

Welcome to Driving Your Model A

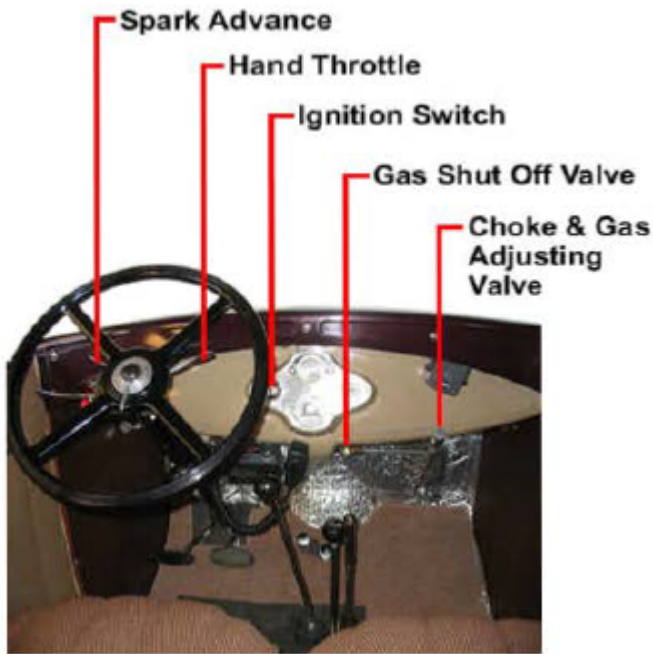
Starting a Model A Ford isn't as simple as in a modern automobile and can be a struggle for a novice. This procedure will help the novice. One must recognize that there were variations in even original Model A Fords. For example, the gas shut off valve was moved from under the dash to under the hood in 1931.

Starting Procedure

- Engage emergency brake by pulling back on it.
- Push lever left of steering wheel (Spark Control) all the way up (Retard)
- Pull lever right of the steering (Hand Throttle) half way down
- Turn Gas Valve under dash on passenger side to open (Pointing down)
- Turn Choke Control Valve (under right side of dash) full clockwise and back off 1/4 turn. If it's quite cold out, it may be better to open a full turn.
- Turn Ignition Switch on (Clockwise)
- Push in clutch and put Transmission in Neutral
- Pull Choke Control Out
- Push Starter button located top of floorboard (above brake)
- Turn engine over 3 Revolutions – Choke in on 3rd Revolution
- When Engine Starts – Push Throttle Lever (Right Lever) Up
- Put Left Lever all the way down. (Depending on how your engine is timed, 3/4 down might be better.)
- allow Engine to Warm Up. (The accelerator pedal will need to be used to keep engine running until it warms up.)
- Turn Choke control (actually GAV) clockwise to smoothest operating condition.
- When starting an engine, which is already warmed up, omit Choke steps.
- Always put Left Lever (Spark Retard Position) all the way up when starting & then down when driving.
- Have Fun Driving!

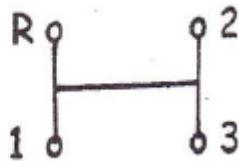
Shutting off the Engine:

- Put the car in neutral and pull on the hand brake
- Shut off the ignition switch and shut gas off.



Gear Shifting

Gear Shift Positions:



Shifting gears by hand is a matter of timing. In most Model A's, the shifting will be smoother if you double-clutch.

With right foot on brake pedal and left foot depressing the clutch pedal, put car in 1st gear.

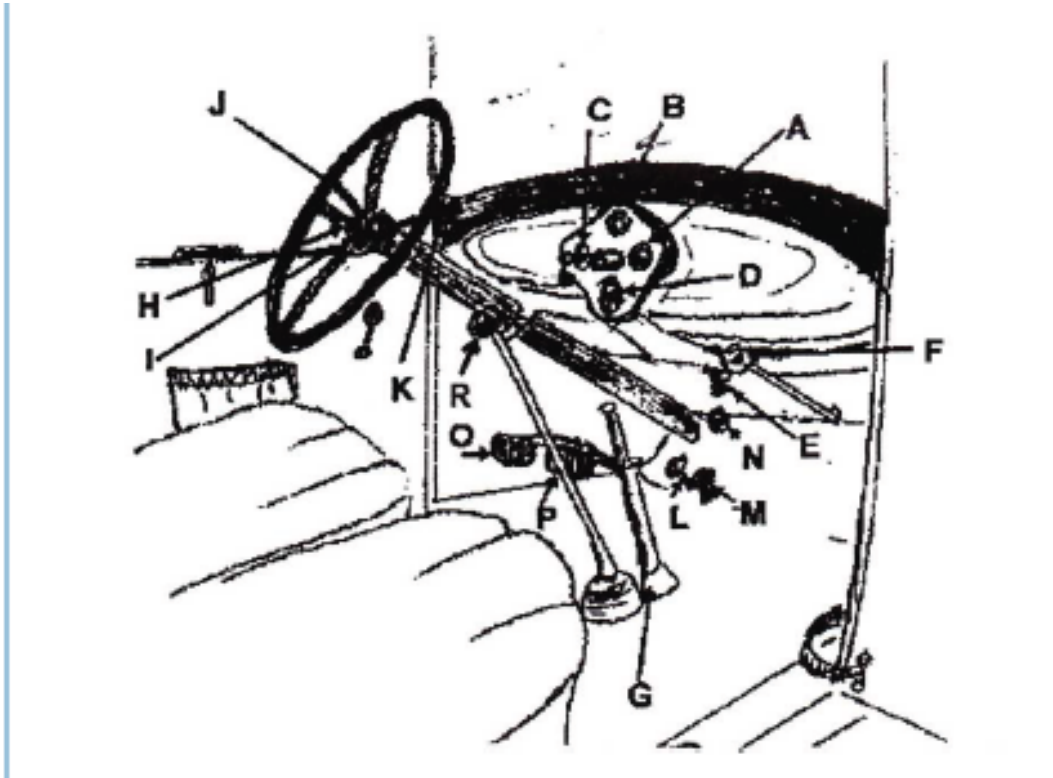
Slowly lift your left foot off the clutch and with right foot on gas pedal, depress gas pedal slowly until you start moving. If car 'bucks', depress your left foot on the clutch and start over.

When it is time to shift to 2nd gear (about 10 MPH), depress clutch and shift from 1st to neutral, release and depress clutch again, and shift to 2nd (this is the double clutch technique). Repeat the same procedure to go from 2nd to 3rd.

Each car shifts slightly differently so learn the feel of your car.

Down-shifting can be used to help brake, but it is not recommended for new drivers. If you cannot stop in time. Use the emergency brake.

Inside Your Model A



A Ammeter - if your car has a generator, this should read 5-10 amps.
If car has an alternator, about 1-2 amps.

B Gas Gauge

C Ignition Switch - may be regular or pop-out.

D. Speedometer and odometer

E. Gas Shut-off Valve - right off, left on

F Choke - fuel mixture control (GAV)

G Emergency Brake

H Horn

I Light Switch

J Spark Lever

K Hand Throttle

L Gas Pedal

M Foot Rest

N Starter Button

O Clutch Pedal

P Brake Pedal

R Gear Shift

Basic Car Servicing

- A. Water – if engine is hot, remove cap slowly with a rag.
- B. Filling the Gas Tank:
 - Do not put nozzle all the way in (or use adapter)
 - Use Regular Gas (non-Ethanol preferred)
 - 1928 – 1929: 10 gallon tank
 - 1930 - 1931: 11 gallon tank
- C. Dip Stick is used to check engine oil level – car holds about 4.5 quarts.
- D. Battery – keep posts clean
- E. Oil Filler Tube
- F. Tire Pressure: 35 PSI (pounds per square inch)

