

# Technical Notes

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## Ignition System

The ignition system provides electricity to ignite the air/fuel mixture in the cylinders of a Model A. It must increase the six volt battery electricity to 10,000 volts or more to properly ignite the air/fuel mixture. This system consists of the coil, ignition switch, spark plugs & connectors, condenser, breaker points, terminal box, ammeter, distributor body, cap & rotor, and the related wiring. Most problems with this circuit are due to shorts in the distributor, breaker point gap, or the condenser. To test for problems a test light with a probe, feeler gauges, and a multimeter (volt, ohm, current) are needed. Start with the following preliminary test:

With ignition key **OFF**

1. 6 volts at battery negative terminal.
2. 6 volts at starter connection.
3. 6 volts at each side of the terminal box.
4. 6 volts at each side of the coil.
5. Place a thin piece of plastic between points to open points.

With ignition key **ON**

6. 6 volts on point arm.
7. 6 volts at generator or alternator.
8. Check spark gaps: Points .020, Plugs .035, Rotor .025
9. Replace the condenser.

## Ignition System Wiring Diagram

