

1973 PANTERA

Pantera (1973)

DESCRIPTION

Pantera is equipped with a rack and pinion steering gear. This gear is mounted on brackets attached to front crossmember. Steering wheel movement is transmitted by an upper and lower steering shaft through two universal joints to the helically-toothed pinion. Three-tenths pint of SAE 90 gear oil is put into the gear during manufacture; further lubrication is not normally required. **CAUTION** — Never completely fill steering gear with oil, or move front wheels quickly from lock to lock when vehicle is hoisted with front wheels off the ground. Both of these actions will cause excessive hydraulic pressure buildup in gear and could burst bellow.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING GEAR

Removal — 1) Position steering wheel in straight-ahead position. Raise vehicle on hoist. Remove belt securing pinion to lower column universal joint. Remove front wheels.

2) Remove tie rod-to-spindle nut on each side. Separate tie rods from spindle arms. Unbolt steering reinforcement bracket from chassis front extensions, then unbolt rack housing from crossmember. Remove assembly through either wheel well.

Installation — To install, reverse removal procedure, keeping steering wheel in straight-ahead position at all times. Check camber, caster, and toe-in. See *Pantera* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* section.

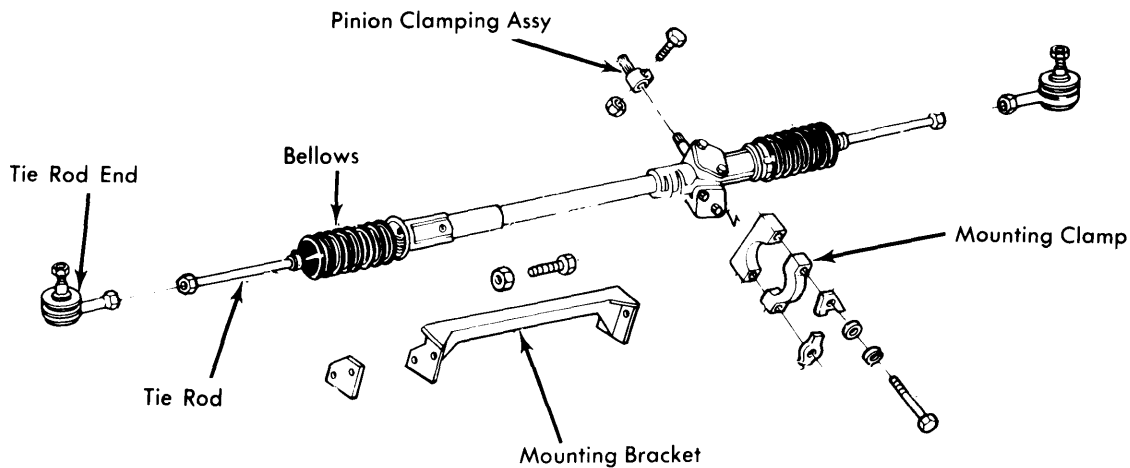
STEERING GEAR BELLOWS (GEAR REMOVED)

Removal — 1) Loosen lock nut near end of tie rod. Remove tie rod end and lock nut from outer end of rod, noting number of turns required to remove tie rod end (this is necessary for accurate reassembly).

2) Loosen clamps securing bellows to tie rod and gear housing. Pull off bellows, keeping bellows up to avoid spilling lubricant. Drain gear oil. Hold gear vertically and move from lock to lock several times to thoroughly expel gear oil.

Installation — 1) Carefully clamp gear in padded vise with bellows end up. Move rack so that upper tie rod is fully extended. Install bellows on gear housing and tie rod. Tighten large clamp and leave smaller clamp loose.

2) Screw tie rod end into place, using same number of turns as required to remove it. Move small clamp off bellows and pour 1/3 pint of SAE 90 gear oil into gear housing. **CAUTION** — Do not exceed this amount and do not use grease. Position and tighten small clamp.



PANTERA RACK & PINION STEERING GEAR