

Wheels: An e-mail from Mike says, “Recently purchased a 1996 mini van from a local dealer lot in “as is” condition. Upon picking it up, the whole instrument gauge package including the speedometer, tachometer, mileage odometer, temperature gauge and fuel gauge were not working. I noticed this when I drove home. I have checked the fuses and they all look to be OK. Your input would be appreciated.”

Halderman: When you purchase a vehicle “as is” the sale is final when you take possession of the vehicle so this is now your problem. Because all of the fuses are OK, the problem could be simply a poor connection or could be a bad body computer located to the right of the driver’s feet behind a panel. When the interior was cleaned, water could have gotten into the computer causing this problem. While it may be possible to dry it out, the most likely fix is replacement. Of course I am only guessing what could be wrong and paying a professional for a diagnosis may be the very good investment especially if the problem turns out to be something simple.

