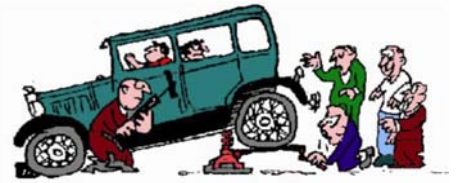




From the Garage -

by Paul Hunter



Front End Alignment Changes -- Toe-In

FWIW:

Maybe something to consider as to why Model A's may wander "occasionally" when driving on different or the same highways:

1. According to the Model A Ford Service Bulletins Book, & current recommendations, it is advisable today to follow Ford's revised toe-in measurements from that of the earlier $3/16"$ to $1/4"$, to the later prescribed toe-in of $1/16"$, $\pm 1/32"$; & naturally, remembering that this $1/32"$ is only about a very tiny dimension of $0.031"$.

2. Next, many agree that Model A wheels are quite serviceable if they only "wobble-in" or "wobble-out" approximately $1/8"$ from the centre of rotation, or something close to this recommendation. (Some may wobble more, some may wobble less, some may wobble as much "in" as "out" of the axle's centre. LOL).

3. Then upon providing just one (1) single very accurate alignment, while setting toe-in at exactly $1/16"$ toe-in while using Ford's toe-in tool, curtain rods, wood jigs, etc., with measured & tested "acceptable" wobbling tires/wheels, one may expect to experience:

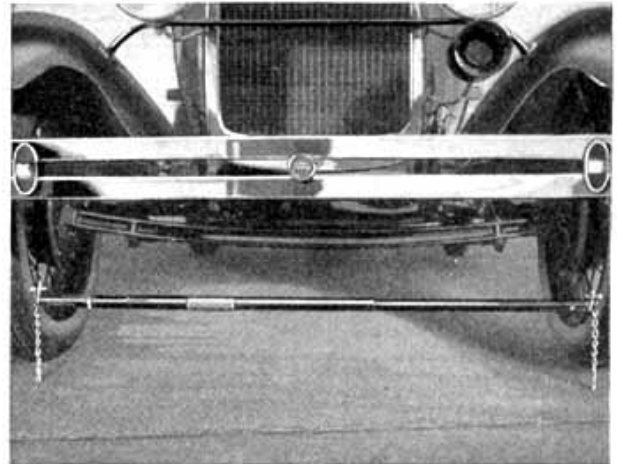


Fig. 490

A. A "**toe-in**" of approximately $5/16"$ if both front tires are in a "wobble-in" position of $1/8"$ from axle centre, i.e., $(-1/8") + (-1/8") + (-1/16") = (-5/16")$; &

B. A "**toe-out**" of approximately $5/16"$ if both front tires are in a "wobble-out" position of $1/8"$ from axle centre; i.e., $1/8" + 1/8" + 1/16" = 5/16"$; &

C. Then after driving around curves & corners, with one front wheel rotating faster than the other, one could theoretically experience different dimensions of maybe approximately $5/8"$ measured between the fronts of the two (2) front tires. Interesting?

D. If one subsequently verifies one's Model A toe-in, several times, each time a few days later, after driving around several miles, one may think his tie rod may be turning slightly & or his toe-in moved & needs to be re-adjusted.

E. May be a good idea to carefully look more closely at one's adjusting of one's front end alignment to decide which dimensions works best for which of his 80+ year old "wobbling" tires/wheels.

This article is from the Ford Barn Forum, to which the variety of topics discussed is extensive to say the least. Consider visiting the website <http://www.fordbarn.com/>, join up, read the articles, take on board the replies and opinions and as said by Henry Ford "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young". - Editor

To read more about Front end alignment, visiting Marco Tahtaras's website is a must - <http://www.abarnyard.com/workshop/align.htm>