

LUV

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DESCRIPTION

Column is fastened to steering gear through a flexible coupling. The energy-absorbing shaft will collapse during frontal impact under predetermined loads, by shearing plastic pins.

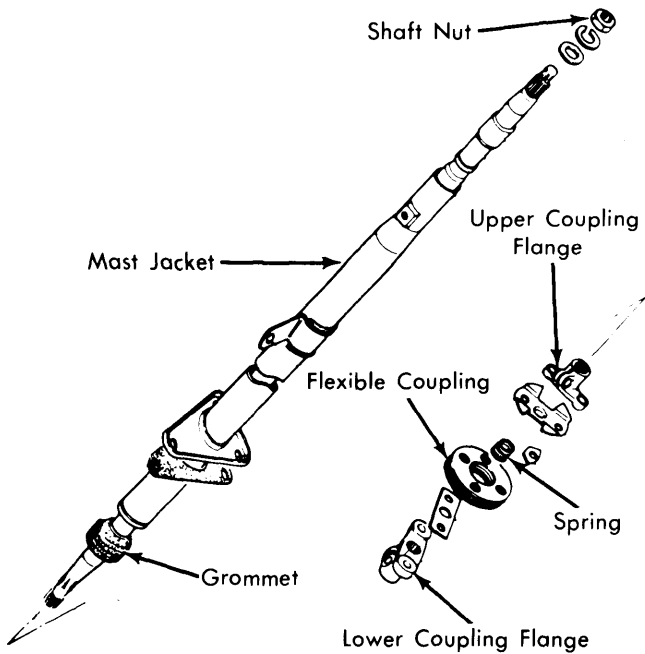


Fig. 1 Exploded View of Steering Column Assembly

INSPECTION

Inspection — If steering shaft plastic pins have been sheared, shaft will rattle when stuck lightly from the side. Some lash will also be felt when rotating steering wheel while holding the flexible coupling. **NOTE** — If pins are sheared due to minor collision, vehicle can be safely steered; however, steering shaft replacement should be made as soon as possible.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN

Removal — 1) Disconnect battery ground cable, then remove horn button, steering wheel, and turn signal switch. See LUV in STEERING WHEEL & COLUMN SWITCHES Section.

2) Raise front of vehicle. Loosen coupling clamp bolts and spread clamp (in engine compartment). Disconnect heater hose from clip on column and bend clip flat. Remove three mast jacket bracket-to-cowl screws. Remove column-to-instrument panel bolts and detach flexible coupling from shaft. Pull steering column out toward passenger compartment.

Installation — To install, reverse removal procedure, noting the following: Leave column-to-panel bolts slightly loose until vehicle is lowered to ground.

FLEXIBLE COUPLING

Removal — 1) Raise front of vehicle. Remove coupling through bolts (only two can be removed). Remove coupling assembly by loosening clamp bolts.

2) If necessary to remove clamps, steering column must be loosened. Remove column mounting screws at cowl. Remove instrument panel mount bolts and slide column rearward about 1" (25 mm), then remove steering column flexible coupling.

Installation — Replace clamps without pinch bolts. Position rubber coupling and tighten through-bolts as required. Install and tighten clamp pinch bolts. If column was loosened, lower vehicle to floor and slightly tighten column-to-instrument panel screws. Install column cowl, then completely tighten column support screws.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Steering Wheel Nut	25 (3.5)
Coupling Through-Bolts	18 (2.5)
Shaft Coupling Clamp	20 (2.8)
Coupling-to-Wormshaft Clamp.....	20 (2.8)
Column-to-Cowl.....	10 (1.4)