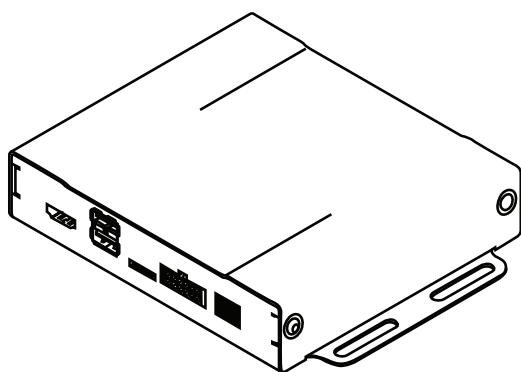


# VLine



## INSTALLATION MANUAL

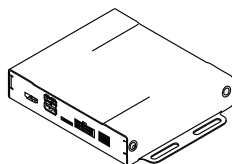
**MB45**

# CONTENTS

Package contents.....	3
<b>CHAPTER 1 — INSTALLATION. . . . .</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Before Installation	3
1.2 Tools	3
1.3 Vehicle Installation	3
1.4 Safety Guidelines & Appropriate Use	4
Connect VLine video cable to car stereo. . . . .	4
Connect VLine interface cable to car stereo. . . . .	5
Reconnect fiber-optic connector to MCFMB45 cable. . . . .	5
Connecting to VLine. . . . .	7
Routing the GPS Antenna. . . . .	7
Using factory microphone. . . . .	8
Adjusting microphone gain. . . . .	8
Testing VLine Operation. . . . .	8
Activating Aux on the stereo if required. . . . .	8
Installing optional touchscreen overlay. . . . .	10
Understanding VLine Ports. . . . .	11
<b>CHAPTER 2 — GETTING STARTED. . . . .</b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 Functions. . . . .	12
<b>SUPPORT. . . . .</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>WARRANTY. . . . .</b>	<b>14</b>
EIGHTEEN MONTH (18) LIMITED WARRANTY	
<b>GRANT OF LICENSE. . . . .</b>	<b>15</b>

# GROM-VLINE SYSTEM

## PACKAGE CONTENTS



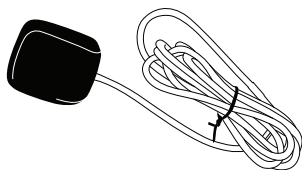
VLine module



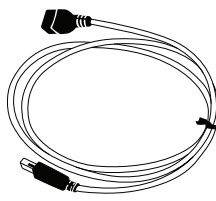
VHSDMF (VHSDMB45)  
Video Display Cable



MCFMB45 Power  
Harness



GPS Antenna



USB Extension cable

## CHAPTER 1 — INSTALLATION

### 1.1 Before Installation

Before starting work with any wiring, please wait 90 seconds after turning the Ignition to the OFF position and disconnecting the negative (-) terminal of the battery. This is to ensure that no SRS airbags faults are triggered during the installation when disassembling the vehicle's panels and wiring connections for the VLINE module installation.

Please review the entire manual to familiarize yourself of the VLINE module and the installation requirements before installing the unit and using it.

### 1.2 Tools

Have tools ready for disassembling the dashboard panels to remove the stereo.

Some basic tools will be required for stereo removal and installation, Plastic prying tools, Phillips head screwdriver, 10mm socket and ratchet. Additional tools may be required depending on vehicle and installation preference.

### 1.3 Vehicle Installation

Each model vehicle disassembles differently. The removal of the stereo and

wiring installation requires special technical skills and experience. If you do not feel comfortable doing the installation please consult with your local car audio shop or installation professional for instructions or assistance if necessary.

Carefully remove the factory Stereo and Display out of the dash cavity with proper tools.

It may be necessary to disconnect items surrounding the stereo and display to remove them and gain access to the back of the stereo to make your connections.

## **1.4 Safety Guidelines & Appropriate Use**

By using VLine you agree:

- to operate VLine only when there are safe driving conditions;
- to follow any applicable state and traffic laws;
- to keep an eye on the road at all time while driving;
- do not attempt to play video (such as YouTube) on a display while the vehicle is in motion;
- do not use VLine without running the engine for the extended period of time as it can drain the battery.

Do not use Vline in a manner that would distract the driver or that may otherwise cause injury or death to vehicle occupants or bystanders.

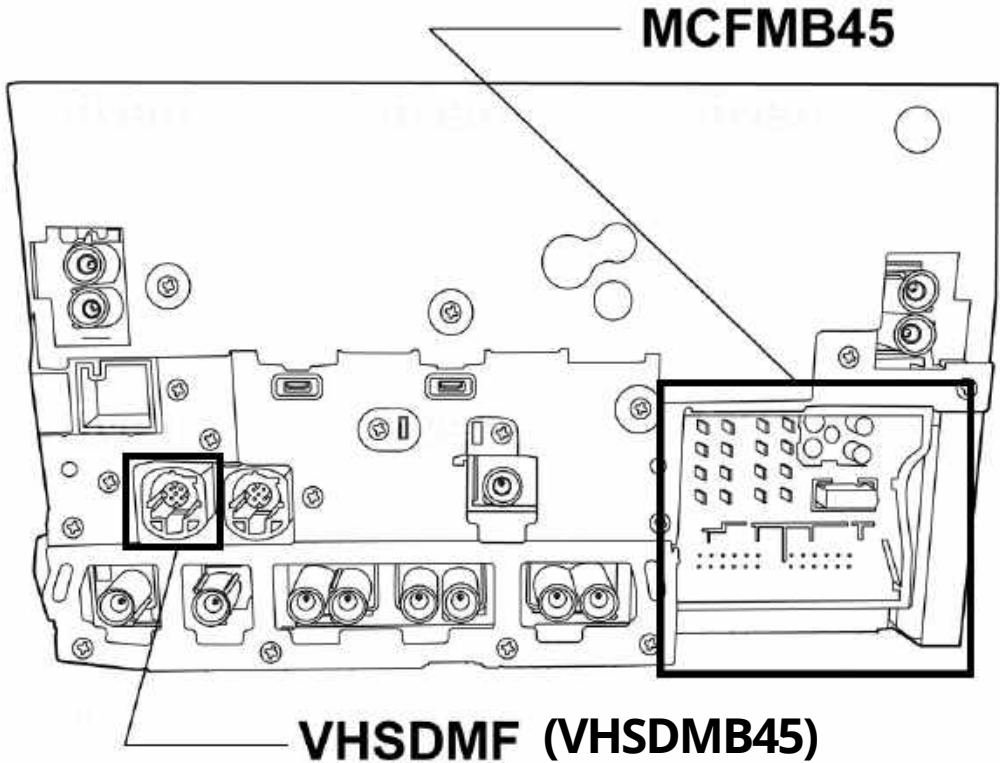
IT IS ILLEGAL IN MOST STATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND MAY BE ILLEGAL IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS FOR ANY TELEVISION OR OTHER VIDEO DISPLAY, STREAM, TRANSMISSION OR BROADCAST TO BE VISIBLE TO THE DRIVER WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION. YOU AGREE NOT TO USE ANY VISUAL COMPONENT OF VLine WHILE IN CONTROL OF A MOVING VEHICLE WHERE DOING SO WOULD BE ILLEGAL OR DANGEROUS TO VEHICLE OCCUPANTS OR BYSTANDERS. DOING OTHERWISE CAN LEAD TO SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU AND OTHERS. PLEASE FIND A SAFE PLACE TO PARK AND ENGAGE THE PARKING BRAKE BEFORE VIEWING ANY VIDEO DISPLAYS, STREAMS, TRANSMISSION, OR BROADCAST AVAILABLE THROUGH VLINE.

### **Connect supplied video display cable VHSDMF (VHSDMB45) to the factory car stereo**

Locate the display port on rear of the car stereo, sypically gray in color.

If the port is empty, plug in supplied video display cable VHSDMF (VHSDMB45) into the port and leave female portion of the cable with nothing attached.

If there is the cable plugged in, disconnect factory display cable (typically gray in color). Then plug in supplied VHSDMF Y-shaped cable and reconnect disconnected cable into female plug of the supplied video display cable.



**Warning:** Do not pinch or hard bend the VHSDMF video cable, as it will affect the video signal. Make sure there are no hard bends near the VHSDMF cable connector to the VLine, and allow enough space around it.

## Connect VLine power interface cable MCFMB45 to the back of the stereo

Locate the black quadlock connector at the back of the stereo (see page 5). Disconnect the factory cable from the back of the stereo by gently releasing the clip at the bottom of the connector and pulling the lever out. Pulling the lever out will help to disconnect the factory quadlock connector from the stereo. Ensure the clip is fully disengaged, but do not break the clip. Gently pull the factory quadlock connector out of the stereo socket. (see next page -->)

Remove the fiber-optic wires from main stereo harness quadlock by gently pressing on the small clip on top of the fiber-optic connector, and sliding the wires and the connector out.

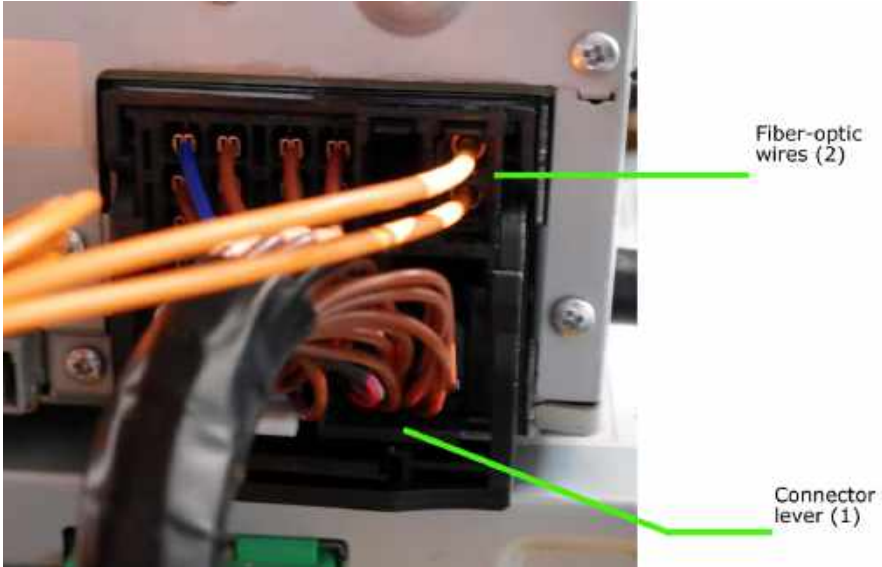


Illustration 2 - main stereo harness

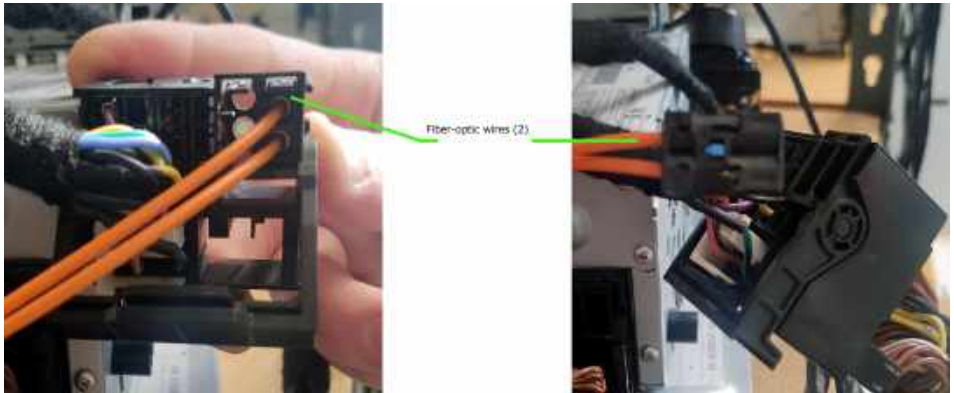


Illustration 3 - fiber-optic connector

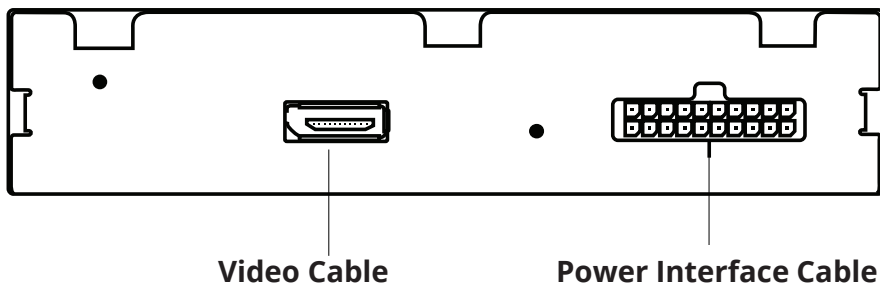
Place the fiber-optic wires and connector inside MCFMB45 quadlock connector, into the exactly the same spot as it was on the factory quadlock connector. See Illustration 4 for the location.

Connect the MCFMB45 quadlock connector, with re-attached fiber-optic cables, back to the factory stereo. Press down gently on the connector lever (1), Illustration 2, to secure the connection.

Reconnect the disconnected factory harness quadlock connector back to the female end of MCFMB45 VLine interface cable, gently press down the connector lever to secure the connection.

## Connecting to VLine

Route the unused ends of VHSDMF display video cable and MCFMB45 power interface harness to the VLine module and connect them to the correctly labeled ports. Make sure to avoid hard bends of the VHSDMF cable next to the connector.

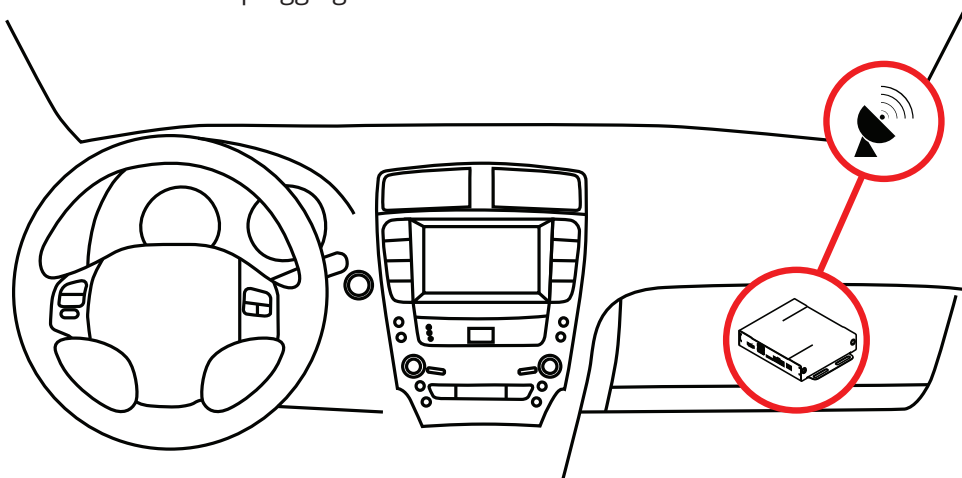


## Routing the GPS Antenna

Mount the GPS antenna to the top of the dashboard, so there are no metal parts that obstruct the signal. We recommend mounting it inside the vehicle on the passenger side of the dashboard, as shown below. **Do not leave it inside the glove box.** Make sure the GPS antenna faces up, and there are no obstructions in front of it. Use the attached tape to secure the antenna.

Plug the GPS antenna into the VLine VL2 Camera AV1 port.

**If using VAUX cable:** Plug VAUX cable into the CAMERA AV1 on VLine. Unplug GPS from the 10-pin to 4-pin adapter, and plug the GPS into VAUX with the **purple and green wires facing up**. Do not break GPS antenna when unplugging it from molex extension.



## Using factory microphone

VLine will use factory microphone for its operation. Connect the 3.5mm male connector from power interface cable (MCFMB45) to the microphone port of VLine (see p. 9 for reference).

There are no any additional steps needed to connect or operate VLine with the vehicle factory microphone. Simply follow to the guidelines in the User Manual.

## Adjusting microphone gain for CarPlay® or Android Auto®

1. Go to the VLine home screen, tap on three horizontal lines in the upper left corner of the screen and open the "Settings."
2. While in "Settings," scroll down to the bottom of the screen.
3. Adjust the microphone gain to 45. We recommend testing the microphone with the different gain parameters and set the best for your liking. However, the gain set to 45 is what usually works the best.

## Testing VLine Operation

Test VLine Operation before mounting the dashboard back. **WARNING: Ensure to reconnect all unplugged connectors to the vehicle before cycling the ignition.**

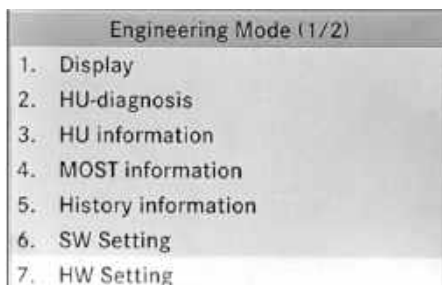
Cycle the ignition and enter AUX mode to get to VLine mode (Audio -->Aux).

If VLine appears on the screen, and all factory functions such as climate controls, reverse camera, AF/FM stereo, are working, you can mount the dashboard back.

## Activate AUX function of your stereo

Some stereos do not have the Aux function activated. To activate the Aux function to enter the VLine mode, follow these steps:

1. Enter the **Engineering Mode** of the stereo by pressing three buttons on the stereo simultaneously: **#**, **1**, and the **phone down**. Hold for about 6 seconds until the Engineering Mode menu appears on the screen.
2. Use the original stereo joystick to scroll down to the **7. HW Setting**.





3. Select **7.HW Setting** and scroll down to **7.7 HU Parameter**.

4. Once in **7.7 HU Parameter** menu, scroll down to **(3) Audio AUX Off**, and press on the knob to turn it On. Once the Audio AUX is **On**, you will be able to select the AUX mode of your stereo.

If the Audio AUX Off is not selectable within the **7.7 HU Parameter** menu (grayed out), you need to toggle the MOST setting and the Audio Source setting.

5. Press the BACK button to get back to the **7. HW Setting** menu.

6. Scroll down to the **7.5 TGW Parameter**.

7. While in the **7.5 TGW Parameter** select (1) MOST Off and press to switch it On.

8. Then go back to the **7.5 TGW Parameter** menu and scroll to (2) Audio Source: Internal Amp.

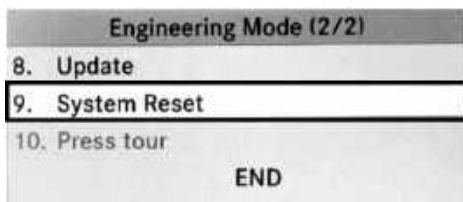
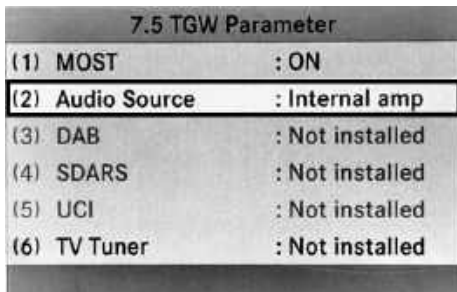
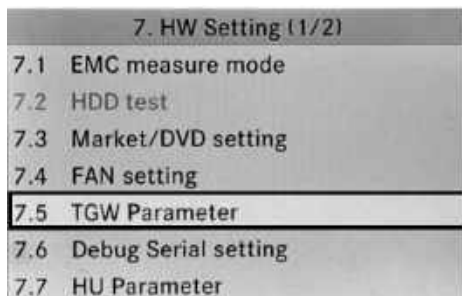
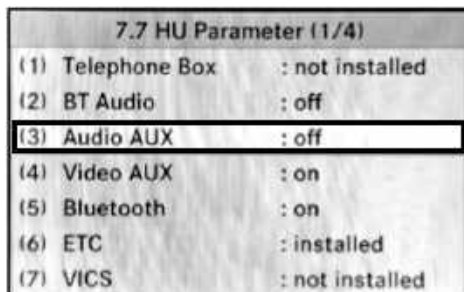
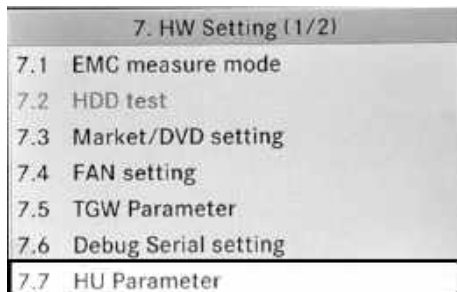
9. Enter (2) Audio Source: Internal Amp and switch it to External Amp.

10. Return to the **7.7 HU Parameter** menu. Now you should be able to switch the **Audio AUX On** (see step 4).

11. Go back to the **Engineering Mode (1/2)** screen and scroll down to the (9) System Reset (second page of the Engineering Mode screen).

12. Press on the **(9) System Reset** and confirm the reset by selecting **Yes**.

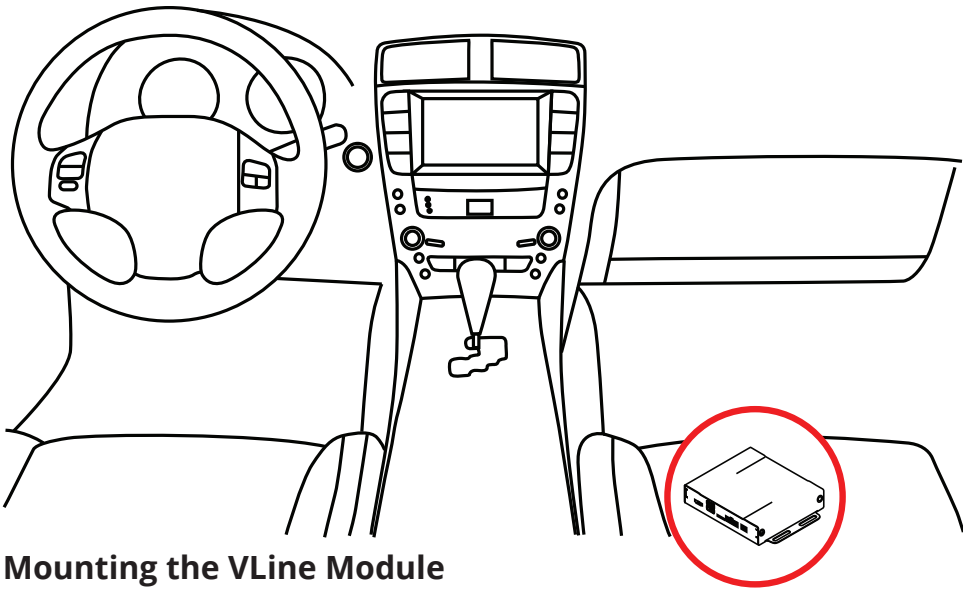
13. Turn off the car and leave it for about 10 minutes. Then cycle the ignition and go to Audio. You should now be able to select Aux from the drop-down menu.



## Installing the optional touchscreen overlay

If you decide to install an optional touchscreen overlay (V-VOLSRTH) to add touchscreen functionality to your factory Mercedes Benz display, please follow the installation instructions supplied with the touchscreen overlay package. You must install and connect the touchscreen **before** mounting the display and the stereo back.

Please note the touchscreen overlay is optional. The VLine VL2 system works with the factory knob control and buttons.



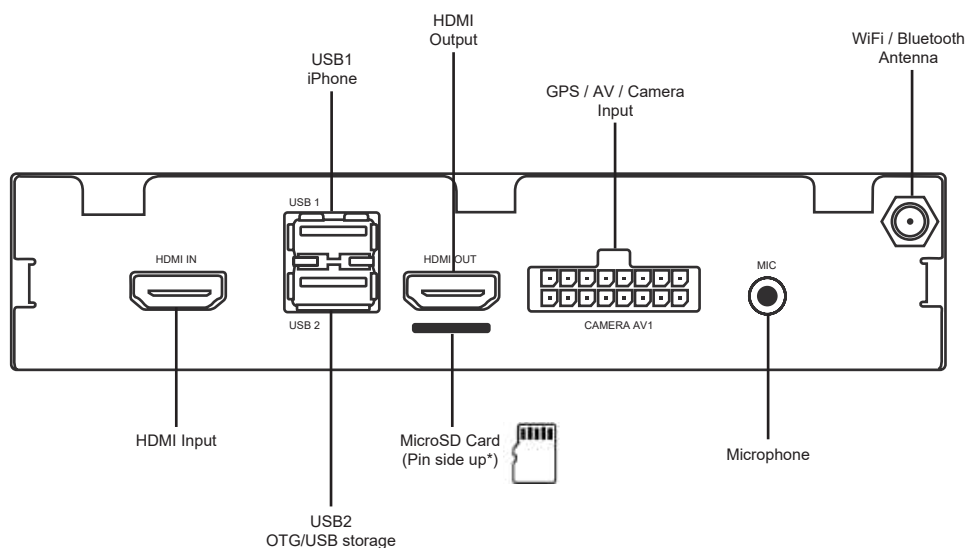
## Mounting the VLine Module

Mount the VLine main module in an easily accessible location, such as the glove compartment, for easy access to the USB ports and to upgrade firmware on the VLine module. Do not leave the unit inside the dashboard, as it can damage the unit and its Bluetooth antenna and affect the Bluetooth / Wifi reception. We strongly recommend mounting the unit inside the **glove compartment** for safety and accessibility.

## Installation Troubleshooting

1. The display is “flashing” or “flickering”.  
Ensure there are no hard bends in the VHSDMF video cable, and it is installed away from the metal parts in the vehicle. Try to re-route the VHSDMF cable.
2. There is no VLine on the screen or the screen is black.  
Double-check the quadlock connector of the MCFMB45 power interface cable, ensure all pins are properly aligned on both male and female sides, and fiber-optic connector reconnected to the correct spot on MCFMB45 cable.

# Understanding the VLine Ports



## USB1

iPhone connection

Any other USB device (Keyboard / Mouse)

## USB2

USB flash drive

Any USB device (Android, Keyboard / Mouse)

## MicroSD

Insert microSD card (\*pin side up) to increase storage space for Vline (up to 128GB supported). The microSD should be formatted FAT32. File system format exFAT and NTFS are not supported.



## HDMI IN

HDMI input connection to connect external video sources.  
(add plugin to Dashling Launcher to use feature)

## HDMI OUT

HDMI Output connection to connect external displays. The HDMI Output will match the VLine's video feed and resolution, be sure your external display can handle those properly.

## MIC

Microphone input, connect 3.5mm mono microphone

# CHAPTER 2 — GETTING STARTED

## 2.1 Functions

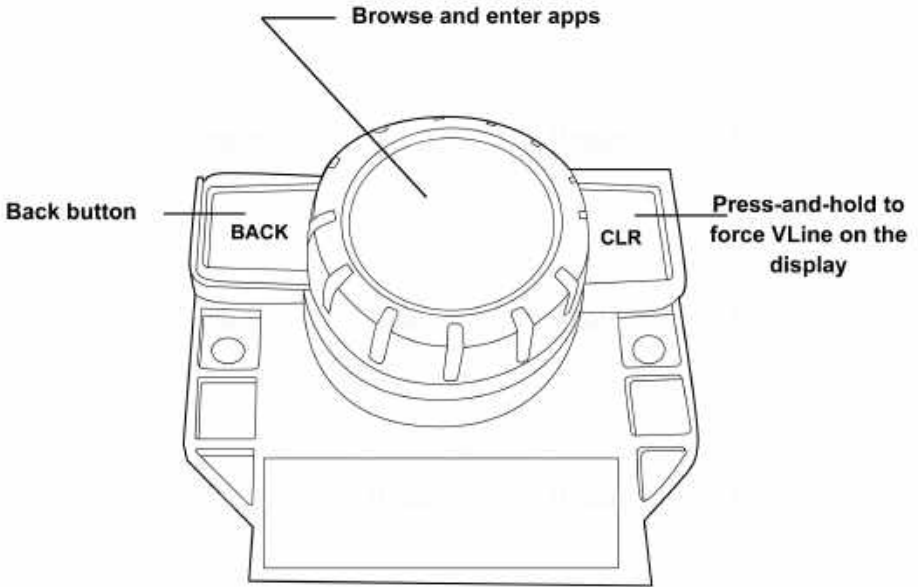
The GROM VLINE emulates the factory AUX mode of the stereo.

No factory functions of the stereo will be disabled, except factory AUX. Factory Bluetooth, Navigation, Radio and CD player will remain functional.

### Selecting VLINE mode:

On the stereo menu, go to AUDIO --> Aux to access the stereo's AUX mode and enter VLINE interface mode. If the Aux function is not available within the menu, you need to activate it for your stereo. Check pp. 8-9.

## 2.2. Using factory knob to browse the VLine apps



### 2.2.1 Factory stereo sound source and VLine display

If you want to use the original stereo sound source (such as FM radio) while seeing the VLine UI (such as maps) at the same time, while on the Factory UI (such as in FM radio), press and hold the "CLR" button for 2-3 seconds. It will bring the VLine to the screen while the stereo sound source is FM. If you want to switch the stereo sound source back to VLine, enter VLine mode (AUX) on the stereo by selecting Aux from the Audio drop-down menu on the stereo menu.

## 2.3 Other Stereo Functions

### 2.3.1 Adjusting Display Brightness / Contrast

Sometimes the VLine or CarPlay / Android Auto image might appear washed out. This is because the factory display is not optimized for VLine or CarPlay / Android Auto colors. Adjust the display brightness and contrast to your liking by using the DISP button, if available, or going to the Factory UI (see above) and adjusting the display settings for the VLine mode of your stereo.

### 2.3.2 Voice commands - Siri®, Google Assistant® or VLine's own

Press and hold TRACK UP on the Steering Wheel Controls for 2-3 seconds. It will activate the voice assistant of your choice.

### 2.3.3 Android Auto phone calls

VLine does not support the phone calls on Android Auto. Use factory phone system to connect to the phone calls. Pair and connect your phone's Bluetooth to VLine for Audio/Media, and to factory Bluetooth for the phone calls. You can accept, reject or initiate phone calls on Android Auto screen.

## 2.4 Adjusting Audio Bass, Treble, Balance/Fade for VLINE Mode

Use the Factory UI icon to get to the factory UI and adjust sound settings. While in the VLine VL2 main screen, press on empty PLUS sign and go to Shortcuts --> Factory UI. Press on the Factory UI to get the shortcut icon to the main VLine screen. Tap on the Factory UI icon, and the stereo will switch from the VLine interface into factory AUX interface. While in the factory AUX interface, you can adjust audio settings.

Press FM and then MEDIA --> AUX on the stereo to switch back into the VLine VL2 interface mode.

## Troubleshooting and Tips

Q. The VLine is misbehaving.

A. If using the touchscreen overlay, ensure it is not jammed when attached to the display. Refer to the touchscreen overlay manual.

Q. The VLine is misbehaving.

A. Check for firmware update and apply the latest firmware, if available. Connect VLine to Wifi (see User Manual). Go to Settings --> About Device --> Check for Updates and apply all available updates.

## SUPPORT

For technical support please visit us at [www.gromaudio.com/support.html](http://www.gromaudio.com/support.html) and fill out the form.

For live support, please go to [www.gromaudio.com](http://www.gromaudio.com).

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Within the first 18 months from the date of purchase, subject to the conditions above, GROM Audio will repair or replace the product at their discretion, if it is defective in the material or workmanship.

All customers should contact GROM Audio support team at <http://gromaudio.com/support.html> and obtain an RMA number and Return Instructions. All defective product returned to GROM Audio within warranty period must be accompanied by the original invoice (or copy). All shipping handling charges are non-refundable. Warranty does not cover normal tear and wear, damages due to negligence, improper installation, and operation.

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**By purchasing or otherwise obtaining GROM Product you agree:**

- to operate GROM Products only when there are safe driving conditions;
- to follow any applicable state and traffic laws;
- to keep an eye on the road at all time while driving;
- do not attempt to play video (such as YouTube) on a display while the vehicle is in motion;
- do not use GROM Product without running the engine for the extended period of time as it can drain the battery.

You further agree to use the GROM Product in:

- a manner consistent with all applicable laws and regulations and this Agreement;
- a reasonable, safe and appropriate manner considering all the circumstances associated with that use.

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