

# TRUNK HINGE REPAIR

by Scott McGilvray

Here is a tech tip for those who just like to know stuff. Trunk hinges are the same all three years and they are all bad. That being said you need to know that you will never have a trunk hinge failure. The design of the hinge is the problem. The arm is attached to the bracket by a shouldered rivet. The rivet is supposed to hold in the bracket and the arm pivot on the shoulder. Now I don't know how many years it did just that but somewhere down the road the arm seized to the rivet and made it turn in the bracket. The good news is that it will continue working that way for at least the next hundred years. Remember I told you this was a tech tip for people who just like to know things.



The first picture shows the rivet going through the bracket. I have drawn a line on the rivet to show its orientation to the arm. See picture two and see that the rivet moves with the arm



**Picture #2**

the arm and elongated the hole. This repair is actually more important than the rivet since it has to do with spring length and thus tension. Often because of low spring tension trunks will not stay fully open. It is important to operate the arm in case it is stuck to the shoulder part of the rivet. Penetrant will make the parts move well over the other but it is not possible to get any long lasting lubricant to the working area. Remember, you will be painting the hinge sooner or later.



**Picture #3**