

CHASSIS SHEET METAL

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

FRONT BUMPER

The front bumper lower impact bar is constructed in one sturdy unit. The lower impact bar can be removed as a unit for servicing or replacement. The grille center inner bar, grille center outer bars, upper impact bars, bumper guards and ornaments are separate.

The radiator is mounted in a radiator support and is independent of the frame or fenders. This makes possible the removal of the radiator without disturbing front end sheet metal. It is only necessary to remove the radiator attaching bolts, fan shroud, radiator hoses, and oil cooler fittings on Hydra-Matic models and lift the radiator from the support.

HOOD HINGES

The hood is mounted on gear type hinges mounted on the front of the dash. Double-assist overcenter springs are used, both ends of which are fastened to the arms of the hinge. This construction provides hold-open power. The hood hinge allows the front of the hood to be raised approximately 36". A hood to hinge reinforcement bracket which has three points of attachment is used. Fore and aft adjustment of the hood is provided for by slotted holes in the bracket.

HOOD LATCHES

Two optional type hood latches which differ in appearance are used. These two types function the same and are interchangeable as assemblies. They differ in design—one having a cam and ratchet locking mechanism, while the other has a pawl and ratchet locking mechanism. Disengagement is accomplished by an upward movement of the release lever. Each assembly consists of a spring loaded lock catch, hook-type safety catch, and a release lever (Fig. 11-1).

The latch is self adjusting so that it will always maintain a firm lock. The latch assembly acts as a pilot to position the hood, eliminating the necessity for a separate pilot.

ADJUSTMENTS ON CAR

Adjustment of the front end sheet metal is concerned primarily with appearance of fit between adjoining sheet metal parts and ease of operation.

The hood should be centered between the fenders and gapped evenly from front to rear. It should also open and close without binding or excessive "slamming" when being closed.

SHEET METAL ADJUSTMENTS

HOOD

Fore and aft and front end sideways adjustment of the hood is provided for at the hood hinges by slotted holes in the hinge bracket which bolts to the hood reinforcement.

Vertical adjustment at the front of the hood is provided by adjustable rubber bumpers mounted on the cross support.

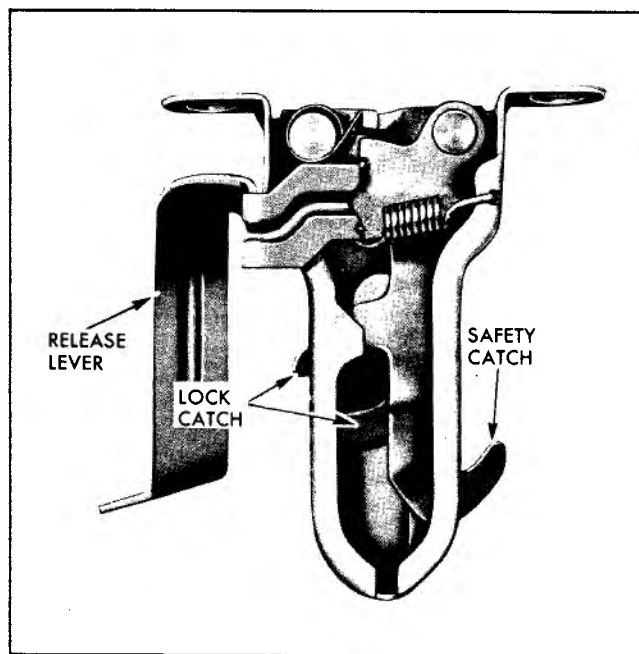


Fig. 11-1 Hood Latch and Safety Catch Assembly

FENDERS

Vertical and fore and aft adjustment is provided at rear of fenders by enlarged holes in the cowl at the attaching points.

Fenders can be moved closer to, or farther from the cowl by varying the number of shims used between the cowl and the fender.

RADIATOR SUPPORT AND FRONT END SHEET METAL

Sideways and fore and aft adjustment of the

radiator support and parts connected thereto is provided by large holes in the frame cross member for the radiator support attaching bolts.

Vertical adjustment is provided at the same point by varying the thickness of shims between the radiator support spacer and the frame cross member.

The radiator support can also be tilted to one side or the other by varying the number of shims at just one attaching bolt.

BUMPER LOWER IMPACT BAR

Vertical adjustment is provided at each side of the bumper face bar. Adjustment can be made by means of the cam type bolt fastening the bumper support to the frame.

SHEET METAL REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT

FRONT FENDER—REMOVE AND REPLACE

1. Disconnect headlamp wires from connector on fender skirt. Remove from clip on fender skirt and pull loom out of fender skirt.

2. Disconnect fender from fender skirt, radiator support to fender brace, radiator support baffle, fender and hood latch support, and fender extension (immediately behind bumper).

3. Remove grille center outer bar attaching screws.

4. Remove upper and lower fender to cowl attaching screws.

5. Remove fender by lifting straight up.

6. Install fender by reversing above steps. After installing fender align it with other sheet metal.

BUMPER AND GRILLE ASSEMBLY REMOVE AND REPLACE

1. Disconnect Parking lamp wires from connector on fender skirt.

2. Remove wire loom from clips on fender skirt and pull loom out of skirt.

3. Remove grille center inner bar attaching screws from center outer bars and remove grille center bar.

4. Remove left and right grille outer bars attaching screws from fenders.

5. Remove left and right grille outer bar to bracket attaching bolts and nuts.

6. Remove bumper guard attaching bolts and nuts from brackets.

7. Remove bumper lower impact bar to frame bar attaching bolts and nuts and remove impact bar.

8. Remove upper impact bar, guards and ornaments from impact bar.

9. Install bumper impact bar by reversing above steps. Before tightening bumper to frame bar attaching bolts, align bumper and grille assembly with fenders by turning the cam type attaching bolt to raise or lower each side as necessary.

BATTERY SUPPORT REPLACEMENT

When replacing battery support it is very important to make sure that the battery will bear evenly against the support at all points. To provide an even bearing surface, install shims between support and mounting bracket at attaching bolts until the battery will set evenly in the support without rocking.

HOOD HINGE SPRING REPLACEMENT

Hood hinge springs can be removed by pulling the front end off the hinge with a strong pair of pliers. When replacing the spring, hook the rear end on pin first, then using a pair of pliers, stretch the spring out and hook it at front.

HOOD HINGE—REMOVE AND REPLACE

1. Open hood.

2. While one man holds hood, remove hinge to cowl attaching screws and hinge to hood reinforcement attaching screws and remove hinge. Position new hinge against cowl and install and tighten attaching screws. Install hinge to hood reinforcement attaching screws and tighten just snug.

3. Close hood and check alignment.

4. If hood is not properly aligned, measure the distance it is off. Open hood, mark position of hinge relative to hood reinforcement, loosen hinge at hood reinforcement, and move hinge the amount it was off. Tighten screws securely and recheck alignment.

HOOD REPLACEMENT

The hood can be removed very quickly by disconnecting it from the hinges at the hood reinforcement. When replacing the hood, adjust the alignment, one hinge at a time, as outlined in steps 3 and 4 under HOOD HINGE—REMOVE AND REPLACE.