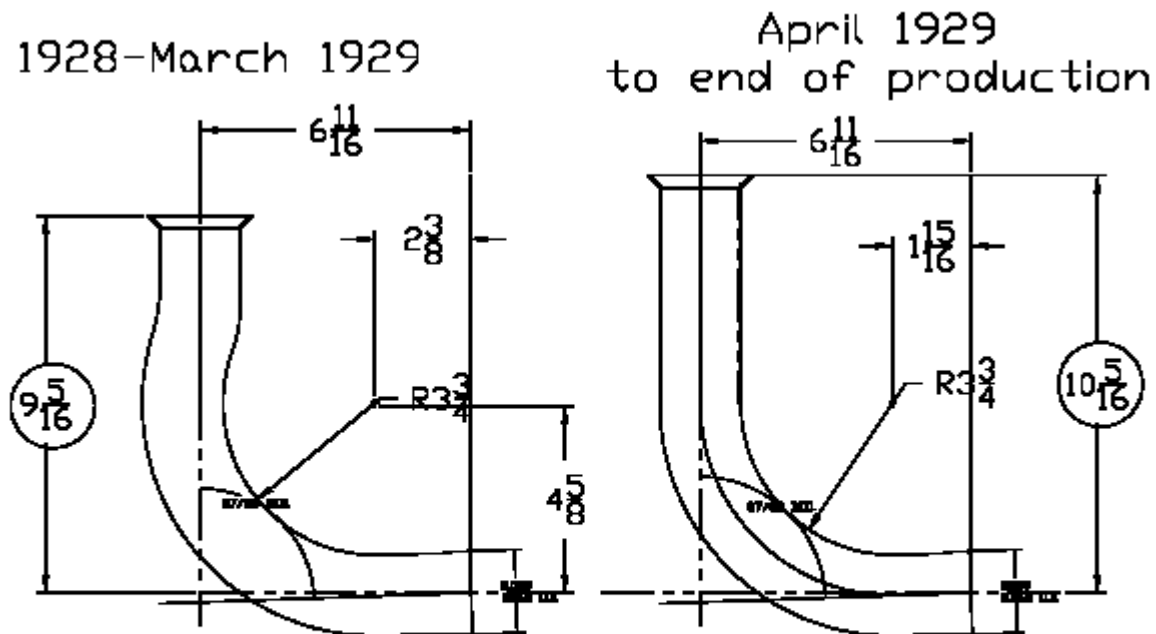


The Model A Ford 1928 to mid-1929 Muffler and Exhaust System

By Rick Black, Las Cruces NM

As with many of the early parts used on the Model A Ford, everything was in transition and most changes occurred in 1928. But the exhaust system was changed in a major way in March of 1929. There were two main features changed on the muffler and one on the car.

I talked to the man who probably knows more about the Model A exhaust system than anyone, Joe Davis of Aires Limited in Medford Oregon. I've known Joe for decades and his company makes exact duplicates of the Model A Ford muffler and exhaust system pieces. I've had one of his mufflers on my car for almost 30 years.



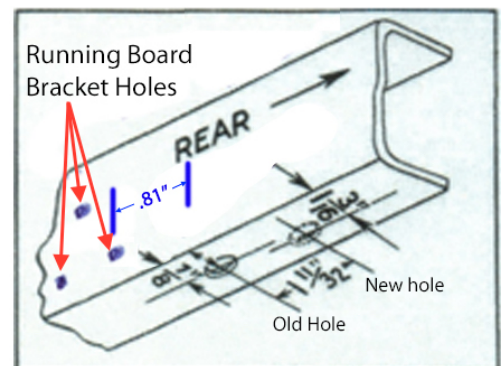
1928 Inlet Pipe on left, April 1929 to end of production on right.
 Note the 1928 is 'one' inch shorter and has the forward curve of the pipe moved 7/16" forward to clear the motor mount.

In early 1929, the Inlet pipe was changed to a low-cost design and lengthened by 1" to move the muffler further from the floor boards to reduce heat. Below are the two designs, early and late.

At the same time, the Tail pipe was lengthened by about 1 11/32", thus altering the location to the frame in a slightly different location.

This is documented in the Model A Service Bulletins on page 327, along with the new tail pipe clamp that replaced the previous one.

The hole in the frame was moved to the rear by 1 11/32", as shown on the modified Service Bulletin Figure 660 at right.



Dotted circle shows location of new hole to be drilled
 Fig. 660

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So, what are your options for muffler installation on 1928 and early 1929 Cars and Pickups?

1. Drill a hole in the frame as shown above. Use the later tail pipe clamp A-5256-D as sold by Aries.
2. Purchase the modified A-5230-28-M29 Muffler from Aries with the tail pipe shortened to fit the early frames, but be sure to check your frame before ordering. The exact date when frames were matched to bodies varies from plant to plant, so March 1929 is not a precise date. Also, some cars have had their frames switched out, and you'll never know until you look and measure.
3. Purchase a 1928 Muffler from Aries and use the correct A-5256-AR tail pipe clamp. Be sure your frame is the early frame with the hole .81" behind the running board bracket holes as shown above. This option recommended for show cars only.

Aries Limited advertises in both *The Restorer* magazine and on the MAFCA website. If you have any questions about muffler installation, call Joe. He's always happy to assist Model A'ers getting their cars working properly. His phone number is listed on the Aries Limited website: www.amuffler.com

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