



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

MSD Timing Tapes PN 8985

Important: Read the instructions before attempting the installation.

Parts Included:

1 - Timing tape sheet (8 tapes)

Note: The MSD Timing Tapes are used so you can accurately set your initial and total timing when you don't have a fully degreed balancer. This is crucial for optimum engine performance.

TIMING FUNCTIONS:

One timing setting is not optimum throughout the different rpm range of the engine. The centrifugal, or mechanical, advance of the distributor alters the timing to match the changing rpm. This is achieved through centrifugal force and can be tuned to match the specifications of your engine.

Initial Timing: This is the base timing (also referred to as idle timing) of the engine before the centrifugal advance begins. This is where the timing is set by rotating the distributor in the engine.

Centrifugal Advance: On MSD distributors, the advance mechanism is made up of weights, springs, and advance cam bushings. The centrifugal, or mechanical, advances the timing to match the requirements of the engine as RPM increases. Most other distributors have similar setups. The amount and rate of advance that your distributor is capable of is determined by the centrifugal timing.

Total Timing: This is the total of the initial plus the centrifugal advance added together. Example: 10 degrees initial + 25 degrees centrifugal = 35 degrees total timing.

Vacuum Advance: The vacuum advance will advance the timing during partial throttle driving. The amount will vary depending on the type of distributor you're using. MSD distributors will advance the timing up to 16 degrees. This should be disconnected when you're setting the timing.

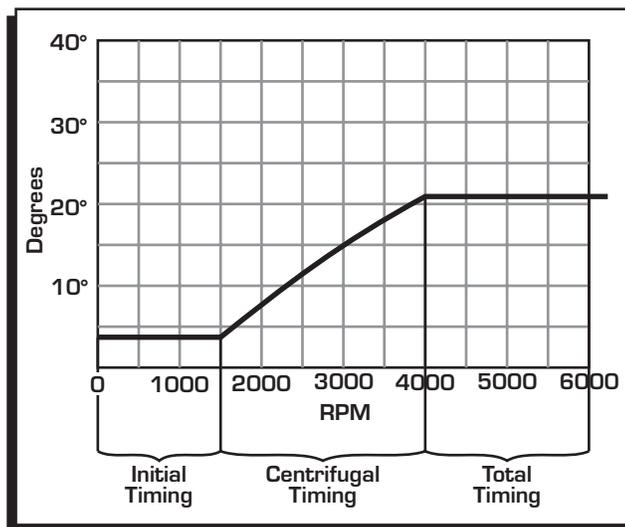


Figure 1 Typical Timing Curve.

INSTALLATION

1. Locate the top-dead center or “0” degree mark on the harmonic balancer or timing wheel.
2. Select the correct timing tape for your application. Make sure you know the correct size of the harmonic balancer or timing wheel you’re using. If this is not known, measure the diameter of the harmonic balancer or timing wheel’s edge and note the size.
3. Choose the timing tape that matches your balancer’s diameter. Be sure that the mating surface is clean of any dirt, grease or debris. Locate and note the “0” degree mark on the timing tape.
4. Align the 0 degree mark on the tape with the TDC mark on the balancer. Make sure that the markings on the tape are facing you, and place the tape on the surface. Use firm pressure for proper adhesion. ATC (after top-dead center) will be to the left of the stock mark, and BTC (before top-dead center) will always be to the right of the stock mark.



Figure 2 The Timing Tape Installed.