

Ward's Classic Car Radio Repair

How To Identify E Body Radios

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There seems to be alot of confusion when it comes to 1970-1974 E body radios . I have created this page in an effort to educate the general public about how to easily identify a genuine Barracuda / Challenger radio , and not get stuck paying big bucks for a common C body or Truck radio ,which can look "similar" . Here are some tips you should know . First, All E body radios will have the antenna port located on the bottom of the radio . C & B body and Truck radios will have the antenna port on the back or the side, never the bottom. Antenna port on the bottom is a feature unique to E body radios only. The next unique feature can be seen when looking at the front of the radio. Notice in the pictures below , the front metal face of the radio. Look toward the bottom . In the lower corners you will see two small "platforms" extending outward , with the alignment pins in the middle. Notice the "platform" on the left is a rectangle shape , and the one on the right is a square shape. ALL E-body radios have this feature , and ONLY E body radios have these . This is the easiest way to identify a true E body radio. It does not matter if it is an AM, AM 8-Track thumbwheel, AM FM Thumbwheel, or AM FM knob style. If it's an E body, it will have a small rectangular platform on the left, and a square on the right . Study the pictures below and see exactly what you just read .Commit that fact to memory, and you will be ok at the swap meet , or e-bay .



Here we have a 1970-71 AM . Notice the station preset buttons are Chrome . ALL 70 , and most , if not all 71 radios will have chrome buttons .



Next up, we have a 1970 AM 8-track. This radio is unique to 1970 only. This is the only year an 8-track was available in an E body. Part number 2884 610 .Also notice, this is AM only. There never was an AM FM 8-track available for E bodies, ever. Period. Those AM FM 8-track radios you see on e-bay are in fact C body radios.



Now we have a 70-71 AM FM . Notice this is a thumbwheel radio. All 70-71 E body AM FMs are thumbwheel style. There are actually 2 different model designs , however, they are visually identical from the front. The 70 model used a Phillips radio, part# 2884658 and 71 used the Motorola unit you see here, part # 3501050, easily identifiable as the 71 unit by the cassette lead on back. All E body AM FMs as well as AM 8-tracks are stereo units, and require a 3 speaker dash and crossover box (located behind glove box/ we service these as well).



This is a 72-74 AM. Notice the black preset buttons . Chrome buttons were found on 70-71 Only. Also please note, although the AM FMs and AM 8-tracks were thumbwheel designs in 70 (71) , the AM is always going to be a knob style radio 70-74.



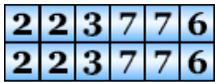
And finally, we have a 72-74 AM FM. Knob style, with black buttons of course. And there you have the entire E body radio lineup, from 1970-1974.



This is a 1970 8-track bezel . This particular one is correct for Barracuda. Notice the "character line" which follows the contours of the character line found

in the dash pad. The Challenger bezel lacks this feature.

Probable configuration error: 454:Service Configuration Error
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