HOW TO REPLACE CONNECTOR TERMINALS

The terminal repair kits provide necessary tools and materials (terminals, wire seals, and splice connectors) to repair many damaged or faulty connector terminals. However, not all terminals for all connectors are available. Refer to the labels on the lids of the repair kits for replacement terminal availability.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

On some models, the SRS wires are in a separate harness. If the SRS harness is damaged, replace the harness; do not repair it. On other models, wire harnesses include yellow SRS wires. If any SRS wire is damaged, replace the entire harness; do not repair it.

Before you begin, inspect the wire you are about to repair for damage and length. Make sure the wire will be long enough to make a terminal repair without stretching it when you reinstall the terminal in the connector. If the wire is too short, or if access to the connector is too restricted to make a terminal repair, you may need to install a pigtail terminal (a short length of wire with a factory-crimped terminal on it). Refer to HOW TO INSTALL PIGTAIL TERMINALS.

Removing the Terminal

Use the tools from Pin Tool Set.

First, check the connector that you are about to repair.

- If it has a secondary terminal lock, go to Connectors With a Secondary Lock. A secondary lock, found on most connectors on some models, is an additional locking device on the connector housing as a backup for the primary lock on the terminal.
- If the connector does not have a secondary lock, go to Connectors Without a Secondary Lock.

Connectors With a Secondary Lock

All examples are shown with the connector lock facing up. The illustrations are examples of the secondary terminal locks; however, the connector you are repairing may vary in size. Identify the connector by the type of secondary lock, not by the number of terminal cavities.

EXAMPLE A:

1. Release the secondary lock.



2. Remove the terminal.







EXAMPLE B:

- 1. Remove the secondary lock from the male terminal half.
 - Male Terminal Half



- 2. Remove the secondary lock from the female terminal half.
 - Female Terminal Half



3. Remove the terminal (same procedure for male and female).

Push the wire into the connector to relieve the tension on the primary lock. PIN TOOL F PIN TOOL F (3) Pull the terminal out of the connector. Insert the tool under the terminal, and lift up.

4. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE C:

1. Remove the secondary lock.



- 2. Remove the terminal from the female half.
 - Female Terminal Half



- 3. Remove the terminal from the male half.
 - Male Terminal Half



4. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

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EXAMPLE D:

1. Remove the secondary locks.



Roll the upper and lower locks in the direction of the arrows.

2. Remove the terminal (same procedure for male and female).



3. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE E:

1. Remove the secondary locks.



2. Remove the terminal (same procedure for male and female).





EXAMPLE F:

1. Remove the secondary locks.



- Male Terminal Half



4. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

Connectors Without a Secondary Lock

All examples are shown with the connector lock facing up. The illustrations are examples of connector terminals without a secondary lock; however, the connector you are repairing may vary in size and shape.

EXAMPLE A:

1. Remove the terminal.



2. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE B:

1. Remove the terminal.



EXAMPLE C:

1. Remove the terminal.



2. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE D:

1. Remove the terminal.



2. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE E:

1. Remove the terminal.



2. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

EXAMPLE F:

1. Remove the terminal.





EXAMPLE G:

1. Remove the terminal.



2. Go to HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS.

HOW TO INSTALL NEW TERMINALS

1. Carefully match the old terminal with a new one from the terminal repair kit. Choose the correct replacement terminal based on the wire size range the terminal will accommodate.

NOTE: If the replacement terminal quantities are low, reorder them by using the terminal part number listed on the inside lid of the terminal repair kit. Replacement terminals are available through your parts department using normal parts ordering procedures.

2. Depending on the size of the wire you are repairing, use the proper size slot in the crimping tool.



3. Strip the insulation off the end of the wire so the wire fits in the new terminal as shown. (If the wire has a wire seal, replace it with a new one from the kit.)

NOTE: After stripping the end of the wire, make sure you did not cut any wire strands. If you did, cut the wire off even with the insulation, and strip it again.



4. Position the terminal in the crimping tool slot with the solid portion of the terminal toward the anvil and the open section toward the former.



- 5. Insert the wire in the terminal to the position shown in step 3.
- 6. Squeeze the tool with both hands until the stops make contact.



- 7. Crimp the insulation crimp.
 - If you do not have a wire seal, then use the next larger size crimp slot. Position the crimping tool over the insulation crimp section of the terminal, then squeeze the tool with both hands until the stops make contact.
 - If you have a wire seal, position the insulation crimp in the 5.5 crimping slot, then carefully squeeze the crimp closed until its ends are touching and making a full-circle shape.



8. Inspect the quality of the wire crimp. If it has any of the following NO GOOD crimps, cut it off and start over.



- Insert the terminal into the connector. Make sure the wire seals are pushed all the way into the connector. Lightly pull on the wires to make sure the terminal is locked into place.
- 10. Close or insert the secondary terminal lock, if applicable, and reconnect the connector.

HOW TO INSTALL PIGTAIL TERMINALS

Pigtail terminals (short pieces of wire with a factory crimped terminal) are used when the wire is too short or when access to the connector is too restricted to make a terminal repair.

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NOTE: To replace just a connector terminal, go to *How to Replace Connector Terminals.*

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

On some models, the SRS wires are in a separate harness. If the SRS harness is damaged, replace the harness; do not repair it. On other models, wire harnesses include yellow SRS wires. If any SRS wire is damaged, replace the entire harness; do not repair it.

- 1. Remove the damaged or faulty terminal from the connector. Use the proper removal tool from Pin Tool Set.
- 2. Cut off the wire about an inch back from where it connects to the damaged or faulty terminal, then strip about half of the insulation off that piece. This will be used to size the wire end of the replacement pigtail terminal.

NOTE: If you are not sure of the wire size, start with a large enough hole on the stripper that will not nick or cut off any strands of wires.



- 3. Select a pigtail terminal that matches the original wire at both ends (same kind of terminal and same diameter bare wire).
- Select the smallest splice connector (yellow, pink, or blue) that will fit onto the stripped end of the original wire.

5. Insert the pigtail terminal into the connector cavity; push it in until it locks in place.



- 6. Lay the pigtail and the original wire side-by-side, and cut off both ends at once. If you are making more than one splice, do not cut each pigtail at the same location; the resulting "lump" of splice connectors would interfere with rewrapping the harness. Instead, cut the first pigtail close enough to the terminal so you will have room to make each remaining cut about 20 mm (3/4 inch) farther down on the next pigtail.
- If you are using a yellow splice connector, strip about 6 mm (1/4 inch) of insulation off the ends of both wires. If you are using a pink or blue splice connector, strip off about 8 mm (5/16 inch) of insulation.

NOTE: If you nick or cut off any strands of wire, try again with the next larger size hole on the stripper.



8. Put the splice connector in the proper size slot in the Crimper Tool, slide it to one end (where the flare begins), and close the crimper handles far enough to hold it in place. To release the ratchet mechanism at any point after the first click, squeeze the handles slightly and push the release lever, then let the handles open.



9. Insert one of the bare wires into the splice connector end that is in the crimper jaws. Push the wire all the way into the splice connector, and squeeze the crimper handles. Keep squeezing until the jaws touch, and hold it at that position until the ratchet clicks again.



- 10. Crimp the other wire in the same way into the other end of the splice connector.
- 11. After crimping, gently pull on the wires in the opposite directions to make sure they are secure in the connector.

12. Separate the other wires in the harness from the repaired wire(s), and shield them with nonflammable material.



13. Plug in the heat gun, and turn it on. Start at the middle of the splice connector, and move the gun toward the ends as the tube shrinks. Apply heat evenly by rotating the curved heat spreader around the splice connector. Shrinking is complete when a small amount of sealant appears at each end of the tube.

NOTE: Be careful when working with the high heat produced by the heat gun.



Shrinking is complete when sealant appears here.



PIGTAIL TERMINAL SELECTION CHART

Select the proper size pigtail terminal by matching the replacement terminal part number and the wire size being repaired to the corresponding pigtail terminal part number. Then use the color (size) splice connector listed. In some instances you may also have to match the wire seal style to select the proper pigtail terminal. Pigtail terminals are available through your parts department, in quantities of 10, using normal parts ordering procedures.



CHECKING FOR POOR FIT OF TERMINALS

Loose terminal fit can cause a number of intermittent problems in electrical circuits. By using the Terminal Inspection Feeler Tool Set you can inspect the terminal fit between the two matching connectors without removing the terminals from the connector body.

- 1. Find the terminal tool that best matches the male terminal in the mating connector.
- 2. Insert the terminal tool into the female terminal, and then remove the terminal tool.

NOTE: Make sure you do not select a terminal tool that is larger than the mating male terminal because it would spread the female terminal and cause a loose fit.



3. Compare the drag to the other terminals in the connector. If the drag is less, replace the terminal with a replacement terminal from the appropriate terminal repair kit.

