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› Auto Meter 880400 Ford Racing Series Electric Fuel Level Gauge User Manual

AUTO METER 880400

Auto Meter 880400 Ford Racing Series Electric Fuel Level Gauge User Manual

Model: 880400 | Brand: AUTO METER

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Auto Meter 880400 Ford Racing Series Electric Fuel Level Gauge. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use to ensure proper function and safety.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW



Image: The Auto Meter 880400 Ford Racing Series Electric Fuel Level Gauge. This gauge features a black face with white markings for Empty (E), 1/4, 1/2, 3/4, and Full (F). The "Ford" logo is prominently displayed in blue, with "RACING" in red below it, and "FUEL LEVEL" in white. A red pointer indicates the fuel level. The bottom edge reads "AUTO METER PRODUCTS INC. © 2011". The gauge is encased in a chrome bezel.

The Auto Meter 880400 is an electric fuel level gauge designed for automotive applications, specifically licensed for Ford Racing vehicles. It features a classic design with modern functionality, including LED lighting for clear visibility.

Key Features:

- Modern blue LED through-the-dial lighting for enhanced nighttime visibility.
- Adjustable scale with 7 preset ranges for common vehicle types (73E/10F, 16E/158F, 0E/30F, 0E/90F, 240E/33F, 107.5E/7F, 131E/12F).
- User-definable resistance setting, programmable anywhere between 0-280 ohms.
- Compatible with 12-volt and 16-volt electrical systems.
- Officially licensed Ford Racing design.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present before beginning installation:

- AutoMeter 880400 Fuel Level Gauge (2 1/16", 0-280Ω Programmable, Ford Racing)
- 20 ft. wiring harness
- Mounting hardware
- Detailed instructions (this manual)

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for accurate gauge operation and safety. If you are not familiar with automotive electrical systems, it is recommended to seek professional assistance.

Tools and Materials Required:

- Drill and appropriate drill bits (for mounting hole, if not pre-existing)
- Wire strippers/crimpers
- Electrical tape or heat shrink tubing
- Multimeter (for testing connections)
- Safety glasses

Installation Steps:

1. **Disconnect Battery:** Before starting any electrical work, disconnect the vehicle's negative battery terminal to prevent accidental short circuits.
2. **Mount the Gauge:**
 - Select a suitable location on your dashboard or gauge panel.
 - If a hole is not present, carefully drill a hole of the correct diameter (refer to gauge specifications for exact size) using appropriate tools.
 - Insert the gauge into the mounting hole and secure it using the provided mounting hardware.
3. **Wiring Connections:** Refer to the detailed wiring diagram provided with your gauge kit. The 20 ft. wiring harness is designed to facilitate connections.
 - **Power (Ignition Switched 12V/16V):** Connect the designated power wire from the gauge to a switched 12V or 16V power source that is active when the ignition is on.
 - **Ground:** Connect the ground wire from the gauge to a clean, unpainted metal surface on the vehicle chassis or a dedicated ground point.
 - **Sender Input:** Connect the sender input wire from the gauge to the output wire of your fuel level sending unit. Ensure this connection is secure and insulated.
 - **Lighting (Optional):** Connect the lighting wire to a switched 12V source that activates with your vehicle's dash lights for gauge illumination.
4. **Resistance Setting (Programmable):**
 - The gauge supports user-definable resistance settings between 0-280 ohms.
 - It also has 7 preset ranges. Consult your fuel sending unit's specifications to determine the correct resistance range (Empty to Full) for your application.
 - Follow the specific programming instructions included in the detailed instructions to set the gauge to match your sender. This typically involves a calibration procedure with the fuel tank empty and full.
5. **Reconnect Battery:** Once all connections are secure and insulated, reconnect the negative battery terminal.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed and calibrated, the Auto Meter 880400 fuel level gauge operates automatically.

- **Power On:** When the vehicle's ignition is turned on, the gauge will power up and the pointer will indicate the current fuel level.
- **Illumination:** If connected, the blue LED through-the-dial lighting will activate with your vehicle's dash lights, providing clear visibility in low-light conditions.
- **Reading the Gauge:** The gauge face is marked with "E" for Empty, "1/4", "1/2", "3/4", and "F" for Full. The red pointer will move to indicate the approximate fuel level in your tank.

MAINTENANCE

The Auto Meter 880400 fuel level gauge is designed for long-term, maintenance-free operation. Minimal maintenance is required.

- **Cleaning:** Clean the gauge face and bezel with a soft, damp cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents that could damage the finish or lens.
- **Connection Checks:** Periodically inspect wiring connections to ensure they remain secure and free from corrosion.
- **Sender Unit:** The accuracy of the gauge depends on the proper functioning of your vehicle's fuel level sending unit. If you suspect inaccurate readings, inspect the sending unit.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your fuel level gauge, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Gauge reads incorrectly or erratically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorrect resistance setting/calibration.• Faulty fuel level sending unit.• Poor ground connection.• Loose or corroded wiring connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recalibrate the gauge according to the detailed instructions.• Test the fuel sending unit; replace if faulty.• Verify and secure the gauge's ground connection.• Check all wiring for tightness and corrosion; clean or repair as needed.
Gauge does not power on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No power to the gauge.• Blown fuse in the power circuit.• Poor ground connection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check power wire for 12V/16V with ignition on.• Inspect and replace any blown fuses.• Verify and secure the gauge's ground connection.
Illumination not working.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lighting wire not connected or faulty.• No power to the lighting circuit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check the lighting wire connection.• Verify power to the lighting circuit when vehicle lights are on.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, contact Auto Meter technical support for further assistance.

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** 880400
- **Type:** Electric Fuel Level Gauge
- **Gauge Size:** 2 1/16 inches
- **Resistance Range:** User-definable 0-280 ohms, with 7 preset ranges (73E/10F, 16E/158F, 0E/30F, 0E/90F, 240E/33F,

107.5E/7F, 131E/12F)

- **Voltage Compatibility:** 12V and 16V systems
- **Lighting:** Blue LED through-the-dial illumination
- **Bezel Finish:** Bright anodized
- **Dimensions:** Approximately 5 x 5 x 5 inches (Product Dimensions)
- **Weight:** Approximately 9 ounces (Item Weight)
- **Manufacturer Part Number:** 880400
- **UPC:** 046074147166
- **Country of Origin:** USA

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Auto Meter products are manufactured to the highest quality standards. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty statement included with your product packaging or visit the official Auto Meter website. Typically, Auto Meter offers a limited warranty against defects in materials and workmanship for a specified period from the date of purchase.

Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty inquiries, please contact Auto Meter customer support:

- **Website:** www.autometer.com
- **Phone:** Refer to the Auto Meter website for current contact numbers.
- **Email:** Refer to the Auto Meter website for current contact email.

When contacting support, please have your product model number (880400) and purchase information readily available.

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ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question