

Bulletin ServiceLinkSM



Bulletin SL11-95

SERVICE TIPS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICIAN

STEERING GEAR FAILURE DUE TO IMPROPER TIE ROD INSTALLATION

Rack and Pinion center take off steering gears are used by various models of General Motors vehicles. These gears, as well as similar gears on Chrysler, VW and Audi, can be damaged if the inner tie rod is assembled to the gear incorrectly.

Damage can result from components being omitted during reassembly. When the inner tie rod is connected to the gear, the **center housing cover washer** (fig. 2) must be between the inner tie rod and the rack guide.

If the center housing cover washer is omitted, the inner tie rod bolt may protrude through the steering rack and contact the housing (fig. 2). The bolt will grate against the housing inner wall and eventually cause the housing to break. Also, if the early gear design **lock plate** (fig. 1) is omitted, it too may allow the inner tie rod bolt to protrude through the steering rack. The early design lock plate must not be substituted with the late design lock plate.

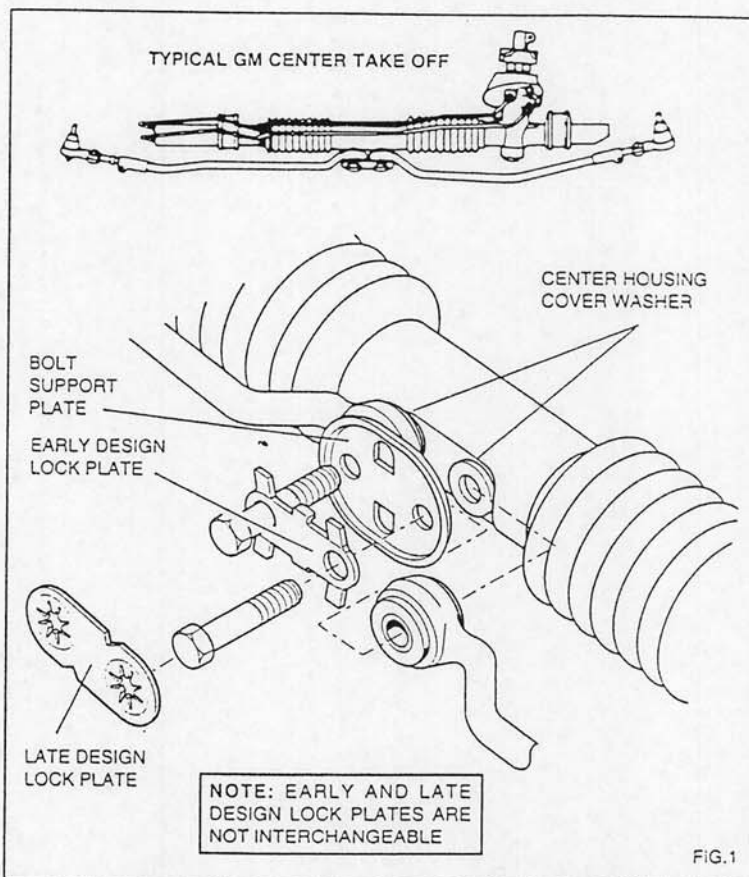


FIG. 1

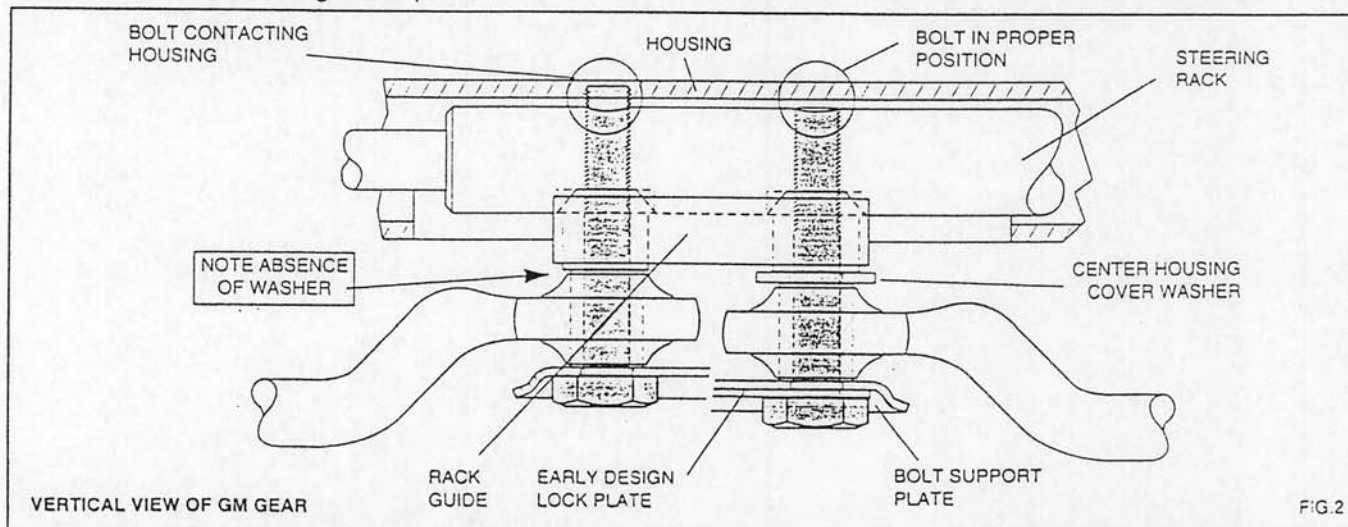


FIG. 2