Pitman Arms

(Arm—Steering Gear Sector Shaft)

The pitman arm is responsible for changing the rotary motion of the sector shaft in a steering box to the linear motion needed to steer the front wheels. It works in tandem with the idler arm which is mounted on the opposite end of the frame. Ford had multiple versions of the pitman arms that were used in 1965/1966, but this eventually was reduced down to so there was a single version for manual steering and a single for power steering. Differences and transitions shown here below. Pitman arms are not date coded, but will sometimes have mold numbers cast in them.

1965 and 1966 Pitman Arms

Six cylinder Mustang, with manual steering, CODD-3590-B







1965 and 1966 six cylinder Mustang, with power steering, C4DZ-3590-A



Stamped with engineering number C3DA-3590-H



Pitman Arms cont.

1965/1966 eight cylinder Mustang, C5ZZ-3590-A 1967 six and eight cylinder with power steering before May 1 1967





Stamped with engineering number C4ZA-3590-A

1965 and 1966 Shelby GT350 only, S1MS-3590-A





Stamped with engineering number XRR 25479

1967 Model Year changes—Sector Shaft

During the 1967 model year Ford changed the diameter of the sector shaft from 1 inch to 1 1/8 inch. This made the sector shaft less prone to cracking or damage, but it also changed the designs of the pitman arms as they now had to be updated to accommodate these larger diameters. Approximate change over date is May 1 1967. The steering boxes themselves are basically unchanged from the outside, only the inside is machined differently for larger bearings.





Pitman Arms cont.

1967 model year up to May 1 1967; Six cylinder manual steering C7ZZ-3590-A





Stamped with engineering number C7ZA-3590-A

1967 - 1970 (Starting May 1 1967); 6 and 8 cylinder manual steering C7ZZ-3590-B





Stamped with engineering number C7ZA-3590-B or C9ZA-3590-B and pink paint dab.

1967–1970 (Starting May 1 1967); 6 and 8 cylinder with power steering C7ZZ-3590-C





Stamped with engineering number C7ZA-3590-C or C9ZA-3590-C and yellow paint dab.

Pitman Arms cont.

71 to 73 manual steering D1ZZ-3590-A





Stamped with engineering number DIZA-3590-AA or D3ZA-3590-AB

71 to 73 power steering D1ZZ-3590-B





Stamped with engineering number DIZA-3590-BA or D3ZA-3590-BB

Examples of original paint dabs on pitman arms





