

MGF/TF Key Fobs

There have been articles in the last two editions of the MGOC magazine *Enjoying MG* about MGF/TF security systems, including locks and immobilisers.

On late MGFs (from 2000 model year) and early TFs (to mid 2003), plus some ZR/ZSs, the immobiliser is deactivated by a signal from the key fob when the ignition is turned on. One point that the article makes is that if the battery in the fob goes flat you would be able to get into the car using the key in the door lock, but you would be unable to start the car using the key because the immobiliser would not be deactivated.

I couldn't remember the last time I changed the batteries in the key fobs (if ever!) and as the battery life under normal use is apparently around 3 years I have now changed them. You may wish to do the same, but please note that there is a need to re-synchronise the fob to the car's security system after changing the battery. This is a simple procedure (see the handbook for details) involving pressing the lock and unlock buttons a few times, but I changed one key fob battery at a time in case of problems!



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MGF/TF Indicator Bulbs

As I mentioned in a previous short article, early MGFs have amber indicator lights with clear bulbs, whereas later MGFs (from 2000 model year) and all TFs have clear lights with amber bulbs (some early Fs have also been converted to this).

When I recently removed the offside rear light on my F to replace a broken rear light bulb (thanks to John & B for letting me know!), I noticed that the amber paint on the indicator bulb was peeling off (see photo), presumably due to the heat from the filament over the years. I took the precaution of replacing both of the rear indicator bulbs (the other one was in a similar condition) to avoid the possibility of eventually having white indicator lights instead of amber! You may wish to check the condition of any amber bulbs on your car.

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