

Wheels: Chuck writes that after the engine was replaced on his 1988 Ford Bronco II, the cruise control and overdrive do not work and he thinks they were never hooked up after the replacement. Is this something he could do himself?

Halderman: It depends. If the linkage has simply been left disconnected, then with the help of a service manual, a mechanically inclined person with basic hand tools should be able to complete the repair. However, it may not be that simple. The engine that was installed could have been from an older or newer vehicle and may have a different design. In this situation, a professional should handle the conversion connections. The overdrive that you mention is part of the automatic transmission and should work as designed unless wiring was disconnected. Again, a profession service technician should be contacted because brackets or linkage may have to be fabricated or adapted to be able to make everything work correctly. This is the reason why I recommend that the same year engine or transmission be installed to help avoid problems. Even when everything is the same year, there could still be problems so always check to be sure.

