

Wheels: And e-mail from Thomas reads, “I have a noise in the dash of my 1995 Ford Taurus in the instrument cluster area. I suspect it is related to the speedometer cable. However, my speedometer works perfectly (no flutter, etc.). This only occurs above 55 mph. I thought that lubricating the cable might help. I took the vehicle a local Ford dealership and they diagnosed a faulty speedometer head at a total cost of nearly \$800.00. I opted not to have the head installed due to financial reasons. The dealer said they lubricated some part, but it didn’t help. Can you suggest a possible solution other than this costly repair? This noise is driving me nuts!”

Halderman: I checked the files at the International Automotive Technicians Network (www.iatn.net) and found several that match your concern. All of them indicated a fault with the speedometer head. You may wish to check the dealer again because there is a service bulletin about this problem (TSB #97-12-5). The noise could also be related to a lack of lube in the upper and/or lower speedometer cable, but the speedometer head is a more likely fault considering that the speedometer is not being effected. A used speedometer (dash cluster) may be a lower cost alternative.

