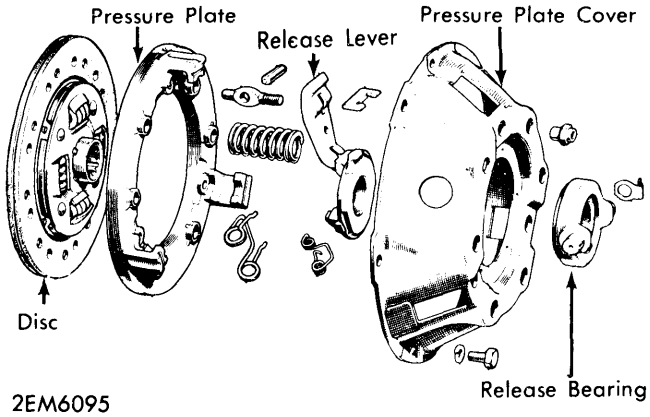
1963-73 MG MIDGET

MK I (1963-64)
MK II (1965-66)
MK III (1967-73)

DESCRIPTION

Clutch assembly is hydraulically operated Borg & Beck single dry plate type. Main components of clutch system are; clutch disc, pressure plate assembly, clutch release bearing, and clutch housing. Hydraulic system incorporates firewall-mounted master cylinder and clutch housing-mounted slave cylinder. Clutch control design eliminates necessity of pedal adjustment.



CLUTCH ASSEMBLY (LATE MODELS)

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

CLUTCH

Remove engine. See *Engine Removal in ENGINE Section*. If engine and transmission are removed as an assembly, disconnect and remove transmission. Extract pressure plate assembly bolts, in diagonal sequence, and withdraw as a unit. To install clutch and/or transmission, reverse removal procedures.

CLUTCH MASTER CYLINDER

Midget MK I & II – Disconnect heater electrical connections and extract heater blower motor brackets from firewall. Disconnect two hydraulic lines at union in rear of master cylinder. Remove mounting bolts and withdraw master cylinder upward while guiding clutch and brake pedals through firewall. To install, reverse removal procedure.

Midget MK III – Remove pedal housing lid and disconnect hydraulic line from clutch master cylinder. Withdraw cotter pin from clevis connecting push rod to clutch pedal. Remove two bolts mounting master cylinder to pedal housing and remove cylinder.

NOTE – After reinstalling clutch master cylinder, bleed hydraulic system. See Hydraulic System Bleeding.

CLUTCH SLAVE CYLINDER

Remove inlet line to slave cylinder, noting thicker washer mounts on hose connection nearest cylinder. Remove clevis pin from clutch and free slave cylinder push rod. Extract two bolts and spring washers securing cylinder to clutch housing. To install, reverse removal procedure. Bleed hydraulic system. See *Hydraulic System Bleeding*.

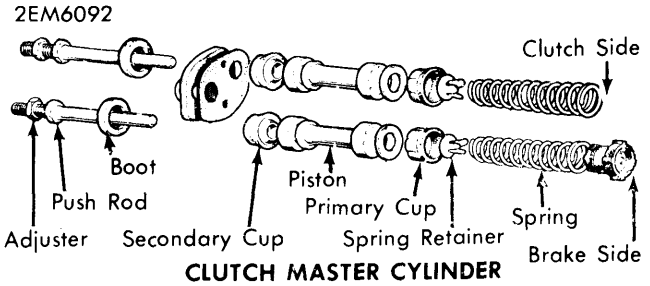
CLUTCH RELEASE BEARING

After removing clutch release bearing from its position, examine it for cracks or deep pits. If cracks or pits are present, replace bearing. Measure bearing from metal cup. If protrusion is less than 1/16" (1.6 mm), replace bearing.

OVERHAUL

CLUTCH MASTER CYLINDER

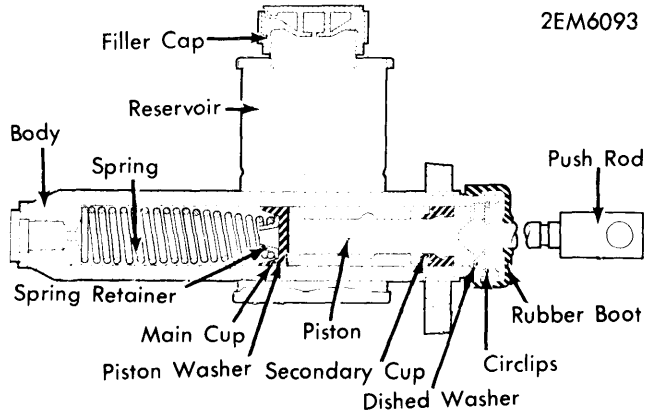
Midget MK I & II – Remove mounting plate from master cylinder. Drain fluid from cylinder. Extract all internal parts and clean in brake fluid. Examine all parts for wear or damage and replace as necessary. To install, reverse removal procedure, noting the following: vent hole in boot must face bottom.



CLUTCH MASTER CYLINDER (MK I & II)

Midget MK III – 1) Drain fluid and detach rubber boot. Disconnect and withdraw push rod. Completely disassemble all internal parts.

2) Clean and thoroughly dry all parts. Examine internal components for damage and replace as necessary. Manufacturer recommends replacing rubber parts at each overhaul.



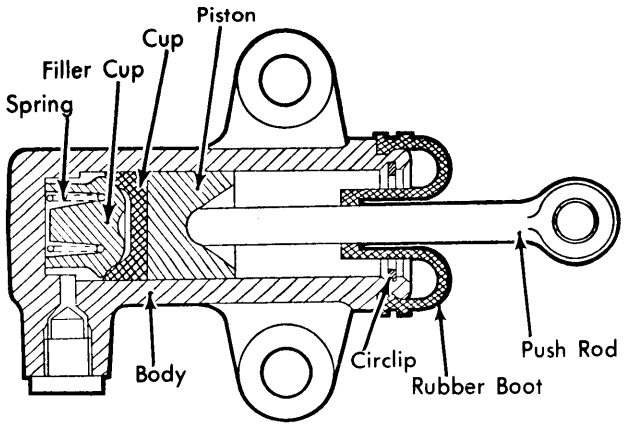
CLUTCH MASTER CYLINDER (MK III)

3) Before reassembly dip all components in brake fluid. Fit secondary cup to piston. Put spring retainer into small diameter end of spring and insert spring into body, large diameter first. Position main cup, washer, piston, and push rod. Install circlip and rubber boot.

CLUTCH SLAVE CYLINDER

1) Remove rubber seal and, using compressed air, force piston and internal seal out. Clean slave cylinder body and components in brake fluid or alcohol. Examine rubber parts and replace if distorted or split. Inspect cylinder and piston for wear or score marks and replace as necessary.

1963-73 MG MIDGET (Cont.)



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CLUTCH SLAVE CYLINDER

2) To reassemble, place seal into stem of piston, with back of seal against piston. Replace springs, with small end on stem. Position rubber boot, ensuring push rod enters hole in boot.

ADJUSTMENT

CLUTCH PEDAL ADJUSTMENT

Adjust clutch linkage until clutch pedal has approximately ¼" (6.4 mm) free play. When adjustment is correct, distance between slave cylinder piston and push rod will be 1/32" (.80 mm).

HYDRAULIC SYSTEM BLEEDING

Fill master cylinder and attach a bleed hose to slave cylinder bleed valve; submerge free end of hose in a half-full container of brake fluid. Pump clutch pedal, open bleed valve approximately three-quarters turn; at end of down stroke close bleed valve. Continue procedure until air bubbles stop.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Clutch Housing Bolts	25 (3.5)
Clutch-to-Flywheel	25 (3.5)