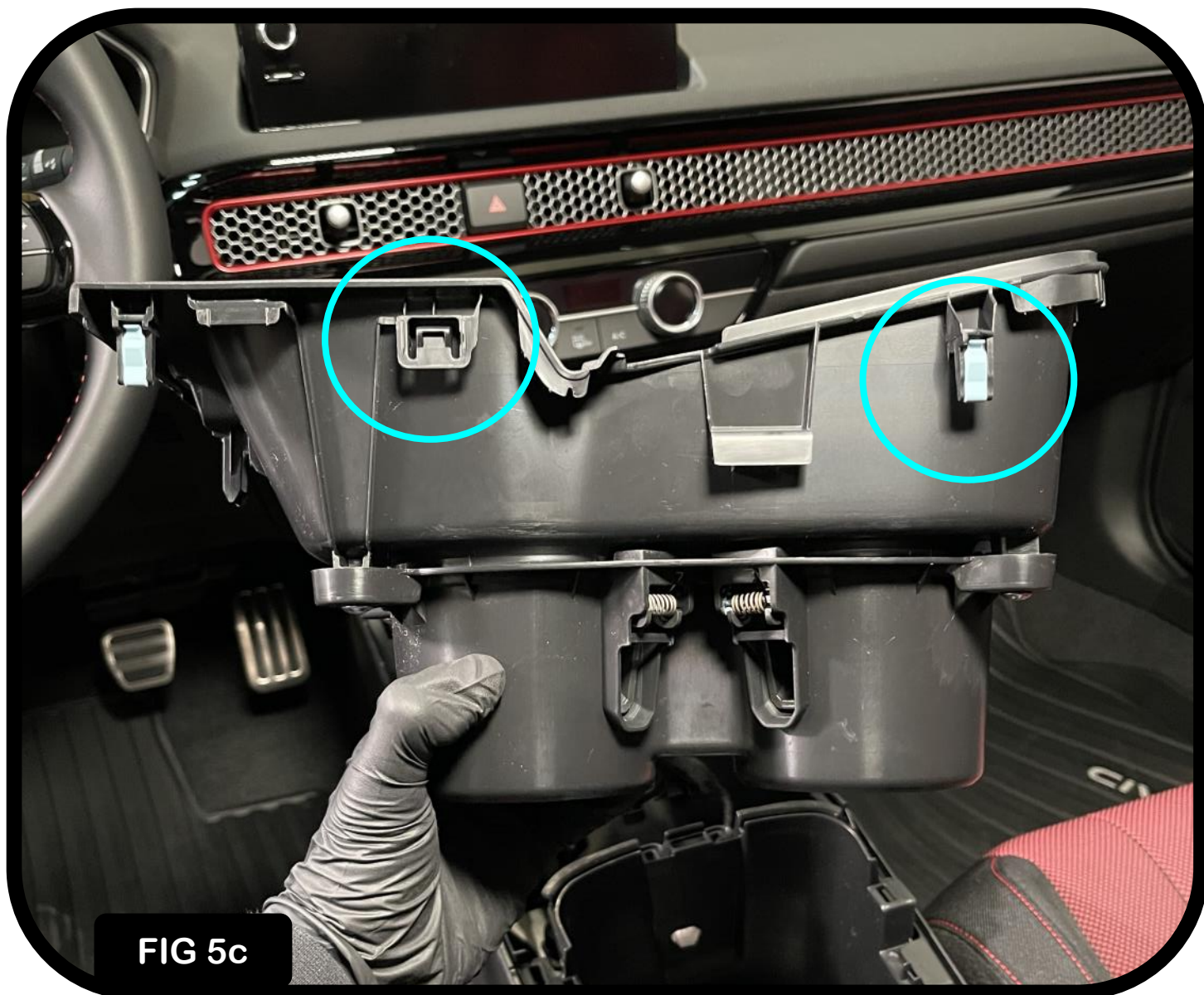
STEP 5 Cont. - Remove Cup Holder Assembly

Figure 5b shows the mounting clips that can be found on the back of the cup holder assembly. We found that the clip circled in red to be the most fragile out of all the clips on this assembly, so take care when prying around this clip to avoid damaging/breaking it. If this clip does happen to become damaged, we found that the other two clips circled in blue still have enough clamping force to keep the cup holder mounted securely on the center console when installed back onto the center console.



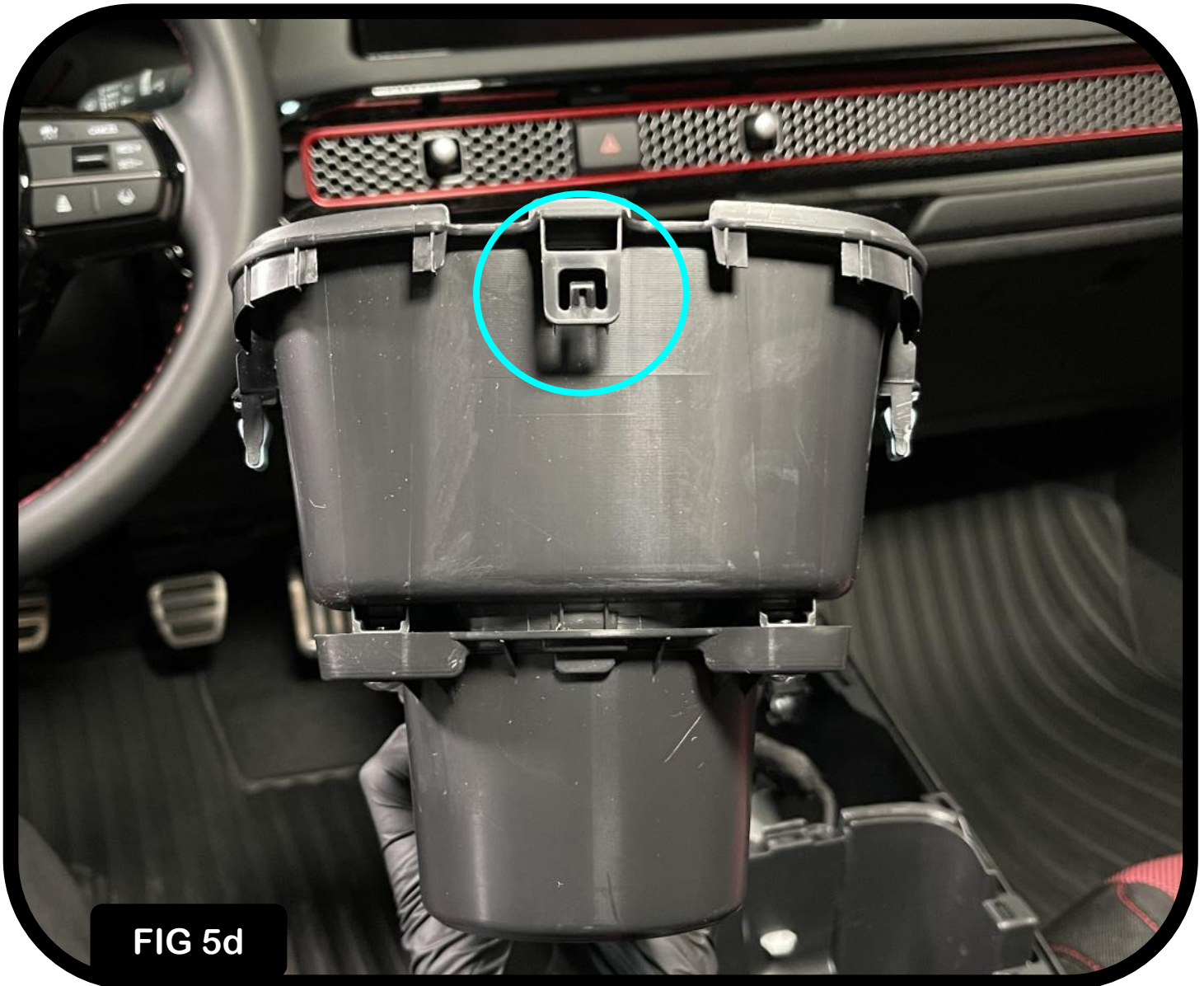
STEP 5 Cont. - Remove Cup Holder Assembly

Figure 5c shows the 2 mounting clips that can be found on each side of the cup holder assembly.



STEP 5 Cont. - Remove Cup Holder Assembly

Figure 5d shows the mounting clip that can be found on the front of the cup holder assembly.



STEP 6 - Unplug Console Wiring Connectors

Inside the center console, locate the wiring connector that powers one of the proximity sensors for your car keys. Depress the locking tab on this connector (blue arrow) and pull it off from the sensor as shown in Figure 6a.

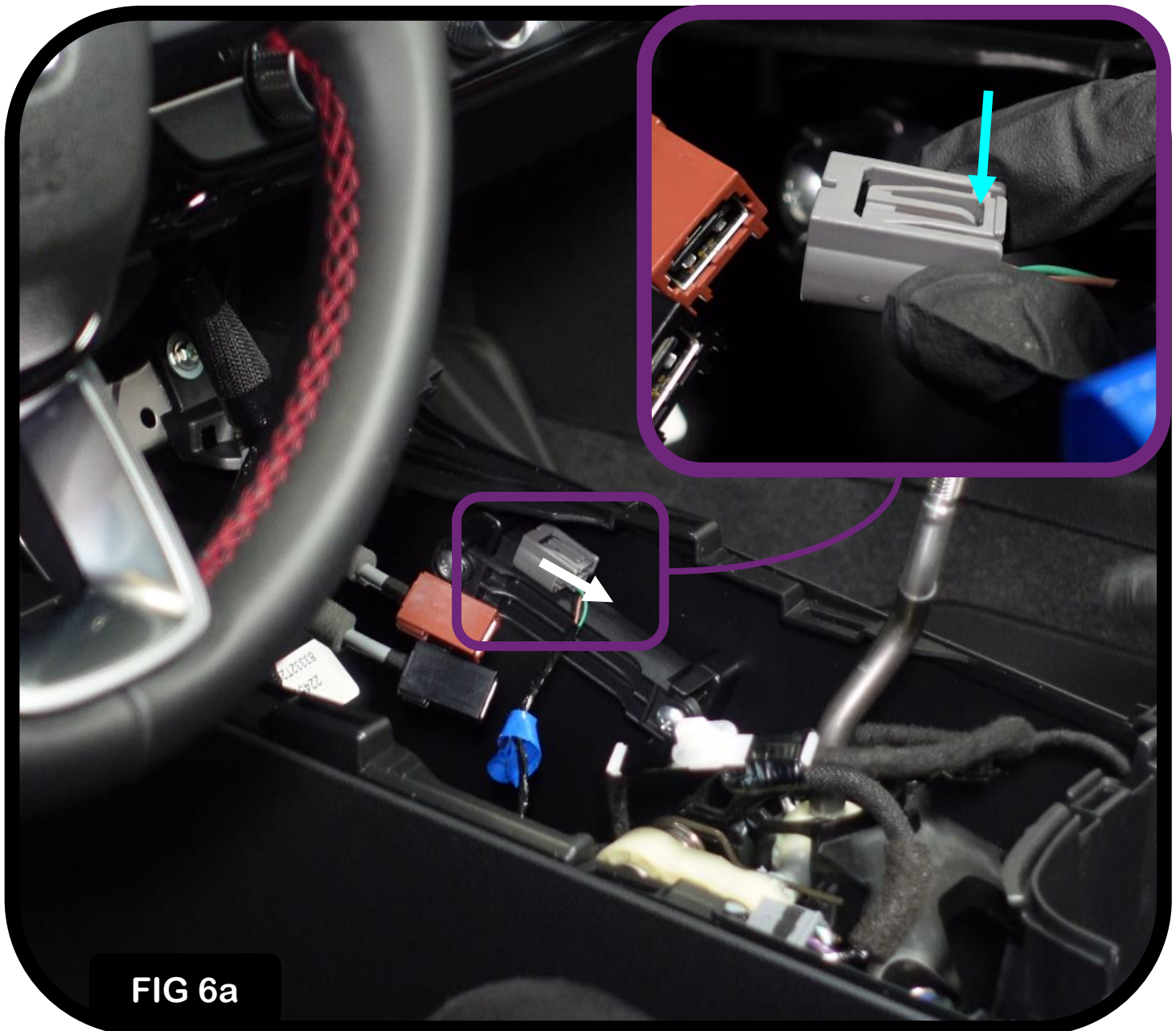


FIG 6a

STEP 6 Cont. - Unplug Console Wiring Connectors

Unplug one more electrical connector just behind the shifter assembly as shown in Figure 6b. Just like all previous wiring connectors, you'll need to first depress the locking tab before it can be pulled out.



FIG 6b

STEP 7 - Remove Center Console

Lift up the arm rest on the center console, and remove the rubber tray mat as shown in Figure 7a.

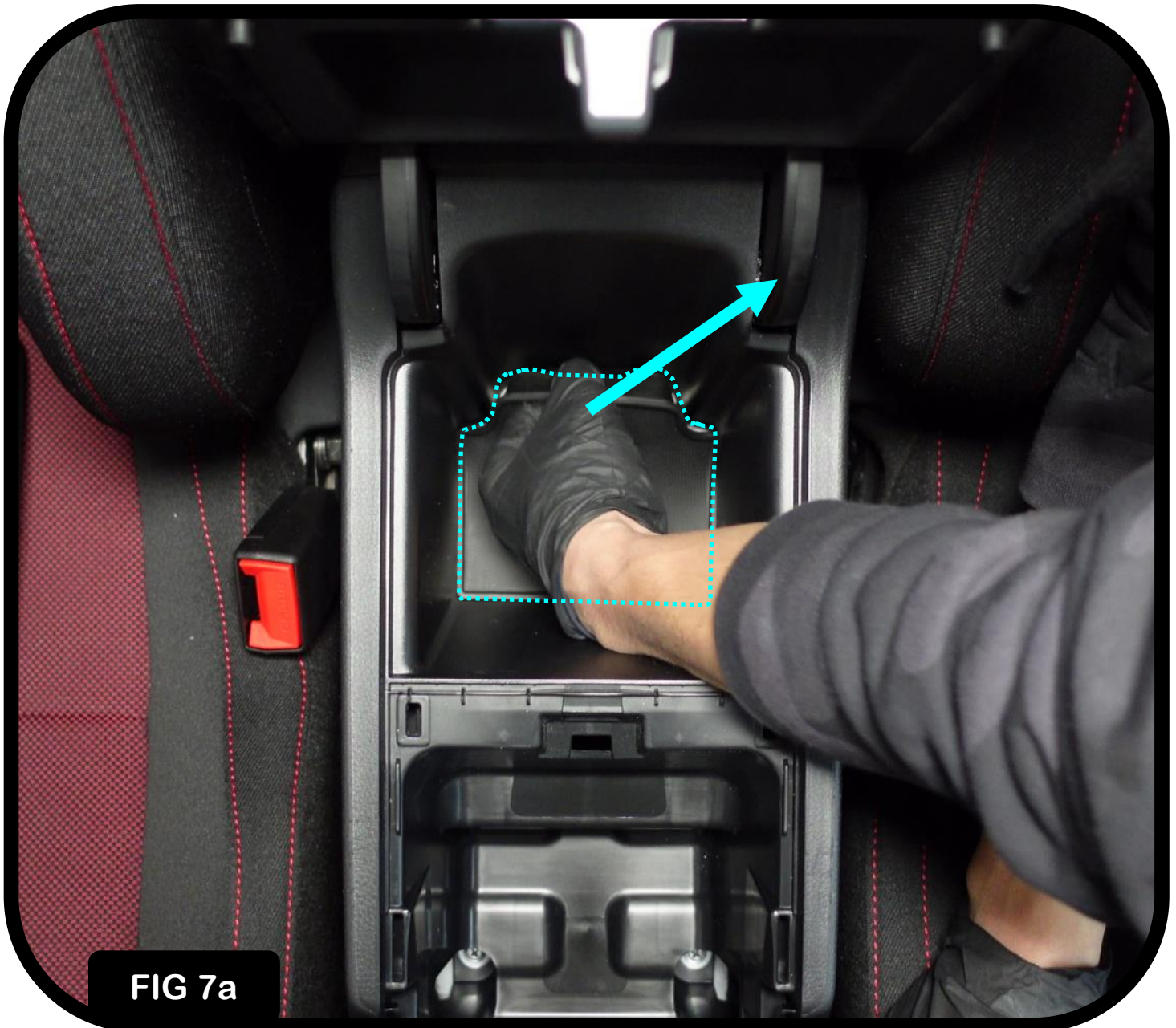
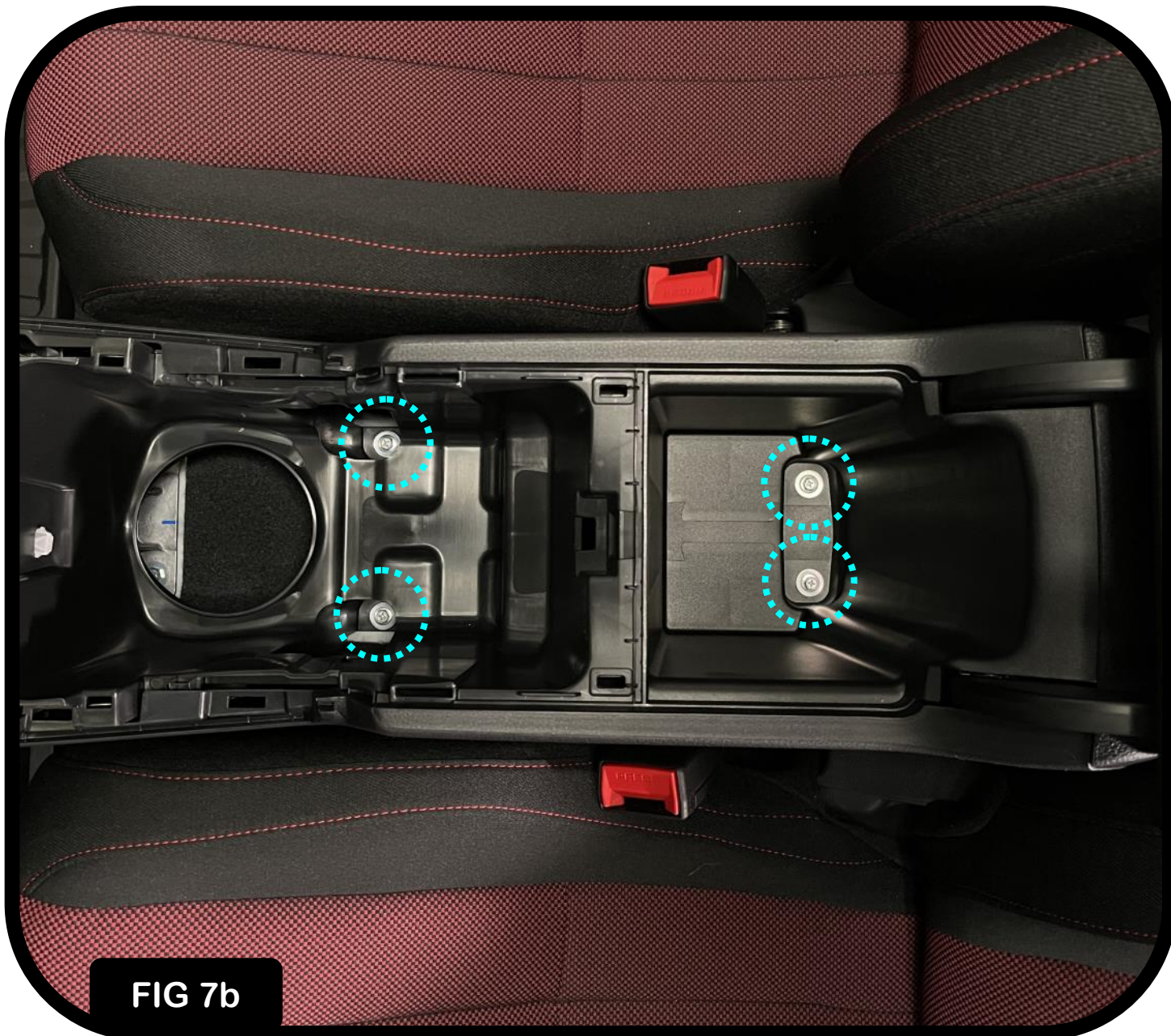


FIG 7a

STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

The center console is affixed to the center tunnel of the car with 6 mounting screws. 4 of the screws can be seen here in Figure 7b (circled in blue), and the remaining 2 screws will be identified on the next page.



STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Figure 7c shows the location of the front 2 mounting screws that affix the front section of the center console underneath the dashboard of the vehicle.

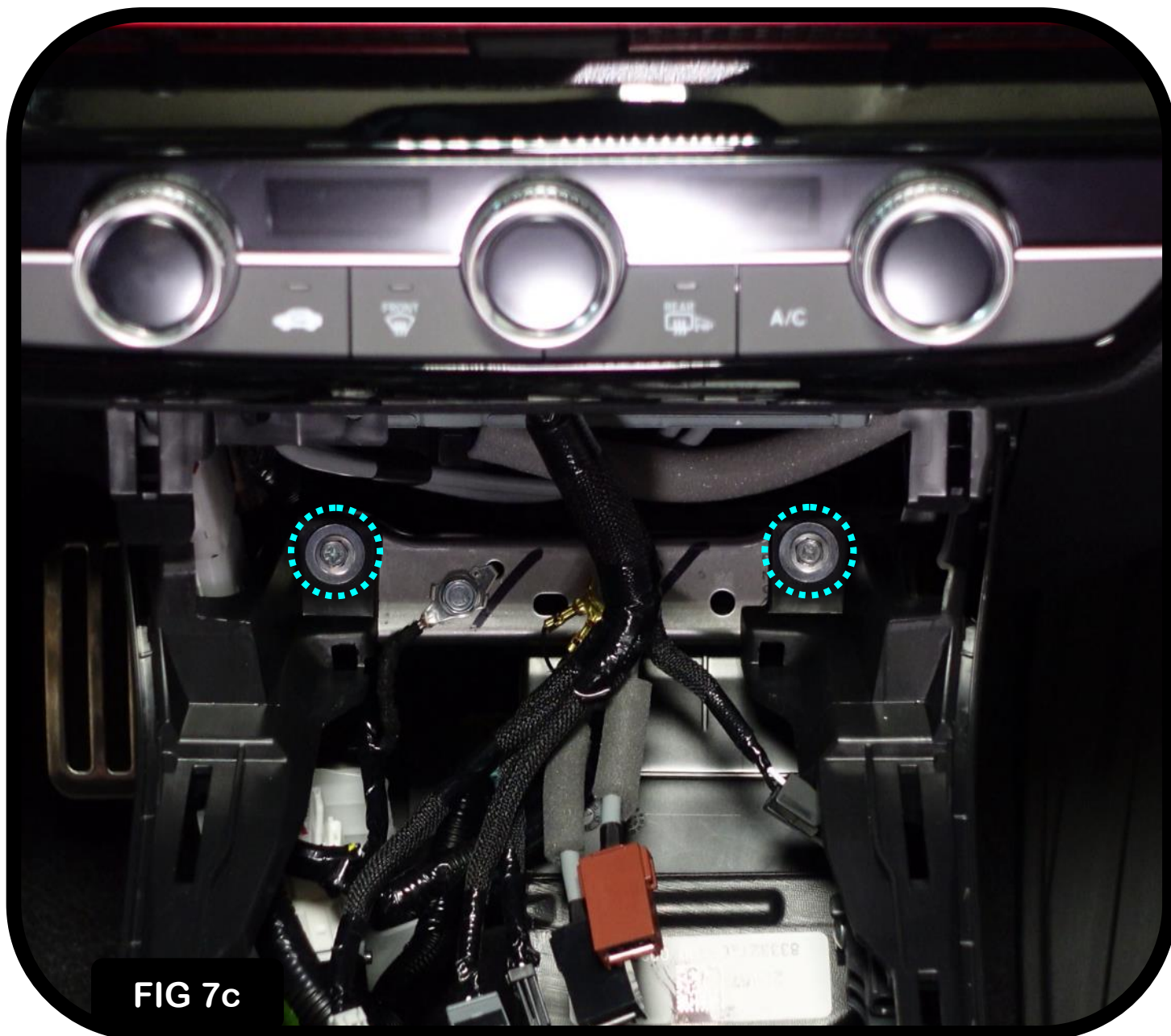
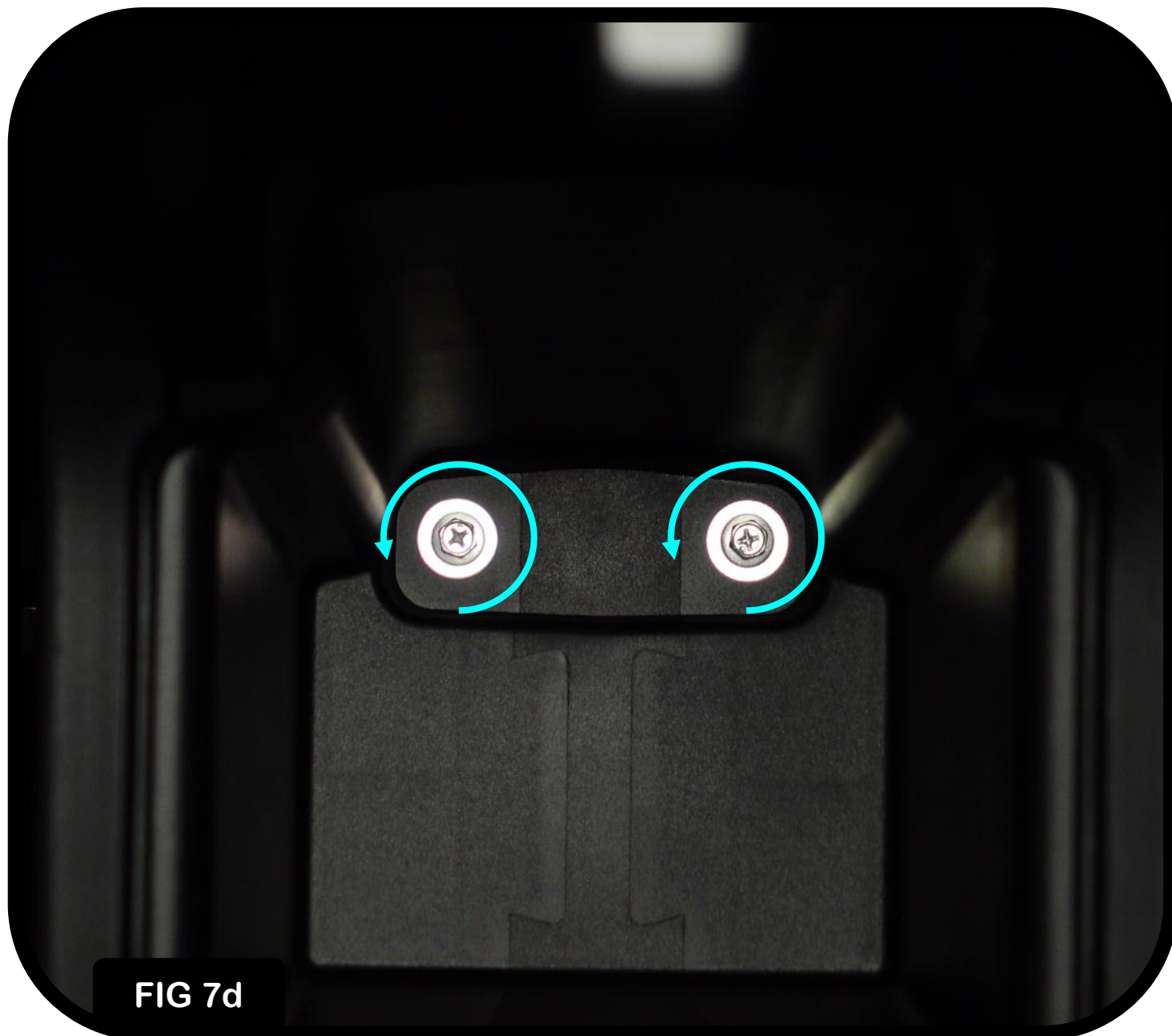


FIG 7c

STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Use a #2 Phillips screwdriver to remove the 2 mounting screws in the rear storage compartment of the center console as shown in Figure 7d. Alternatively, an 8mm socket, extension, and ratchet can be used as well.



STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Use a #2 Phillips screwdriver to remove the 2 mounting screws from the center of the center console as shown in Figure 7e. Alternatively, an 8mm socket, extension, and ratchet can be used as well. Upon removal, we recommend using a magnet to pull these screws out from center console to avoid dropping them under the surrounding carpeting and seats.

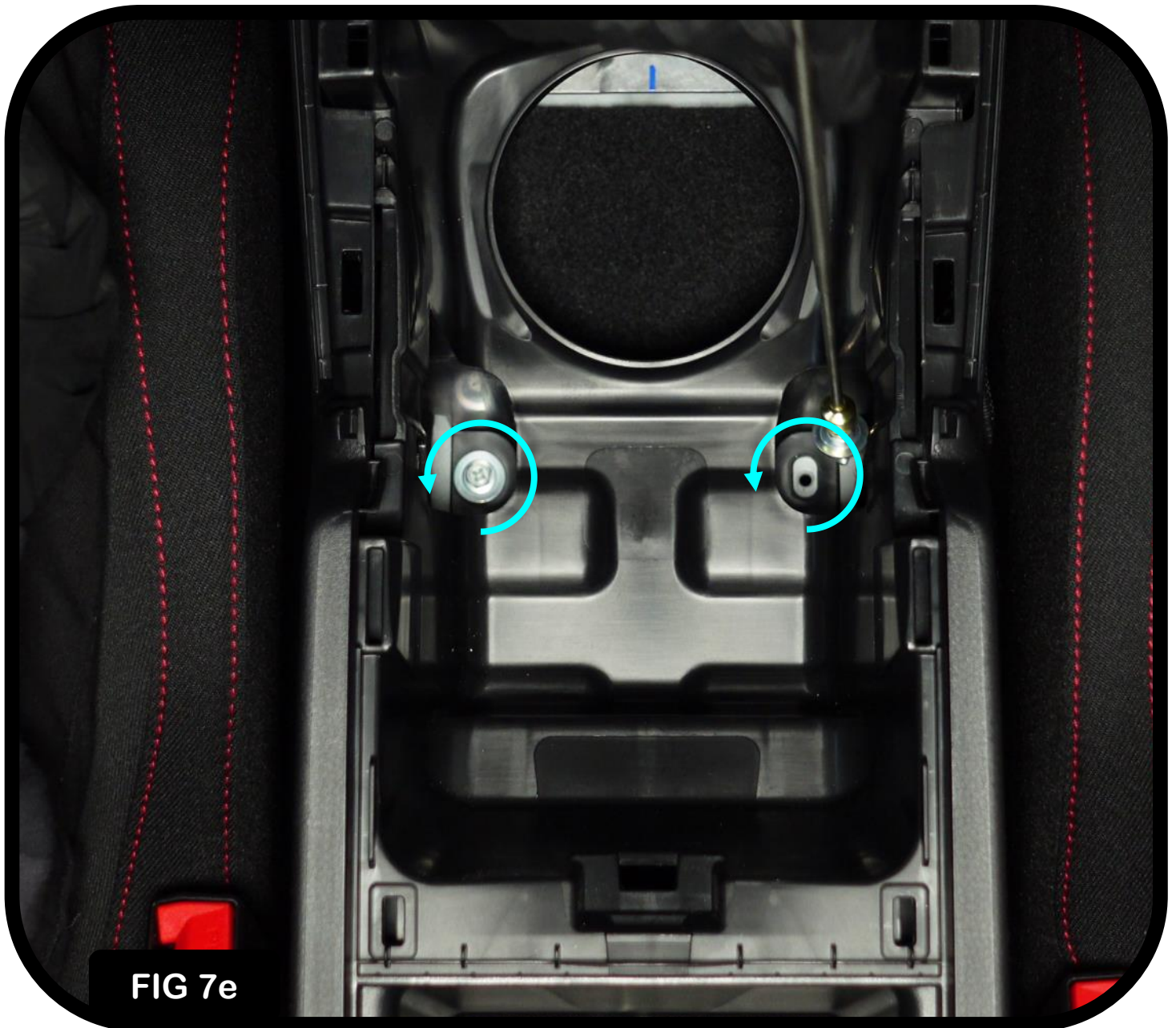
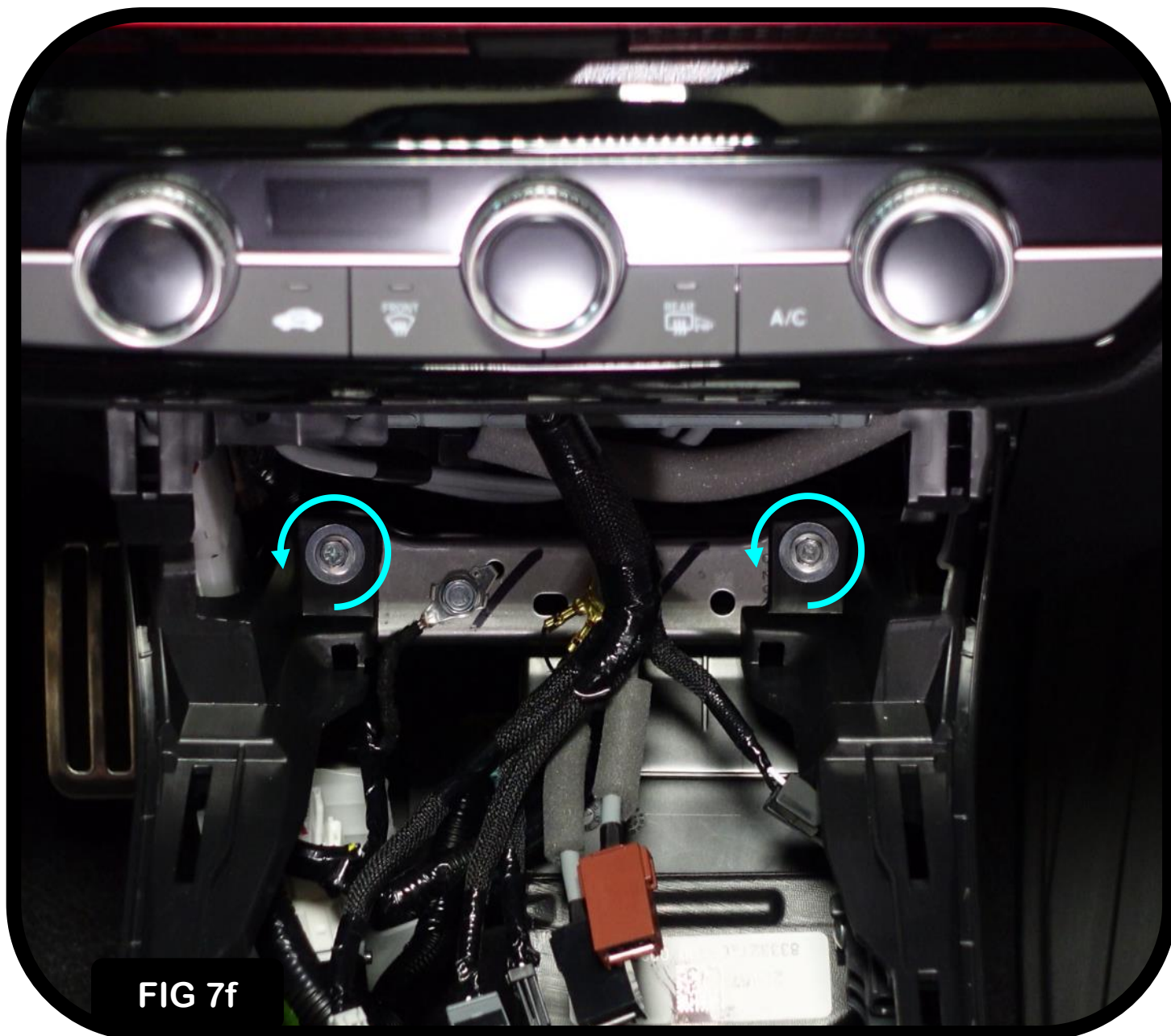


FIG 7e

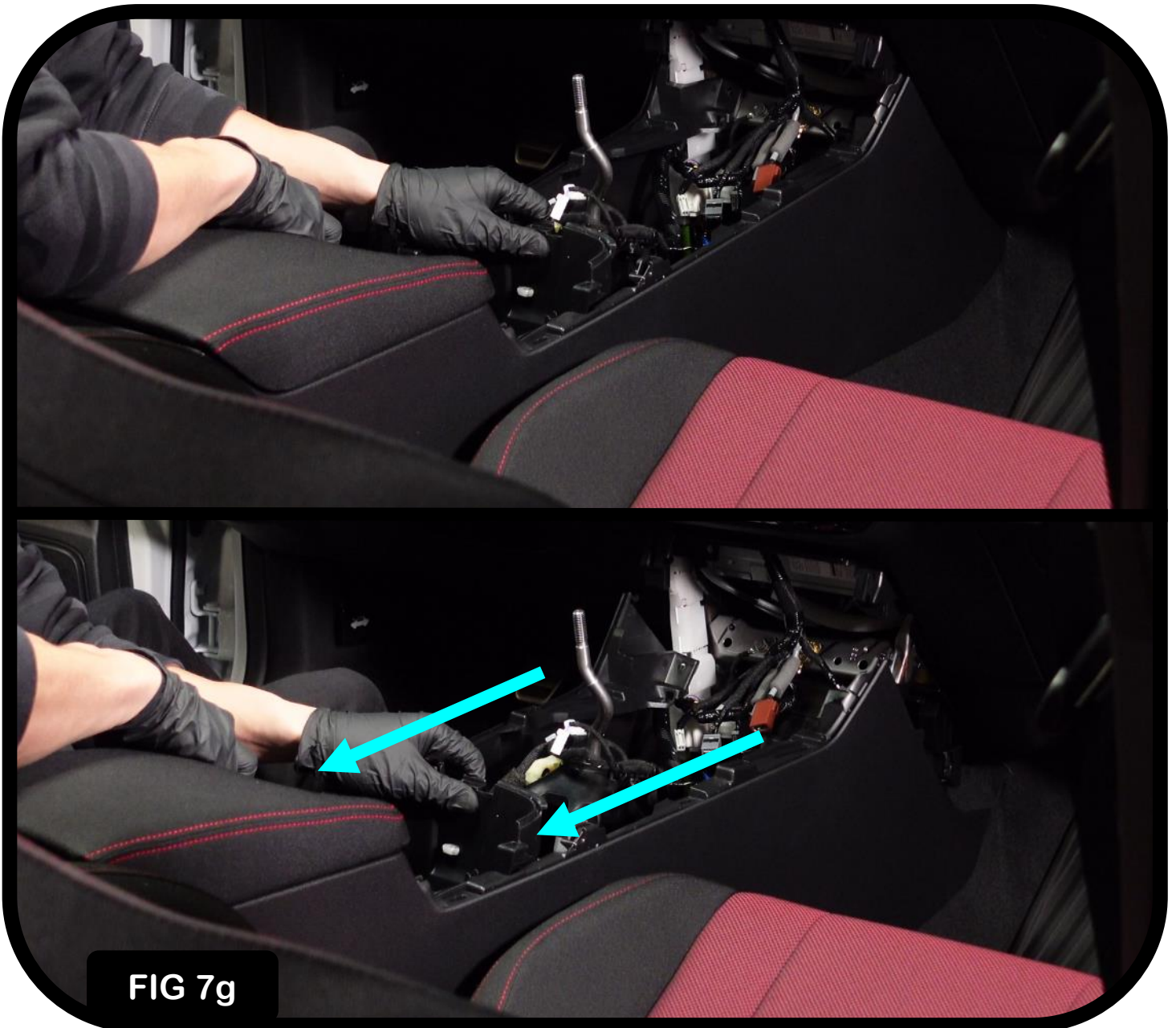
STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Use a #2 Phillips screwdriver to remove the last 2 mounting screws at the front of the center console (Figure 7f). Alternatively, an 8mm socket and ratchet can be used here as well.



STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Firmly grab onto the center console as shown in Figure 7g, and pull it back to unclip it from dashboard. Then carefully lift up the center console off from the center tunnel and set it aside.



STEP 7 Cont. - Remove Center Console

Figure 7h shows what the shifter looks like with the center console removed. Circled in blue is the location of the 4 mounting screws that we will be removing in the next few steps.



STEP 8 - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

First, the gate selector cable must be removed from the shifter to gain access to one of the front mounting screws (Figure 8a). This cable has an rod end that is clipped into the rocker of the shifter (circled in blue), and the cable base is affixed to the shifter body (circled in white).

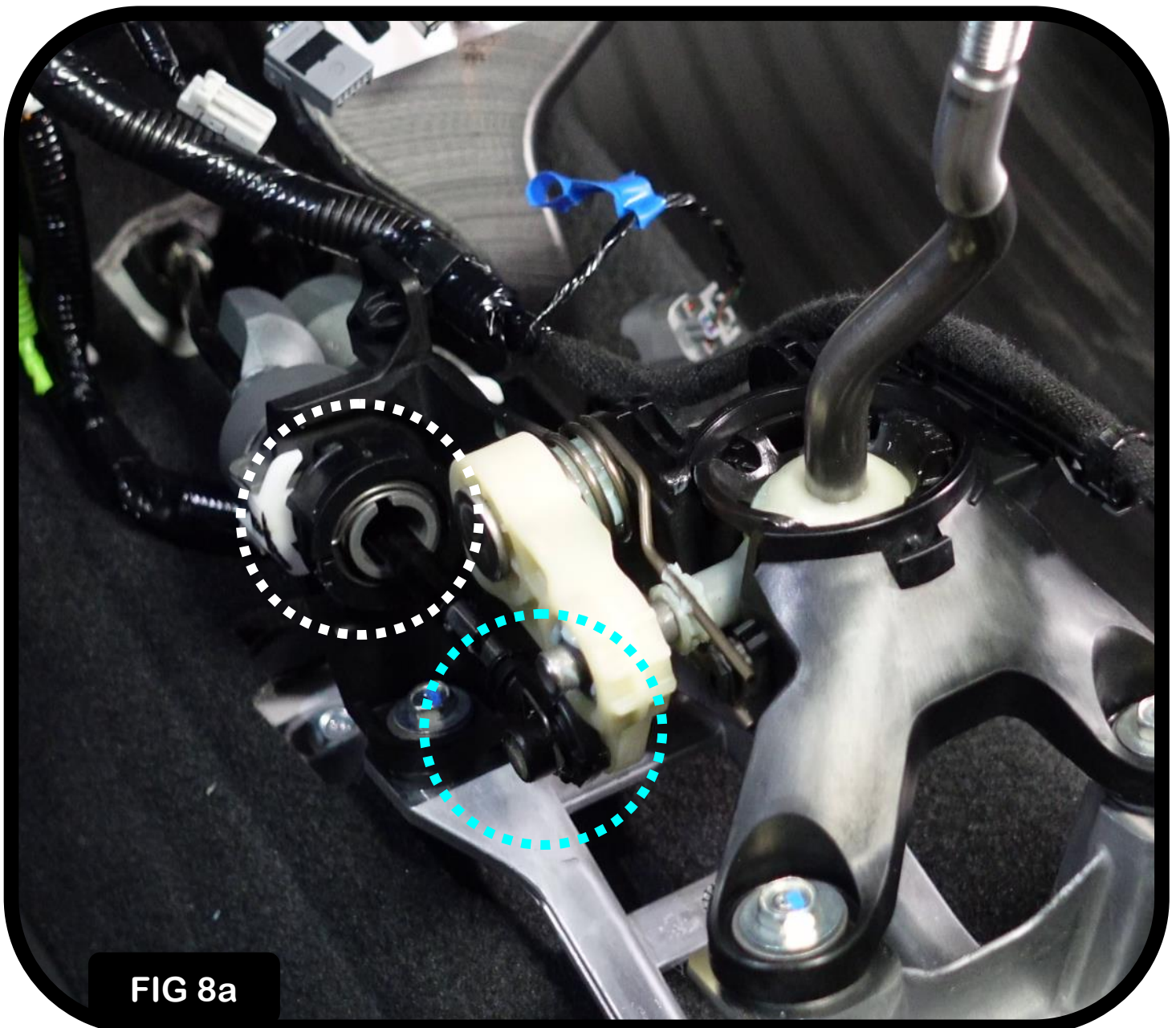
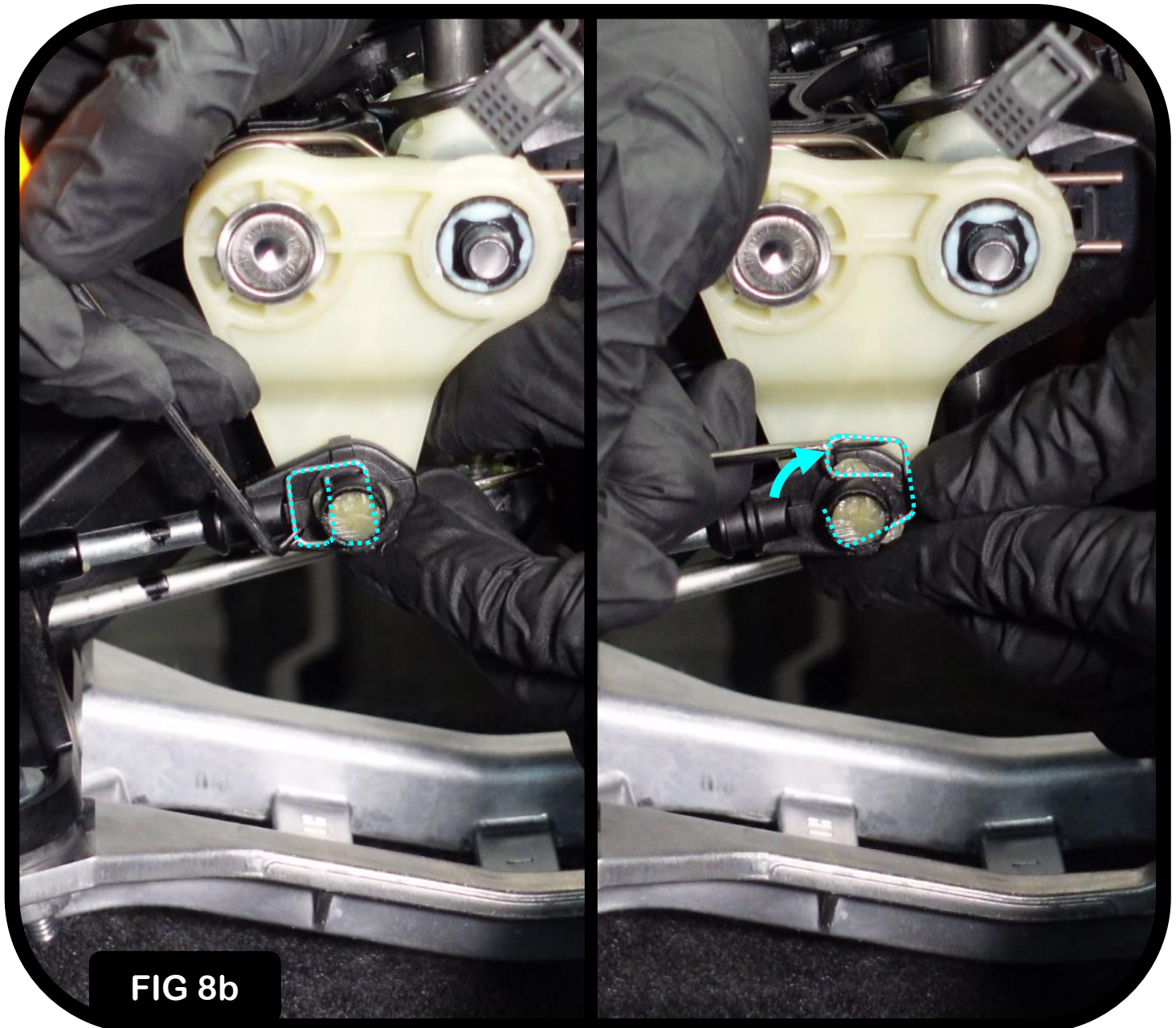


FIG 8a

STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

The gate cable rod end is affixed to the shifter rocker with a metal retainer clip (Figure 8b). Use a pick tool or flathead screwdriver to turn the metal retaining clip 90° clockwise as shown. You can also remove this clip entirely, but be careful not to lose it.

Note: If you happen to misplace this retainer clip, the part number for it is 54321-TBA-A01



STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Pull the gate cable rod end off from the rocker pin as shown in Figure 8c. Then move/install the retainer clip back into it's original position on the cable rod end.

***Note:** Upon reassembly, you should be able to push this rod end back onto the rocker pin without manipulating the retaining clip.*

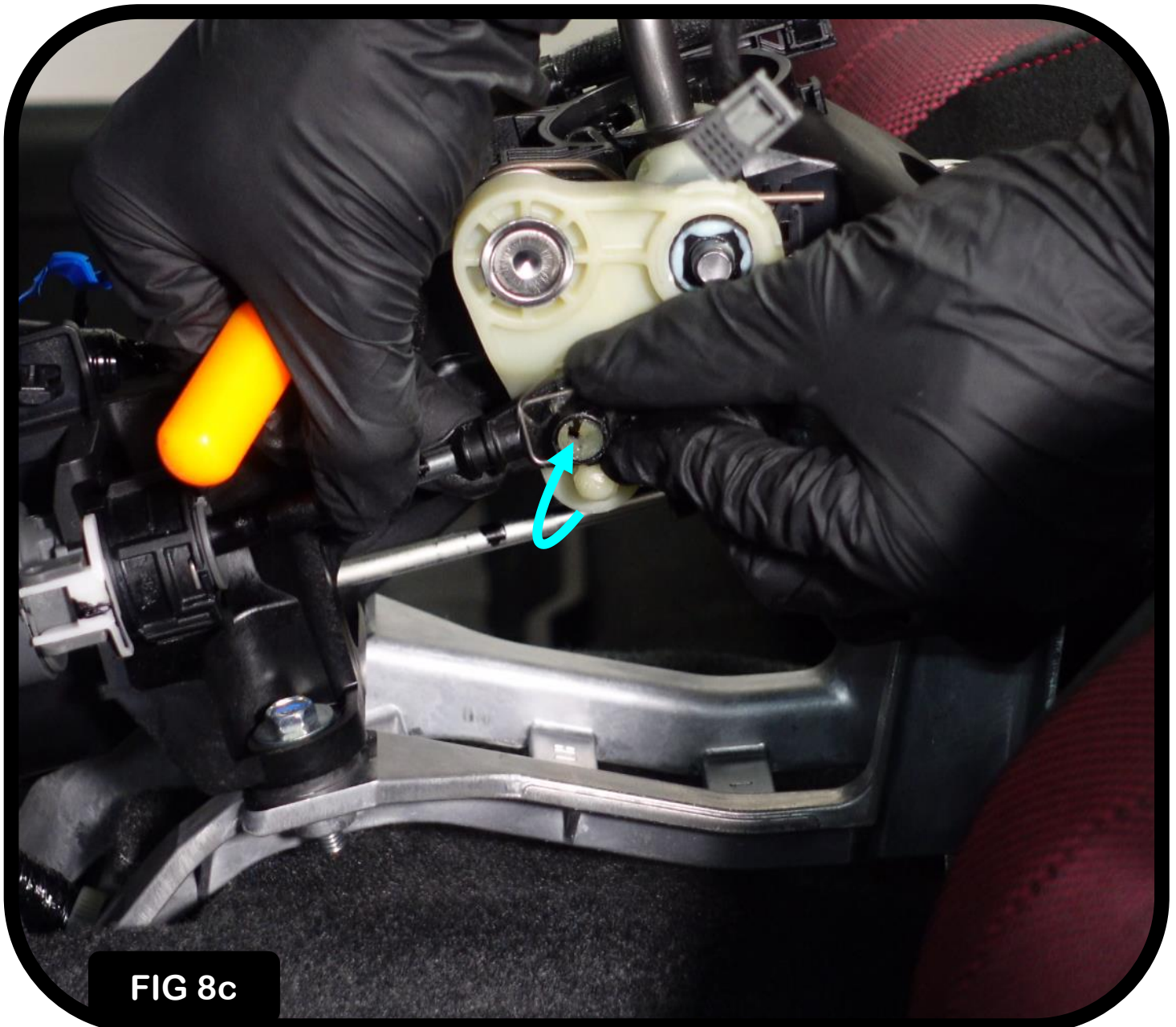
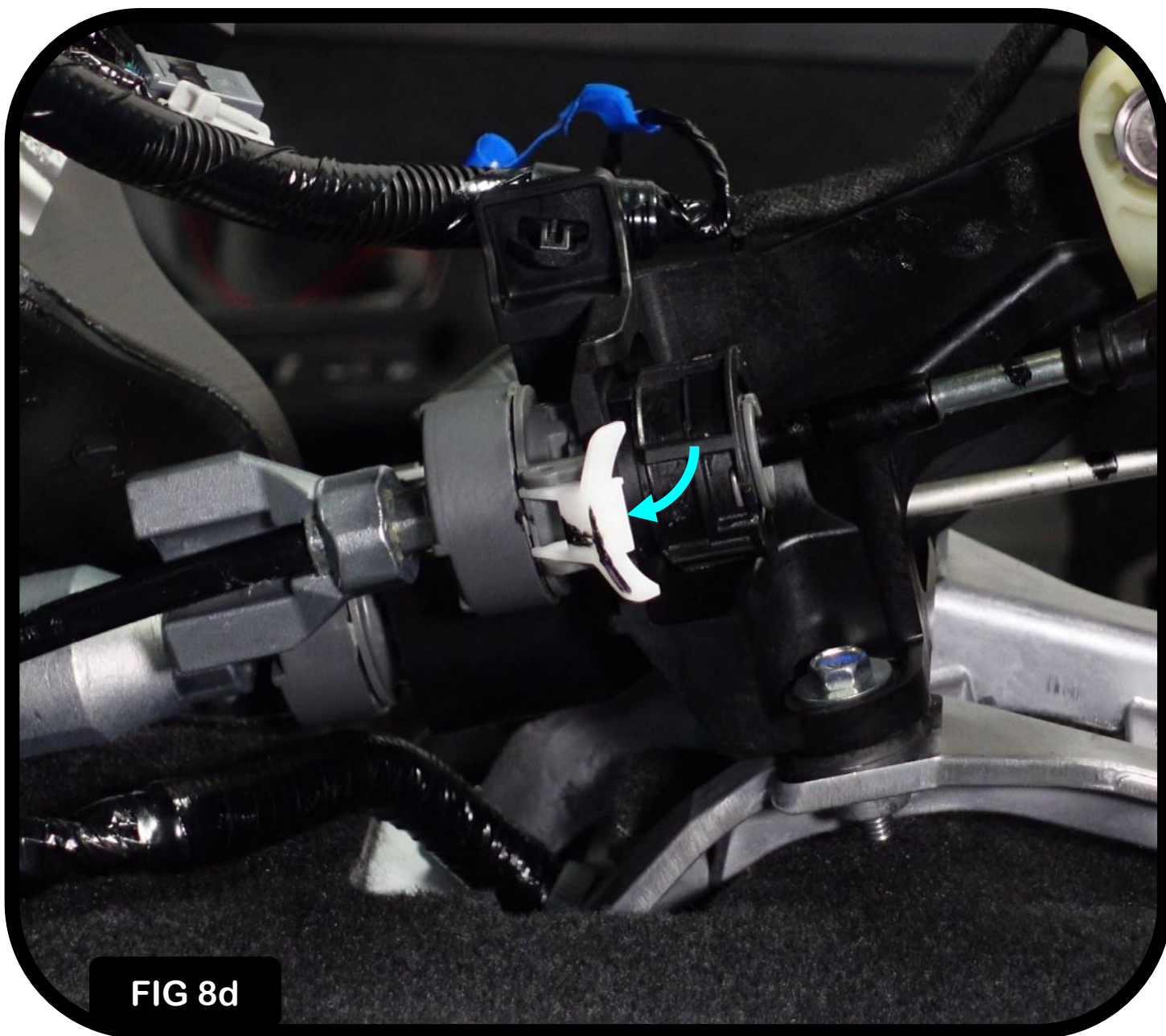


FIG 8c

STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

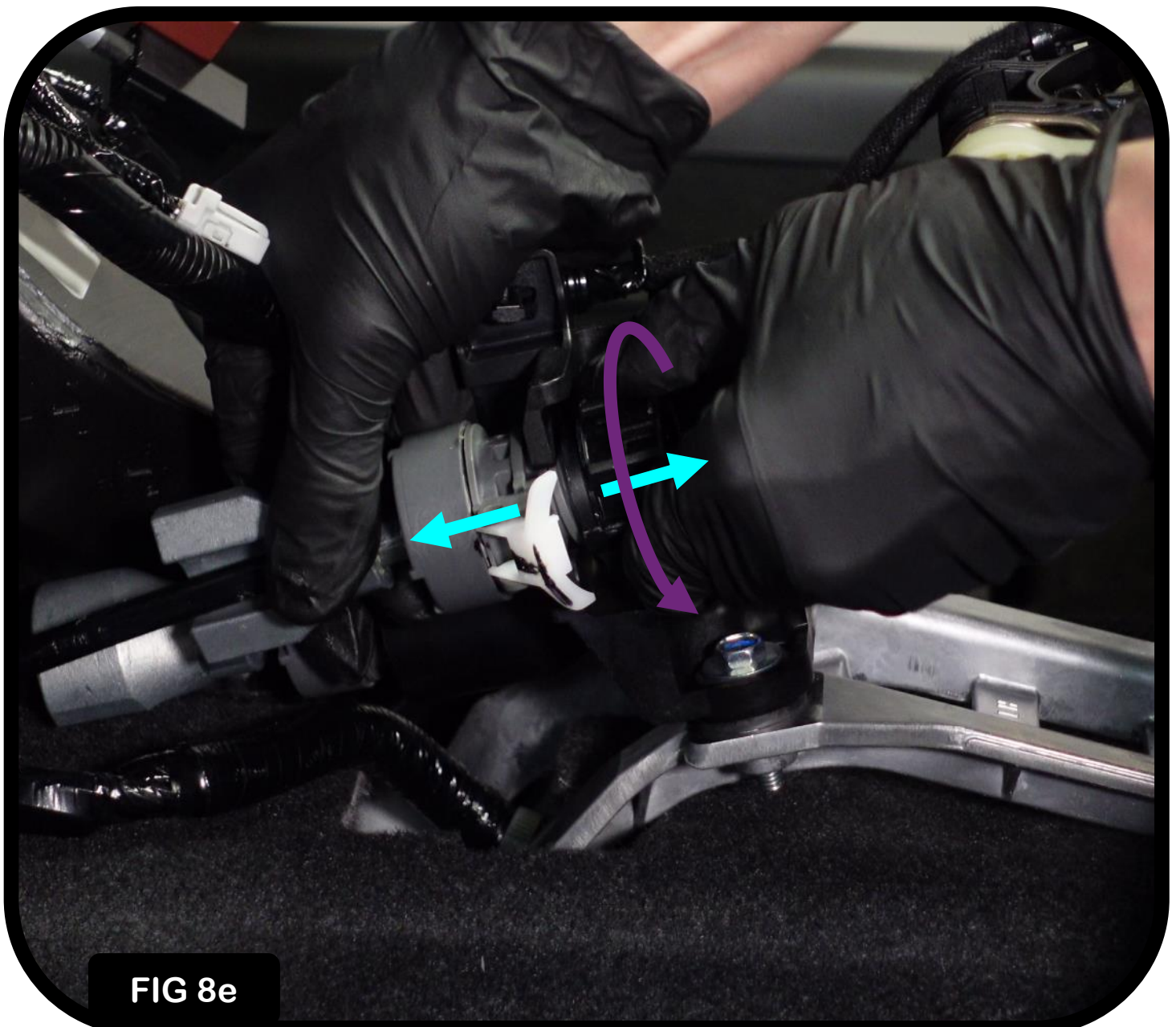
Next, pull the white locking clip away from the cable base as shown in Figure 8d.



STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Carefully twist the black plastic portion of the cable base counter-clockwise (purple arrow in Figure 8e). Twist it just enough so the two halves of the cable base separate from its mounting slot on the shifter. You should begin to feel the shifter cable loosen as the cable base is twisted apart.

Note: Maintain a firm grip on the cable base as it can easily slip during this process and snap back in place. If this happens, it is normal for the cable base to feel “stuck”, in which case you may need to exert more force to break it loose again and twist apart.



STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Once the cable base is twisted apart, slide the shifter cable out from its mounting slot as shown in Figure 8f and set it aside.

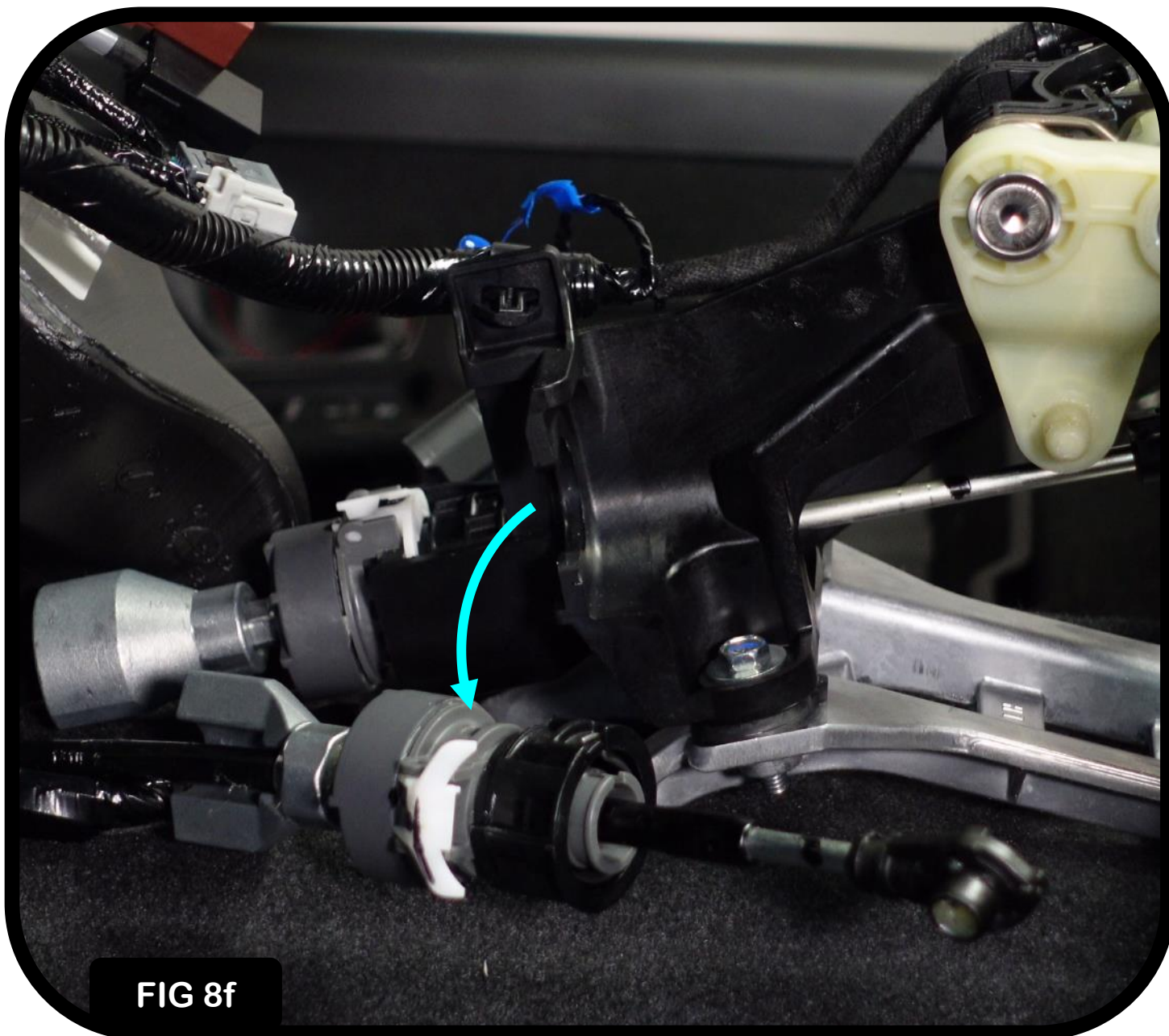
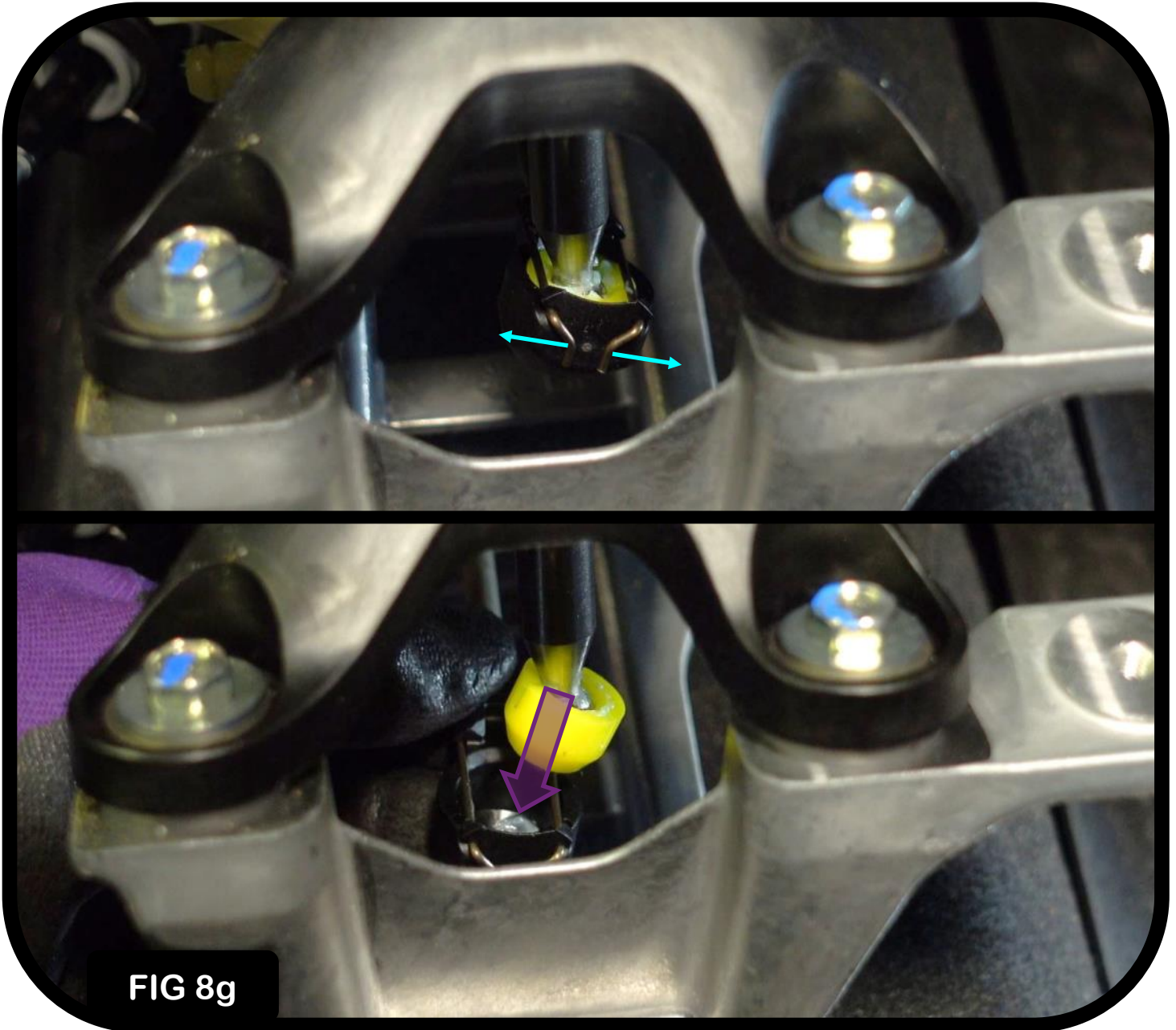


FIG 8f

STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Spread apart the retainer clip and pull the gear change cable rod end off from the bottom shift lever (Figure 8g).



STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Next, the gear change cable base needs to be removed. Start by unlatching the white clip as shown below in Figure 8h (blue arrow). Start twisting the front part of the cable base counter-clockwise about one full turn (purple arrow).

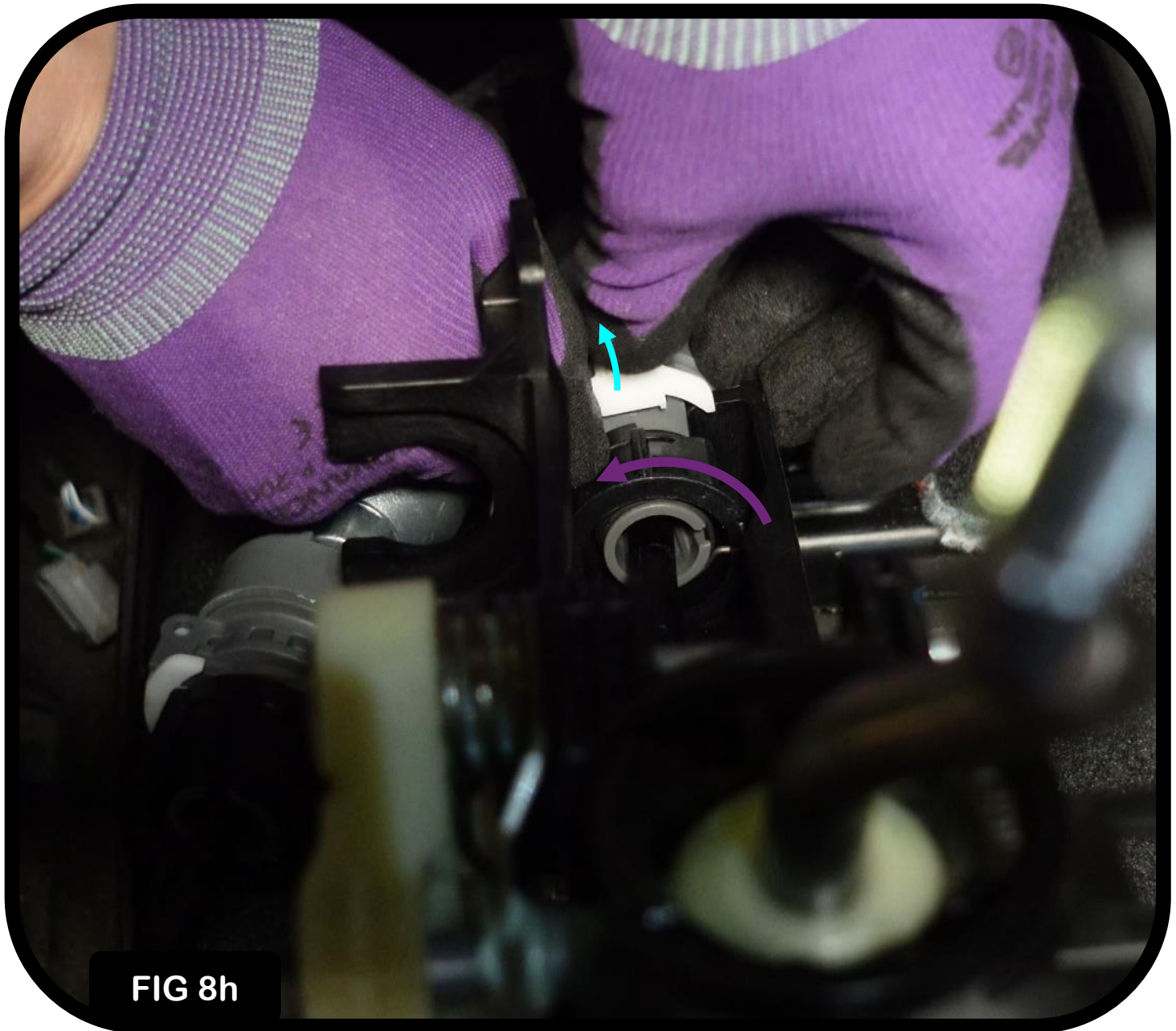
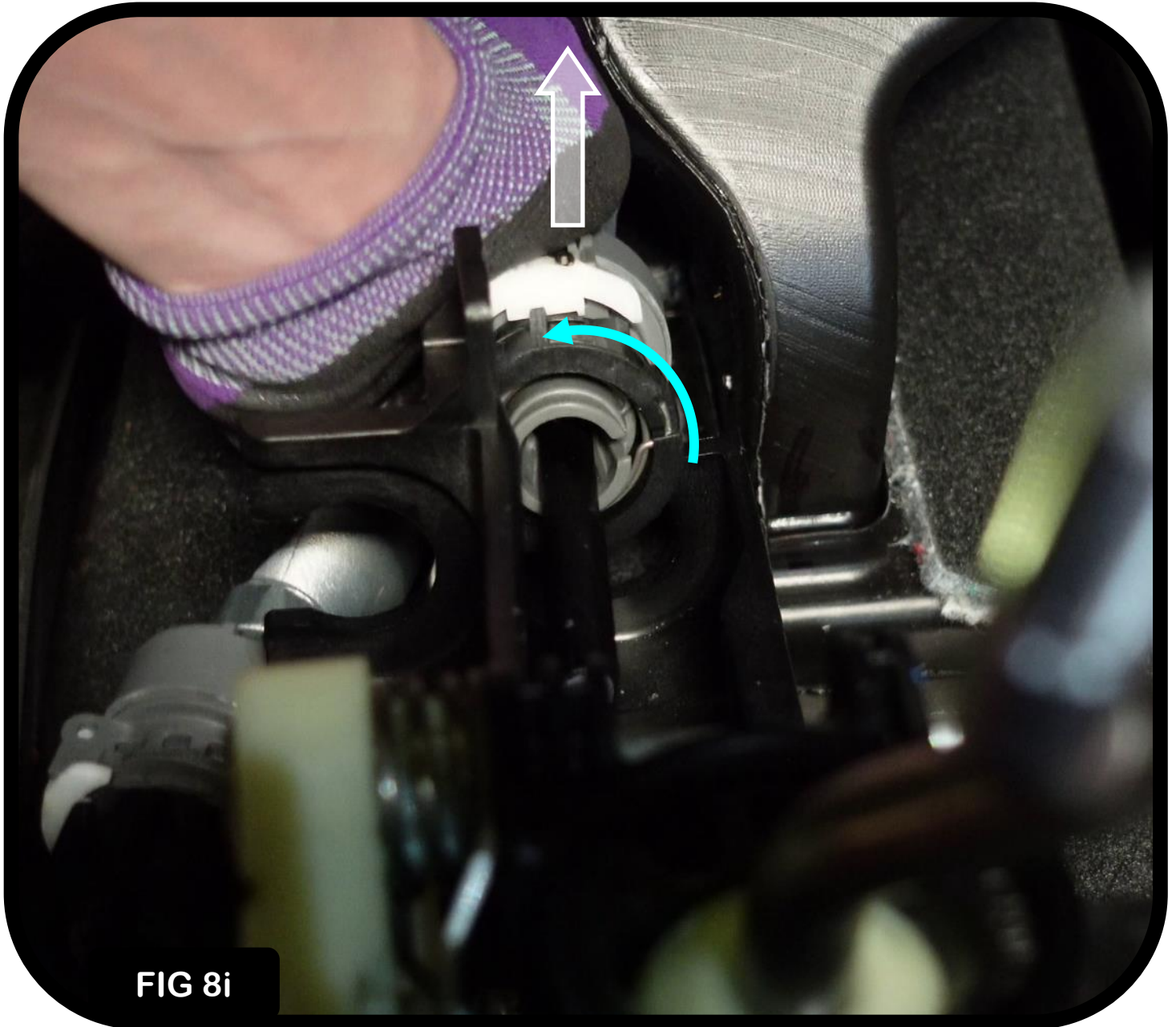


FIG 8h

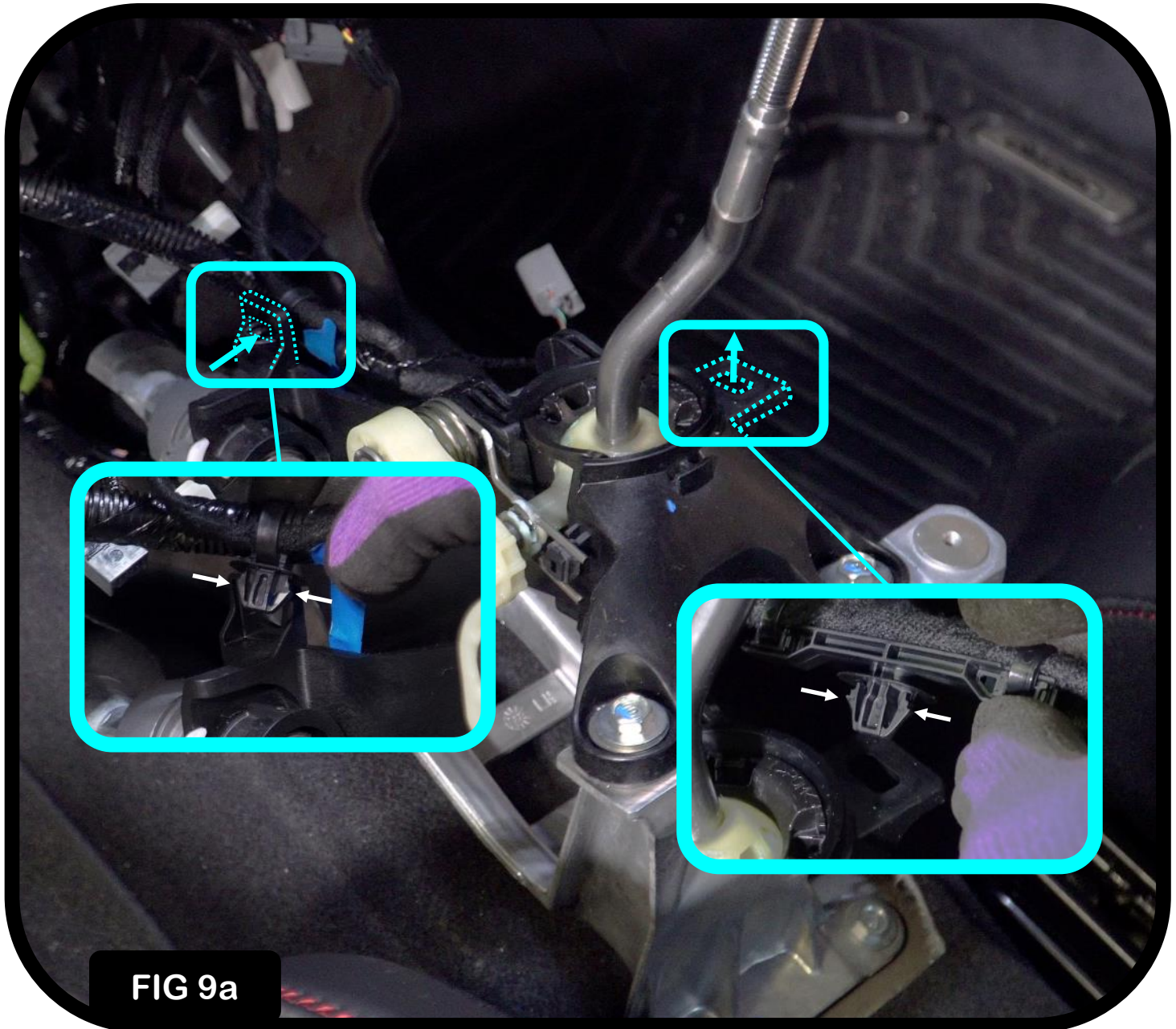
STEP 8 Cont. - Remove Shifter Cables From Shifter

Once the cable base is twisted apart enough, it can be pulled out from its mounting slot on the front of the shifter as shown in Figure 8i (white arrow).



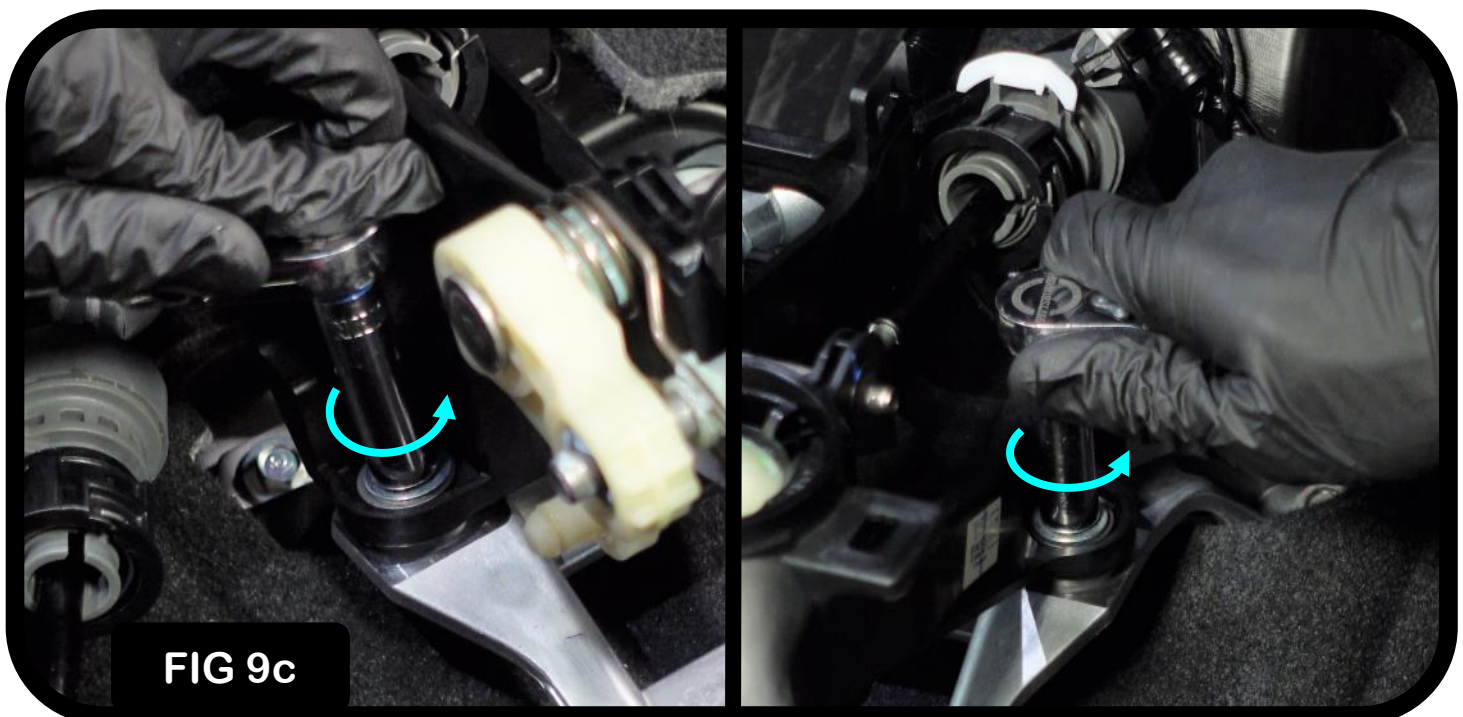
STEP 9 - Remove OEM Shifter Assembly

Next, the console wiring harness needs to be unclipped from two locations on the shifter (outlined in blue in Figure 9a). Pinch the two locking tabs together on each clip and remove them from their respective mounting slots (the tabs are indicated by white arrows).



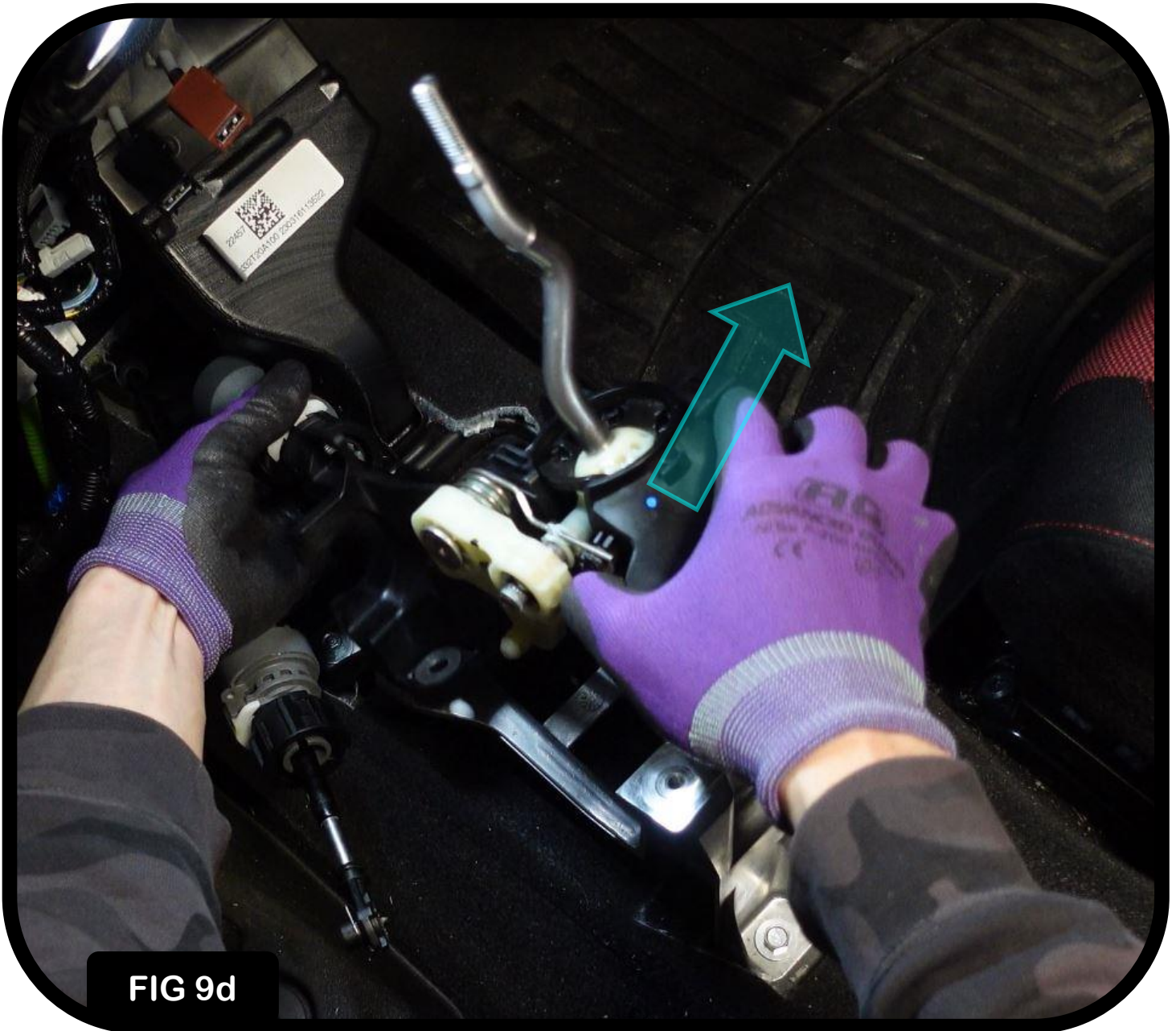
STEP 9 Cont. - Remove OEM Shifter Assembly

Use a 10mm socket and ratchet to remove the 4 OEM base mounting screws from the shifter as shown in Figure 9b and Figure 9c.



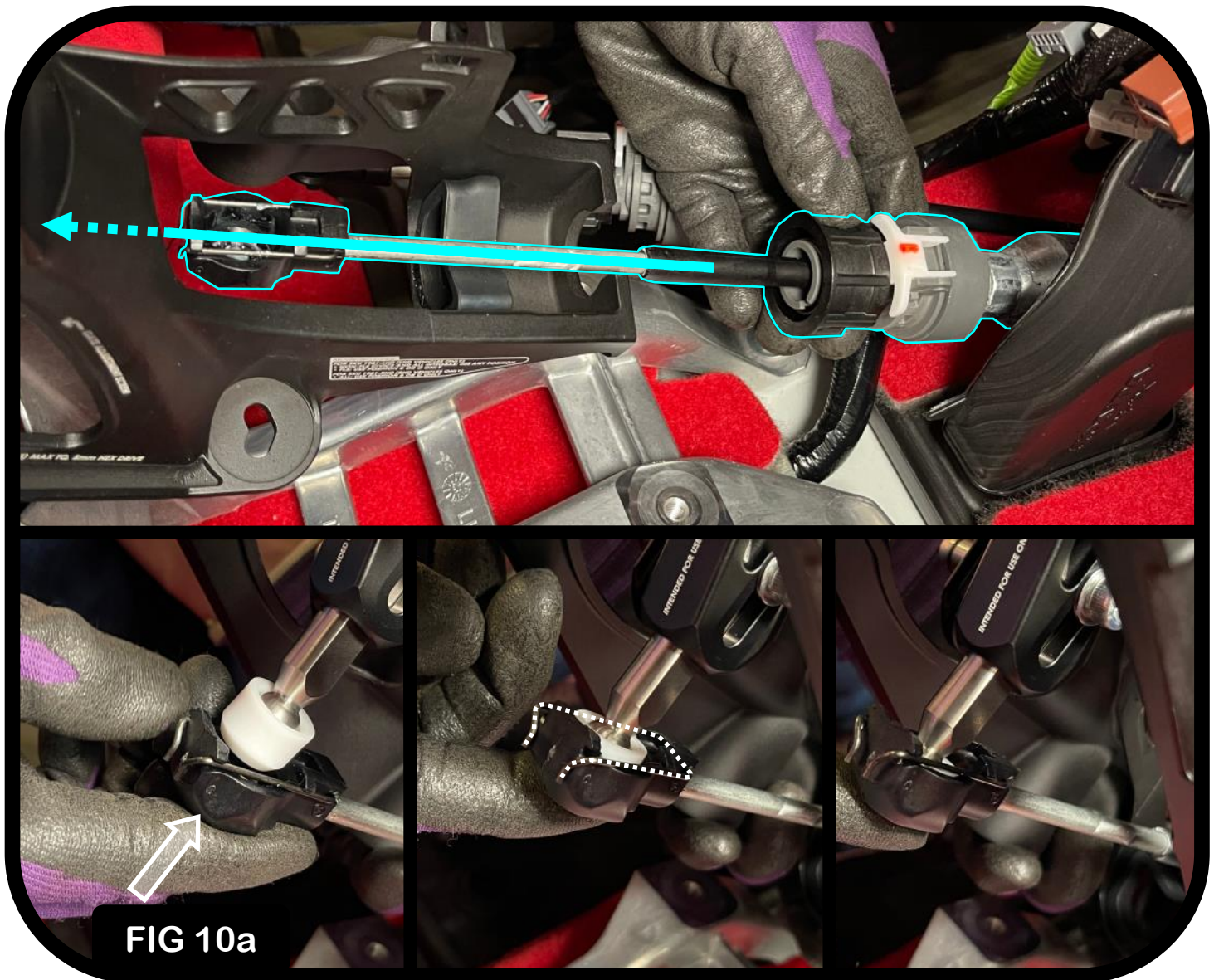
STEP 9 Cont. - Remove OEM Shifter Assembly

Remove the shifter out from the car and set it aside on a shop table.



STEP 10 - Install Gear Cable Onto ACUiTY Performance Shifter

Take your new ACUiTY Performance Shifter and insert the gear cable rod end through the front of the shifter as shown in Figure 10a (outlined in blue). Then push the rod end onto the white bushing on the bottom of the adjustment body (white arrow). As you push the cable rod end onto the white bushing, the retainer clip will spread apart and allow the white bushing to slide into the cable rod end (the retainer clip is outlined with a white dotted line). The retainer clip will snap back over the bushing once it is fully seated inside the gear cable rod end.

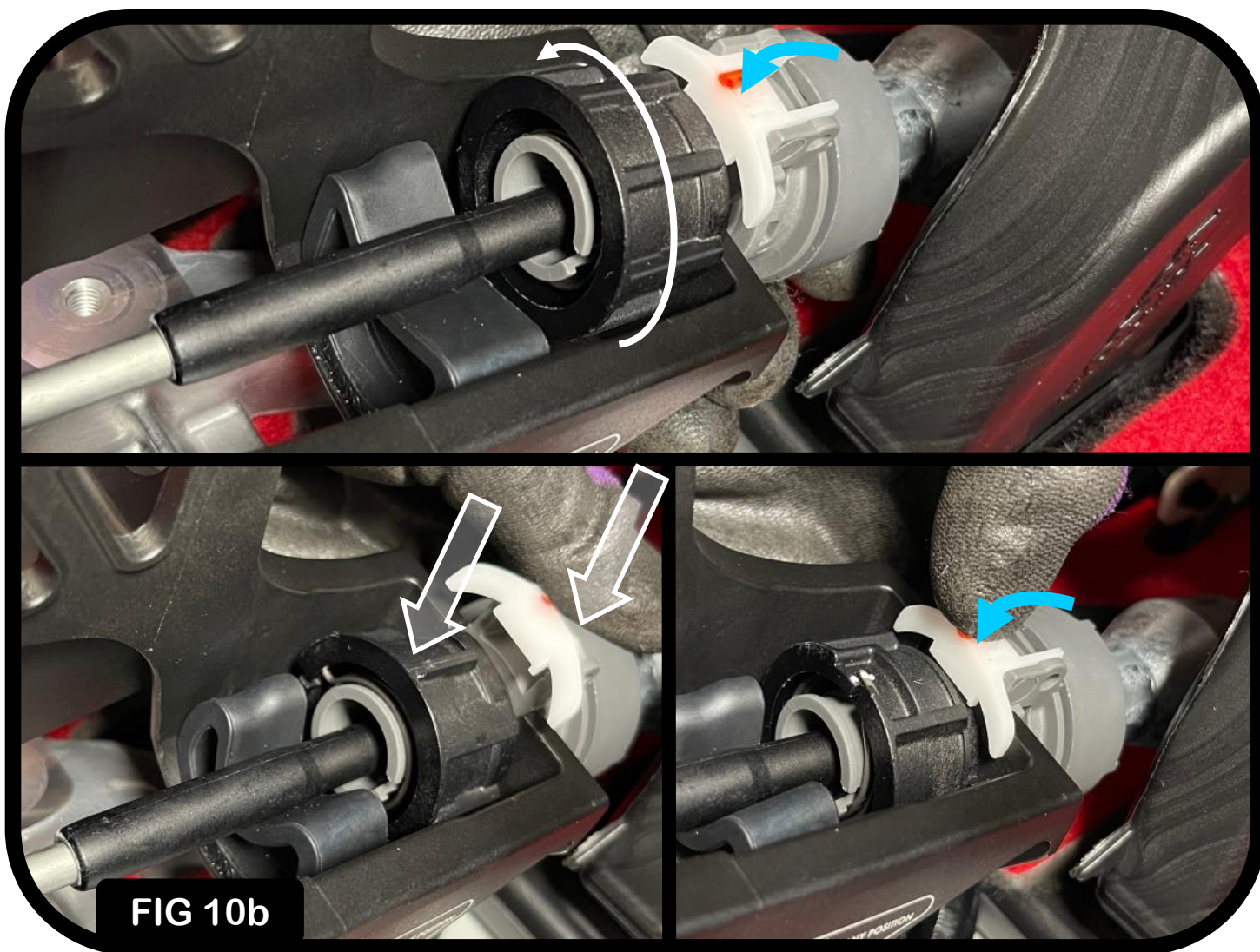


STEP 10 Cont. - Install Gear Cable Onto ACUITY Performance Shifter

As shown in Figure 10b, unwind the cable base of the gear change cable until the two halves are spread apart enough that you can close the white locking tab to lock them in place. Then line up the cable base to its mounting slot and push it down in place.

If done correctly, the white locking tab will release as the cable base is pushed into the mounting slot and the cable base will wind itself back together, securing it on the shifter frame. The rubber support underneath the cable will also deform as shown below to help insulate NVH coming from the transmission/cable operation. Once the gear change cable base is mounted to the shifter, make sure the white locking tab is engaged.

Note: You can apply the same reinstallation technique with the gate cable base as well, but alternatively you can just twist the cable base apart and hold it open to slide it into its mounting slot. We found that this method to lock the cable bases open prior to installing them to be a little bit easier for reassembly.



STEP 11 - Install ACUITY Performance Shifter and Set Knob Position

Align the shifter to the factory mounting holes and *loosely* thread in the mounting screws with the provided base bushings using a 5mm Allen key or socket by hand (circled in blue in Figure 11a).

Important: The mounting holes on the shifter are slotted. Once all 4 mounting points are loosely affixed to the aluminum support frame on the center tunnel, you will be repositioning the shifter as required in the mounting guide (explained on the next page)

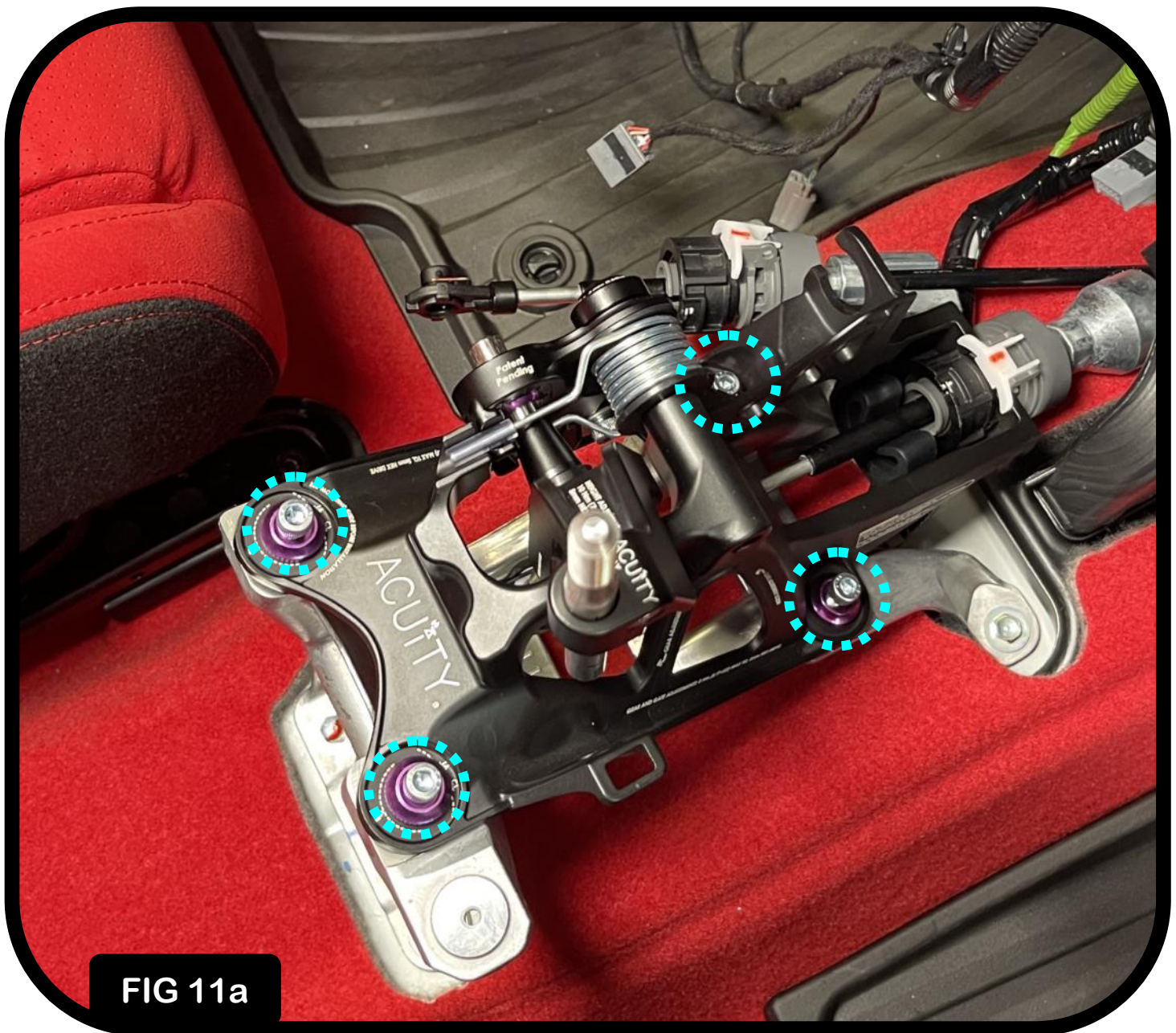


FIG 11a

STEP 11 Cont. - Install ACUITY Performance Shifter and Set Knob Position

The SKU 1981 4-Way Adjustable Performance Shifter has slotted mounting holes on the aluminum support frame to adjust the position of the shift knob relative to the driver. Adjust the positioning of your shifter according to the mounting guide below.

SKU 1981-LHD & 1981-RHD Mounting Guide:

For SKU 1981-LHD (Left-Hand Drive Vehicles):

- Non-FL5 Civic trims and ALL Acura Integra trims:
Use any position (A, B, and C)
- FL5 Civic Type R:
Use positions B or C

For SKU 1981-RHD (Right-Hand Drive Vehicles):

- All Civic Trims:
Use position B or C



Mounting Holes On Shifter

Important: You must follow this mounting guide to maintain proper clearances between moving parts and the center console components. If you are deleting the console/interior components from your vehicle, then any of the 3 mounting positions can be used.

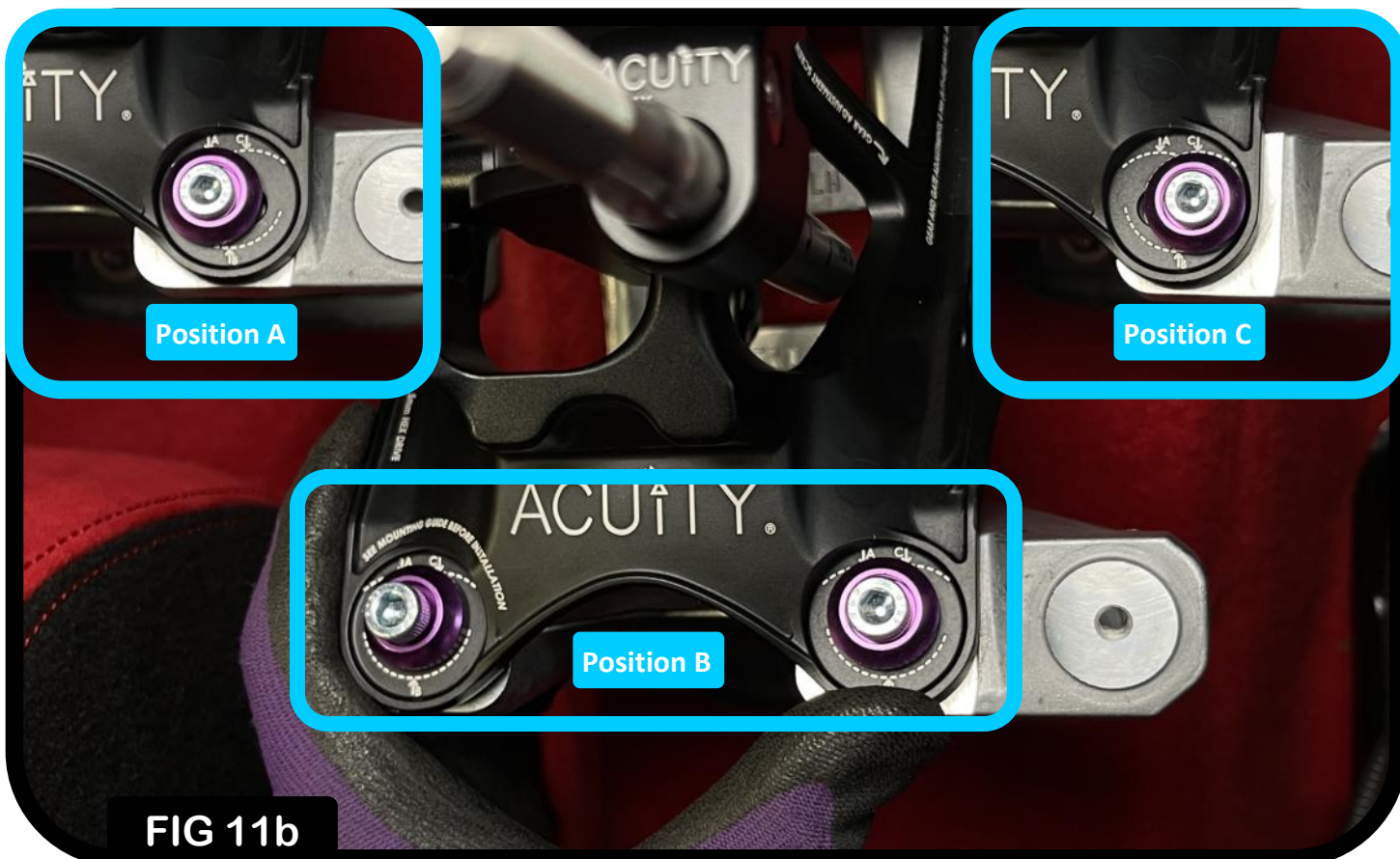


FIG 11b

STEP 11 Cont. - Install ACUITY Performance Shifter and Set Knob Position

Once you have selected your mounting position, use a 5mm allen driver and torque wrench to tighten down each of the 4 mounting screws to **6.6 ft-lbs (9Nm)** in a crisscross pattern. Be sure to go around a second time to double-check each mounting screw is securely fastened to the specified torque.

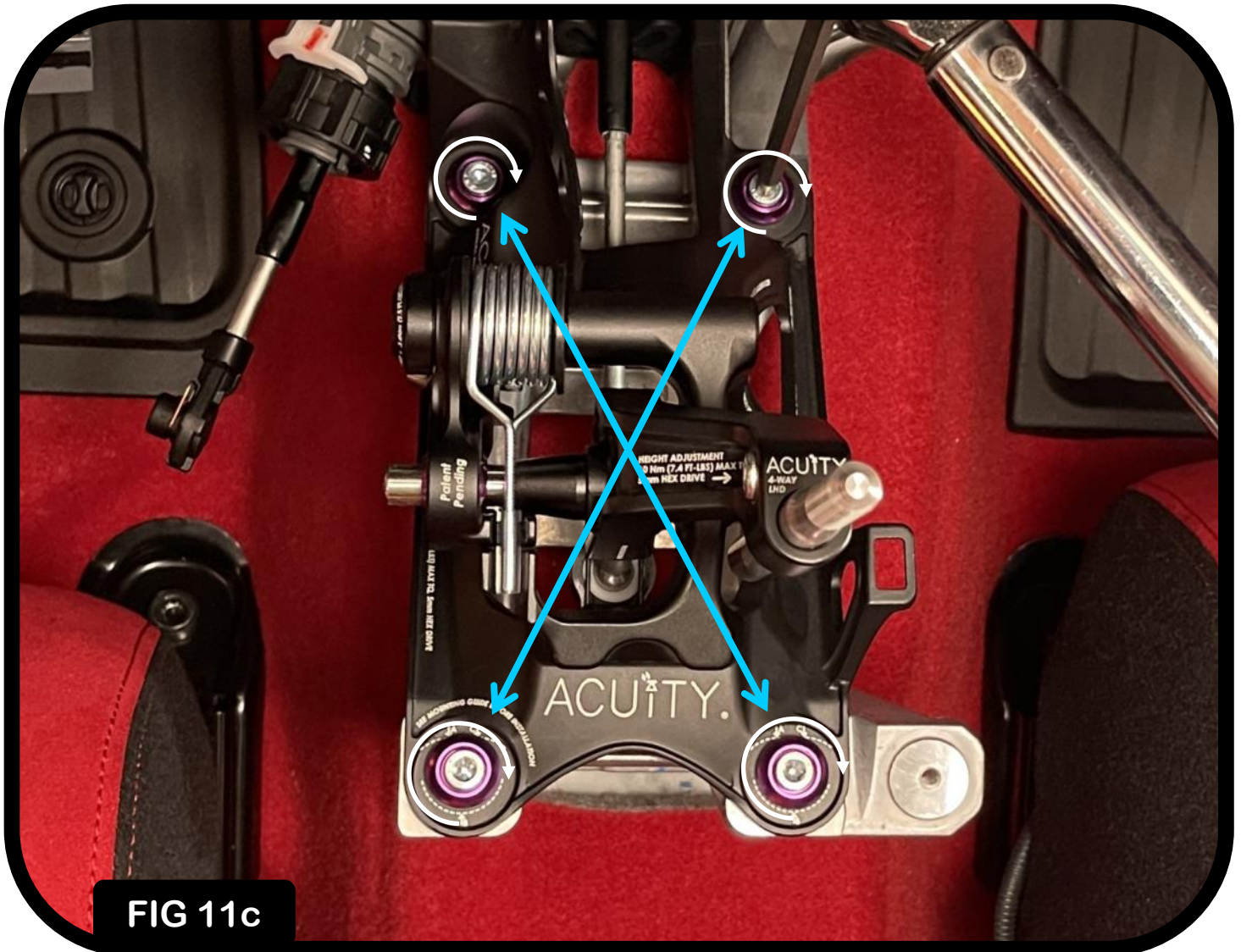
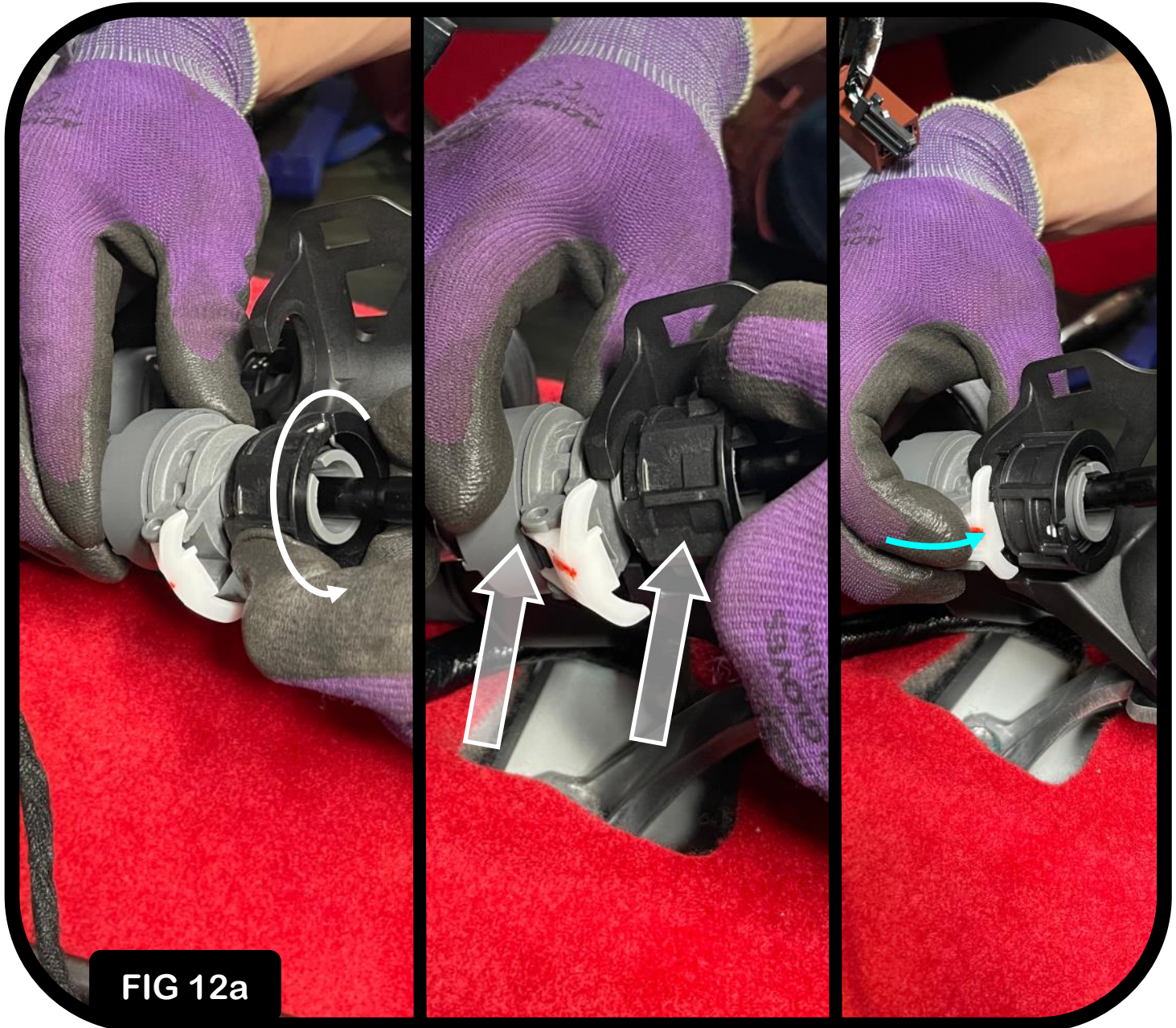


FIG 11c

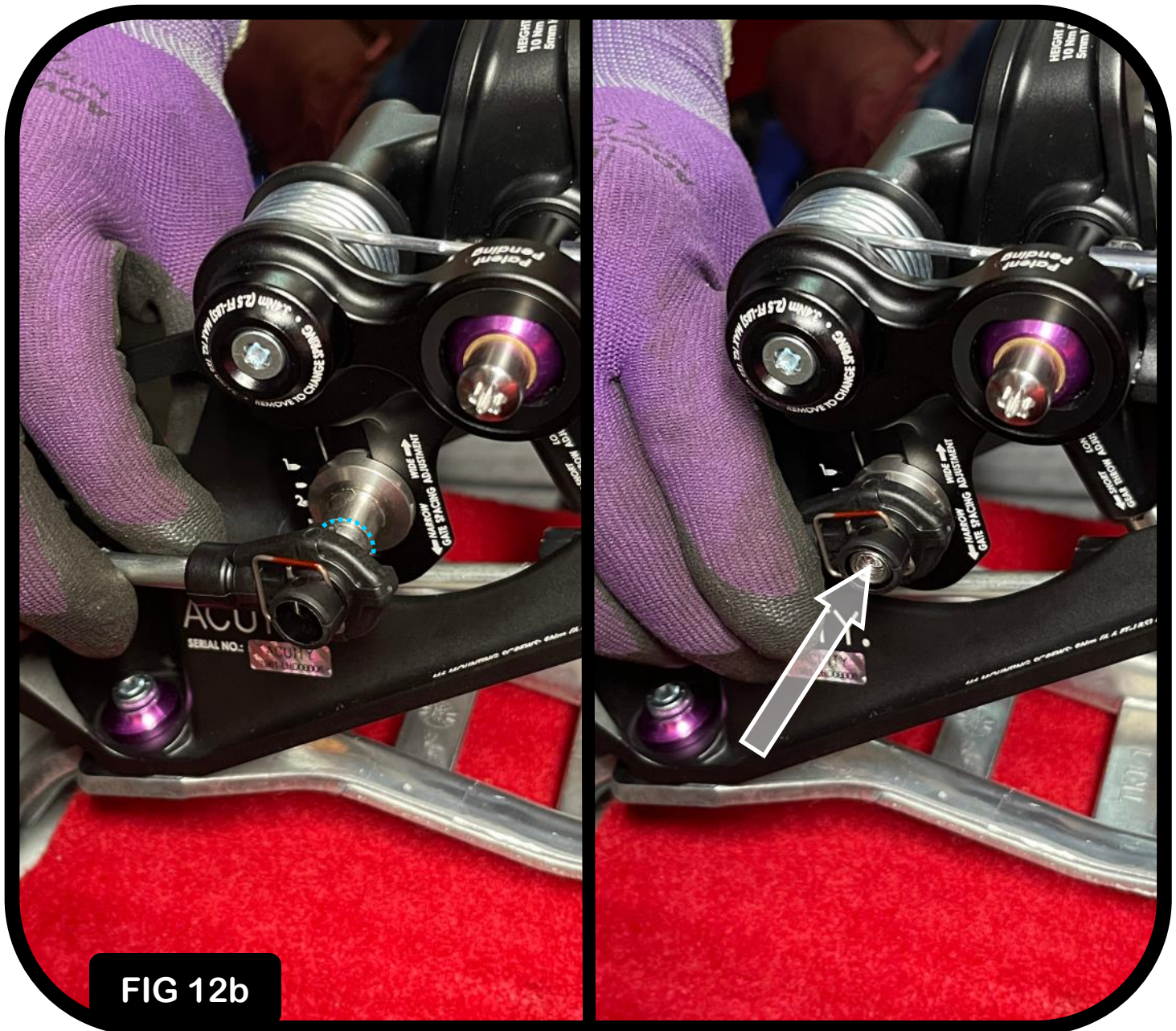
STEP 12 - Install Gate Cable Onto ACUITY Performance Shifter

Unwind the gate cable base and push it into the mounting slot on the side of the ACUITY Performance Shifter as shown in Figure 12a. Allow the cable base to wind itself back together, then push the white locking clip back down to fasten it in place.



STEP 12 Cont. - Install Gate Cable Onto ACUITY Performance Shifter

Push the rod end of the gate cable onto the mounting pin of the rocker arm until the retaining clip snaps in place onto the groove on the mounting pin (outlined in blue in Figure 12b).



STEP 13 - Set/Torque Height Adjustment

Take a 5mm Allen socket and loosen the knob height adjustment screw (circled in blue). Set your desired knob height within the numbered range indicated on the upper rod. Torque the knob height adjustment screw to **7.4ft-lbs (10Nm)**.

Important: Setting the height adjustment at 1 will not only provide the lowest knob height, it will also shorten the shift throw and make the gate spacing more narrow as well. The SKU 1981 Performance Shifter has up to a 75mm range of shift knob height adjustment and can be adjusted to be 25mm lower than the stock knob position, and up to 50mm above the stock knob position.

OEM Shift Boot Compatibility:

In order to retain the use of your factory shift boot, do not raise the shift knob height adjustment to the tallest adjustment. The adjustment range between 4 and 5 are intended for drivers that plan to delete their shift boot or center console.

FIG 13a

STEP 14 - Set/Torque Throw And Gate Spacing Adjustment

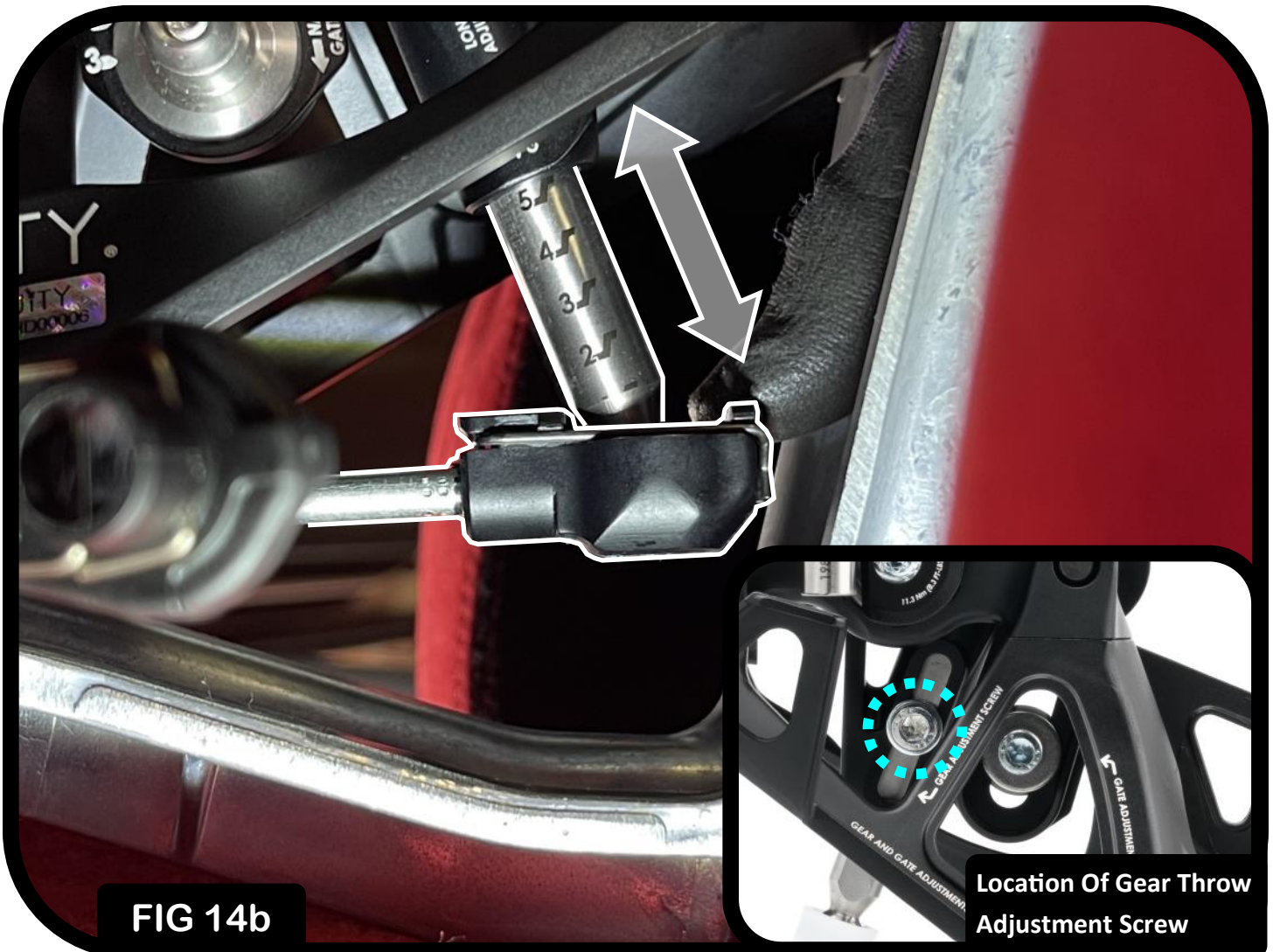
Use a long-reach 5mm Allen socket and ratchet to loosen gate spacing adjustment screw (circled in blue) from the right side of the shifter. Move the gate cable rod end to desired gate spacing adjustment on the shifter rocker arm, and tighten the adjustment screw to **6ft-lbs (8Nm)** as shown in Figure 14a.



STEP 14 Cont. - Set/Torque Throw and Gate Spacing Adjustment

Use a long-reach 5mm Allen socket and ratchet to loosen the gear throw adjustment screw (circled in blue) from the right side of the shifter. Move the gear cable rod end to your desired throw adjustment, then tighten the adjustment screw to **6ft-lbs (8Nm)** as shown in Figure 14b.

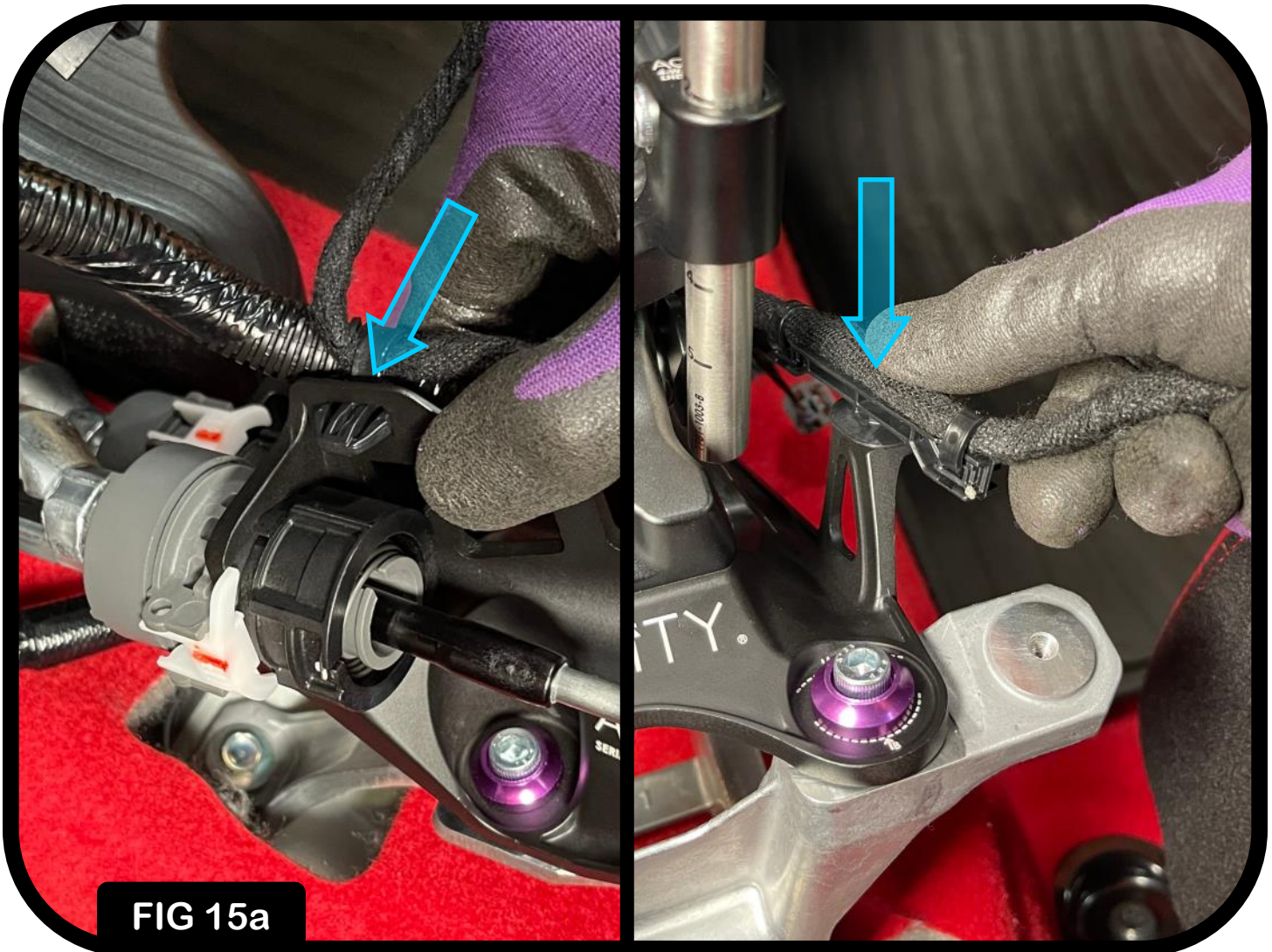
Important: Take advantage of the adjustments to make the H-pattern perfect for you. Consider starting with the gate and throw adjustments set to 1 for a mild reduction compared to stock; once you've adjusted to that shift feel, increase reductions to suit your driving style perfectly.



STEP 15 - Mount Factory Console Wiring To ACUITY Performance Shifter

The precision die-cast frame of your ACUITY Performance Shifter has two mounting points to secure the factory console wiring harness in similar locations to your OEM shifter.

Push the two mounting clips for the wiring harness into their respective mounting holes as shown in Figure 15a.



STEP 16 - Reassemble Factory Components

Reassemble the center console, shift knob, and the negative terminal clamp for the battery following Steps 1-8 in reverse.

Upon starting your vehicle, you may notice that your dashboard will be illuminated with several warning/error indicator lights. Don't worry! Follow the instructions on your navigation screen and then perform a short drive (~5-10 minutes) to allow the vehicle to reboot all electronic systems in the car. Once you turn off the vehicle and restart it again, the warning/error codes will be reset. Congratulations, you have completed your install! We hope you enjoy your new upgrade.



Revision History

Rev 1.0

Date: May 30th, 2025

Change: Document Published

This product is eligible for a 1 year warranty against manufacturer defect with valid proof of purchase.