

Replacement Gas Cylinder Installation Instructions

For all non-convertible PT Cruisers

Note: These are high quality USA-made OEM cylinders. Costs are kept down by recycling your existing end-fittings. If yours are worn or otherwise need replacement, new ones are available for a nominal charge.

1. Find a suitable support to have ready for your hatch since your gas cylinders will be detached. A broom handle, or other yard tool may work, or you might tie a line to your garage ceiling. You might also enlist a helper to hold it for you.

2. Unfasten the lower point of the left (driver's side) gas cylinder.

a.) On early PT's (2001-2004) this requires either a T-40 torx drive socket (about \$6 at Sears), or a 3/16" allen wrench. Once the bolt starts turning, lift the hatch firmly with one hand to keep pressure off of the bolt as you remove it. Now rest the hatch on your support (step 1), as the single remaining strut will not support the hatch.

b.) On later PT's (2005+) this only requires using a screwdriver to release the end-fitting spring-clip; simply pry the spring up an 1/8th inch or so as in the illustration. Now rest the hatch on your support (step 1), as the single remaining strut will not support the hatch.

3. Unscrew the cylinder. Grasp the body of the cylinder firmly, and turn counter-clockwise to unscrew it from the upper end fitting, which will remain attached to your PT.

4. Remove the lower end-fitting. The end-fitting is threaded and turns off. Ideally, yours will turn off by hand, but if not, use locking pliers or a vice to keep the strut's rod from turning.

5. Attach the replacement cylinder. This is a direct reverse of the removal process. First attach the lower end-fitting (turn on by hand, do NOT use a vice or vice grips on the rod, as you could scratch it and ruin the seal), then attach to the upper end-fitting, then attach the lower fitting to your PT.

6. Repeat for right side.

