Installation Instructions

72-80 Dodge/Plymouth Truck Replacement Speedometer Needle (PDD193 - FOR BRASS BUSHING)

Thank you for your purchase of our PDD193 Reproduction Speedometer Needle for speedometers where the needle is broken but has not been totally lost or missing. As you know, the plastic in the OEM needles dries out over time and they often turn to dust and literally disintegrate or break apart. This is worse in the southern and western hot climates as the heat tends to accelerate the degradation process. As a result, it is not uncommon to have to replace just the speedometer needle on these units to get them fully functional again. Out replacement needles have been made from a type of plastic that will age better and is more heat and UV light resistant than the original plastics used in these trucks. This needle has also been carefully reproduced to have the same weight and center of mass as the original so that replacing the needle will not affect the performance or calibration of the speedo.

Preparing to Install

This replacement needle product is designed assuming that you have access to the original brass shaft bushing so that you can transfer it to this new replacement needle. The brass bushing ensures a tight needle fit that doesn't slip with driving bumps and heat/cold cycles. Unfortunately, it can bind onto the speedo pivot pin shaft and be difficult to remove after its been on there for many years. Other times its still in the plastic body of the original speedo needle and will need to be extracted (see pictures below). If it's still on the speedometer pivot pin shaft (first picture below) then you may want to apply a bit of heat from a heat gun and then using pliers rotate the bushing off of the shaft using a COUNTER-clockwise motion. If the speedometer head is out of the cluster, you can also hold the aluminum speed cup behind the face for more stability. Work it back and forth being careful to not break the end of the speedo pointer pivot pin shaft. The shaft is very hard but it's also brittle! If the bushing is still in the old speedometer needle body, then simply use a small pair of side cutters to extract it.

THIS



OR THIS



Transferring The Bushing

Once the brass bushing has been reclaimed, take your new reproduction needle and turn it upside down and while supported on a firm surface, push the brass bushing (end with circular ring on it first) into the new needle. Be careful not to break the needle in two doing so. Glue should not be required but can be used if you prefer. When done correctly your speedometer needle should look like the following picture:



Installing The New Speedometer Needle

Installation is simple. The motion is basically "push and rotate" at the same time. Take your new needle and with the pointer pointing straight up, push the needle carefully onto the pivot pin shaft using the large part of your thumb to evenly distribute the pressure (so you don't break one of the semi-circle 'wings' from the pointer. As you are pressing gently rotate the pointer down to the zero position. Don't try to get it exact the first time. Get close (i.e. down to the 5-10mph position first) and then fine tune it into exact position with a second rotation effort. If you go too far and the needle is below the 0 MPH point you will have to grab from behind the metal speed cup that the pivot pin is attached to, and hold it stable while you rotate the needle back up into position.

Testing The Installation

When done, gently flick the needle to ensure that the needle moves freely and the mechanism is not binding. Also make sure it has been pushed on firm enough so that it doesn't want to slip or come off. Once this has been verified you may install the speedometer back in your cluster.



Thank you again for your purchase. We are here to help, if you have any questions or concerns. Simply call us at 613-532-2587 or email us at MrHeaterbox@KOS.net and we will do our best to assist you. We appreciate your support of our business and with this support we hope to make more restoration needed products in the future.