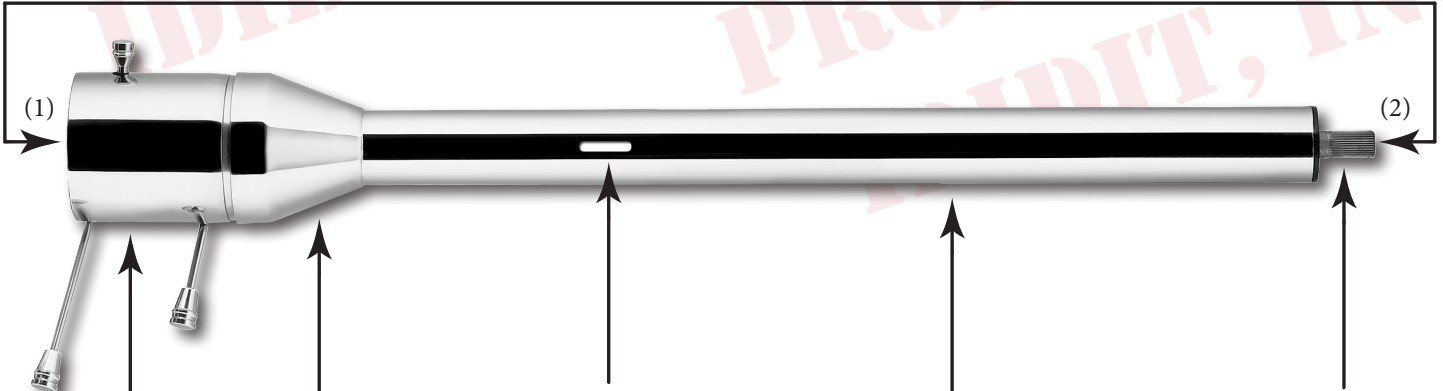


HOW TO MEASURE A STEERING COLUMN

ididit measures a steering column from the top edge of the column housing (1) down to the bottom of the output shaft (2) on all columns EXCEPT for our Tilt/Telescoping columns. Tilt/Telescoping columns are measured from the top edge of the column adapter down to the end of the output shaft when the column is in a fully collapsed position. The steering wheel will take up approximately 1 1/2" above the adapter.



UPPER SLEEVE AND SHIFT HUB

The size of these two pieces cannot be changed. Measure 4" (floor shift) or 6 1/8" (column shift) from the top of the column and mark the position on the dowel.

Add 1/4" to represent the gap between the sleeve and the cone.

LOWER CONE

This part of the column can be customized. The standard length is 3.25" and can be shortened to 1.5" upon request (a nominal custom charge will apply). Measure 3.25" (or custom length if applicable) from the bottom of the sleeve or shift hub and mark the dowel. *Shortened cones may expose wiring.*

WIRE SLOT POSITIONS

The position of the wire slot is important because it will determine where your underdash mount will attach to the column. On our tilt floor shift column, the standard wire slot position is 11.5" from the top of the sleeve to the top of the wire slot, at 12 o'clock. On our tilt column shift, the standard position is 13.25". The wire slot location can also be customized. The maximum is 22" from the top of the sleeve to the top of the wiring slot. Be sure to specify what position (on a clock face, i.e. 12 o'clock) you would like it to be. Measure 11.5" (or custom length if applicable) from the top of the sleeve and mark the position on the dowel.

TUBE

The tube can be made to any length, but cannot be any shorter than 4". The tube can protrude through the firewall as far as you like, or it can stop inside the vehicle like it does with our "shorty" column. In standard applications, the tube should protrude through the firewall 1-3". On column shift versions, the lower shift linkage will attach to the end of the tube. Mark the dowel where the firewall will meet the tube.

SHAFT

The shaft can also be made to any length between 1" to 8", from the bottom of the tube. The shaft type is available as a 1" 48 spline, 1" DD, 3/4" 36 spline, or 3/4" DD (custom charges may apply). Measure 1.5" (or custom length if applicable) from the end of the tube. Mark the dowel where the shaft will end.

TECH TIP:

MEASURING FOR YOUR STEERING WHEEL

PLEASE REMEMBER THE WHEEL AND ADAPTOR WILL ADD LENGTH TO YOUR COLUMN.

Most aftermarket steering wheels will be 2 - 4 inches from the gripping surface of the wheel to the top of the outer housing of the steering column. Measure and mark the dowel accordingly.

HOW TO MEASURE FOR YOUR STEERING COLUMN

STEP 1

The seat you will be using, or a good facsimile, **MUST** be in place before measuring for your new steering column. That means **NO** milk crates or lawn chairs! The steering wheel position and the pedal position all relate to the comfort of the driver. So if you want to be comfortable behind the wheel take your time and measure correctly.

STEP 2

Equally important is the location of the engine, cylinder head, and headers. These components, or good mock-ups, should be in place to ensure you have proper clearance for your steering linkages.

STEP 3

The position of the transmission linkage is also vital. If you do not have clearance for a solid rod style linkage kit, the use of a cable shift linkage kit may be necessary. Be sure to leave yourself two inches of space between the columns lower shift linkage and firewall.

STEP 4

Center your column on the drivers seat to ensure proper alignment. If your column is installed offset or angled it may feel awkward and uncomfortable.

STEP 5

Position the column/steering wheel so that your arms are relaxed and comfortable when the seat is adjusted for optimal pedal control.

STEP 6

You will also need to position the column for maximum use of the tilt mechanism. It doesn't do any good to have the wheel tilted into the dash or down on the seat.

STEP 7

Column drops should fit snugly and in a stable position on both the bottom of the dash and the column. No wobbles or vibration should occur.

STEP 8

The lower mounts should be stable and able to fit the angle of the floor or firewall where the column will pass through (or a fixed custom built mount). This mount **MUST** be sealed tightly to prevent exhaust fumes, heat, dirt and water from entering your interior.

STEP 9

If you have a floor mounted brake and/or clutch pedal assembly, make sure you have enough clearance for the column.

STEP 10

Use of more than two u-joints require the use of joint supports to keep the linkage operation smooth, strong, stable and safe. *For safety purposes, ididit recommends using a splined or DD shafting instead of a welded or pinned shafting.*

TECH TIP: PIE TIN

As silly as it may sound, we have found that using an aluminum pie tin and a wooden dowel is an excellent way to determine the column length needed and it's position. You will need a 4 foot dowel piece. Add between 1 1/2" and 3" beyond the firewall/floor if using a steering box. If you are using a rack, you can go as far as 5" into the engine compartment. **Watch for clearance.**

First, tack the tin to the dowel (steering wheel to column), then position yourself comfortably in the drivers seat while holding the dowel system in place. Have a friend measure and mark the essential dimensions such as overall length, and the distance between the center of the column and the bottom of the dash. Don't forget to mark the point where the column will pass into the engine compartment and the center-line of the drivers body/seat as they are also important measurements.