



THE MODEL T FORD

ITS REPAIR, SERVICE, & RESTORATION

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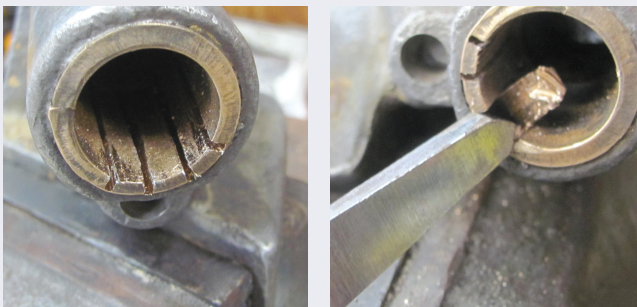
Replacing the Steering Bracket Bushing

Restoring the steering bracket requires installing and fitting a new bushing in the lower end of the bracket. Wear at this bushing permits slop and wobble in the steering of the T. With a few tools, this job is easy to perform in your home garage.

The old bushing can be cut in several places by fitting a hacksaw blade inside the bushing. Remove the blade from the hacksaw handle, then refit the blade to the handle once it's placed inside the bushing.



Cut a few slots into the old bushing, then use a cape chisel to cut away the material between two slots to split the bushing for removal.



Since the bracket has a narrow opening on the upper end, you can't use a bushing driver to remove the old bushing. By splitting the bushing, however, a small steel punch can be used from this narrow, opposite end to drive out the old bushing, as shown in the next two pictures.



After removing the bushing, clean the inner surfaces of the bore in the bracket and put a bit of oil on the surfaces of the new bushing. This will help ease installation when using a bushing driver. Tap the new bushing in place so that the end is flush with the bracket.



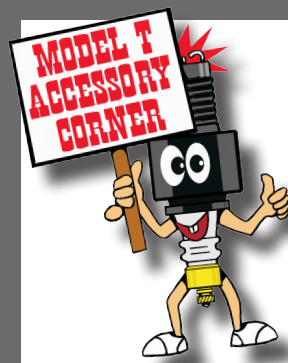
Now the steering column shaft needs to fit smoothly into the new bushing. This will require reaming the new bushing for the shaft and an adjustable reamer is handy to perform that task. The reamer shown below is 23/32"-25/32", or .718"-.781", approximately 3/4" size.



Polish the old steering shaft clean at the bushing bearing surfaces, then test fit your work. Install the upper grease felt and the grease cup to keep the bushing/shaft lubricated. The rebuilt steering bracket will improve the handling of your T!



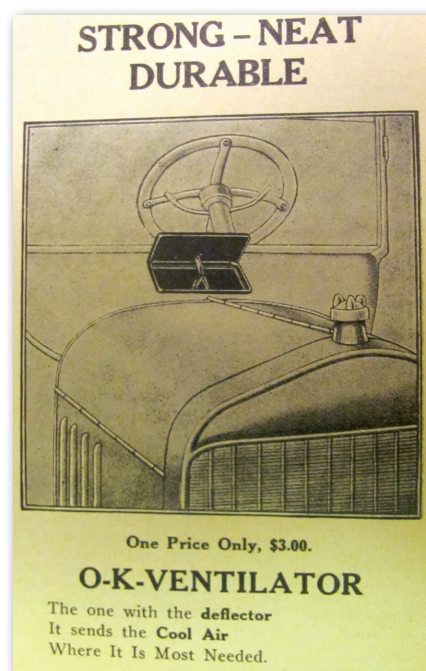
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Aftermarket accessories from the past, often found on the Ford. Many thousands of inventive products were sold to dealers and owners to upgrade, customize, or improve over the factory parts...in most cases not so much!

Cowl Ventilator

A practical and useful accessory for providing open air flow to the inside of the car, helping relieve the driver's and passenger's feet from the warm engine heat coming up from the floorboards!



Above: Corey White's (Bloomfield, NY) 1915 Touring with cowl vent.
Left: A cowl vent was on the 1915 Model T that Edsel Ford and friends drove from Detroit to San Francisco in 1915.

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Photo courtesy of the AACA Library.