

I DARE YOU.....MEASURE YOUR WISHBONE BALL by Bill Robinson

Have you ever checked your rear axle to see if the thrust washers are brass or babbitt? I'll bet you have. Now, have you ever measured the ball that is at the end of the "V" of the wishbone?

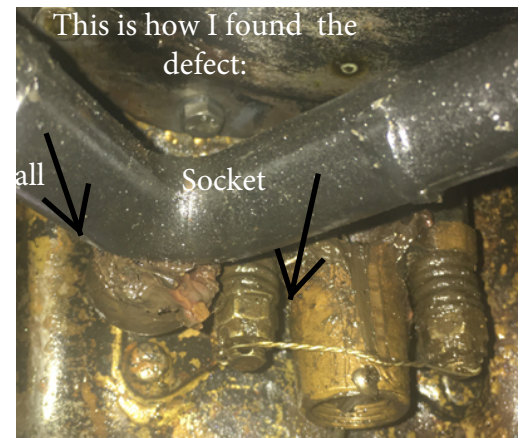


We all know that when the babbitt thrust washer crumbles, the stock Model T loses its braking ability, and stopping the car at this point depends whether the driver remembers to use the emergency brake lever.

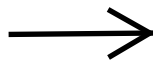
Next, what if you are driving down the road and the wishbone ball comes out of the socket that is mounted on the pan, because the outside diameter of the ball has a hundred years of hard wear on it.

Well, this happened to me. Twenty years ago, or so, I installed a spring-loaded APCO Radius Cap on my 1926 Model T Pickup. It performed fine. I would regularly put grease in it, but at the time of installation I'll admit that I did not measure the O.D. of the ball. Mainly because I didn't have any idea what the measurement should be.

I now know that the ball's O.D. should be 1 1/4" and my ball came out of the socket. Thankfully there was no accident. The only accident was me crawling under the truck to drain the oil and my eyes accidentally noticed something that didn't look right on the wishbone.



I ordered a WISH BONE REPAIR KIT, and not until the kit arrived and I read the installation instructions, did I learn the O.D. specs of the ball. By the way, the included instructions were to-the-point, and easy to understand.



Look how much smaller the old, worn ball is compared to the new ball that I ordered.

Side to side, the old ball measured 1/8" smaller.

Top to bottom, the old ball measured 5/16" smaller. **No wonder it escaped the socket.**

Installation of the kit is easy,
compared to many other Model T projects.

If you order the WISH BONE REPAIR
KIT, follow the instructions (TO THE T-
take no short cuts), then saw off the old
ball, install the new ball kit, then weld
the kit to the wishbone.

**HAVE FUN, KEEP YOUR CAR SAFE,
AND DRIVE MANY MILES WITH THE
TENNESSEE T'S!**

