

2. SUSPENSION AND STEERING

Suspension

Due to the proximity of the electric motor housing to the right front drive shaft, the inboard constant velocity joint boot has been replaced with a smaller diameter part. (Fig. 2-1) Replacement procedures can be found in the official VW repair manual.

NOTE: Whenever the driveshafts are removed from the vehicle, do not support the vehicle weight on the front wheels. To do so will damage the front wheel bearings.

Modifications to the rear suspension of the sedan model involve the installation of two additional inboard mounting pivots, creating a fully independent trailing arm suspension. (Fig. 2-2) These inboard pivots bolt to studs installed on the underside of the battery compartment floor. (Fig. 2-3) Adjustment of rear wheel camber can be accomplished by the addition or subtraction of shims at the in-board or out-board mounting pivots as necessary. (Fig. 24)

Pickup Truck

On the pickup truck, the rear leaf springs and shock absorbers have been replaced with higher capacity parts.

A spring restraining fixture has been installed at each side of the vehicle directly above the outer ends of the rear axle. Its function is to prevent the vehicle body from rising excessively when the battery packs are removed. (Fig. 2-5)

The restrainers are retained on hooks alongside the frame of the pickup box when not in use. When needed during battery pack removal, lift the free end of the restrainer from the hook and attach it to the axle tube by means of the pin provided.

The weight of the vehicle must be supported by the springs to permit attachment of the restrainers.

After the battery packs have been reinstalled, disconnect the restrainers and return them to the hooks on the frame.

Rear Trailing Arm Removal/Installation (Sedan Model)

- Raise rear of vehicle using a floor jack of at least 1-1/2 ton capacity positioned under the center of the rear crossmember.
- Support vehicle with jack stands at each end of the rear cross- member. Release emergency brake.
- Disconnect emergency brake cable from hand lever and withdraw cable from guide tube under vehicle.
- Disconnect brake flex hose from steel line fastened to floor of vehicle.
- Remove nuts and washers holding inner and outer axle pivots to underside of vehicle.
- Remove lower shockabsorber mounting bolts and lower trailing arm assembly to floor.
- To install, reverse the above procedure and bleed the brake system.

Rear Trailing Arm Pivot Bushing Replacement (Trailing Arm Removed from Vehicle)

- Disconnect the pivot bolt and remove the bushing holder from the trailing arm.
- Using a hydraulic press, force the old bushing out of the bushing holder and install the new one.
- Reinstall bushing holder on trailing arm.

NOTE: Should it become necessary to dismantle a rear suspension spring from the damper; a suitable spring compressor must be used with appropriate caution as a compressed spring represents considerable stored energy. (Fig. 2-6)

Steering

Repair procedures for the steering system are outlined in the official VW repair manuals.



FIG. 2-1

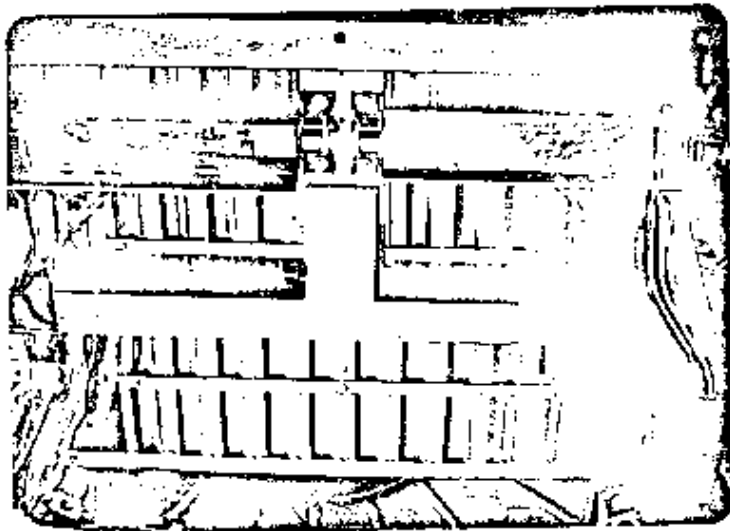


FIG. 2-2

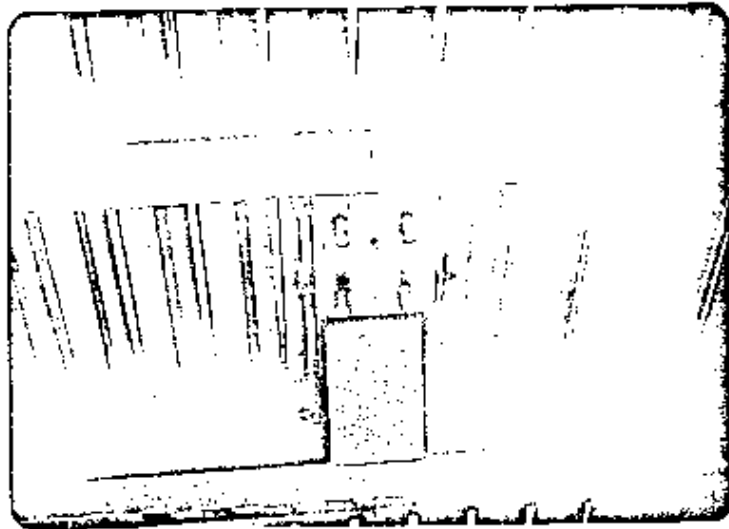


FIG. 2-3

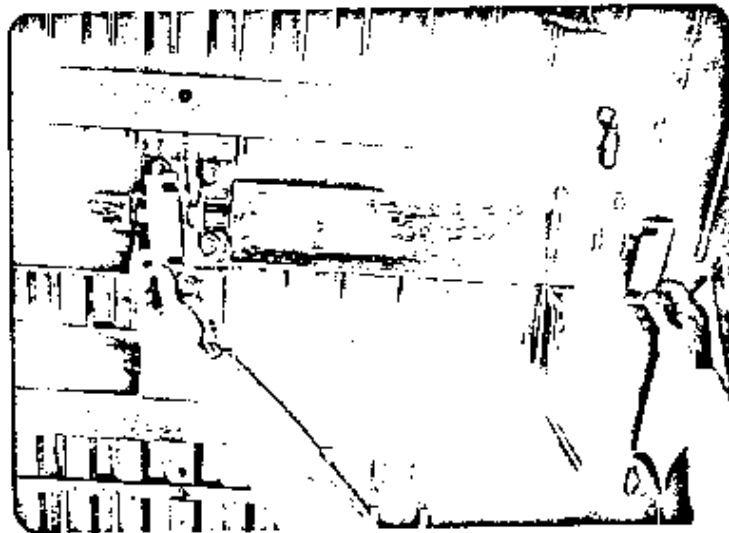


FIG. 2-4



FIG. 2-5

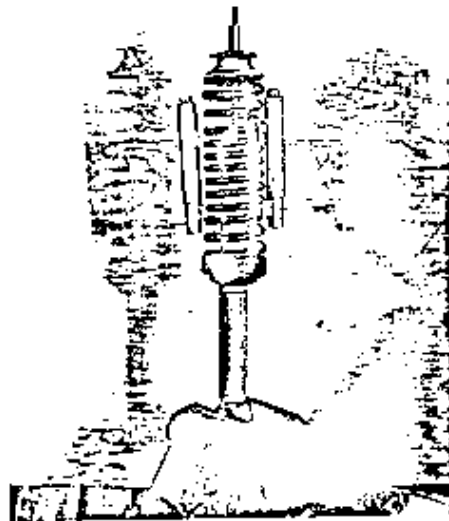


FIG. 2-6