

Why Must I Install New Lifters With My New Flat Tappet Camshaft?

If you are installing a new flat tappet camshaft in your engine, you must install new lifters. The lifter/lobe contact area is under a tremendous amount of pressure, and the lifter and lobe must wear in together

The following illustrations demonstrate why you must install new lifters:

- A new lifter has a slight "crown." A new cam has a slightly tapered face that causes the lifter to rotate. Note the smooth, wide contact pattern in **Figure 1**.

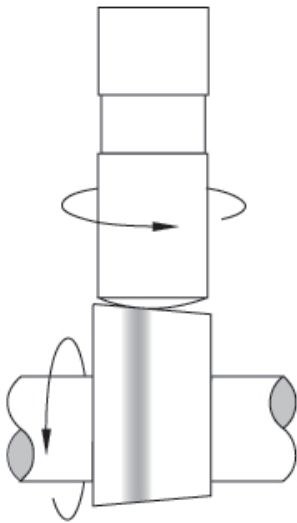


Figure 1.

- Installing a new cam with used lifters creates a concentrated contact pattern on the edge of the cam lobe (**Figure 2**).

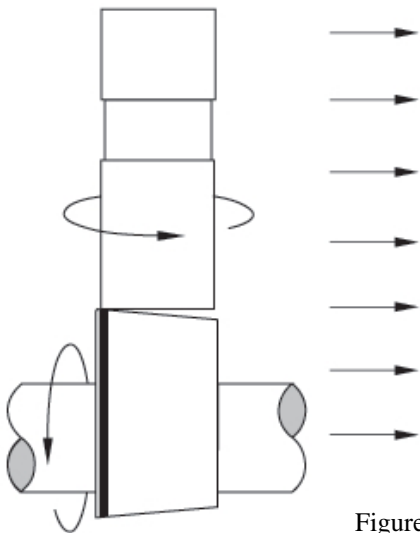


Figure 2.

- Eventually, the contact wears out the edge of the lobe and lifter. Soon, the cam lobe wears down and the lifter stops rotating (**Figure 3**).

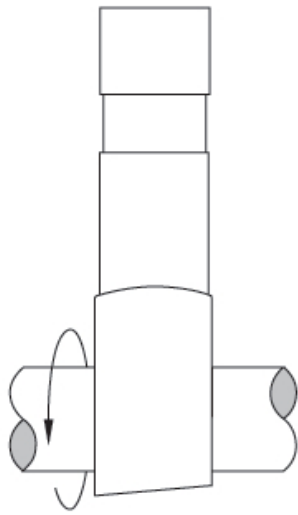


Figure 3.

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