Turn Signals Made Easy

Gary Tillstrom

It wasn't that long ago that all Americans were taught the meaning of hand signals used in traffic. I still remember being taught them as a youngster in school and was told even riding a bicycle it was the courteous thing to do (as well as being necessary for self preservation). The state of Michigan used to even test you on these before you could get a drivers license.



We know what these mean but do others?

My how times have changed! The only hand signal folks recognize today is the "universal one" that can't be shown here and has nothing to do with being courteous. I heard a story of a fellow signaling a left turn only to be broad sided seconds later as the 17 year old driving behind him thought they were being waved around.

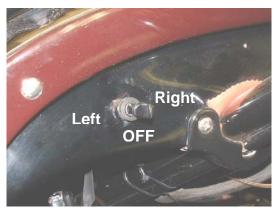
The car I bought last year had a set of motorcycle turn signals installed on it but the previous owner never wired them up. This is actually very easy and can be done for very little money.

No one in the Tennessee T's is yet old enough to drive for miles and miles with the blinker going because they forgot to turn it off. Doing that is a good way to draw the "universal hand signal" from an angry motorist. With that in mind I have drawn up a simple circuit that has a beeper to let you know it's still on.

The signals on my car are mounted to the headlight bar in the front and up under the body on the rear. When looking for lights, try to find amber ones for the rear as well as the front. The Insurance Institute found the amber catches more attention than the red. Most new cars today use amber in the rear for that reason. Having said that, my car has red on the back. Use what you can find.

NAPA and Auto Zone sell lights that look like old time clearance lights. If you use them and your car is still six volt you will

need to change the bulbs to 6 volt bulbs. If you happen to locate 12-volt motorcycle lights, the same applies.



When installing these, an additional switch (not shown) across the left and right circuits will give you 4-ways. I have added the optional wiring instructions on the diagram that explains how.





Front and rear light details

Be safe. *Gary*

Basic Turn Signal Circuit with Beeping Indicator

PARTS - 6 volt

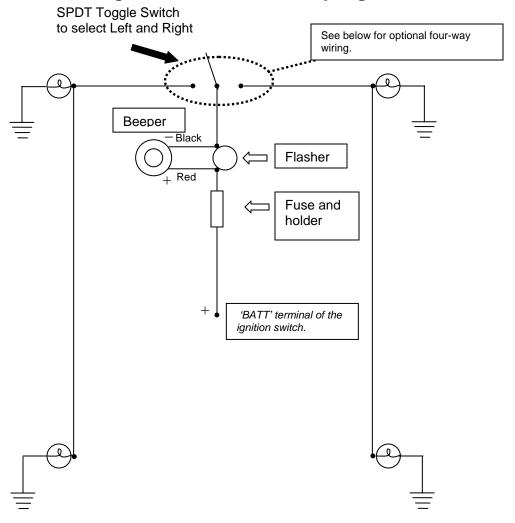
Flasher – 6 volt Bulbs – 6 volt – **T63**

Continuous Tone beeper available from Radio Shack – Part number 273-060. (good for 12 volt also).

Inline Fuse Holder

SPDT Switch – Switch should have off in center position.

SPST Switch – Simple "on-off" toggle switch



Optional Switch/Wiring to enable 4-way flashers

By adding a simple toggle switch across the L and R circuits, 4-way flashers can be obtained by closing ("on") the added switch and selecting either Left or Right.

With the added switch in the "off" position, the turn signals will function as desired.

