Victoria Hinge Pins

by Tom Endy

The door hinge pins on most Model A's, according to supplier documentation measure .233-.236 inches in diameter. Oversize pins with a .244 diameter are also available to be used with worn out hinges that have been repaired by boring them out oversize. The Victoria, Cabriolet, and slant window sedans, which have only two hinges per door instead of three, have a larger diameter pin. Supplier documentation indicates the diameter is .279 according to Snyder and Mac's, and 9\32" (.281) according to Bratton. Neither supplier offers an oversize repair pin for a slant window car.

The accessory outside rear view mirrors that mount on the door hinge that most suppliers carry have a shaft pin that is sized to fit a standard Model A door hinge and cannot be readily used on the Victoria, Cabriolet, and slant window sedans. Neither Snyder, Mac's, nor Bratton supply a hinge-mounted mirror to accommodate these cars.

Since I wanted an outside mirror on the right side of my Victoria I had to have a new pin made. I removed the pin from the top hinge and measured it. It measured .300 in diameter and was 1.725 long. Apparently someone in the past had drilled the hinge oversize and made a pin to fit.

A friend with a lathe was able to make a pin for me that was .300 in diameter, but the same length as the pin that was supplied with the mirror and with the bottom end threaded for a 1\4-20 nut, which is what is supplied with an outside hinge mounted mirror. It was then a simple task to drill out the top pin hole in the mirror bracket to accommodate my new oversize pin. I had to add a .010 shim between the mirror bracket and the hinge to obtain a proper fit.

I now have a very substantial outside mirror on the right side of my Victoria that allows me to see if a car is lurking on the right side of me just behind the blind side of the rear quarter panel.



The right outside mirror bracket has a hinge space of an inch and three quarters. A .010 shim (washer) was inserted to obtain a proper fit. The new hinge pin is .300 in diameter with the bottom end threaded for the 1\4-20 acorn nut supplied with the mirror.



The left outside mirror was already in place when I obtained the car years ago. I don't know what the diameter of the hinge pin is as I am reluctant to want to take it apart to find out. The mirror bracket has a hinge space of two inches. Two shims, one at bottom and one at top had been installed to obtain a proper fit.

Editor: This article previously appeared in the Bustle. It is being reprinted here because of renewed interest in the subject.