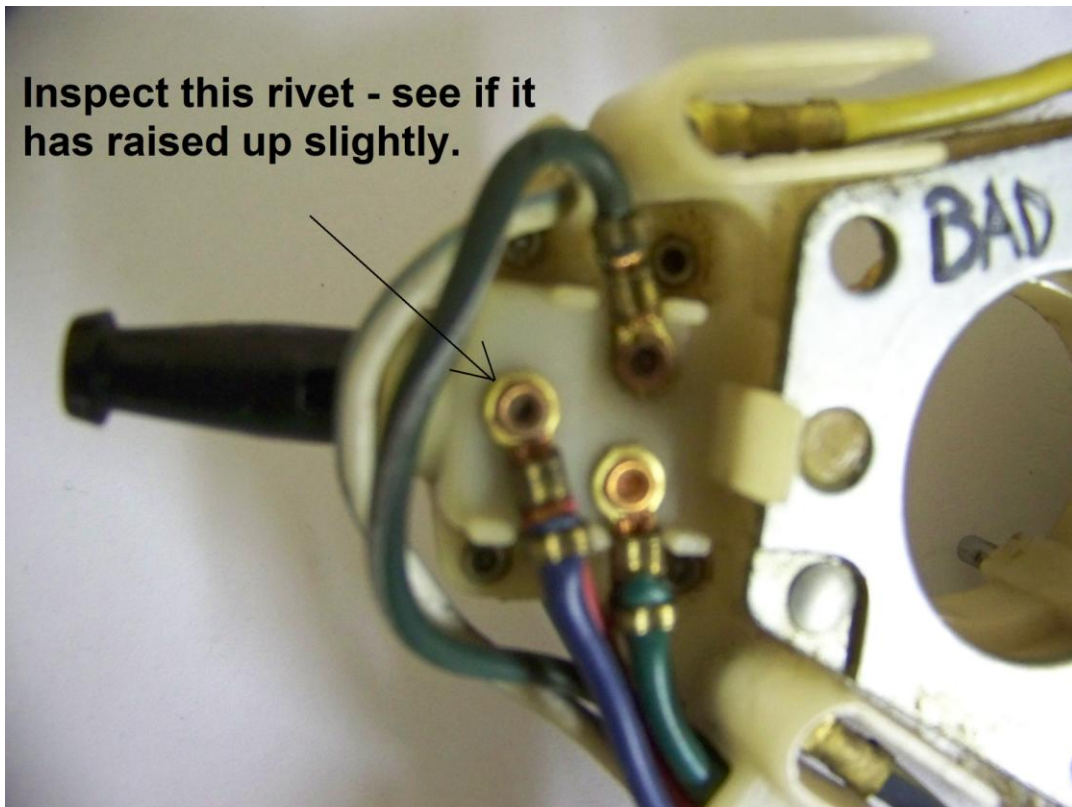


## 1967-1969 Cougar Turn Signal Switch Failure Diagnosis



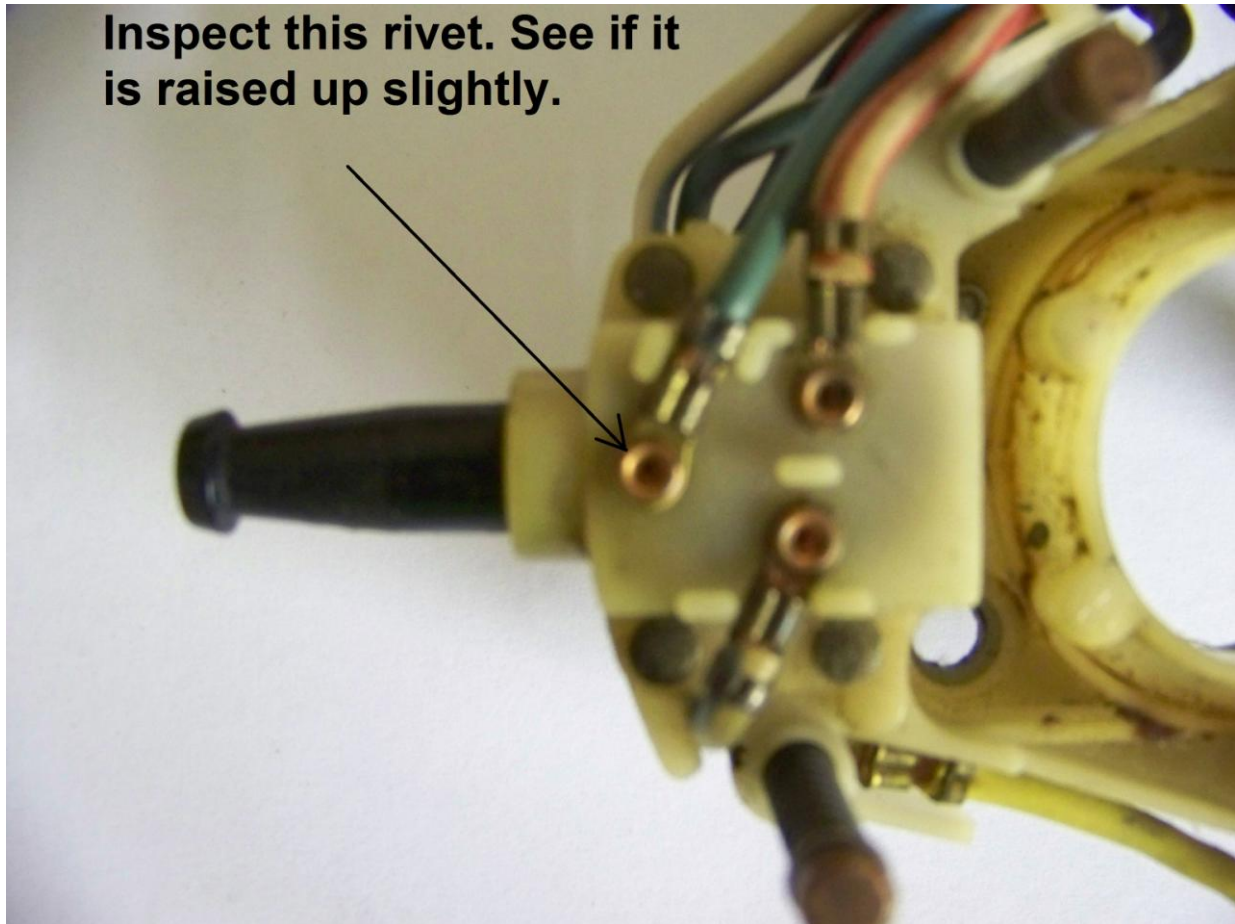
**Figure 1. Turn Signal Switch Bottom View**

### **Turn Signal Failure**

*All* the turn signal light power passes through the emergency switch portion of the switch first. On Cougars, Thunderbirds, and Shelby Mustangs, the current from the extra tail lights can heat up the riveted connections, soften the plastic housing, and allow the rivet to move out of position. This will cause the turn and/or emergency signals to fail.

Inspect the rivet location carefully to see if the rivet has raised up slightly as shown in Figure 1. The rivets on both the top and bottom of the switch should be flush with the plastic housing.

When the rivet moves up, it disconnects the top wire from the bottom, interrupting power feeding from the emergency switch section to the turn signal side of the switch.

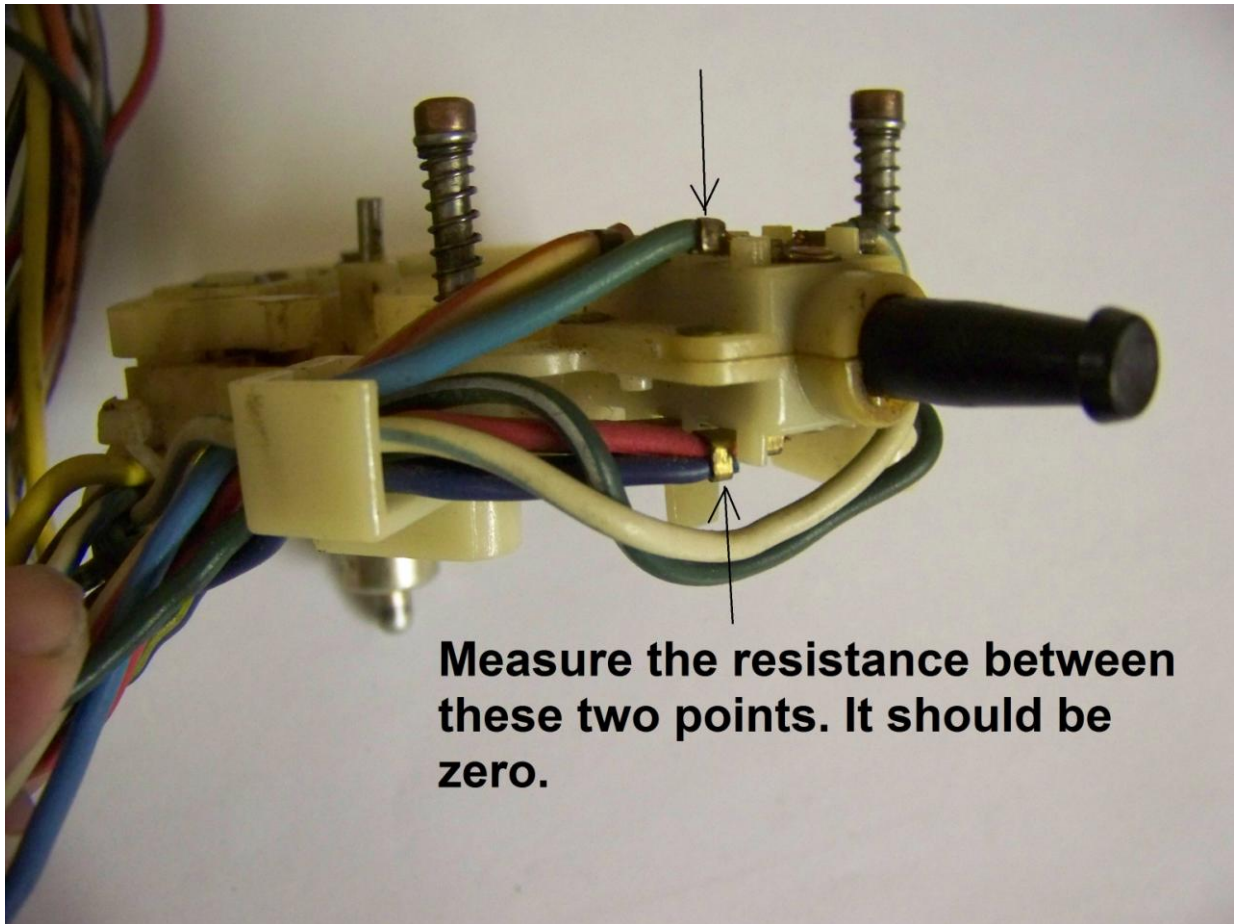


### **Turn Signal Switch Top View**

Inspect the rivet location carefully to see if the rivet has raised up slightly. It should be flush with the plastic housing.

Measure the resistance between the points shown below. It should be zero. If there is a high resistance open between these two points, the switch has failed.

Another common failure is oxidation between the rivets and the terminal with the wire. Measure the resistance between the center of the rivet and the terminal for each wire. A high resistance indicates an open. This may be repaired by soldering between the rivet and the terminal end using low-temperature solder. Warning: too much heat will melt the switch housing and move the rivet, ruining the switch.



**Figure 3. Turn Signal Switch Side View**

Measure the resistance between the points shown in Figure 3. It should be zero. If there is a high resistance open between these two points, the switch has failed.

The table below shows the connections for each switch position. The wire pairs in each column, should be shorted together, i.e. Green-Orange-Blue should be shorted together in the off position of the switch. Use a test light to verify these connections.

OFF-POSITION

Green, Orange-Blue  
 Green, Green-Orange  
 \*Blue, Red

LEFT-TURN

Blue, Green-White  
 Blue, Green-Orange  
 \*Blue, Red  
 Green, Orange-Blue

RIGHT-TURN

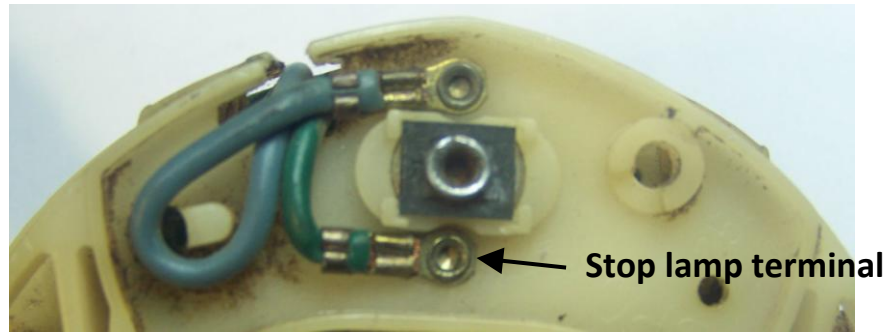
Blue, Orange-Blue  
 Blue, White-Blue  
 \*Blue, Red  
 Green, Green-Orange

\*1967-68, 69 tilt only

Table 1. 1967 - 1969 Cougar Turn signal switch connections  
 (emergency button pulled out)



## Stop Lamp Failure – 1969 and up



**Figure 4. Stop Lamp connection – switch top view**

Stop lamps can fail at:

1. terminal on the switch plate – oxidized rivet or crimp connection. See previous section on repairing this problem. Replace the switch if unrepairable.
2. turn signal switch connector pin (green wire from the stop lamp switch, see below).



**Figure 5. Turn Signal Switch Connector Pin Failure**

Figure 4 shows a common turn signal switch connector pin failure. The crimp connection between the wire and the pin is burnt and oxidized due to the high stop lamp current. A high resistance open between the green wire and connector pin will cause stop lamp failure or intermittent operation. This problem can occur on either the male or female side of the turn signal switch connector.

To inspect the pin, remove the pin using a pin removal tool (see the factory shop manual for a picture of the tool). To repair, replace the socket or pin, or the switch. Make sure the switch comes with *new* pins – do not use crimp on connectors.