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03-11-2005, 12:20 AM

#1

morado33

AF Newbie

Join Date: Mar 2005
Posts: 3

Key Stuck! HELP

My key is stuck in the ignition. The car turns on, i just cannot pull out the key. I've had to park my car at work with key still stuck in the ignition until I can get this matter resolved. The key is a regular key, does not have a chip. Please help, any suggestions r greatly appreciated.



03-11-2005, 01:58 AM

#2

SOLSTER

AF Enthusiast
★★★★★★★★★★

Join Date: Oct 2004
Posts: 231

not to offend, but a search of "key stuck" turned up 5 hits. try this thread:

<http://www.automotiveforums.com/vbul...ight=key+stuck>

I saw another thread with a simliar title, so do a search on those keywords, I'm sure that's a good place to start.

SOSLTER

1999 Isuzu Rodeo S 3.2L, 4x4, Auto, Great Truck! 🇺🇸
2004 Mazdaspeed MX-5 Turbo, Titanium Grey 🇺🇸
2006 Pontiac Solstice, Mysterious Black 🇺🇸



03-11-2005, 09:35 AM

#3

amigo-2k

Isuzu Guy
★★★★★★★★★★
AF Moderator

Join Date: Jan 2004
Posts: 2,660

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

I've been meaning to add this to the FAQ's since this has popped up a could of times in the last month. And it is there now.

-Ryan
Isuzu Moderator

FAQ 98-04 Isuzu Rodeo, Rodeo Sport, Amigo, Trooper

2000 Amigo, V6, HT winter, ST summer, 2wd

03-11-2005, 01:18 PM

#4 **mscorderosman**
AF Newbie**Re: Key Stuck! HELP**Join Date: Mar 2005
Posts: 5

Sounds like the teeth on the inside of the ignition lock are broken, and cannot let the key out. You need to replace the ignition lock cylinder and replace the keys. Only way to do it.



03-11-2005, 02:22 PM

#5 **amigo-2k**Isuzu Guy
★★★★★★★★☆☆
AF ModeratorJoin Date: Jan 2004
Posts: 2,660**Re: Re: Key Stuck! HELP**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **mscorderosman**
Sounds like the teeth on the inside of the ignition lock are broken, and cannot let the key out. You need to replace the ignition lock cylinder and replace the keys. Only way to do it.

no.

-Ryan

Isuzu Moderator**FAQ 98-04 Isuzu Rodeo, Rodeo Sport, Amigo, Trooper**2000 Amigo, V6, HT winter, ST summer, 2wd

03-11-2005, 08:11 PM

#6 **morado33**

AF Newbie

Join Date: Mar 2005
Posts: 3**Re: Key Stuck! HELP**

Hey everyone thanks for the advice. But one thing I did not mention is that I was able to get the key out once I opened up the panel under the steering wheel, but it happend again. I just need to try to figure what to do so it won't happen again. I'm gonna try a couple of things and I'll check back.



03-11-2005, 09:37 PM

#7 **rodeo02**AF Enthusiast
★★★★★★★★☆☆Join Date: Mar 2003
Posts: 2,770**Re: Re: Key Stuck! HELP**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **morado33**
Hey everyone thanks for the advice. But one thing I did not mention is that I was able to get the key out once I opened up the panel under the steering wheel, but it happend again. I just need to try to figure what to do so it won't happen again. I'm gonna try a couple of things and I'll check back.

There is an ignition lock cable that runs from under the steering wheel to under the floor console shifter. If the cable binds up on anything the key will not release. Removing that panel may have moved that cable enough to release the

key. Try to reposition the cable if it happens again.
G/luck!
Joel

2005 Chevy Trailblazer LS 4x4, summit white, bone stock
2001 Ford Windstar LX chick magnet ☺
Gone but not forgotten ☹ : 2002 Isuzu Rodeo LS 4x4, silver, passport body side moldings, Isuzu fogs.



03-12-2005, 12:20 PM

#8

ammie
AF Newbie

Join Date: Apr 2004
Posts: 14

I've had that happen to me about 2 years ago. Dealer fixed it no charge because it was under warranty. Had something to do with a cable (somewhere) LOL
~Ammie



04-30-2005, 08:03 PM

#9

rodeoron
AF Newbie

Join Date: Apr 2005
Posts: 1

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

Hey Pal I Had The Same Problem A Couple Times Myself, On My 01 Rodeo, I Found That The Gear Shifter Was Not Locking In The Park Postion, Played Around With Shifter And Finaly Locked, By Locked I Mean You Have To Pit Your Foot On The Brake To Realese. But I Think Its A Problem With The Shifter Linkage,

I



02-15-2006, 06:26 PM

#10

Uncle Pow
AF Newbie
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Join Date: Apr 2004
Posts: 21

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

Quote:

Originally Posted by **rodeoron**
Hey Pal I Had The Same Problem A Couple Times Myself, On My 01 Rodeo, I Found That The Gear Shifter Was Not Locking In The Park Postion, Played Around With Shifter And Finaly Locked, By Locked I Mean You Have To Pit Your Foot On The Brake To Realese. But I Think Its A Problem With The Shifter Linkage,

I

Same here, I just worry that this may lead to a bigger problem over time and eventually I won't be able to get the key out at all....

1998 White Isuzu Rodeo
R.I.P. 1998 Red Volvo S70 GLT :-(
Austin, TX



02-19-2006, 11:01 AM

#11

mag1964

AF Newbie

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Join Date: Oct 2004

Posts: 16

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

I had this happen to me. There is a black cable that runs from the steering column to the shifter. You can push up on the cable and it will release the keep, however it will continue to lock until you get it fixed. I took it to the dealer and they had to take the dash out to replace screw that came out, I believe it cost me about \$200 bucks. Of course most of it was labor.☹



02-21-2006, 09:33 PM

#12

egc519mzl

AF Newbie

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Join Date: Feb 2006

Posts: 27

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

I was able to find a pattern on how to remove the keys from my friend's 98 auto Passport.

- Press and hold the button on the shifter with your thumb.
- Turn the key counterclockwise (towards the lock position) with light pressure. You will hear or feel something engaging inside the switch assembly
- Release the button on the shifter
- Voila! I was able to fully turn the key to the lock position.

This is only a workaround to remove the keys. I will try to do the following in order and see which one will fix it.

1. I will try a duplicate or the spare key and see if I could remove it easily.
2. I will try to look at the black cable that runs from the steering column to the shifter
3. Replace the ignition lock.



03-03-2007, 07:22 PM

#13

alphabakada

AF Newbie

Join Date: Mar 2007

Posts: 2

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

I had this problem and ended up taking everything apart and figuring out how it all worked. Having keys stuck in the ignition of your car can be either an electrical problem or a mechanical problem.

There are four electrical parts in this system: 1) there is a switch on the brake pedal that tells the selector if it is released or depressed. 2) there is a switch in the selector that tells if the selector is in park. 3) there is a relay switch that connects to both of the switches just mentioned and 4) a solenoid that interfaces with the mechanics of the selector.



You can test if the relay switch is bad by replacing it with one from under the

hood (I used the headlight one). You can tell if the stop light switch or the selector park switch is bad by activating each individually and listening to the relay switch. You can visually check the solenoid with the console cover off. If all of those are working you likely have a mechanical problem.

There is a cable running from the selector to the steering column. It's role is to disallow turning the key to lock if the car is not in park and to disallow taking the car out of park if the key is not turned on.

This picture shows the mechanism in the column:



If it is too tight (short) then the keys will get stuck in the ignition. If it is too loose (long) then you will be able to take the car out of park with the key in the locked position.

There is an adjuster near the selector that will allow you to adjust the cable perfectly. (See above image)

You must detach the cable on the selector end and remove the lock from the adjuster. There are tabs on each side that hold it into place.



Release it and then put the cable and adjuster back into place. Place the key in the ignition and switch it to the on position. Grab the cable housing near the selector end and pull it tight. Place the lock into place on the adjuster and push it in tight. The lock is designed to give the cable the right amount of slack to operate properly.

Hope this helps!



03-03-2007, 07:36 PM

#14

trooperbc

AF Regular
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Re: Key Stuck! HELP

if the above post by [alphabakada](#) is verified by another, this info and photos

Join Date: Jul 2005
Posts: 318

(especially if they can be made larger) seems like a **perfect candidate for addition to the FAQ**, imo. good info. thanks.

//bc

1992 trooper 3.2L v6 sohc automatic...as is

i love a good intermittent electrical challenge. . .especially when it's someone else's.



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