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- ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever User Manual for Ford 65-68 Mustang, Mercury 67-68 Cougar

ACP FM-BS023

ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever User Manual

Model: FM-BS023 | Brand: ACP

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever. This product is designed as a direct replacement for the original automatic shift lever in specific Ford Mustang (1965-1968) and Mercury Cougar (1967-1968) models that were originally equipped without a console. It features a chrome-plated finish and is engineered to match OE-style specifications for a correct look and straightforward installation. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and operation to ensure proper function and safety.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always ensure the vehicle is parked on a level surface with the parking brake engaged before beginning any installation or maintenance.
- Disconnect the vehicle's battery before performing any electrical work to prevent accidental shorts or injury.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as safety glasses and gloves, during installation.
- If you are unsure about any step of the installation process, consult a qualified automotive technician.
- Keep all tools and small parts away from children.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please verify that all components are present and undamaged before proceeding with installation.

The package should contain:

- 1x ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever (Chrome Plated)
- (Note: Mounting hardware, if required, may be sold separately or reused from the original installation.)



Image 1: The ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever, featuring its chrome-plated finish and OE-style design.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general steps for replacing your vehicle's automatic transmission shift lever. Specific procedures may vary slightly depending on your vehicle's exact configuration. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for detailed instructions if necessary.

Tools Required (Typical):

- · Socket Wrench Set
- Screwdrivers (Phillips and Flathead)
- Pliers
- · Penetrating Oil (if fasteners are seized)
- Shop Rags

Installation Steps:

- 1. **Prepare the Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and place the transmission in "Park". Disconnect the negative terminal of the vehicle's battery.
- Access the Shift Lever: Depending on your vehicle, you may need to remove trim panels or the dashboard bezel to gain access to the base of the shift lever mechanism. Carefully follow your vehicle's service manual for these steps to avoid damage.
- Disconnect Linkage: Locate the shift linkage connected to the bottom of the shift lever.
 Carefully disconnect any clips, pins, or bolts securing the linkage to the lever. Note the orientation for reassembly.
- 4. **Remove Old Shift Lever:** Unbolt or unclip the old shift lever from its mounting point. Keep any reusable hardware (bolts, washers, bushings) organized.
- 5. Install New Shift Lever: Position the ACP FM-BS023 shift lever into the mounting location.

- Secure it using the original hardware or new, appropriate hardware. Ensure it is seated correctly and firmly.
- 6. **Reconnect Linkage:** Reattach the shift linkage to the new lever. Verify that the connection is secure and allows for smooth movement of the lever through all gear positions.
- 7. **Test Operation:** Before reassembling interior trim, reconnect the battery. With the engine off, test the shift lever's movement through all gear positions (P, R, N, D, L). Ensure it engages each position positively and that the indicator aligns correctly.
- 8. **Final Assembly:** Once satisfied with the operation, reassemble any removed trim panels or bezels.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever operates identically to the original equipment. To shift gears:

- 1. Ensure the vehicle is stationary and your foot is firmly on the brake pedal.
- 2. Move the shift lever to the desired gear position (e.g., Park (P), Reverse (R), Neutral (N), Drive (D), Low (L)).
- 3. Confirm the gear indicator shows the correct selection.
- 4. Release the brake pedal and apply accelerator as needed.

Always ensure the vehicle is in "Park" before turning off the engine and exiting the vehicle.

6. MAINTENANCE

The ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever is designed for durability and requires minimal maintenance. Regular inspection and cleaning will help maintain its appearance and function.

- Cleaning: Wipe the chrome-plated surface with a soft, damp cloth to remove dust and fingerprints. For stubborn grime, use a mild automotive interior cleaner. Avoid abrasive cleaners or harsh chemicals that could damage the finish.
- **Inspection:** Periodically check the shift lever for any signs of looseness, wear, or damage. Ensure all connections to the shift linkage are secure. If any issues are found, address them promptly to prevent further damage or unsafe operation.
- **Lubrication:** The internal mechanism typically does not require regular lubrication. If you notice stiffness or unusual friction, consult a qualified technician.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Shift lever feels loose or wobbly.	Mounting bolts are loose; worn bushings.	Inspect and tighten mounting bolts. Replace worn bushings if necessary.
Difficulty shifting gears.	Shift linkage obstruction or misalignment; worn transmission components.	Inspect shift linkage for obstructions or damage. Ensure proper alignment. If problem persists, consult a mechanic for transmission inspection.
Gear indicator does not match actual gear.	Indicator cable or mechanism is misaligned or damaged.	Check the indicator mechanism for proper alignment and function. Adjust or repair as needed.

If you encounter issues not listed here or if solutions do not resolve the problem, it is recommended to seek assistance from a certified automotive technician.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Number	FM-BS023
Brand	ACP
Compatibility	Ford Mustang (1965-1968), Mercury Cougar (1967-1968) -for models without console
Finish	Chrome Plated
Item Weight	13.9 ounces (approx. 0.39 kg)
Package Dimensions	12 x 3 x 3 inches (approx. 30.5 x 7.6 x 7.6 cm)

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding the warranty coverage for your ACP FM-BS023 Automatic Transmission Shift Lever, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official ACP website. If you require technical assistance, have questions about installation, or need to report a defect, please contact ACP customer support through their official channels.

Always provide your product model number (FM-BS023) and purchase details when contacting support to expedite assistance.

Related Documents - FM-BS023

