

Volkswagen Cabriolet How-to

Repairing the Odometer

This how-to is/was originally posted at <http://forums.vwvortex.com/showthread.php?3679996-Broken-Odometer> by "JPX".

When I first bought my Cabriolet, I didn't think I'd drive it too much, so it didn't matter that the odometer was broken. But now that I drive it to work and try to enjoy it as much as possible between [repairs](#), I decided to take on repairing the odometer.

There are several threads that describe various ways to fix it:

www.4crawler.com: This was the first link I found on the [MK1 FAQ](#). The entire site rocks, but the odometer writeup was for a much older odometer than I have.

http://www.garageprosoftware.com/scirocco/tech_odometer.htm: This was one of the best links with some great photos from dash removal to gear fixing. But since my red gear was okay, this didn't help me with my metal gear.

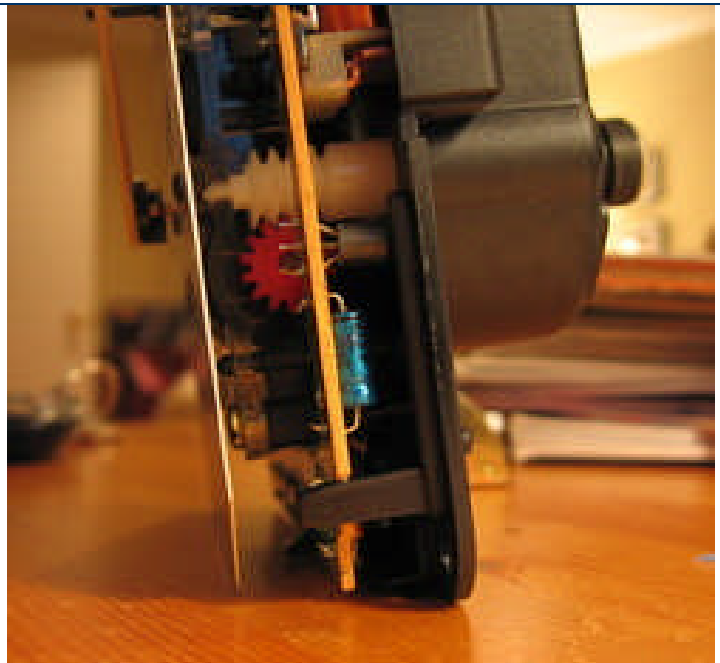
<http://www.vintagewatercooleds.com>: Had a very detailed writeup on the disassembly of the speedometer. It had a great suggestion about using tape to hold the number wheels in place.

http://www.drivewerks.com/tech/mult_gauge_repair.htm: This link about Porsche speedometers was interesting because the assembly is kind of similar. It also had the great suggestion about using tape to hold the number wheels in place.

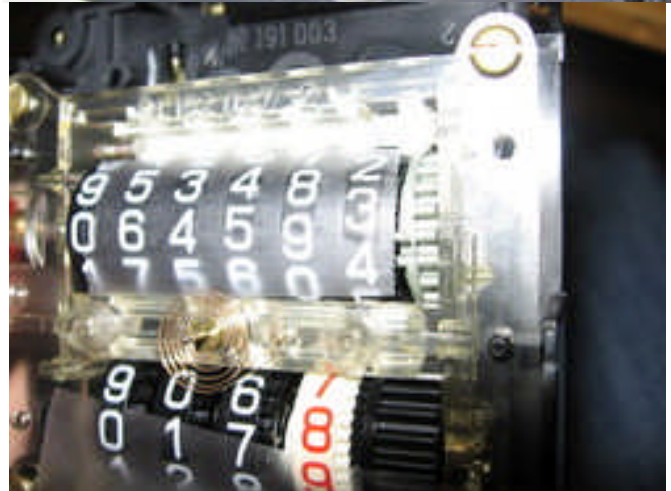
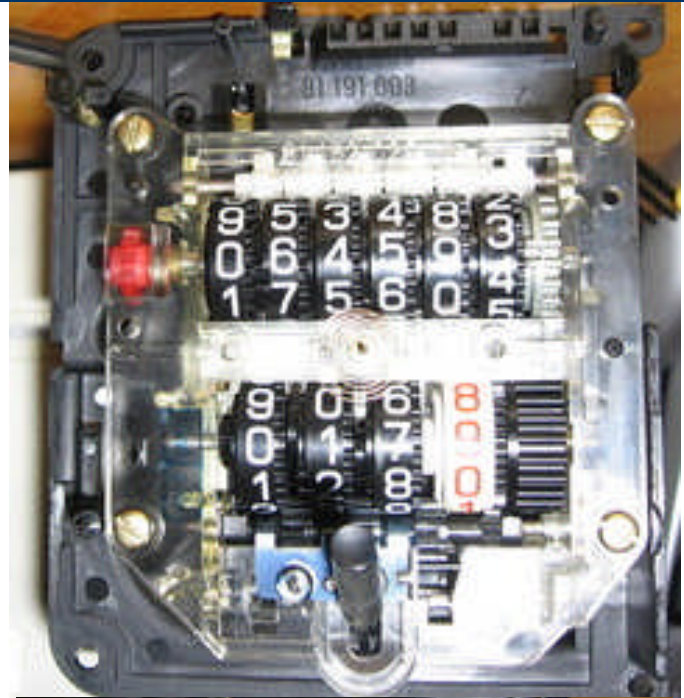
<http://www.4130-products.com/step/odometer/index.htm>: Added thanks to "sehaare". This is a great site that also mentions the metal gear spinning problem. Although it didn't provide any pictures about the modifications suggested.

http://mysite.verizon.net/janvdb/vw/Body/speedo_fix.txt: Then I ran across this curious link. It mentioned "stamping the hub of the metal gear to shrink the inner diameter. This effectively makes the gear an interference fit on the shaft. This was exactly what I wanted.

So I took mine apart (without breaking anything *whew*) and then taped it up. The red gear on the left turned out to be just fine.



But it was the grey metal gear on the right that was freewheeling.



Once I got the metal gear out, I took a screwdriver and punched the inner hub. You can see three of the punches on this shot. But I put four on both sides before reassembling.



And it totally worked! I drove my first 35 miles with a working odometer for the commute this morning. 😊

* * Remember, **you** are responsible for working on **your** car; Cabby-Info.com, JPX, VAG, VWoA, or anyone else are not responsible if **anything** goes wrong while **you** are working on, in and under **your** car!
Use this information at your own risk!* *