

Steering Columns

FIAT 128, BRAVA, STRADA & X1/9

**128
Brava
Strada
X1/9**

DESCRIPTION

The steering column is composed of 2 sections. The top section is mounted on 2 ball bearings, while the lower section is equipped with 2 universal joints. On Brava models, the upper section pivots to allow steering wheel height adjustment.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN (ALL MODELS)

Removal — 1) Disconnect battery. Remove screws holding column cover halves. On Brava models, remove steering column tilt adjustment knob. On all models, detach electrical connectors at steering column. Remove nuts and washers retaining column at support bracket below instrument panel.

2) Unscrew pinch bolt holding lower end of steering shaft to gear box. Remove column assembly from vehicle. Dismantle steering wheel and column switch unit, if necessary.

Installation — To install, reverse removal procedure.

UPPER COLUMN BEARING REPLACEMENT (128 MODELS)

Removal — 1) Remove screws attaching horn button cover and screws attaching steering column cover. Unscrew steering wheel nut and take off wheel. Loosen turn signal switch retaining nut and disconnect electrical wiring, then remove nut and switch.

2) Withdraw retaining ring and allow spring to extend. Remove nuts attaching steering column support to instrument panel. Disconnect universal joint between upper and lower column sections. On bench, push out top end of column and remove bearing, then repeat on lower end bearing.

Installation — Replace bearings in reverse of removal procedure.

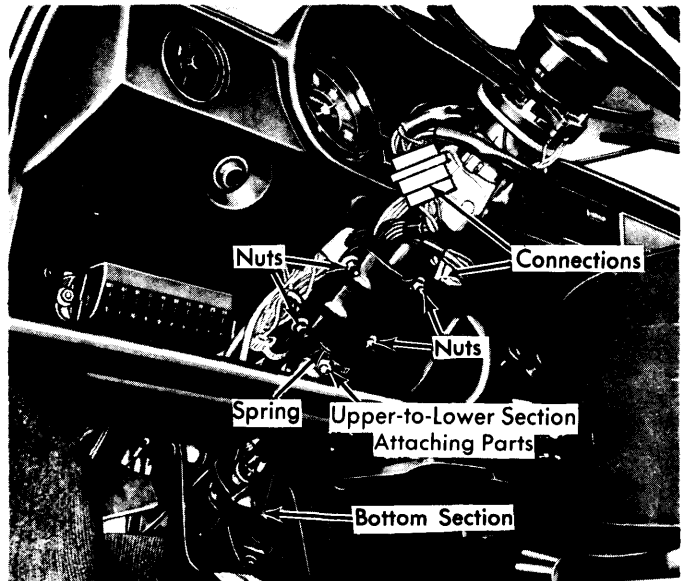


Fig. 1 Installed View of Typical Steering Column as Viewed from Under Instrument Panel

FIAT SPIDER 2000

Spider 2000

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

Removal — After removing steering wheel, horn button and column switch assembly, remove steering column bracket by disconnecting column from ignition switch and removing 4 column-to-instrument panel retaining screws. Unbolt clamp securing steering column to worm shaft and pull column up into passenger compartment.

Installation — 1) Insert column through opening in instrument panel. Fit worm shaft to steering column and lock with clamp. Replace column support bracket to steering column and connect with attaching screws (loosely).

2) Replace steering wheel temporarily and turn from side to side 2 or 3 times. Attach column switch assembly, then torque column bracket bolts to 11 ft. lbs. (1.5 mkg). Tighten steering wheel nut and connect switch wiring. Replace remaining components in reverse of removal procedure.

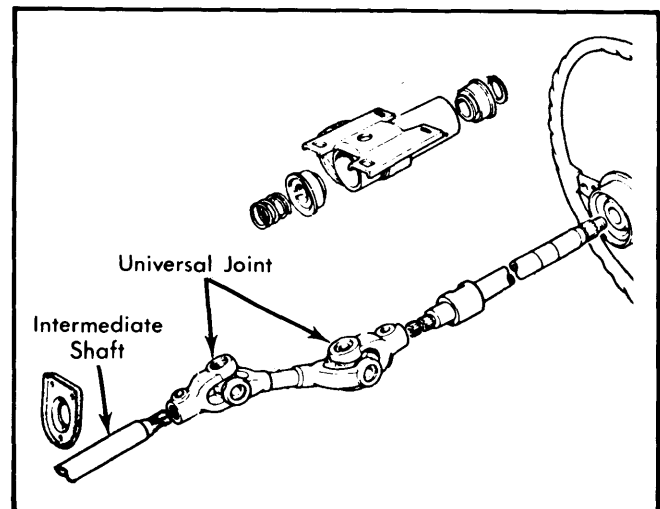


Fig. 1 Detail of Flexible Coupling Connecting Upper and Lower Portions of Steering Shaft