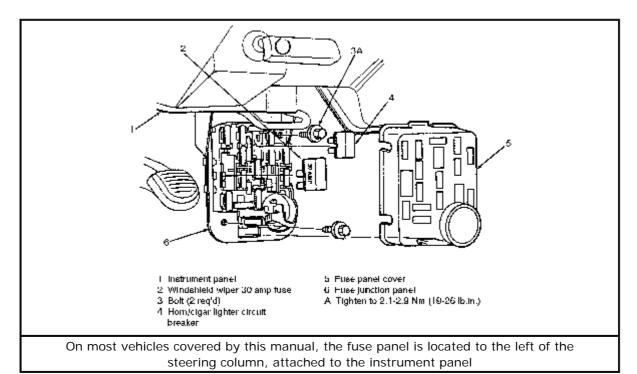
CIRCUIT PROTECTION

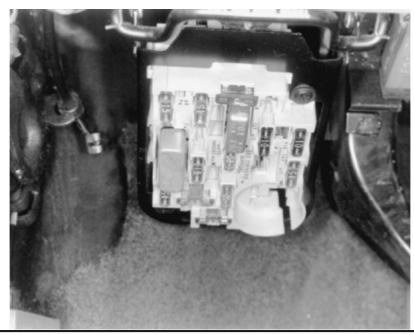
Fuse Panel and Fuses

The fuse panel or block on most vehicles covered by this manual is located to the left of the steering column tube, and is hung from the instrument panel. To gain access the fuses, pull the release bar up with the right hand, pull the fuse panel down with the left hand, then remove the cover.

Fuses are a one-time circuit protection. If a circuit is overloaded or shorts, the fuse will blow thus protecting the circuit. A fuse will continue to blow until the circuit is repaired.



Click to enlarge



Fuse panel/block location-Early model Taurus shown

Each fuse block uses miniature fuses (normally cartridge-type for these vehicles) which are designed for increased circuit protection and greater reliability. The cartridge-type design allows for fingertip removal and replacement.

Although most fuses are interchangeable in size, the amperage values are not. Should you install a fuse with too high a value, damaging current could be allowed to destroy the component you were attempting to protect by using a fuse in the first place. The cartridge-type fuses have a bolt number molded on them and are color coded for easy identification. Be sure to only replace a fuel with the proper amperage rated substitute.

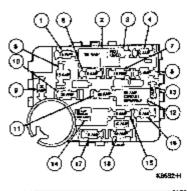
A blown fuse can easily be checked by visual inspection or by continuity checking.

REPLACEMENT

WARNING

When replacing a fuse, NEVER install a replacement fuse with a higher or lower amperage rating than indicated for the circuit to prevent component damage!

To remove a cartridge fuse, grip the fuse and pull it straight out of the fuse junction panel/block. If the fuse cannot be gripped, you can use a non-metallic tool to pull the fuse out of the block. To install the fuse, align the terminals with the fuse panel, then push into position.



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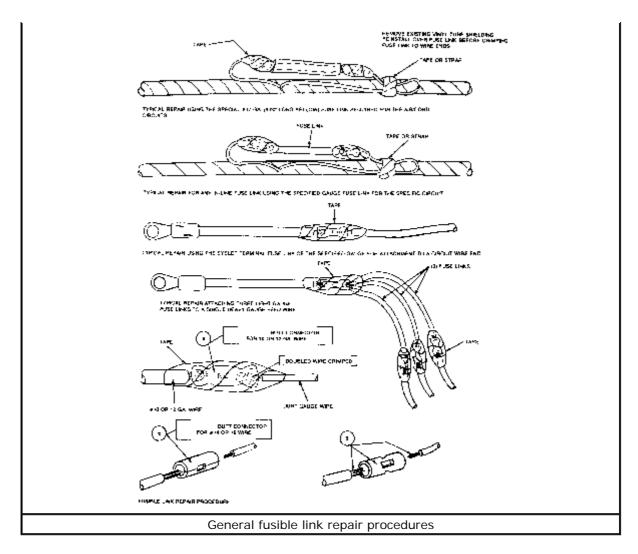
Location of fuses and the circuits they protect-1995 vehicle shown

Click to enlarge

Fusible Links

REPLACEMENT

Fusible links are used to prevent major wire harness damage in the event of a short circuit or an overload condition in the wiring circuits that are normally not fused, due to carrying high amperage loads or because of their locations within the wiring harness. Each fusible link is of a fixed value for a specific electrical load and should a fusible link fail, the cause of the failure must be determined and repaired prior to installing a new fusible link of the same value. Please be advised that the color coding of replacement fusible links may vary from the production color coding that is outlined in the text that follows.



Click to enlarge

Taurus and Sable

- Gray 12 Gauge Wire -located in left side of engine compartment at starter relay; used to protect battery to alternator circuit on all except 3.0L SHO engine.
- Green 14 Gauge Wire -located in left side of engine compartment at starter relay; used to protect battery to alternator circuit if with 3.0L SHO engine.
- Green 14 Gauge Wire -located in left side of engine compartment at starter relay;
 used to protect anti-lock brake system power relay circuit.
- Black 16 Gauge Wire -located on the left shock tower; used to protect the battery feed to headlight switch and fuse panel circuits.
- Black 16 Gauge Wire -located on the left shock tower; used to protect the battery feed to ignition switch and fuse panel circuits.
- Black 16 Gauge Wire -located in left side of engine compartment at starter relay; used to protect rear window defrost circuit on 1986-90 vehicles and 1991 2.5L engine vehicles.
- Brown 18 Gauge Wire -located in left side of engine compartment at starter relay; used to protect rear window defrost circuit on 1991-95 vehicles, except 2.5L engine.
- Brown 18 Gauge Wire -located in right front of engine compartment at alternator output control relay; used to protect the alternator output control relay to heated windshield circuit.

- Blue 20 Gauge Wire -located on the left shock tower; used to protect the ignition coil, ignition module and cooling fan controller circuits.
- Blue 20 Gauge Wire -located in left rear of engine compartment; used to protect ignition switch to anti-lock brake system circuit.

Circuit Breakers

REPLACEMENT

Circuit breakers are used to protect electrical circuits by interrupting the current flow. A circuit breaker conducts current through an arm made of two types of metal bonded together. If the arm starts to carry too much current, it heats up. As one metal expands faster than the other, the arm bends, opening the contacts and interrupting the current flow.

- Station Wagon Rear Window Wiper/Washer -One 4.5 amp circuit breaker located on the instrument panel brace, on the left side of the steering column on Taurus or on the left instrument panel end panel on Sable.
- Windshield Wipers and Washer Pump -One 6 amp circuit breaker located on the fuse panel, on 1988 vehicles.
- Windshield Wipers and Washer Pump -One 8.25 amp circuit breaker located on the fuse panel, on 1989-95 vehicles.
- Cigar Lighters, Horn Relay and Horns -One 20 amp circuit breaker located on the fuse panel.
- Power Windows, Power Locks and Power Seats -One 20 amp circuit breaker located near the starter relay, on 1986-89 vehicles.
- Power Windows, Power Locks and Power Seats -One 20 amp circuit breaker located on the fuse panel, on 1990-92 vehicles.
- Headlights -One 22 amp circuit breaker incorporated in the headlight switch.

Relays

REPLACEMENT

Various relays are used in conjunction with the vehicle's electrical components. If a relay should fail it must be replaced with one of equal value. Replacement is simply a matter of disengaging the electrical connector and sliding the relay from its mounting. Depending on a vehicle's equipment, it may contain several of the following relays.

- Alternator Output Control Relay -located between the right front inner fender and fender splash shield (if equipped with 3.0L or 3.8L engines and a heated windshield.
- Anti-lock Motor Relay -located in lower left front of engine compartment (if equipped with anti-lock brakes).
- Anti-lock Power Relay -located in left rear corner of engine compartment (if equipped with anti-lock brakes).
- Autolight Dual Coil Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on the instrument panel brace (if equipped with automatic headlights).
- Fog Light Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on the instrument panel brace.

- Horn Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on the instrument panel brace.
- LCD Dimming Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on the instrument panel brace (if equipped with automatic headlights).
- Low Oil Level Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on the instrument panel brace.
- Moonroof Relay -located behind the right side of the instrument panel (if equipped with a moonroof).
- Police Accessory Relay -located behind the center of the instrument panel on police models.
- Starter Relay -located on the left fender apron, in front of the strut tower.
- Window Safety Relay -located behind the right side of the instrument panel (if equipped with power windows).

Computers

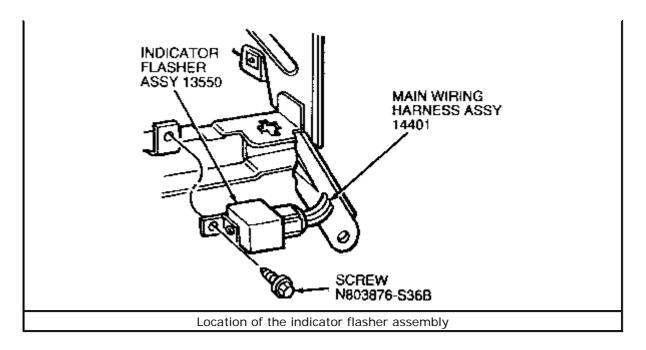
LOCATION

- Electronic Engine Control Module -located on the passenger side of the firewall.
- Anti-lock Brake Control Module -located at the front of the engine compartment next to the passenger side fender, except on Taurus SHO, where it is located at the front of the engine compartment on the driver's side.
- Automatic Temperature Control Module -located behind the center of the instrument panel.
- Heated Windshield Control Module -located behind the left side of the instrument panel, to the right of the steering column.
- Integrated Control Module -located at the front of the engine compartment, on the upper radiator support.
- Air Bag Diagnostic Module -located behind the right side of the instrument panel, above the glove box.

Flashers

REPLACEMENT

An electronic combination turn signal and emergency warning flasher is attached to the lower left instrument panel reinforcement above the fuse panel.



Click to enlarge

The turn signal unit is located on the LH side of the instrument panel. The combination turn signal and hazard flasher can be removed by pressing the plastic retaining clip and pulling straight rearward. One phillips® head or regular screw has to be removed from the retaining bracket.

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