

Replacement of Impulse Coil Inside Ignition Distributor

By: Technical Committee, DeLorean Owners Association (Don Steger, Professional Advisor)

Some possible symptoms of impulse coil failure:

- Car stalls while driving.
- Car will not start until engine cools down, about an hour.

Possible cause:

- The distributor impulse coil overheats and causes an open circuit in the distributor.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Be certain to distinguish between the Coil inside cover in the right front corner of the engine compartment (Fig. 3) and the Impulse Coil or Distributor Coil described as a component part of the distributor (No. 12, Fig. 2) in DeLorean Manuals.

Suggested Test:

Disconnect the brown plug coming from the distributor through left, lower front of firewall. (Photo #1) With an ohmmeter, check for continuity between terminal pins of wires from the distributor. (A simple continuity tester may be available in an automotive supply store.)

Alternate Test:

1. Turn off ignition key.
2. Remove cover located in right forward corner of engine compartment. (Fig. 3)
3. Remove center wire from coil and allow it to rest on edge of its receptacle. (Photo #2)
4. Turn on ignition key and attempt to start engine.

CAUTION: DURING THE ATTEMPT TO START ENGINE, DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, TOUCH THE COIL WIRE! THE WIRE CONDUCTS EXTREMELY HIGH VOLTAGE, WHICH CAN BE FATAL.

If there is no spark observed to jump from wire to socket, this is

an indication that the impulse coil, (No. 12, Fig. 2) inside the distributor, has failed and needs to be replaced.

Necessary tools for Impulse Coil replacement:

- Ohmmeter
- 11 mm box wrench

- 3 mm allen wrench, long shaft
- 5 mm allen wrench, long shaft
- Small external snap ring pliers
- Small screwdriver
- Regular screwdriver
- Two large screwdrivers
- #1 Phillips screwdriver
- Two wooden blocks, 1/2 x 3 inches
- Hammer

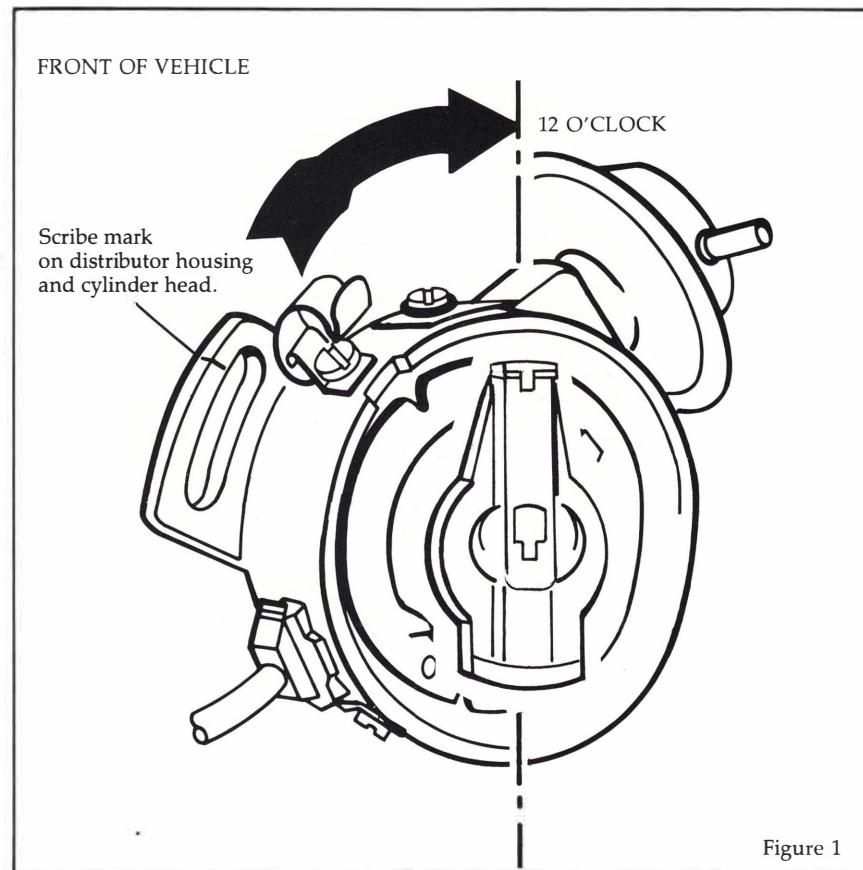


Figure 1

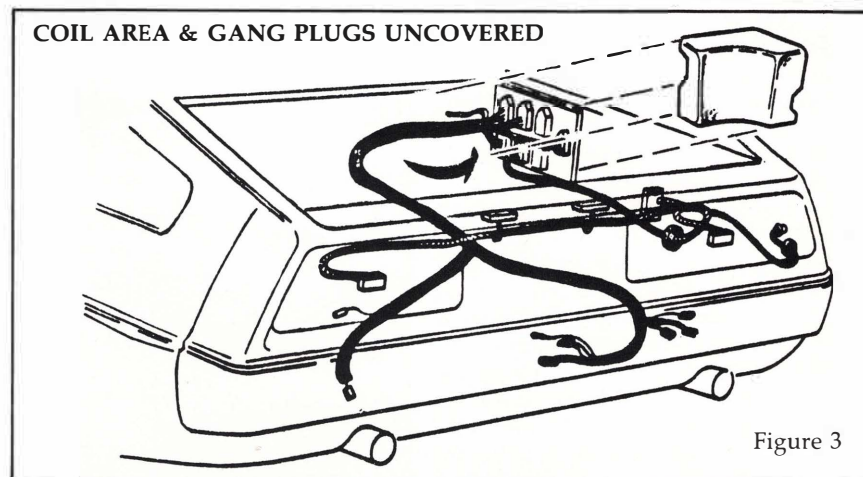


Figure 3

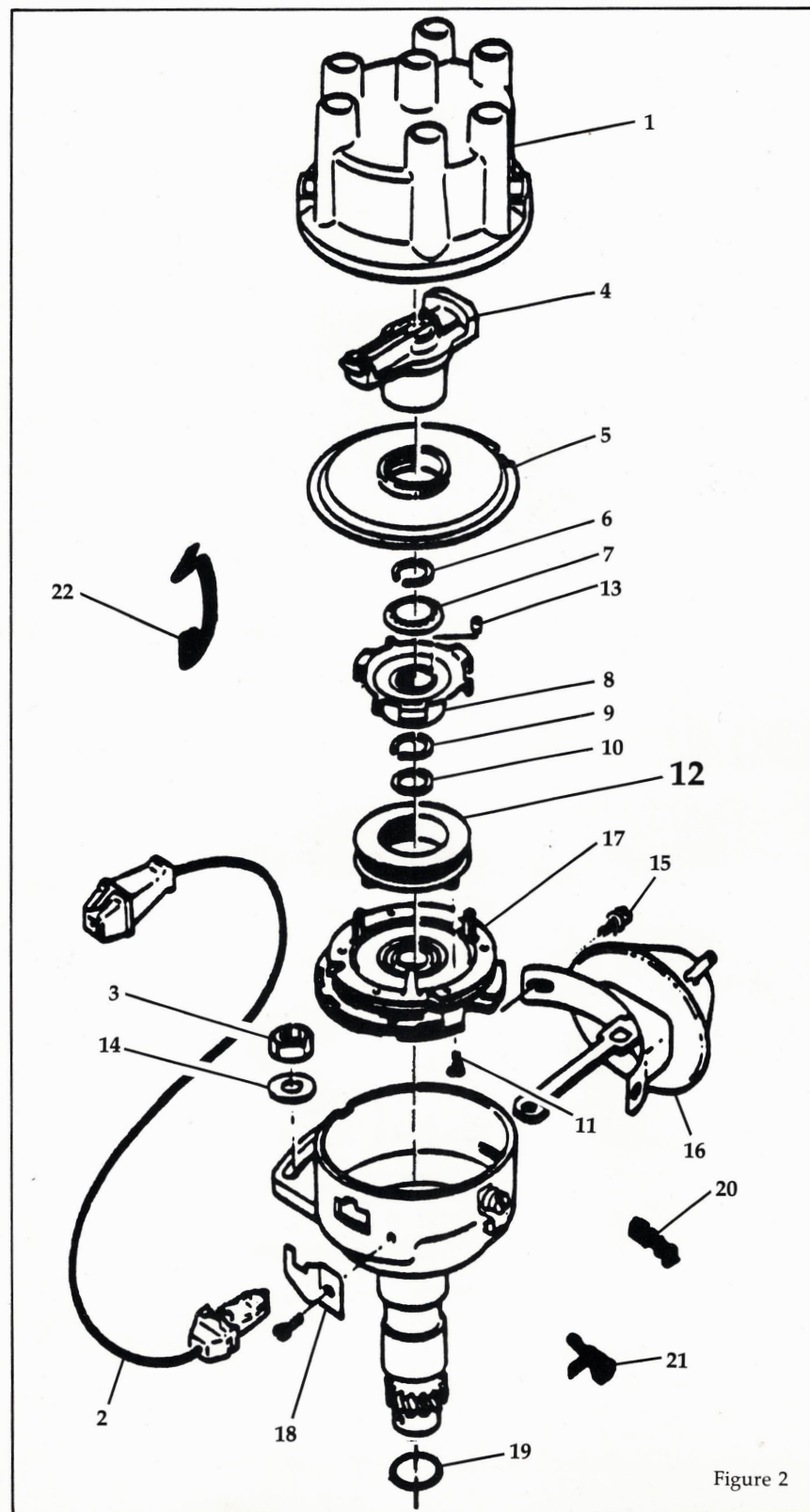


Figure 2

(NO.) DESCRIPTION

1. CAP, DISTRIBUTOR
2. WIRE, TACHOMETER
3. NUT, M7 X 100
4. ROTOR, DISTRIBUTOR
5. DUST SHIELD
6. SNAPRING (CIRCLIP)
7. STARWASHER
8. ROTOR, HOLDING
9. SNAPRING (CIRCLIP)
10. WASHER(S), COMPENSATING
11. SCREWS (3)
12. **COIL, IMPULSE (COIL, DISTRIB.)**
13. KEY, ROTOR
14. WASHER, M7
15. SCREWS (4), VACUUM ADV.
16. VACUUM ADVANCE, DISTRIBUTOR
17. BASE PLATE
18. BRACKET, DISTRIB. HARNESS
19. SEAL, O RING
20. SUPPORT, ADVANCE ARM, UPPER
21. SUPPORT, ADVANCE ARM, LOWER
22. RETAINER, DISTRIB. CAP (2)

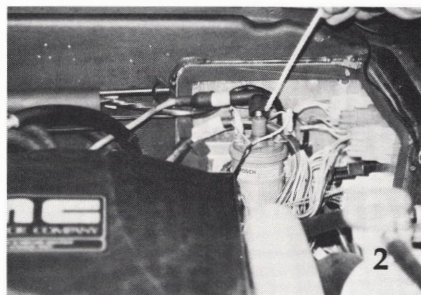
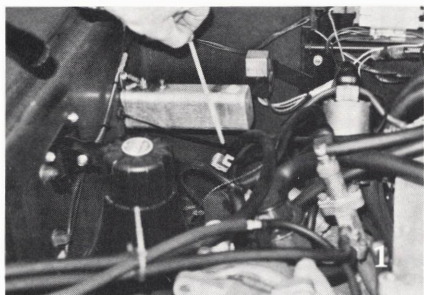
Procedure for replacement of Impulse Coil:

To gain access to the distributor:

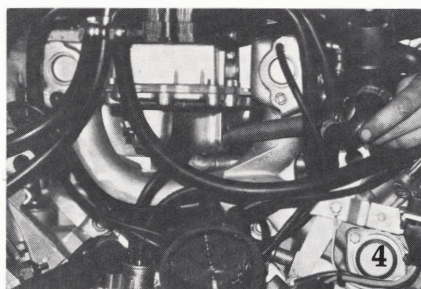
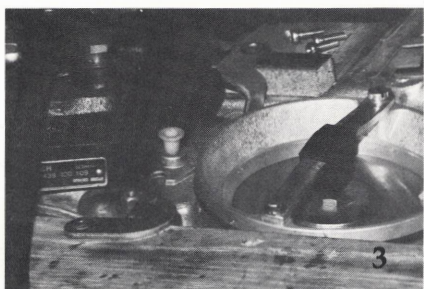
1. Remove the air cleaner.
2. Remove the two mounting screws on the fuel distributor. (Photo #3)
3. Remove idle speed motor metal tube to the bottom of fuel distributor. (Photo #4)
4. Insert suitable 1/2 inch piece of clean wood under each mounting bracket, thereby holding up fuel distributor. (Photo #3) Be sure and use clean wood because of possible particle contamination.
5. Remove distributor cap.
6. With the aid of a remote starter button, advance rotor to the 12 o'clock position (toward front of vehicle). (Fig. 1) See subsequent procedure for connecting remote starter.
7. Remove rotor and the plastic dust shield. (No. 4 and 5, Fig. 2)

(Continued)

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8. Scribe a mark on the cylinder head *and* on the distributor housing, to help reset timing to original position. (Fig. 1)
9. Remove 11 mm nut holding distributor in position.
10. Remove vacuum hose from vacuum advance.
11. Remove distributor.
12. Important in the removal of the rotor (No. 8) make certain that



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key (No. 13) is not lost. Upon reassembly align key ways and install key.

13. Remove and replace impulse coil (No. 12, Fig. 2) (Photo #5)
14. Replace distributor.
15. When installing the distributor the center shaft will rotate slightly align scribe marks to

reassemble as it was originally (Ref. No. 8).

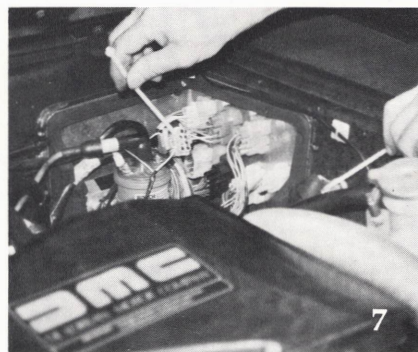
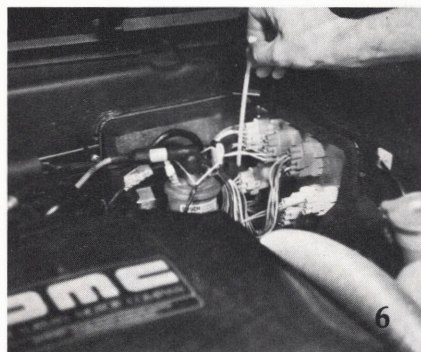
16. Replace 11 mm nut.
17. Replace rotor. Make sure it faces the 12 o'clock position as described in Step 6.
18. Replace idle speed motor metal tube to bottom of fuel distributor. (Photo #4)

19. Replace distributor cap. Snap on retaining clips.

20. Be sure to reconnect vacuum hose.

Procedure for connecting remote starter:

Remove black cover located at the front, right hand corner of the engine compartment. (Fig. 3) Locate the proper electrical wire loom gang plug. It is the plug in the lower row, and at the forward end of a series of plugs. (Fig. 3)(Photo #6) In this plug there are two wires that are white with a red stripe. Connect one lead (clip) of the starter button to one wire and the other lead (clip) to the positive pick-up post for jump lead starting, located just forward from the coolant filler tank (header bottle) on the right side of engine compartment. (Photo #7) □



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