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Bonnet/Boot Latch Housing Instructions

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TOOLS & SUPPLIES:

You will need the following:

- #2 Phillips Screwdriver
- Needle nose pliers
- 8mm socket driver, or 8mm ¼" drive socket, 6" extension & ratchet
- ~3mm diameter punch, nail set, or nail
- Penetrating oil (PB Blaster, Liquid Wrench, WD-40, or similar)
- White lithium grease
- Anti-Seize compound
- Masking Tape, 1" Wide
- String or thin iron wire, 12" to 20" long.
- Small wire brush

ADVANCE PREPARATION:

1. At least 1 day in advance, lift the latch handle & apply penetrating oil to the cable attachment nut. The nut is usually corroded & the penetrating oil will help ensure that the nut can be removed w/o breaking the stud off of the latch handle.

2. Thoroughly clean & lubricate your bonnet latch (or boot latches) & make sure they release easily. Use a motorcycle style cable luber & spray cable lubricant to lubricate the length of the bonnet latch cable & flush out any old dried lubricant that may be dragging. Verify that the cable isn't dragging due to being rusty or frayed. Use the emergency release cable(s) to verify that the latch(es) release easily.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cover the body around the latch housing with masking tape to protect the paint from being scratched.
2. a. Bonnet latch: Raise bonnet & disconnect the cable from the latch at the center of the bonnet opening.

b. Boot latch only: Lift latch & tie a piece of string or light wire around the cable below the eyelet so it can be recovered if it slips inside of the vehicle body.



3. Lift latch & remove the 8mm nut & lock washer holding the cable eyelet to the latch-lever.
4. Use needle nose pliers to remove the cable eyelet from the stud on the lever.¹

¹ If a boot latch cable is too tight to be removed, you will have to loosen or disconnect the cable's other ends from the latches. If you do this, be sure to reconnect the cable to the latches & adjust the latches before closing the boot cover. Otherwise you may not be able to unlatch the cover!



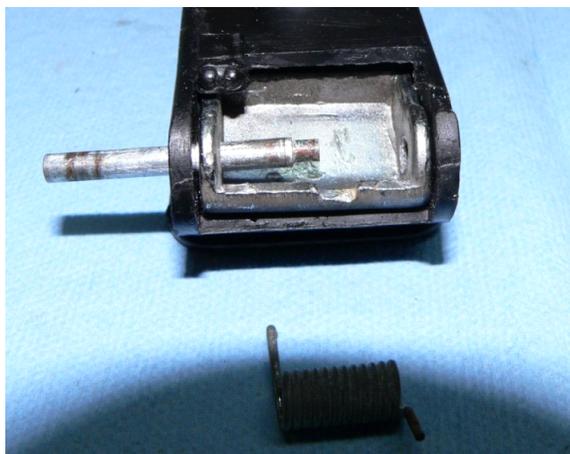
5. Remove the #2 Philips screw that attaches the latch housing to the body.
6. Remove the latch assembly from the vehicle by pulling outward gently on the bottom of the latch handle while rotating the latch assembly upward until the top of the housing can be lifted outside of the vehicle body.
7. (Bonnet latch only) Pull the cable out of the latch housing.
8. Locate the hole in the housing that has the smaller end of the latch-lever's hinge pin.



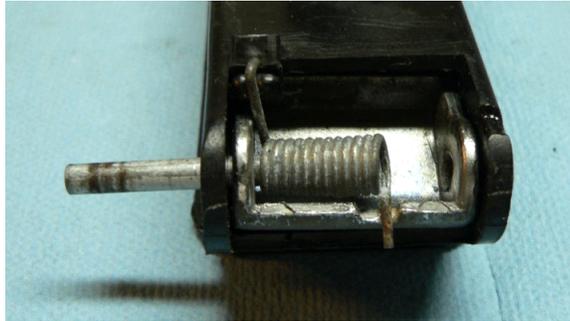
9. Remove the latch-lever hinge pin from the latch housing by using a small punch to press or drive the smaller end of the pin inwards while holding the hinge spring to keep it from getting lost as the pin is being removed. Support the other end of the housing while doing this so it won't be broken.



10. Clean old grease off of the latch-lever, spring, & hinge pin. Also wire brush the cable mounting stud's threads to remove any corrosion.
11. Briefly insert the hinge pin into each of the new latch housing's hinge pin holes to remove any molding flash & ensure the pin fits properly. The fit should be somewhat snug so that the pin can't slip out.
12. Lubricate the hinge pin holes in the lever with lithium grease. Also lightly coat the inside of the spring with lithium grease.
13. Insert the latch-lever into the new housing, align the hinge holes, and insert the small end of the hinge pin through the housing's larger hole until it extends about 1/2 of the pin's length into the housing.



14. Lay the spring into the end of the latch-lever while slipping the end of the spring over the small end of the hinge pin. Make sure the spring arm with the bent end fits between the two round bosses protruding from the housing's bottom edge.



15. Press the hinge pin the rest of the way through the spring, through the pivot hole in the latch arm, and into the mating hole in the housing. Support the other end of the housing while doing this so it won't be broken.
16. Lightly coat the cable-mounting stud with anti-seize compound or grease to prevent future corrosion.
17. Install the new housing & reattach the latch cable by performing steps 8 through 1 in reverse numerical order.
18. **CAUTION:**
Verify that there is no gap between the bottom of the latch housing and the surface the mounting screw is attaching it to.

IF THERE IS A GAP, AND YOU TIGHTEN THE SCREW, YOU WILL BREAK YOUR NEW HOUSING.

If there is a gap between the housing's back & the mounting surface, insert 1 or 2 fiber or metal washers between the back of the housing & the mounting surface to fill the gap.
19. After installation, test the bonnet latch, or both boot latches thoroughly to verify that they both open at the same time. Have an assistant actuate the lever several times while you watch the latch. Use a screwdriver to reset the latch for testing. Don't close the lid until you are sure the latches are working properly.

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