

Mustang Repair and Refresh

Article by Lucien Boutin

Bob Azukas 1978 Mustang II Coupe

The last two articles on Bob's Coupe covered how to change out the heater core in his Mustang II. This time I am going to show you how to change out the stock steering wheel and replace it with a stock sport wheel. Once again this job is relatively simple as there are no air bags or clock springs to deal with as in today's cars.



This is the original steering wheel that was installed at the factory. Because the car is now 30 years old the vinyl on the wheel has faded and discolored to the point that it can not be brought back. So a factory sport wheel will be installed that still looks like new and is easier to maintain. Before beginning be sure front wheel are straight as this will assure the new steering wheel will be on straight when you're finished.



First you need to remove two screws that hold the horn pad to the wheel. Next remove the two wires that make the horn work. To remove these all you need to do is pull gently on the connectors and the horn pad is now off the wheel. Next use a 15/16" socket to remove the nut that holds the wheel to the column.



Next install a steering wheel puller by using the two holes on the wheel. This centers the tool on the column and by turning the center bolt on the puller the wheel pops off easily. Once the wheel is removed it is time to install the new one.



Carefully make sure that the new wheel is oriented in the correct position and install it on the column and replace and tighten the nut. Be sure that the nut is properly tightened or the wheel could come loose and cause loss of steering control.



Next reconnect the horn wires and reinstall the horn button and the installation is now complete. Next article will be on checking the dash lights for proper operation.