

MUFFLER PUZZLER

John W. Pace

The above picture shows a muffler hanger, the right side to be exact, and it came from my 1965 Mustang Coupe.

That's right, my 1965 Mustang Coupe!

It all started this way. I was cleaning the underside of the car and when I got to the hangers, I unbolted them and put them aside for later cleaning or replacing.

One day in the mail came a Mustang parts catalog from Larry's Mustang Parts. Listed within was the muffler installation kit for a single exhaust V8. I immediately ordered this kit.

In about three weeks, the package arrived. I checked the order and sensed an error in one of the hangers. I went and got mine. The left one was correct. Could it be Larry's, or mine?

I placed a telephone call to Larry's and explained my problem to Tom. He looked up the hanger and told me what

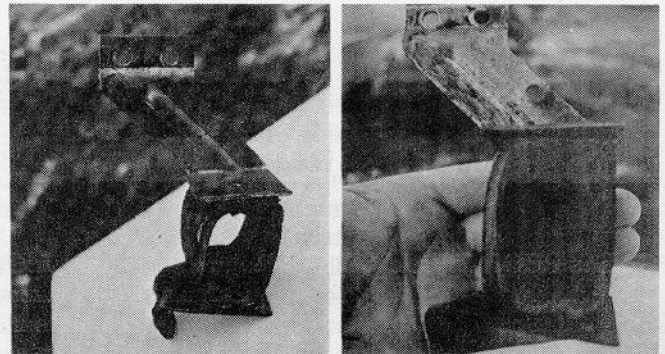
was listed in their catalog and what, according to their supplier, was correct. Tom suggested that maybe the previous owner had had a different type hanger installed.

I checked this thoroughly. The plate where the three hole angle bolts through is spot welded to the frame. There is no visible welding around the edge of the plate. As far as I know, my muffler hanger is correct.

Now for the research part, I checked the final edition of Ford's Master

Catalog. Nothing. I then checked the 1965 Mustang repair manual. Nothing. My last source was a Ford Ready Reference Catalog published in 1966. Though it showed dozens of different hangers, not one was like mine.

I have since made my hanger almost good as new by drilling out the two large rivets and replacing the wornout tire cord with new. Instead of rivets, I used two $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 1" bolts. By painting the metal parts, the hanger could pass for a new one.



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