

## Power supply for USB socket in the car

There is an advantage in having a USB charging socket in your car. You can charge your mobile phone, smartphone or power any in-car devices such as Sat Navs.



A temporary supply can be used by installing an adaptor into the cigarette lighter socket [ if available ]. However, these sockets may only operate when the Ignition is ' On ' and the contacts within the socket can be unreliable.

A permanent supply can be installed with a socket in the dashboard or by a discrete connector under the dashboard in the passenger foot well. A dual output socket is desirable.



Panel mount dual USB power socket



12v to 5v 3A dual hard wired Adapter

It is recommended that the car's wiring should be by-passed and a feed taken directly from the car battery to the socket, to avoid any disruption of the car's wiring. The supply must be fused immediately close to the battery with a 5 amp fuse. The installation should be undertaken by a competent auto electrician, taking particular care passing the wire through the front bulkhead and routed the wire to avoid moving parts in the engine bay and sources of heat.

Smartphone Apps, such as OSMAnd and ViewRanger can provide a good substitute for a dedicated Sat Nav [ like a Garmin or TomTom ] at a fraction of the cost. However, the phone display and the GPS receiver do drain the phone battery quickly, so an on board charger is desirable.