

Fiero Front Lighting Upgrades:

Our Fieros came with lighting systems technology that is now 28 years old. This is particularly apparent in the front lighting area. Our standard issue headlights are very dim on low beam and have a poor lighting pattern side to side; our front driving lights and turn signals are also dim and hard to see, especially on the GT models with sunken driving lights. Fortunately, plug and play solutions are only a few internet clicks away. These current solutions are not necessarily cheap but they are less expensive than solutions of just a few years ago like Xenon lighting systems.

Part 1: Improved Front Headlights: I recently completed this transformation on my 1985 Fiero Restomod. After a lot of internet research (see You Tube comparison videos), I selected the following replacement headlights: United Pacific LED Conversion Headlights model number 31297. These headlights have a polycarbonate lens, use Philips LEDs, and draw approximately 65% less power than the original Fiero headlights. Low beam is much brighter and has a significantly better sight pattern; the low beam also has a definitive cut off to protect on-coming drivers. High beam uses 4 additional very bright LEDs. No modifications are necessary, these lights are a direct replacement, use the existing wiring, are DOT approved, and make a big difference! They cost \$199 dollars each or **\$398 for two**; shipping was free from Summit Racing Equipment in Ohio. Installation took about one hour; the first time you replace headlights plan on two hours or more.



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Part Number: 31297

5 High Power LED 5" x 7" Crystal Headlight - High and Low Beam

DESCRIPTION

- 5 High Power LED 5" x 7" Crystal Headlight
- High and Low Beam Function
- Reinforced Aluminum Reflector
- Rugged Anti-Vibration Construction

DETAILS

Dimensions	No
Warranty	3 Years
Pack	1 Pc/Box
Part Number	31297

Standard Fiero lighting draws approximately 8 amps on low beam and 11 amps on high beam: several times the amperage draw of these and most other LED Replacement lights. As our Fiero wiring systems age they tend to decrease in efficiency; these lights will help that problem without having to replace wires and connectors.

Part 2: Super bright front driving lights and new flasher: This involved replacing the current 1157 bulbs with Zevo super bright 1157 LEDs from Sylvania; \$22.99 plus tax at your local O'Reilly Auto Parts store (part number 1157LEDDBP2). They come packaged in pairs. I'm sure similar LEDs from other manufacturers will also work.

All LEDs draw much lower amps than the original equipment standard bulbs; this makes your current electronic flasher: non functional. The solution is to replace the current 2 prong flasher with another O'Reilly part from Novita Technologies – Heavy Duty Flasher (part number EL12). This 2 prong unit is mechanical and flashes properly with the 1157 LED front replacement parts. The cost is \$11.49 plus tax. Emergency flashers, turn signals, clicker sound etcetera all work as intended and you now have very bright front driving lights and front turn signals.

Don't forget to thoroughly clean the existing front amber lenses; they tend to get very dirty with age. If they are really bad try rubbing compound; again all DOT legal. Replacement time (including cleaning) about one hour. The flasher is located under the dash (driver side) – turn on your turn signals and follow the clicking sound of your existing flashers to the under dash location before you replace the front 1157 bulbs with LEDs.

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NOTE: if you plan on also replacing your rear turn signal bulbs with LEDs you will need to get a special variable resistance 2 prong flasher (about 25 dollars on the internet) or add resistance inserts to the rear lights about \$10 for two ... also available at O'Reilly Auto Parts and similar stores. The rear lighting systems seemed bright enough as is; I left the rear lights as they came from the factory.

I hope this information is helpful to those of you who drive your Fiero at night and want up to date lighting; I'm very pleased with the results!

Check out the rest of our Michigan Fiero Club web site for additional tech tips and other informative articles about our Fieros.

All The Best / *Roger Fagnani*