

Model T Period-Authentic Coil Tester

Manufacturing Information

Manufactured By Assembled At Model Production Unknown Annual Production Unknown Horsepower Weight 1912 Cost

Service Station Equipment Company Newark, New Jersey DNA 60 pounds/27 kilograms \$50

Innovations

Performs an easy test of Model T coils An essential tool for every Ford dealership Produces between 8,000 and 20,000 volts Gauge on top of unit indicates testing pass or fail

Ford Dealership Coil Tester

Ford dealerships had a hand-crank Model T Coil Tester just like this one. Every Model T has four ignition coils – one to fire each spark plug. These coils periodically require adjustments or replacement. The coil tester allowed the dealership's mechanics to remove a coil from the Model T and test it for proper operation in the coil tester machine. You will see that the tester includes a Model T magneto as part of the assembly. The mechanic would crank the handle, which generates the same electrical current that the Model T engine produces. The meter on top of the tester indicates the current needed to operate the coil. Using this information, the mechanic can then determine if the coil is working properly.

Russ Potter & Brent Mize

Russ Potter donated the period-authentic coil tester and Brent Mize restored the tester.



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