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2002 CHEVROLET Cavalier OEM Service and Repair Workshop Manual

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Connector Reconnection - Engine Controls and Fuel

Connector Reconnection - Engine Controls and Fuel

Special Tools

EL-35616 *Terminal Test Probe Kit*

For equivalent regional tools, refer to [Special Tools](#).

When the condition is not currently present, but is indicated in DTC history, the cause may be intermittent. An intermittent may also be the cause when there is a customer complaint, but the symptom cannot be duplicated. Refer to the Symptom Table of the system that is suspect of causing the condition before trying to locate an intermittent condition.

Most intermittent conditions are caused by faulty electrical connections or wiring. Inspect for the following items:

- Loose, corroded, or painted terminal stud/fastener
- Wiring broken inside the insulation
- Poor connection between the male and female terminal at a connector
- A terminal not seated all the way into the connector body
- Poor terminal to wire connection - Some conditions which fall under this description are poor crimps, poor solder joints, crimping over the wire insulation rather than the wire itself, and corrosion in the wire to terminal contact area, etc.
- Pierced or damaged insulation can allow moisture to enter the wiring causing corrosion. The conductor can corrode inside the insulation, with little visible evidence. Look for swollen and stiff sections of wire in the suspect circuits.
- Wiring which has been pinched, cut, or its insulation rubbed through may cause an intermittent open or short as the bare area touches other wiring or parts of the vehicle.
- Wiring that comes in contact with hot or exhaust components

It is important to test terminal contact at the component and any inline connectors before replacing a suspect component. Mating terminals must be inspected to ensure good terminal contact. A poor connection between the male and female terminal at a connector may be the result of contamination or deformation.

Contamination may be caused by the connector halves being improperly connected. A missing or damaged connector seal, damage to the connector itself, or exposing the terminals to moisture and dirt can also cause contamination. Contamination, usually in the underhood or underbody connectors, leads to terminal corrosion, causing an open circuit or intermittently open circuit.

Deformation is caused by probing the mating side of a connector terminal without the proper adapter. Always use the **EL-35616 kit** when probing connectors. Other causes of terminal deformation are improperly joining the connector halves, or repeatedly separating and joining the connector halves. Deformation, usually to the female terminal contact tang, can result in poor terminal contact causing an open or intermittently open circuit.

Testing for Proper Terminal Contact in Bussed Electrical Centers

It is very important to use the correct test adapter when testing for proper terminal contact of fuses and relays in a bussed electrical center. Use the **EL-35616 kit** to test for proper terminal contact. Failure to use the **EL-35616 kit** can result in improper diagnosis of the bussed electrical center.

Follow the procedure below in order to test terminal contact:

1. Separate the connector halves.
2. Visually inspect the connector halves for contamination. Contamination may result in a white or green build-up within the connector body or between terminals. This causes high terminal resistance, intermittent contact, or an open circuit. An underhood or underbody connector that shows signs of contamination should be replaced in its entirety: terminals, seals, and connector body.
3. Using an equivalent male terminal/terminated lead, verify that the retention force is significantly different between a known good terminal and the suspect terminal. Replace the female terminal in question.

Flat Wire Connectors

There are no serviceable parts for flat wire connectors on the harness side or the component side.

Follow the procedure below in order to test terminal contact:

1. Remove the component in question.
2. Visually inspect each side of the connector for signs of contamination. Avoid touching either side of the connector as oil from your skin may be a source of contamination as well.
3. Visually inspect the terminal bearing surfaces of the flat wire circuits for splits, cracks, or other imperfections that could cause poor terminal contact. Visually inspect the component side connector to

- Low ambient temperatures - In extremely low temperatures, ice may form in a connection or component. Inspect for water intrusion.
- The condition only occurs on a cold start.
- The condition goes away when the vehicle warms up.
- Information from the customer may help to determine if the trouble follows a pattern that is temperature related.
- If temperature is suspected of causing an intermittent fault condition, attempt to duplicate the condition. Refer to [Inducing Intermittent Fault Conditions](#) in order to duplicate the conditions required.

Electromagnetic Interference and Electrical Noise

Some electrical components/circuits are sensitive to electromagnetic interference or other types of electrical noise. Inspect for the following conditions:

- A mis-routed harness that is too close to high voltage/high current devices such as secondary ignition components, motors, generator etc. — These components may induce electrical noise on a circuit that could interfere with normal circuit operation.
- Electrical system interference caused by a malfunctioning relay, or a control module driven solenoid or switch — These conditions can cause a sharp electrical surge. Normally, the condition will occur when the malfunctioning component is operating.
- Installation of non-factory or aftermarket add on accessories such as lights, 2-way radios, amplifiers, electric motors, remote starters, alarm systems, cell phones, etc. — These accessories may create interference in other circuits while operating and the interference would disappear when the accessory is not operating. Refer to [Checking Aftermarket Accessories](#).
- Test for an open diode across the A/C compressor clutch and for other open diodes. Some relays may contain a clamping diode.
- The generator may be allowing AC noise into the electrical system.

Incorrect Control Module

- There are only a few situations where reprogramming a control module is appropriate:
 - A new service control module is installed.
 - A control module from another vehicle is installed.
 - Revised software/calibration files have been released for this vehicle.

Fuel System Cleaning

Fuel System Cleaning

Special Tools

- J 34730-1A *Fuel Pressure Gauge*
- J 37088-A *Fuel Line Disconnect Tool Set*

1. **WARNING**

Warning

Refer to [Battery Disconnect Warning](#).

Disconnect the negative battery cable. Refer to [Battery Negative Cable Disconnection and Connection](#).

2. Relieve the fuel system pressure. Refer to the [Fuel Pressure Relief](#).
3. Drain the fuel tanks. Refer to [Fuel Tank Draining](#).
4. Remove the fuel tanks.
 - For the left fuel tank, refer to [Fuel Tank Replacement - Left Side](#).
 - For the right fuel tank, refer to [Fuel Tank Replacement - Right Side](#).
5. Remove the fuel sender assemblies.
6. Inspect the left fuel sender strainer. Replace a contaminated strainer for the left fuel sender only, and inspect the fuel pump.
7. Inspect the left fuel sender fuel pump inlet for debris. Replace the left fuel sender assembly if you find debris in the fuel pump inlet.
8. Inspect the right fuel sender strainers. Replace the right fuel sender assembly if you find a contaminated strainer. The right fuel sender strainers are not serviced separately.