

IGNITION TROUBLE

Symptoms	Possible Causes	Remedy
<p>Engine will not fire</p>	<p>Test if coil sparks by removing lead from centre distributor terminal and hold it about $\frac{3}{16}$ in. away from some metal part of the chassis while engine is turned over.</p> <p>If sparks jump gap regularly the coil and distributor are functioning correctly.</p>	<p>Examine the sparking plugs, and if these are clean and the gaps are correct, the trouble is due to carburettor, petrol supply, etc.</p>
	<p>If the coil does not spark, the trouble may be due to any of the following causes:—</p> <p>Fault in low tension wiring. Indicated by (1) No ammeter reading when engine is slowly turned and ignition switch is on; or (2) No spark occurs between the contacts when quickly separated by the fingers when the ignition is switched on.</p>	<p>Examine all cables in ignition circuit and see that all connections are tight. See that battery terminals are secure.</p>
	<p>Dirty or pitted contacts.</p>	<p>Clean contacts with fine carborundum stone or fine emery cloth and afterwards with a cloth moistened with petrol.</p>
	<p>Contact breaker out of adjustment. Turn engine until contacts are fully opened and test gap with gauge.</p>	<p>Adjust gap to correct setting.</p>
<p>Engine misfires</p>	<p>Dirty or pitted contacts</p>	<p>Clean contacts with fine carborundum stone or fine emery cloth and afterwards with a cloth moistened with petrol.</p>
	<p>Contact breaker out of adjustment. Turn engine until contacts are fully opened and test gap with gauge.</p>	<p>Adjust gap to correct setting.</p>
	<p>Remove each sparking plug in turn, rest it on the cylinder head, and observe whether a spark occurs at the points when the engine is turned. Irregular sparking may be due to dirty plugs or defective high tension cables. If sparking is regular at all plugs, the trouble is probably due to engine defects.</p>	<p>Clean plugs and adjust the gaps to the figure stated in General Data under the heading 'Ignition'. Renew any lead if the insulation shows signs of deterioration or cracking. Examine the carburettor, petrol supply, etc.</p>