

Wheels: An e-mail from Gary says, “Two years ago I had my vehicle starter replaced. Now it is acting up again. Basically, I have narrowed down the problem to the magnetic switch on the top of the starter. I can start my car fine, say a dozen times, but then try it and nothing. I tried an old trick from years ago and tapped the solenoid (magnet switch) and the starter works fine. I got under the car and cleaned up all the wiring lugs and bolts as well as the spade wire. They were all corroded. Anyway, that did not fix the problem. On my Isuzu Trooper, it is a real bear to get to the starter without tearing half the stuff and exhaust off the car first. Is there anything I can try to do short of taking the starter off. I think I might be able to take the solenoid off, but not sure. Please let me know.”

Halderman: Sorry, but I do not have a quick and easy solution to your problem. I suggest you replace the starter and the solenoid at the same time to avoid future problems and be sure your battery is fully charged (12.6 volts or higher) and that the cable ends are clean and tight.

