How to Perform an Ignition Circuit Resistance Test

NOTE: This test checks the condition of the connections, wiring, ignition coil primary, and primary circuit resistor.

Step 1 - Attach the voltmeter leads to (D and E – see Figure 2).

Step 2 - Turn the voltmeter knob (B - Figure 2) to the 9-VOLT scale (note: may be 10v or 12v on your volt meter – make it anything higher than 6v if you have a 6v system).

Step 3 - Turn on the ignition switch, but **do not start the engine**. Leave the switch on for approximately 3 minutes to warm up the circuit.

Step 4 - Check the reading on the voltmeter scale (A - Figure 2). If the meter reads backwards, reverse the leads.

NOTE: If no reading is obtained on the voltmeter scale, the distributor points are open and may be closed by turning the engine over ([without starting it – use hand crank or pulley turner](#)). See Figure-2 below for specifications on the maximum voltage drop from point-to-point.

Follow this procedure attaching the voltmeter leads to the following points in Figure 2:

- E and F
- F and G
- G and H
- H and I

Figure 1 - Voltage Drop Specifications
Figure 2 - Voltage Continuity Diagram

Best internet source of information and help for old Ford tractors.

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