

- **ENGINE—1.6L DOHC, 1.6L TURBO, 1.8L—LIFTER NOISE AFTER INITIAL START-UP OR RETURNING TO IDLE FROM FREEWAY-TYPE DRIVING**
- **NOISE—“METALLIC TICKING” FROM LIFTERS AFTER INITIAL START-UP OR RETURNING TO IDLE FROM FREEWAY-TYPE DRIVING—1.6L DOHC, 1.6L TURBO, 1.8L**

**Article No.
92-17-6**

FORD: 1991-1993 ESCORT

MERCURY: 1991-1993 CAPRI, TRACER

This TSB Article is being republished in its entirety to include an additional spongy lifter confirmation step in the air purge procedure.

ISSUE

A “metallic ticking” noise may be heard after initial start up or when returning to idle speed after freeway type driving. The noise may also occur after parking the vehicle for several days without starting. The condition may be caused by a noisy lifter, low amount of oil in the crankcase, incorrect oil filter or oil deterioration.

ACTION

Confirm that the oil and oil filter have been changed as required by scheduled maintenance intervals. Purge air from the system and, if necessary, replace the noisy or spongy lifter. Refer to the following procedure for service details.

DIAGNOSIS

1. Make sure that the coolant overflow bottle is filled to the full mark.
2. Bring the engine up to normal operation temperature by running it at idle for at least 10 minutes, until the temperature gauge is in the “Normal” range.
3. Run the engine at 1500 to 2000 rpm. Listen for lifter/tappet noise, which is a constant loud tapping sound that can be heard at normal operating temperature at this rpm.
 - If the lifter noise is present, identify the cylinder with the concern and proceed to the following air purge procedure.
 - If the lifter noise cannot be heard at this rpm, then the lifters are OK.

AIR PURGE PROCEDURE

1. Drive the vehicle for 8 minutes at 3000 rpm.
2. Select an appropriate gear to maintain 3000 engine rpm at a speed consistent with local traffic laws and road conditions.
 - If air was trapped in the lifters, this will remove it.
 - If the lifter noise is no longer present, discontinue the procedure and return the vehicle to the customer.
3. If the lifter noise is still present, locate the noisy /spongy lifter(s) and replace with a new lifter (F1CZ-6C501-A). Refer to the 1991 Escort/Tracer Service Manual, Section 03-01A, or the 1991 Capri Service Manual, Section 21-10, for service details.
4. If the lifter noise is still present after installing the new level lifter set, proceed as follows:
 - a. Let the vehicle sit overnight.
 - b. Restart in the morning.
 - c. If the lifter noise is still present, turn the engine OFF and remove the camshafts to verify that none of the lifters are still spongy.
 - d. If a spongy lifter is found, replace the lifter as a service part replacement and repeat the process.

PART NUMBER	PART NAME
F1CZ-6C501-A	Lifter (Pkg./4)

Article No. 92-17-6 Cont'd.

OTHER APPLICABLE ARTICLES: NONE

SUPERSEDES: 92-8-10

WARRANTY STATUS: Eligible Under Powertrain
Warranty Coverage For
1991 Models, Bumper To
Bumper Warranty Coverage
For 1992 Models, Basic
Warranty Coverage

921706B	Replace One Lifter	1.6 Hrs.
921706C	Replace Two Or More Lifters	2.0 Hrs.

DEALER CODING

BASIC PART NO.
6C501

**CONDITION
CODE**
56

OASIS CODES: 497000, 499000, 702000

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	TIME
921706A	Road Test	0.5 Hr.