

1970-73 CAPRI

Capri (1970-73)

► CHANGES, CAUTIONS, CORRECTIONS

► 1971-73 CAPRI - DISTORTED STEERING COUPLING - To correct or avoid this situation, it is necessary to maintain preload on upper column bearing while connecting steering coupling (flexible disc). This is accomplished by inserting a spacer between the rubber insulator and the upper shaft yoke. While the steering wheel is being forcibly held down toward the dash, tighten the coupling clamp retaining bolts. Remove spacer and turn wheel from side-to-side to ensure coupling retains its non-distorted position. If necessary, repeat adjustment.

DESCRIPTION

Steering column is a collapsible safety type. Steering wheel is mounted on a convoluted, collapsible can, which is designed to collapse under heavy impact. Can assembly is integral with steering wheel and is removed with wheel.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN

Removal - 1) Disconnect battery. Remove clamp screw securing universal joint to steering shaft. Pry out steering wheel center emblem and pad. Mark relative position of steering wheel to shaft and remove steering wheel.

2) Remove column shroud and lift off turn indicator cancelling cam and spring. Unscrew steering column bracket screws from instrument panel. Disconnect respective turn indicator and ignition switch wiring harnesses. Remove indicator switch retaining screws from top of steering column and remove harness strap and switch assembly. Withdraw steering column.

Installation - Position column lower end in universal joint, checking for correct spline mating. Replace clamp screw and torque to specification. Reverse remaining removal procedures, noting the following: When replacing indicator switch cancelling cam, ensure front wheels are in straight-ahead position.

STEERING COLUMN SHAFT

Removal - 1) Disconnect battery. Remove steering column shroud. Lift clock free of its bracket and disconnect clock wiring. Remove plastic trim plate from center console. Take out ashtray. Withdraw hazard flasher switch and disconnect wiring at cable connector.

2) Detach turn signal switch from its mounting, release switch, and leave it hanging on wiring harness. Remove screws retaining lower dashboard trim panel; pull panel forward and down, to gain access to cigarette lighter wire connector. Disconnect wire and remove trim panel from dashboard. Remove foot pedal trim panel.

3) Release lower shroud from steering wheel; then, pull off upper shroud. Pry out steering wheel center emblem and unscrew steering wheel nut. Note wheel-to-shaft alignment marks. Pull off steering wheel, using hand pressure only.

4) Remove turn signal cancelling cam and spring. Disconnect multi-lug connector from ignition switch.

5) Remove clamp bolt securing steering shaft to "U" joint. Unbolt column tube from pedal bracket. Pull steering column and shaft assembly upward and out of vehicle.

6) Remove lower bearing snap ring and retaining washer, and pull lower support bearing off steering shaft. Withdraw shaft from column tube. If necessary, also remove column upper bearing.

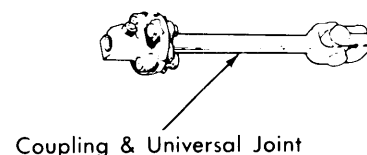
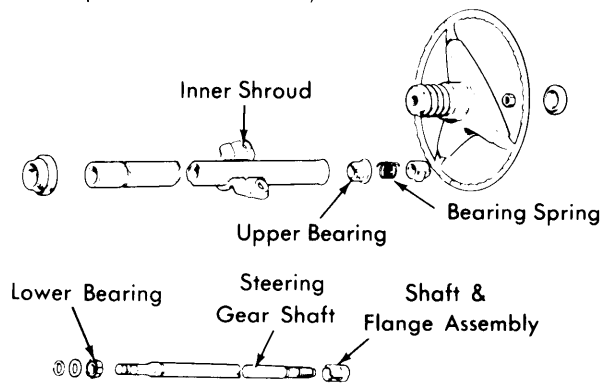
Installation - To install, reverse removal procedure, noting the following: Keep wheels in straight-ahead position during installation. Master spline allows shaft and pinion to engage in one position only. Ensure lug and cancelling cam engages groove in steering wheel.

OVERHAUL

STEERING COLUMN

Disassembly - Remove steering column lock and withdraw steering shaft from lower end of column. Remove lower bearing snap ring and retaining washer. Pull lower support bearing downward off shaft. Drive column upper bearing out from below, using steering shaft as driver. Remove shaft from upper end of column.

Assembly - Install new upper bearing and assemble new lower support bearing on shaft. Replace column lock and turn key to "IGN" position, then back to "OFF" (to ensure lock pin does not protrude into column). Insert shaft from lower end.



OCA01

CAPRI STEERING COLUMN ASSEMBLY

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Steering Wheel-to-Shaft	25-30 (3.5-4.1)
Universal Joint-to-Shaft Spline	12-15 (1.7-2.1)