

SUMMARY OF ALTERNATOR SERVICING AND TESTING PRECAUTIONS

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Several servicing and testing procedures can cause diode damage or complete failure if carried out improperly.

1. Observe polarity when installing battery. Reversed battery cable connections or installation of a battery which has been charged backwards will burn out diodes. Use a voltmeter to determine battery terminal post polarity before connecting cables. The ground cable must be connected to the negative battery terminal post.
2. Observe polarity when a booster battery is used to start engine. Connect negative to negative, and positive to positive terminal posts.
3. Disconnect ground cable at the battery before connecting a charger to the battery.
4. Never operate the alternator on open circuit with the rotor (field) coil energized. Very high voltage will be developed which can burn the rotor coil or possibly damage the diodes.
5. Do not use a 115 volt test lamp to check diodes.

The following procedures should be observed to prevent damage to the Wiring, Alternator, or Voltage Regulator.

1. Never ground the alternator output terminal, it is connected directly to the battery. Always disconnect the battery ground cable at the battery before removing the alternator or wire from output terminal. Serious damage to the wiring harness and the alternator could result from accidentally grounding the output stud.
2. Never polarize an alternator. Regulator contacts will be destroyed by an attempt to do so.
3. Never use acid core solder for electrical connections. Use rosin core solder.