

Steering Columns

MGB (Cont.)

5) Correct any horizontal misalignment by moving lower end of steering column. If vertical misalignment exists, remove rack bolts, add necessary shims between mounting brackets and crossmember, replace and tighten mounting bolts, and recheck vertical alignment. When correct alignment is achieved, rivet shims to mounting bosses through holes provided.

6) Remove rack assembly. See appropriate article under *Steering Gears & Linkage* in this section. Remove gauges from column and pinion. Check that column is in straight-ahead position, and fit universal joint to splines with pinch-bolt hole aligned with machined flat.

7) Check that rack is in straight-ahead position, install rack, and fully tighten mounting bolts. Tighten toe-plate bolts and steering column upper mounting bolts.

8) Measure gap between column upper mounting flange and body bracket at the third bolt position. Fit packing washers to thickness of gap, then install and tighten third mounting bolt. Install both universal joint pinch bolts and tighten as necessary.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Upper Column Mounting Bolts	12-17 (1.7-2.4)
Universal Clamp Bolts	20-22 (2.8-3.0)
Steering Wheel Nut	27-29 (3.7-4.0)

MG MIDGET

Midget

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN

Removal – 1) Disconnect battery cable. Remove heater air intake hose. Remove pinch bolt securing steering column clamp to steering gear pinion shaft, then remove screws securing toe-plate to floor board.

2) Note location, quantity and thickness of spacing washers between upper column mount and body mount. Disconnect steering column wiring harness at connector below fascia. Remove steering column with steering wheel and switches.

Installation – 1) If a new steering column is being installed or if spacer washers were lost, steering column must be aligned. See *Steering Column Alignment*.

2) To install old steering column, reverse removal procedure. Make sure spacer washers were installed in original position. Tighten all bolts and nuts to specifications.

STEERING COLUMN ALIGNMENT

1) Turn pinion shaft on steering gear to straight ahead position. Install steering column in vehicle and position inner column in straight ahead position and insert pinion shaft in steering column.

2) Install two top column upper bracket bolts and tighten until weight is off of steering column and column bracket is parallel with body bracket. Steering column should pass through toe-plate hole approximately in center.

3) Measure spaces between brackets. Install spacer washers between both brackets that are same thickness as distance just measured. Tighten bolts finger tight.

4) Tighten toe-plate screws. Tighten column-to-pinion shaft clamp bolt. Measure gap between column and body brackets at third bolt hole and install a spacer washer of same thickness. Tighten bolt finger tight.

5) Remove toe-plate and bolt securing steering column to pinion shaft at steering gear. Pull up on steering column slightly and push down on pinion shaft. Column should move freely.

6) If column moves hard, check for proper installation and shim alignment (if any) of rack and pinion steering gear. If column moves easily, tighten three upper mounting bolts, toe-plate bolts, and column-to-steering clamp bolt.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Upper Column Mounting Bolts	12-17 (1.7-2.4)
Pinion Shaft Pinch Bolt	9-12 (1.2-1.7)
Steering Wheel Nut	37 (5.1)