

# Steering Columns

## VOLKSWAGEN RABBIT & SCIROCCO

Rabbit  
Scirocco

### DESCRIPTION

The Volkswagen Rabbit and Scirocco use two types of steering columns. A swing-a-way type for manual transmission vehicles and a collapsible type for automatic transmission vehicles. On the swing-a-way type, the column is held in place by a clamp and leaf spring. On impact the lower angled portion of column pushes upper column against leaf spring, which disengages and allows the column to swing to the side. The collapsible type has two shear pins. Upon impact, the pins shear off and the lower portion of steering shaft telescopes up into upper portion of steering column.

### REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

#### STEERING COLUMN

**Removal** - Remove steering wheel. See *Volkswagen under STEERING WHEEL & COLUMN SWITCHES* in this section. Remove switch for turn signals and windshield wipers. Pry out spacer sleeve. Remove steering column shrouds and steering wheel lock. Disconnect brake pedal push rod and clutch cable from column. Disconnect upper universal joint from steering shaft and push shaft up through column, then remove column. Remove column bearing, spring and thrust ring.

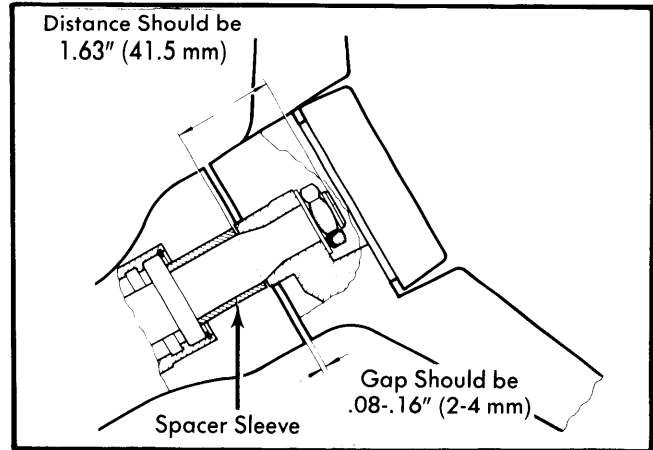


Fig. 1 Steering Wheel-to-Column and Spacer Sleeve Adjustments

**Installation** - To install, reverse removal procedure, noting the following. Press column bearing into column before inserting steering shaft, spring or thrust ring. With steering shaft in column, and column (with shrouds attached) in vehicle, drive spacer sleeve onto steering shaft (Fig. 1). Distance from top of steering shaft to top of spacer sleeve should be 1.63" (41.5 mm). With spacer sleeve installed, place steering wheel onto shaft and measure distance (gap) between steering wheel housing and column shrouds. Gap should be .08-.16" (2-4 mm). If gap is not correct, check shroud installation, column tube installation and spacer sleeve installation.

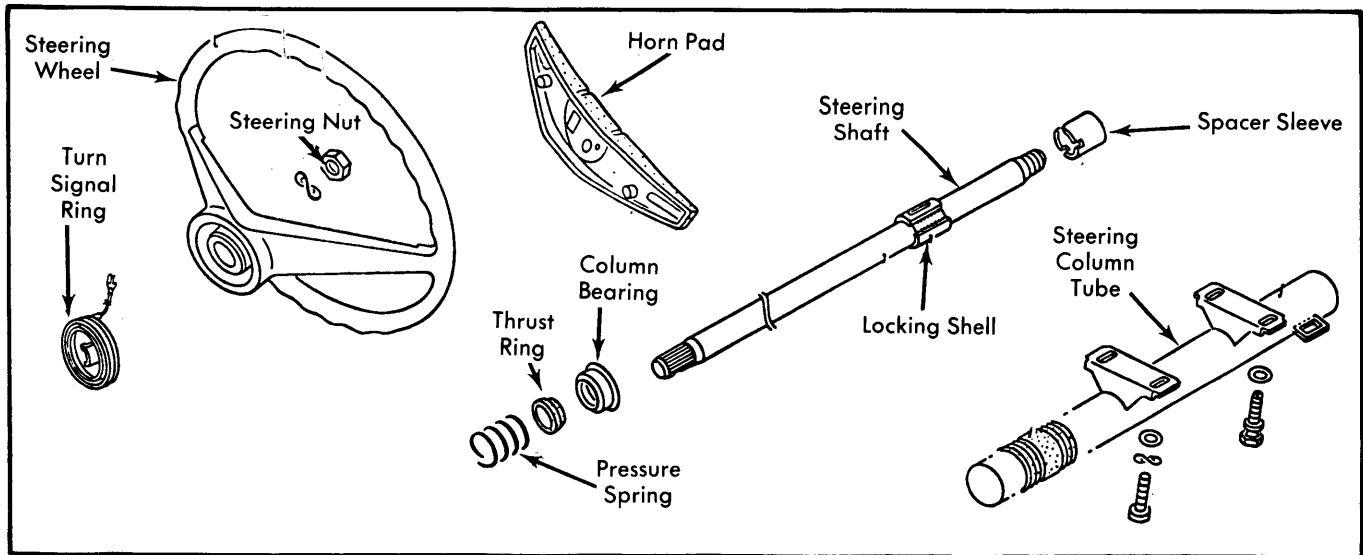


Fig. 2 Rabbit/Scirocco Steering Column and Related Parts