

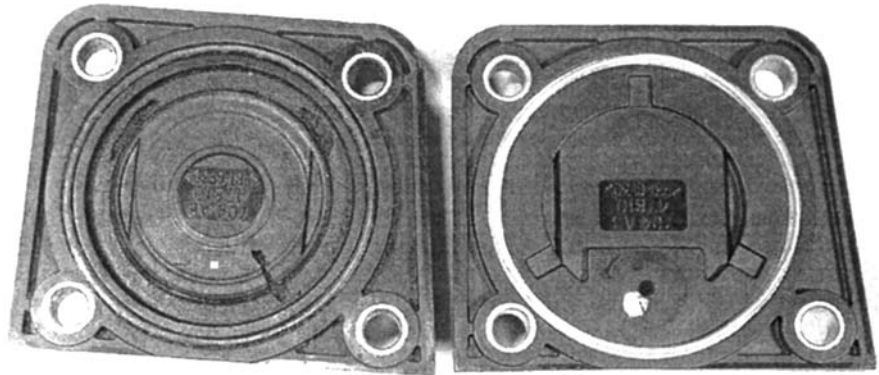
TECH TIPS



CAM SENSOR PROBLEMS

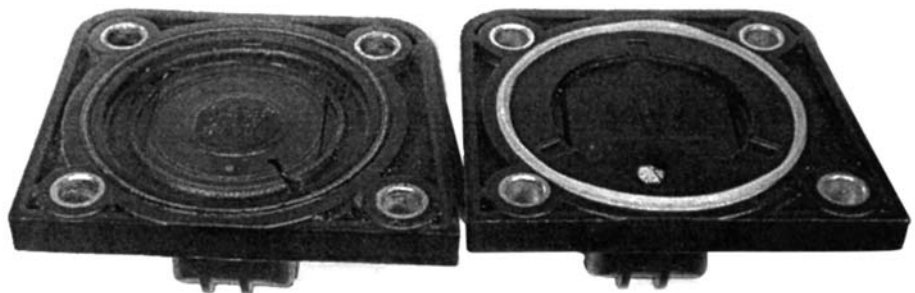
- Chrysler Cirrus 2000
- Dodge Neon 1997-2005
- Dodge Stratus 1997-2000
- Plymouth Breeze 1997-2000
- Plymouth Neon 1997-2001

The cam sensor on these models with the 2.0L engine is located on the back of the cylinder head and at the end of the camshaft. What happens on these engines is the camshaft bearings in the head will become worn. This wear will create excessive camshaft end play. Maximum allowable is .013 inch. When the end play is greater than that, one of two things will happen. Either the camshaft will actually start to contact the sensor and eventually damage the sensor, or, the air gap between the cam ring and the sensor will be too large, causing a misfire or no start condition. In the situation where the camshaft has actually hit the sensor, it may actually be so far out that you may think that the replacement sensor is incorrect because you cannot install it. In the situation where the camshaft is too far in, then it may appear that there is no cam sensor signal, leading you to believe the sensor is bad. However, when you replace it with a new one, the same symptom is present. When you run across one of these vehicles that exhibit symptoms that lead you to the cam sensor, the first order of business is to check the camshaft end play before replacing anything. If the cam sensor already shows sign of contact, then you know that the cam end play is out of specification (.005-.013 inch). That must be corrected otherwise a new cam sensor may not be the answer to the problem. Refer to diagram #1.



Damaged by Camshaft

Good Sensor



Damaged by Camshaft

Good Sensor

Nick Rinaldi- Tech Manager