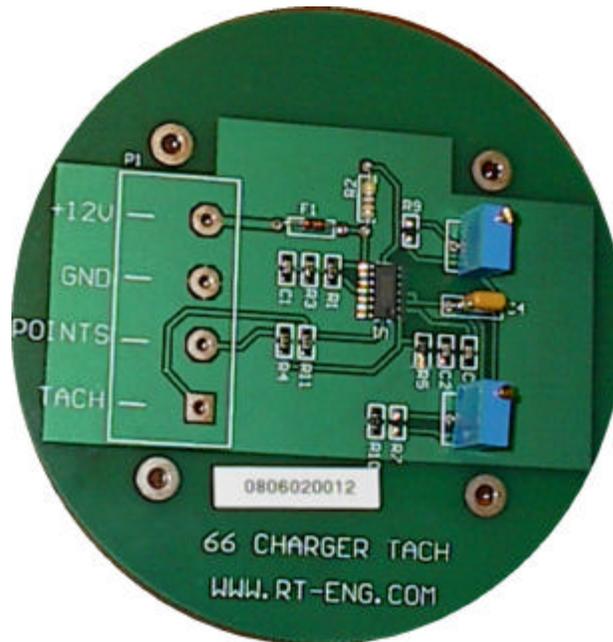


66 Dodge Charger (and others) Tach board



Introduction:

This board replaces the original tachometer driver board in the 66 charger and other cars that use electronics external to the tachometer. The board is designed to fit inside the brass can where the original board was located. The board also has 4 holes in it so it can be mounted anywhere the user chooses if an original brass can is not available.

This board can also be used to drive a 67 tachometer or any other tachometer that has electronics inside the meter if the electronics inside the meter are bypassed.

The board has 4 holes in it for the wires. These are the connections:

- ‡ +12V – This hole should be connected to a wire that is hot when the ignition is turned on. On the outside of the 66 charger brass can, this wire is labeled “+” and is Purple in color. On the inside of the can this wire is red.
- ‡ GND – This hole should be connected to a wire that is grounded to the chassis. On a 66 charger, this wire is connected to the brass case. The brass case must be grounded in order for the board to work. On the inside of the can this wire is black.
- ‡ POINTS – This hole should be connected to the minus side of the coil. On the outside of a 66 charger brass can, this wire is labeled D (for Distributor) and is gray in color. On the inside of the can this wire is green.

‡ TACH – This hold should be connected to the tach wire. On the outside of a 66 charger brass can, this wire is labeled M (for Meter) and is yellow in color. On the inside of the can this wire is yellow.

Installation:

In order to install the board in an original 66 charger brass can, do the following:

- 1) Open the glove box.
- 2) Remove the glove box lining by taking out the screws that hold the lining in.
- 3) Look inside the hole after the lining is out, and you will see a 3.5” round brass can mounted on a piece of bent metal.
- 4) The brass can is held onto the bent metal with two Philips head screws. Remove the screws. (Note: If these screws cannot be removed, you might be able to remove the two screws that are holding the bent metal can mount to the dash)
- 5) Unplug the white connector from the wiring harness. Gently rock the harness and do NOT pull on the wires. Instead grasp one side of the connector in one hand and the other side in the other hand and gently try to pull them apart, rocking them back and forth.
- 6) Turn the can over and you will see on the bottom a large piece of black tape on the circuit board.
- 7) The circuit board is held into the brass can by several bent in dimples. Using needle nose pliers, bend the dimples out. The circuit board should pop out. You may need to gently pry the circuit board out using a small screwdriver.
- 8) Remove and saved the large piece of black tape.
- 9) Cut the wires that are connected to the old circuit board. Cut them as close to the board as possible.
- 10) Strip back about ¼ inch of insulation on the end of the 4 cut wires.
- 11) Solder the yellow (M) wire to the TACH hole. Be careful not to get the PC board to hot as you can melt the PC board. You need to get a good solder joint or the meter will not work properly.
- 12) Solder the red (+) wire to the +12V hole.
- 13) Solder the green (D) wire to the POINTS hole.

- 14) Solder the black (? Look like a triangle made with lines, with a line coming out of the bottom of the triangle) wire to the GND hole.
- 15) Make sure that no wires are touching anything except the 4 holes you solder to.
- 16) Put the save piece of black tape over the back of the board. You may need to use some black tape to hold it on.
- 17) Put the circuit board back into the brass can with the components inside the can and the black tape facing out.
- 18) Bend the edges of the can in like they were when you started in order to hold the board inside the can. Make sure that the all the metal on the circuit board is covered by the black tape and that the circuit board is pressed up into the can and cannot fall down.
- 19) Plug the white connector back into the wiring harness.
- 20) Mount the can back to the mounting metal plate using the two Philips screws.
- 21) Test your new tach board.

Troubleshooting:

If your tachometer does not work after installing the board, do not panic. Each tachometer board was tested at the factory and is known to work. Here are some things you can check:

- 1) Are all four of the wires securely soldered to the board. You can gently pull on each wire and it should not move.
- 2) Is the brass case grounded? You can try running a wire from the outside of the case to a good ground and see if the tach starts working. You can check from the brass case to a good ground using a ohmmeter
- 3) Is the tach itself good? You can put some voltage on the tach to check it, but do not leave it on the tach. I will sometimes poke a 12V wire onto the tach wire very quickly (and quickly pull it off) and see of the tach needle moves. If it does not move the the tach itself is bad. If you leave 12V on the tach for more than 1 second or so you will fry the tach.
- 4) Is the points signal getting from the coil to the D (distributor) wire. You can use a cheap voltmeter to check continuity from the minus side of the coil to the D (gray) wire on the can. You should see an AC voltage on this pin when the engine is running.

- 5) Is the tach sending unit getting +12V when the engine is running? You can use a voltmeter or test light to see if the + (purple) wire is getting 12V.
- 6) Is the M (yellow) wire connected to the back of the tach? You can check this with a ohmmeter.
- 7) Is the tach sending unit putting out a voltage on the M (yellow) wire when the motor is running? If it is not putting out a voltage, then it may have a bad ground, it may not be getting +12V, or it may not be getting a good signal from the coil. One other possibility is that the tachometer wire could be grounded or the tach is shorted out. The tach sending unit should put out voltages similar to this when the engine is running:

66 Tach voltage versus tach reading

Voltage	Tach Reading in RPM
0-0.5	0
0.885	1000
1.4	2000
1.9	3000
3	4000
3.9	5000

Adjustment:

Your 66 charger tach sending unit was adjusted at the factory to read properly. However, all meters are not alike. If you want to adjust the tach sending you we provide two potentiometers on the board to assist you in this effort.

The first pot is R6, and it is used to adjust the gain of the tach board. If your tach is reading too low or too high at upper RPM's, but is correct when idling, you may need to change the R6 pot using a small screwdriver.

The second pot is R8. This pot is used to adjust the idle reading of your tach. If your idle reading is always too high or too low, you can try changing R8 using a small screwdriver.

If you try to adjust the tach board while it is connected to the wiring harness and the engine is running, make sure that you do not allow any of the circuit board wires or components to touch anything metal as you could destroy the board. Make sure that the unit has a good ground when adjusting it as well, using a small wire connected from the brass case to a good ground (such as a screw on the dash).

I have found that it works best to adjust the idle reading first, and then to adjust the gain at about 2000 RPM next. I use a cheap dwell/tach meter to check the tachometer reading.

I have also noticed that most older tachs are a little sticky, and it is helpful to tap the tachometer case after each adjustment to make sure the meter is reading correctly.

Good luck with your new sending unit.

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