Replacing GX470 Headlights

Tools needed

10mm socket with 3" extension

Phillips-head screwdriver

Flat-head screwdriver

Blanket

Flashlight

Other factors

Plastics can be brittle in the cold. Do this in a heated garage or an area above 65F.

Bulb replacement

Optionally take this time to replace all the bulbs. Use the bulb-finder at Sylvania:

http://www.sylvania.com/en-us/applications/automotive-lighting-systems/Pages/Irgmain.aspx

For my 2004, these are the bulbs:

Headlights: H11, 9005

Parking light, marker light: 168

Turn signal: 1156 (clear) or 1156A (amber)

Fog: H3

Part Numbers

Non-sport right headlight: 811306A240

Non-sport left headlight: 811706A070

Sport package right headlight: 8113060A60

Sport package left headlight: 8117060A50

Radiator cover clips: 9046708217

Bumper cover clips: 5216102020

Remove wheel-well bolts

There are two 10mm bolts in each wheel-well. One is obvious, but there's a second one that goes straight up.



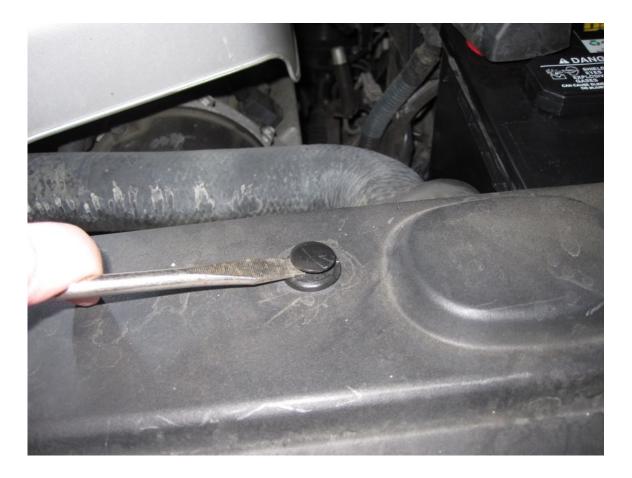
Remove push-pins

There are two push-pins to be removed by the washer fluid fill-neck. Use the Phillips screwdriver to push down on the center, then remove.



Remove radiator cover

There are 14 or so clips that hold the radiator cover on. Use a flat-bladed screwdriver to lift the center portion, then remove the clips. Don't be surprised if some are missing or broken already.



Remove bumper cover bolts

There are eight 10mm bolts underneath the bumper cover that need to be removed. Four have threads for plastic, and four have machine threads. Three are on each of the outside corners (two plastic threads, one machine thread) and two are on the center (machine threads). Don't remove the two holding the engine splash panel on.





Disconnect foglights

Reach under the bumper and disconnect the wiring for the foglights.

Remove bumper cover

Remove the three clips at the top of the bumper cover, using a flat-blade screwdriver to lift up the centers, and remove.

Position the blanket underneath the front of the vehicle to provide a cushioned place for the bumper cover to land on.

At the wheel wells, grasp the edge of the bumper cover and pull out to disengage the bumper cover (both sides). From the front of the vehicle pull forward firmly on the bumper cover at the location where the three clips were to disengage the clips by the end of the fenders. The cover should now be loose.

Continue pulling forward, supporting it until it lands on the blanket. Protect it from scratches.

Remove headlight trim

Remove the headlight trim covers, one on each side (if you still have them). They just clip on.



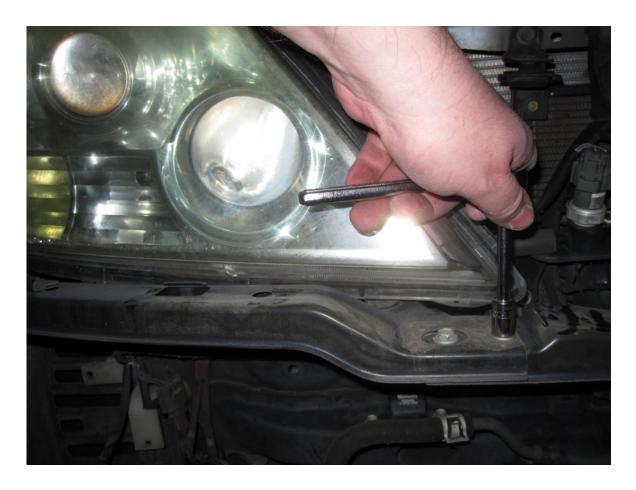
Remove upper headlight bolts

Remove the two 10mm bolts that hold the headlight on. They have threads for plastic.



Remove headlight bracket

Remove the metal headlight bracket. There is one 10mm bolt on the front, and two 10mm nuts on the side. While here, remove the remaining headlight bolt (machine thread) located above the two 10mm nuts on the side.



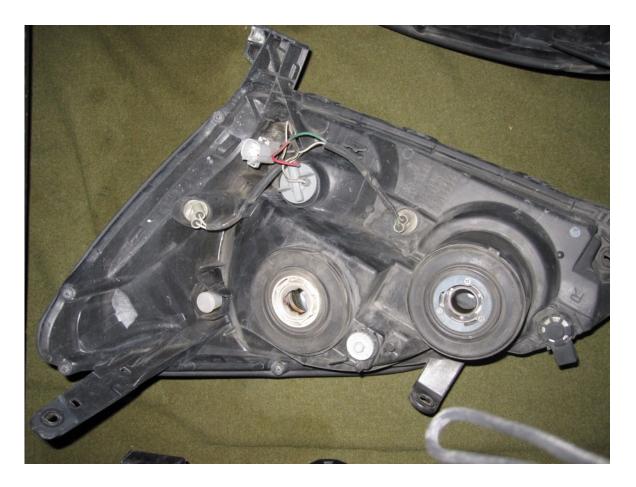


Remove headlight

Unclip the connectors for the bulbs. There's one each for the high beam, low beam, and small/turn lights.

There is a retaining clip under the inside corner of the headlight assembly. Pull straight forward until it unclips. Do not pull up or at an angle! You may end up breaking it anyway...

Place the headlight on the blanket.



Transfer wiring and bulbs

Transfer the wiring and bulbs from the old headlight to the new one, installing new bulbs if you choose to.

Do not touch the bulbs with your hands. Your skin oils will shorten their life.

The new headlight assembly will come with the metal bracket for the turn/marker light connector, I found it easier to simply unscrew the old one and move it over to the new assembly.

The connector for the marker light has the short post (stamped on the headlight assembly in English and Japanese). The parking light connector is much longer.

Reassembly

Reassembly is the reverse. But there are some points to watch out for.

When putting the new headlights in, position them directly in front of the car before pushing them onto the clip. If you go at an angle, you will break the plastic bar on the back of the headlight assembly.

When putting the bumper cover back on, lift and position it from the front. Push the clips in at the front of the fenders, then at the wheel wells make sure the wheel well liner is inside of the bumper cover before bolting it back on.

The difference:

