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Halderman newsletter

October 2016

## What's new with Jim?

Now that fall is here, I am busy with reviewing page proofs for new editions due out early next year. Before a new edition is published, here are the steps that are performed:

1. Requests from readers and instructors are compiled and these changes are made to the content of the chapters.
2. I attend conferences and update training throughout the year to make sure that the content is always up-to-date and technically accurate
3. The updated manuscript is sent out to my team of reviewers and when their suggested changes have been made, the chapters are sent to Pearson Education.
4. Production people at Pearson make sure that the text adheres to the "Chicago style" format and is checked for proper sentence structure, punctuation and etc.
5. The chapters are then typeset and the figures with captions are put into pages that look like the actual finished text. These are called "page proofs" and they are sent to me to review.
6. After all of the chapters have been reviewed and approved, they are sent to a printer and the finished textbook is sent to the warehouse. The books are then ready to be sent to colleges and bookstores throughout the country.

*Please continue to follow me on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for up-to-the-minute updates and for the fantastic interaction I receive from many of you.*

Sincerely,  
Jim

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## Find Jim online

[www.jameshalderman.com](http://www.jameshalderman.com)  
Email Jim  
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### WHERE'S JIM?

Shows Jim will be attending this month.

Oct. 14-15- Colorado Auto Teachers Society conference, presenting on Tires and Wheels

## Auto Trivia

What is the slang term for doors that hinged at the rear and open from the front?



- a. Weird doors
- b. Homicide doors
- c. Suicide doors
- d. Reversed rotation doors

**Answer at the bottom of this page!**

## *Sample ASE question*

**Question:**

If a digital meter face shows 0.93 when set to read K Ohm scale, the reading means .

- a. 93 ohms
- b. 930 ohms
- c. 9300 ohms
- d. 93,000 ohms

**Answer/Explanation:**

*The correct answer is b.* With the meter set to read K ohms, the reading of 0.93 means that the resistance of the component being measured has 0.93 of a K ohm or 930 ohms. Answers a, c, and d are not correct because they are not slightly less than 1000 ohms.

## *FAQ*

### **What is the flasher unit?**

Many newer vehicles do not use a flasher unit. On many vehicles, such as on many 2006+ General Motors vehicles, the turn signal switch is an input to the body control module (BCM). The BCM sends a signal through the data lines to the lighting module(s) to flash the lights. The BCM also

sends a signal to the radio which sends a clicking sound to the driver's side speaker even if the radio is off.

## Tech Tip

### A warm cable equals high resistance

If a cable or connection is warm to the touch, there is electrical resistance in the cable or connection. The resistance changes electrical energy into heat energy. Therefore, if a voltmeter is not available, touch the battery cables and connections while cranking the engine. If any cable or connection is hot to the touch, it should be cleaned or replaced.

## Straight Talk

From the September 24, Wheels section of Dayton Daily News

### Reader asks about vehicle storage

#### Wheels:

Gale asks by e-mail:

"I move to Arizona every winter and return to Ohio in the spring usually to find that the batteries of both of my vehicles are discharged. Can I connect a battery charger to them both or would this cause the batteries to be overcharged? Also, what else should I do to help prevent causing damage to my vehicles when I am gone. I should have written to you last fall."

#### Halderman:

Good question. The safest approach is to disconnect the battery from the vehicle and use a "float-type" battery charger. This type of charger not only charges the battery but also keeps it charged without overcharging. Do not use a conventional charger as this type will continue to apply voltage to the battery, which can overheat and damage the battery. Purchase a battery charger specifically designed to be used to keep stored batteries charged. Some other items that can be done when storing a vehicle include:

- The tires can be inflated the maximum pressure as indicated on the sidewall to help keep the tires from flat spotting when in storage.
- Keep the vehicle in a secure dry location and do not store dog or cat food around the vehicle. The pet food can attract animals and they are more likely to find a home under the hood or even in the air ducts of the vehicle over the winter.
- It is also recommended that the engine oil be changed before storing the vehicle so that the oil additives are fresh to absorb moisture in the engine.
- If storing the vehicle for longer than six months, I also suggest that the vehicle be jacked up and placed on safety stands to keep the weight of the vehicle off the tires. Do not forget to restore the tire inflation pressure to normal when returning the vehicle to daily service in the spring. The specified tire inflation pressure is shown on a decal or placard on the driver's door or door jam.



Have an automotive question? Please write to Jim with your questions at [jim@jameshalderman.com](mailto:jim@jameshalderman.com)

Trivia question answer: C.

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Please let me know what you think of the newsletter. I would love to include any of your automotive news, trivia questions or any tech tips you might have. Send me your suggestions!  
You can email me [here](#) or visit [my website](#). You can connect with me on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn too (links above).

Regards,

*Jim Halderman*

*James D. Halderman writes automotive technology textbooks for [Pearson Education](#). He is an ASE-certified Master Technician with more than 20 years instructional experience.*