

# Steering Columns

## TRIUMPH SPITFIRE

### Spitfire

#### DESCRIPTION

Steering column is a telescoping, safety unit which is designed to compress on impact. The lower section of column will move into the steering column, absorbing impact shock. Column is connected to pinion gear through a flexible coupling and is mounted to the instrument panel on two column supports. A grub screw is inserted through the lower support clamp and retains the lower telescoping portion in place.

#### REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

**Removal** — 1) Disconnect battery. Remove driver's parcel shelf. Unscrew pinch bolts securing steering mast to flexible coupling at gear housing. Remove nuts and washers from two bolts securing steering column forward bracket. Withdraw forward support housing and felt liner.

2) Disconnect electrical couplings for horn, turn signal switch, lights, and column lock. Remove two cap screws securing steering column rear bracket, then withdraw both clamp halves and upper plate. Remove steering column assembly with tie bar.

**Installation** — 1) Set front wheels in straight-ahead position. Hold steering wheel with center spoke straight down, then engage lower end of steering mast in splines of flexible coupling. Slide cardboard tube rearward and fit felt over steering mast housing, ensuring ends of felt are below mast housing.

2) Engage forward ends of tie bar in mounting bolt. Fit felt housing and engage forward mounting bolts, using spring and plain washers under nuts. Ensure spring clip is fitted on mast housing to align with rear clamp bracket. Attach upper and lower clamp halves to mast housing.

3) Place plate in bracket above clamp halves. Enter clamp bolts through tie bar, clamp halves, and mounting bracket. Tighten nuts securing forward bracket. Reconnect electrical leads for horn, turn signal switch, lights, and steering lock. Replace parcel shelf. Connect battery.

#### OVERHAUL

**Disassembly** — 1) Remove steering wheel. Detach column switches. Unlock steering column lock. Remove two set bolts and spring washers securing safety clamp, and remove safety clamp and thrust washer.

2) Withdraw lower steering mast. Pull cap from lower end of steering column tube and remove tubular cardboard spacer. Push column housing upward and withdraw turn signal cam. Pull housing toward lower end of column until it presses against column bushing. Depress rubber locating tabs on column lower bushing and withdraw steering mast and lower bushing. Pull bushing from mast. Remove upper bushing.

**Assembly** — To assemble, reverse disassembly procedure, noting that rubber dots on bushings are facing bottom of tube.

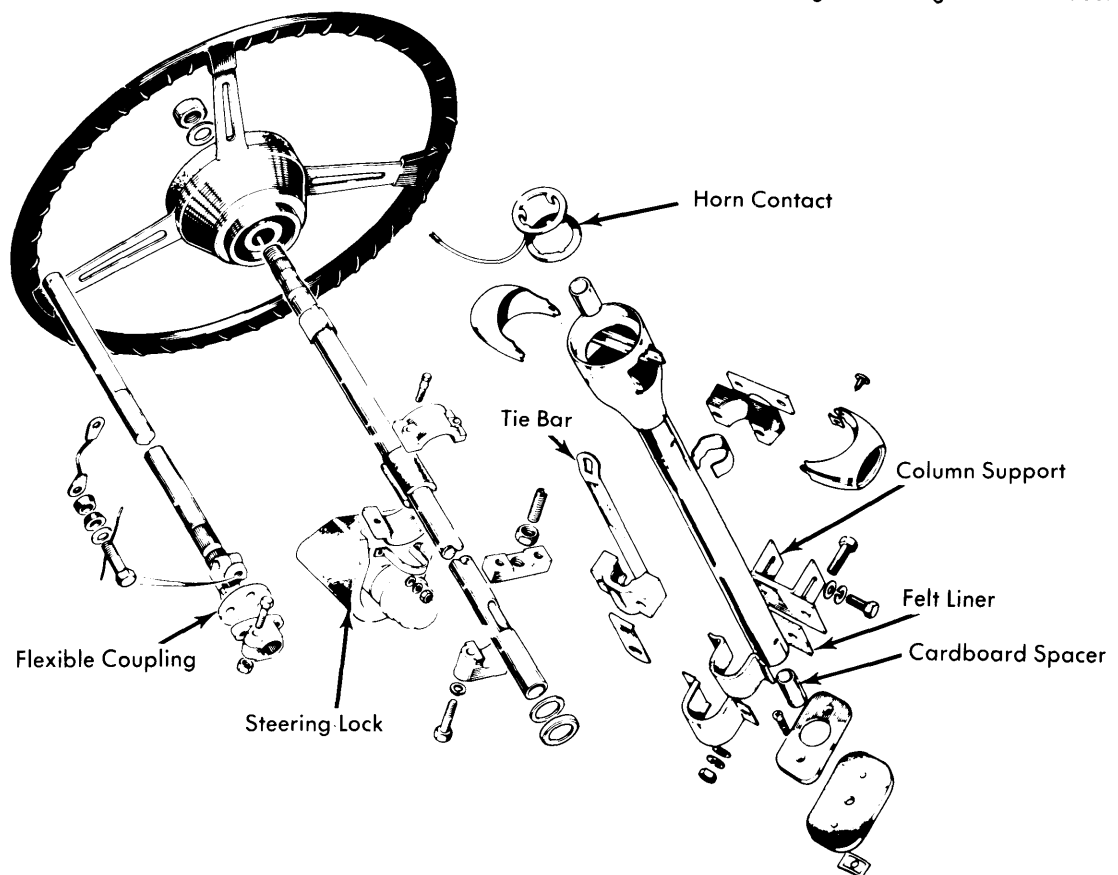


Fig. 1 Spitfire Telescoping Steering Column and Components