

Steering Columns

12-45

SAAB 900 & 900 TURBO

DESCRIPTION

Steering columns used on these models are safety telescopic type. The lower portion of the steering shaft is designed to retract into the upper portion when frontal impact is experienced.

Steering shaft is mounted in column support by needle bearings. Column support is mounted to a cross member under dash. An intermediate shaft, with "U" joints at each end, transmits steering shaft movement to steering gear.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING COLUMN

Removal

1) Remove locking bolt at universal joint. Remove lower bearing cover and safety padding under instrument panel. Remove direction switch and wiper switch assembly.

2) Remove rubber boot at dash and retaining screws in steering column bearing support. Remove complete steering column assembly.

Installation

1) Bolt steering shaft to "U" joint, make sure bolt engages groove in shaft. Install steering column bearing support retaining screws and tighten slightly.

2) Position support so holes align with holes in dash. Tighten screws. Install rubber boot to dash. Install electrical switches, safety padding and steering joint cover. Adjust steering wheel.

INTERMEDIATE SHAFT SEALING BELLOWS

Removal

1) Remove cover under instrument panel. Unscrew steering column-to-intermediate shaft retaining screw.

2) Unbolt column tube from instrument panel. Pull steering column from intermediate shaft. Cut off old sealing bellows.

Installation

1) Lubricate installer tool (89 95 13) with vaseline or soapy water. Place tool against intermediate shaft.

2) Ease new bellows over tool and joint. Ensure bellows are not damaged in this process.

3) Place steering column into intermediate shaft. Make sure that shaft is pushed in so that screw is located directly opposite the groove. Tighten retaining screws.

4) Attach steering column to instrument panel. Check position of steering wheel and adjust, if necessary. Fit bellows in dash panel. Replace cover under dash.

OVERHAUL

STEERING COLUMN

Disassembly

Remove retaining screws and remove plastic cover under steering wheel. Pull steering wheel shaft out of tube. Withdraw rubber bushings with steering wheel shaft bushings and washers.

NOTE: The only overhaul procedure possible on 900 models is replacement of the 2 needle bearings.

Reassembly

To reassemble, reverse disassembly procedures. Replace required bushings.

Fig. 1: Exploded View of Steering Column Assembly

