

Modifying 2003 Ford Ranger Gauge Cluster Theft Light to work with 2000 Ford Ranger

Introduction:

After swapping in the gauge cluster I acquired from the 2003 into my 2000 Ranger, I found that the “Theft” light no longer blinked. After some research (comparing the old and new) I realized the theft light was not identical between the two gauge clusters. With a little more digging and tracing, I had a plan.

So real quick, I went:



The original you can see the red, Theft light on the right side of the cluster between the oil pressure and battery indicators. The Theft light of the new set up is located on the bottom right corner of the speedometer.

Procedure:

So let's get started. First thing you're going to want to do is get the gauge cluster out. If you already have it out, you're ahead of the game. If you haven't, then you're going to want to follow the procedure in the link I posted above.

So this is what the back of the gauge cluster looked like before I got into it.

The three lines indicate the original bulb, adjacent bulb and accompanying current limiting resistor.



And now here is the back side with modifications:

I removed the old LED, soldered in a new one (polarity in the old one was backwards). Cut the Resistor Lead and soldered in a jumper wire between the gnd pad of the original circuit and the gnd pad of the adjacent bulb.



Here is a close up of the modifications:

