

SD205/255 Series Overview

IN THIS ISSUE WE'LL TAKE a look at Delco SD205/255 starters, which were introduced in 1996 and are used on a long list of GM engines. We have identified five different versions of this hybrid unit. It uses some 5MT-style parts, some SD210/260-style parts and some parts that are unique to the SD205/255 series.

Look like 5MTs

At first glance these starters appears to be 5MTs. However, there are several differences. First, look for the brush-holder mounting screws on the field case, same as the SD210/260. You will also notice that the drive opening is smaller and that the D.E. housings have been beefed up more than most 5MT D.E. housings. This should help prevent these housings from breaking (*Figure 1*).

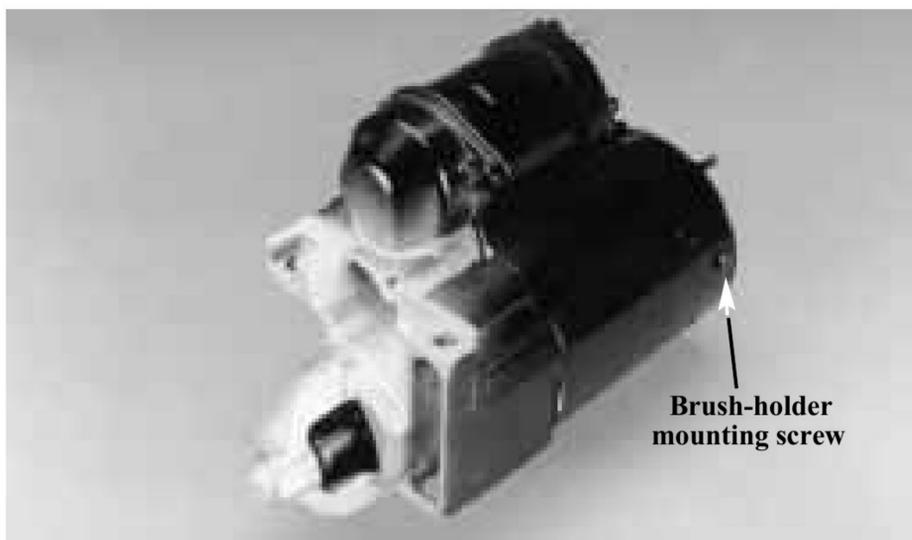


Figure 1. SD205/255 starters have brush-holder mounting screws on the field case, like the SD210/260. Also, the D.E. housings have been beefed up, compared to 5MTs.

Unlike the 5MT, SD205/255 units use a solenoid with an M8 x 1.25 battery terminal, 3/8-16 motor terminal and M5 x 0.8 switch terminal (OE #1114584, WAI #66-143). In addition, they have notches in the solenoid cap at the battery terminal so the battery cable can be installed in only one position. This prevents the cable from being routed incorrectly (*Figure 2*). When you remove the solenoid cap mounting screws, you will find an odd-size M4.5 x .75 screw.

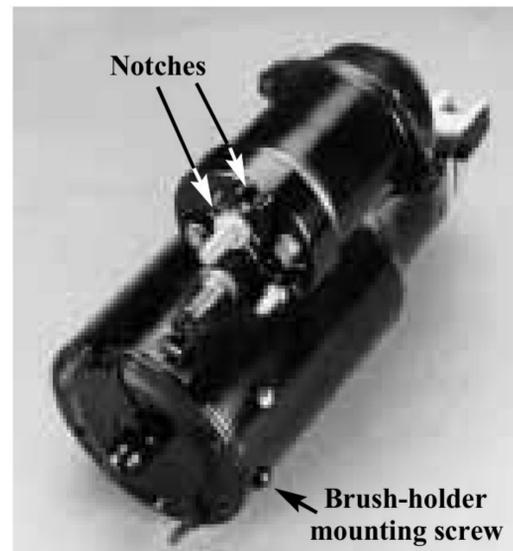


Figure 2. Notches in the solenoid cap assure that the battery cable can be installed in only one position.

These starters use a 5MT-style shift lever, except the shift lever has large buttons that are welded off center. To accommodate these large buttons, the starter drive has two large cups. Also the shift-lever pivot pin does not have a clip to retain it in the D.E. housing. Instead, the end is mushroomed over (*Figures 3 & 4*). Note that the standard 5MT pivot pin and retaining clip can be substituted here.

Starter drives for these units are OE #10487934 (WAI #54-167), which is a cushion drive, and OE #10487536 (WAI #54-166), which is not a cushion drive.

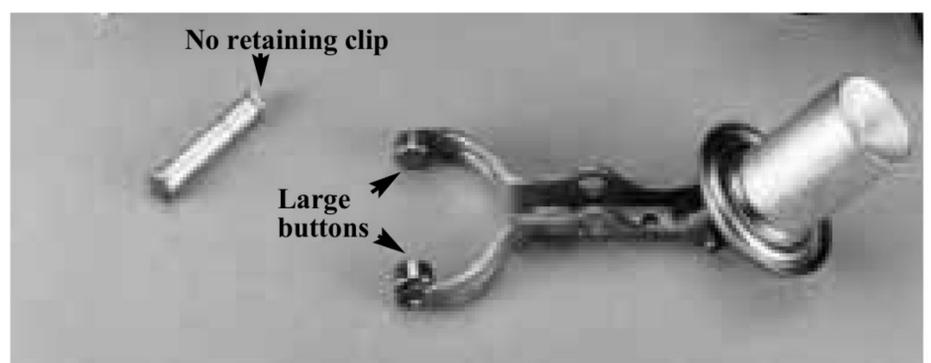


Figure 3. The shift-lever pivot pin does not have a clip to retain it in the D.E. housing. Instead the end is mushroomed over.

SD255 units use armature #10471537 (WAI #61-132), which is also used in one 5MT and one SD260 unit. It has bearings in both the drive and commutator ends. SD205 units use armature #10467708 (WAI #61-139), which is also used in one of the SD210 starters. It has bushings in both drive and comm ends.

for Delco SD205, 255 Series DD Starters

