

Steering Columns

DATSUN/NISSAN — EXCEPT 280ZX & PICKUP

DESCRIPTION

Steering columns used on these Datsun vehicles are safety, collapsible type. These columns compress on impact.

On 310, Sentra, Stanza, and Maxima models, 2 universal joints between column and steering gear are used. These joints provide the most desirable steering wheel position and angle.

On all other models, a flexible rubber coupling attaches column to steering gear assembly.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN

Removal (Except 210 & 200SX)

1) Disconnect lower column "U" joint from steering gear assembly. Remove steering wheel. See *Datsun/Nissan in Steering Wheel & Column Switches* article in this Section.

2) Remove steering column cover. Separate turn signal switch assembly and combination light switch from column.

3) Remove joint cover and bracket bolts. Remove column mounting bolts. Remove steering column through passenger compartment.

Inspection

1) Check column bearings for smooth even operation. If necessary, grease bearings with lubricant.

2) Check column tube for deformation or breaks. Replace components as required.

3) If vehicle has been involved in a collision, check steering column dimensions "A" and "B" in Steering Column Table. See Fig. 1.

STEERING COLUMN TABLE

Models	"A" In. (mm)
200SX	
Manual Steering	7.05 (179)
Power Steering	7.09 (180)
210	7.52 (191)
310 ¹	24.04-24.16 (610.7-613.7)
Maxima	15.95 (405.2)
Sentra	18.95-19.07 (481.3-484.3)
Stanza	
Std. Column	24.21-24.25 (615.0-616.0)
Tilt Column	26.02 (661.0-662.0)
¹ — Measurement "B" is 16.56-16.67 (420.5-423.5).	

Installation

1) Set steering gear in straight-ahead position. Connect lower joint to steering column. Slide steering assembly through hole in floor board.

2) Tighten column tube mounting bolts. Loosen splined shaft set screw and connect shaft to joint. Connect opposite end to steering gear. Tighten pinch bolt and set screw.

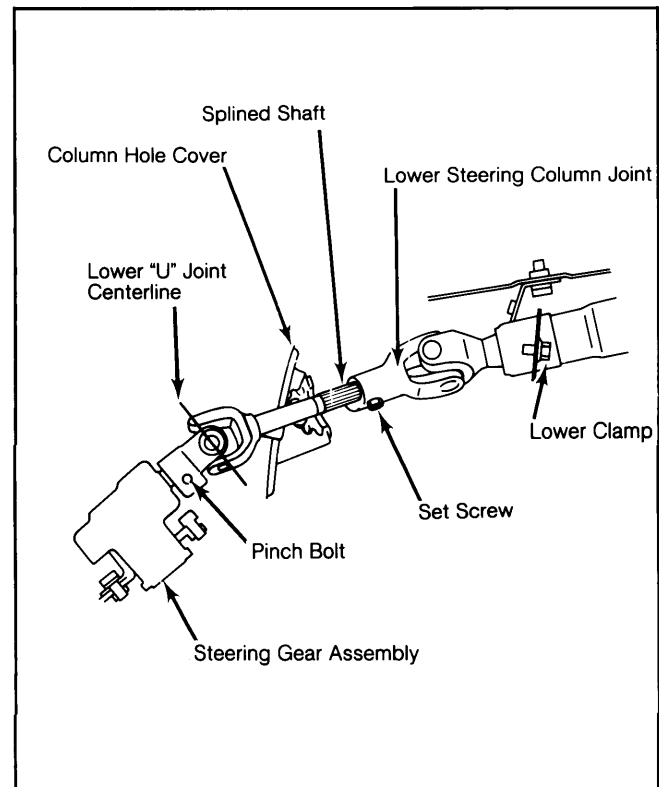
3) Make sure column tube hole seal is not twisted and that lower lip makes contact with joint shaft.

Removal (210 & 200SX)

1) Remove steering shaft pinch bolt. Remove steering wheel. See *Datsun/Nissan in Steering Wheel & Column Switches* article in this Section.

2) Remove upper and lower steering column covers. Loosen screws and take off turn signal switch or

Fig. 1: 310, Sentra, Stanza, and Maxima Steering Column Assembly



200SX and 210 models use only one "U" joint.

combination switch assembly. On 200SX & Maxima models, remove heater duct from dash panel side.

3) Remove bolts retaining steering column tube cover to floorboard. From under instrument panel, remove bolts retaining column clamp and remove clamp. Pull steering assembly from vehicle by removing it through passenger compartment.

Inspection

1) Check column bearings for smooth even operation. If necessary, lubricate bearings.

2) Check column tube for deformation or breaks. Replace components if necessary.

3) Check column shaft spring and replace, if weak or worn. Check for any space between column tube bracket and block (mounted in bracket.) If there is any clearance between block and bracket, steering column has been damaged and must be replaced.

4) On 200SX, 210, 310, and Maxima models, measure distance shown in Fig. 2.

Installation

1) Place steering gear so wheels point straight-ahead. On 200SX models with power steering, a special steering column centering band is used.

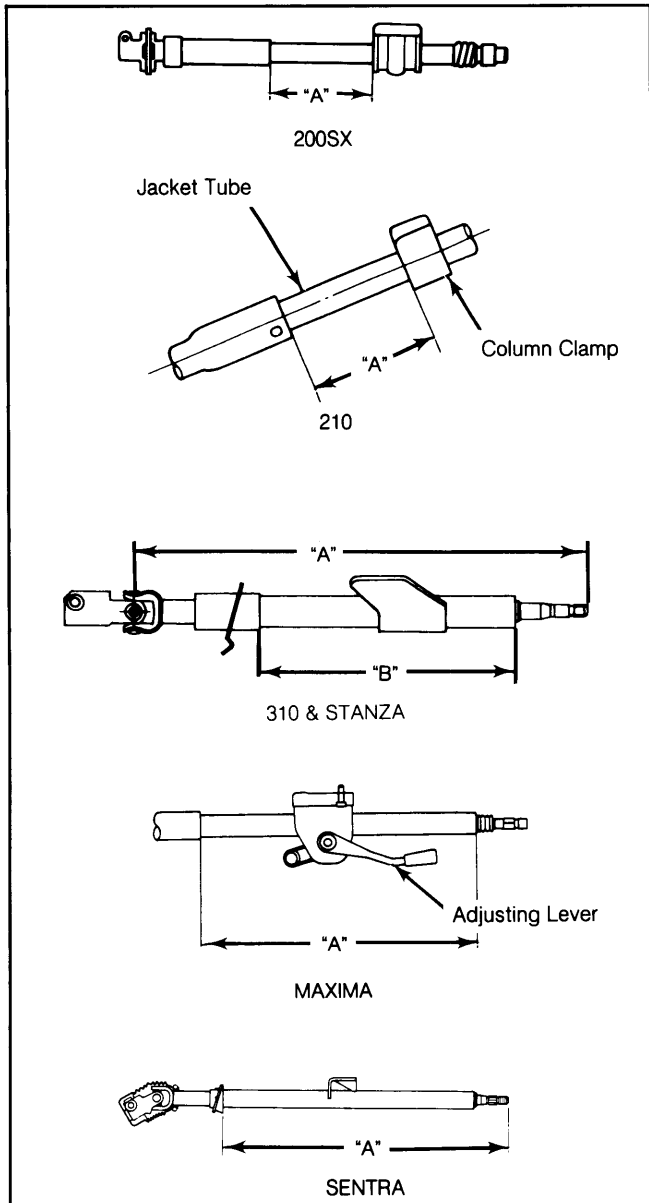
2) Centering band is installed to column in place of column band prior to column installation, the removed and replaced with column band after installation.

3) Slide steering column into position through passenger compartment. Guide column over worm shaft. Make sure punch mark faces up and tighten pinch bolt.

4) Place column under instrument panel. Refit column tube cover at floor board. Reverse removal

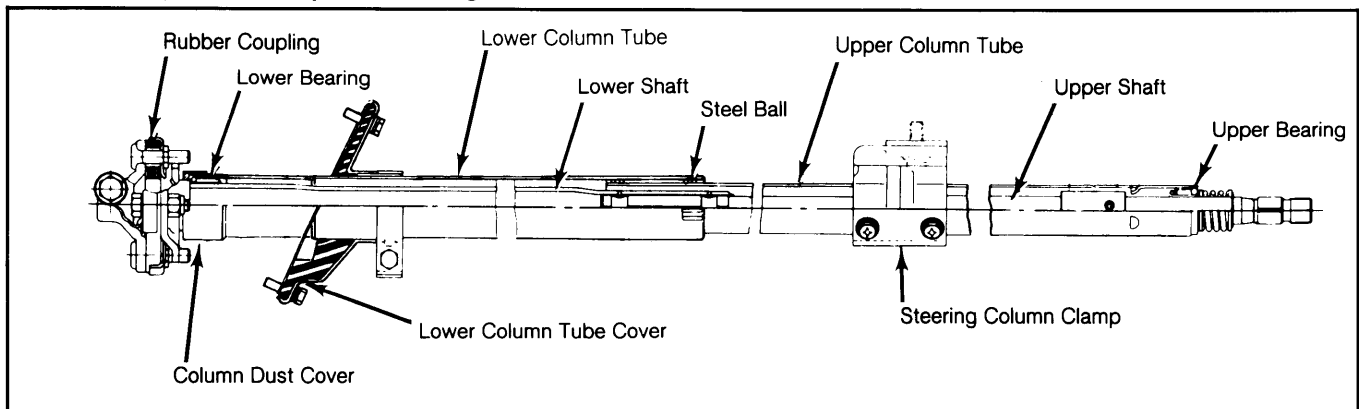
DATSUN/NISSAN — EXCEPT 280ZX & PICKUP (Cont.)

Fig. 2: Datsun/Nissan Steering Column Measuring Points



310 & Stanza models use 2 measurements.

Fig. 3: Datsun/Nissan Collapsible Steering Column



Bolt locations and positions will differ between models.

procedures for remaining components. Make sure steering wheel rotates freely.

OVERHAUL

STEERING COLUMN

Overhaul is not recommended for 200SX, 210, and Maxima models. Replace steering column as an assembly, if damaged.

Disassembly (310 & Stanza)

1) Remove snap ring from steering column shaft. Remove washer and pull column shaft out of column tube, from the bottom of column tube.

2) Remove "O" ring. Inspect column tube and shaft for excessive wear or damage. Replace as necessary.

Reassembly

Install new "O" ring. Slide column shaft into column tube, from bottom. Install washer and snap ring. Make sure column shaft rotates easily in column tube.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N.m)
Joint Shaft-to-Column Bolt	
310 Upper and Lower	17-22 (23-30)
Sentra Upper and Lower	22-29 (30-39)
Stanza	
Upper	27-38 (37-52)
Lower	23-31 (31-42)
Maxima	
Lower	24-28 (33-38)
Rubber Coupling-to-Worm Shaft	
200SX, 210	29-36 (39-49)
Steering Column Clamp Bolts	
200SX, 210, Maxima	9-13 (12-18)
310, Sentra, Stanza	7-10 (10-14)
Steering Wheel Nut	
200SX, 210, Stanza, Maxima,	27-38 (37-52)
310	22-25 (30-34)
Sentra	22-29 (30-39)