

I recently took on this simple swap for my '83 GTI project and took some pictures along the way so I figured it wouldn't be a half bad idea to post up a quick and dirty DIY for anyone who might be interested. I personally like the look of the MKIII stalks and it simplifies my CE2 swap... so that should explain my justification. All of the parts required for the swap can be found at your local salvage yard, e-bay, GAP, etc. Those parts include: your original lock housing/lock cylinder, MKIII lock housing (from/for a car with a manual transmission), MKIII turn signal and washer/wiper stalks, MKIII ignition switch (might come with lock housing), and either your original MKI stalk retainer screws or donor MKIII screws (the MKIII screws are a bit longer so they work better).



If you need remove your original lock cylinder from the housing simply mark the housing at the location described in your Bentley.

To remove the ignition/steering lock cylinder, you must drill a 3-mm ( $\frac{1}{8}$ -in.) hole at the point indicated in Fig. 6-9. Then insert a pin through the hole in order to press down the spring that holds the lock cylinder in the mounting. If necessary, you can insert the key in order to pull out the cylinder. To install the cylinder, simply press it in without the key until it snaps into place.



Fig. 6-9. Hole being located in mounting for ignition/steering lock. Dimension **a** is 12 mm ( $\frac{15}{32}$  in.); dimension **b** is 10 mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$  in.).

A decent caliper will make this a snap.



With the lock housing marked up you can drill an 1/8-in hole to reveal the metal spring holding the cylinder in the housing. You only want to drill through the housing so be careful and go slow. I used my drill press for this, but you should be able to accomplish this with a vice and a hand-held drill.



Now that the spring is exposed, stick something in the hole to push it down while pulling on the lock cylinder. The lock cylinder should pop right out.

Once you get all of the parts together, the first thing you should notice is that this metal tab on your steering column needs to be relocated slightly... so the first step is to cut it off. I had already disassembled my steering column at this point so you will need to reference your Bentley if you need help with that. A hacksaw or air saw should make quick work of this job. Try not to trash the tab when removing it since we need to reuse it.



With the tab removed the MKIII lock housing should slide right on. You should be able to use the MKIII housing to determine the new location of the tab. Once you have figured out the new location you can weld the tab back to the column.



At this point, you are pretty much done. Pop the lock cylinder and the ignition switch into the new lock housing, throw some paint on the column, and begin reassembly.



It really is a pretty simple straight forward modification, it took me ~45 minutes including the time it took to take all of these crummy pictures. Hopefully this is useful to someone. 📷