

Adapting 69-75 Corvette Steering Wheels to the 1976 Vette Standard Steering Column

The 1976 Corvette is known for the use of the “Vega” steering wheel that was used for just that one model year on the T&T steering column and also on the standard (non-adjustable) steering column. Typically the 1976 Vette steering columns are treated as some sort of “weak sister” because of the one year only steering wheels. Most automotive shops just shy away from the 1976 model year when it comes to steering columns and steering wheels.

However, here is an important thing to keep in mind. The actual steering column is exactly the same as the 1969 through 1975 steering columns. Therefore, any steering wheels and hardware that was used on the older Vette steering columns will readily attach to the 1976 column.

I have posted a paper on the www.corvettefaq.com websight on adapting the 1976 T&T column to various steering wheels. Here is what my research has found on adapting the older model Vette steering wheels to the 1976 standard (non-adjustable) columns as well.

The 1976-79 standard steering wheel has an integral hub. So you will need the following hub. Zip Products SC-414. It is listed for 69-75. That hub will accept the production steering wheels that are listed for 69-75.

You will also need the six small screws to mount the wheel to the hub. ZSC-351.

I think that you will have to purchase the older horn contact (called a button stand/contact by ZIP). You will need SC-46.

You will also need screws ZSC-346

And finally the appropriate horn button SC-300.

With the above hardware your column should accept any aftermarket steering wheels that are listed for the 69-75 Corvette standard non-adjustable column. Just talk to the aftermarket sales people as if you have a 1975 Vette with a standard column and don't get them confused with the 1976 “one year only” situation.

There is one other conclusion that can be drawn from above information. Since the 1976 steering wheel carried through 1979 (the end of the non-adjustable steering column production) all of the parts that I just listed for a 1976 column most likely will allow the 77-79 non-adjustable Vette columns with Vega steering wheels to accept the older steering wheels as well.

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