

# 1974-79 EXHAUST EMISSION SYSTEMS

## Audi Catalytic Converters

### All Models

### DESCRIPTION & OPERATION

Used on California vehicles, the catalytic converter is an efficient "clean-up" device added to the exhaust system to further help reduce engine pollutants. Harmful carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons in the exhaust gas are chemically changed into harmless carbon dioxide and water vapors as they pass through the converter. The catalytic converter is installed in the exhaust system in front of the muffler(s), so that all exhaust gases must pass through it.

Engine maintenance is critical on vehicles equipped with a catalytic converter as misfiring or excessive richness of the fuel mixture can overheat converter and destroy its effectiveness. Also, unleaded fuel only must be used. Deposits from leaded gasolines and fuel additives containing sulfur, zinc, nickel or barium will ruin the catalyst and make it ineffective.

### MAINTENANCE

#### CATALYTIC CONVERTER CHECKING

- 1) Remove catalytic converter from vehicle and hold it up to strong light. Look through both ends of converter. If ceramic insert appears broken or melted, converter has failed and should be replaced.
- 2) Hold converter vertically and firmly tap flange onto solid wood from a distance of 8 inches (203 mm). Turn converter over and firmly tap the other flange.
- 3) If a light knocking sound is heard inside converter, the ceramic insert is loose and converter has failed. Replace converter.

#### CATALYTIC CONVERTER REMINDER LIGHT

Some vehicles may be equipped with a catalytic converter (CAT) maintenance reminder light that will come on at pre-set mileage intervals. After maintenance has been performed, light must be turned out. Press button marked "CAT" on mileage switch which is mounted in-line with speedometer cable behind instrument panel.