

## MID-YEAR PART CHANGES

To determine the correct PART for an application by year model of a vehicle can be a challenge. There are at least three components you can look at to help determine the year model.

Sometimes these components will disagree. The placard on the door facing will show the date the vehicle was actually built. HOWEVER, the manufacturers can and will introduce next year's model at any time during the year.

The emissions sticker under the hood will give the year that the engine and emissions are applicable. HOWEVER, not all parts affect emissions.

The VIN code will show, by a code number, the year of the vehicle title. BUT the parts on a given year model can be changed any time during the year. These parts changes do not affect the VIN.

The auto manufacturer publishes the date when they decide to make a mid year change. Depending on the reason for the change, sometimes the parts on hand will continue to be used until they run out of them. This is sometimes called a running change. There are even some instances where the OE Dealer does not have a record of a parts change.

### SO, LET'S BOIL THIS ALL DOWN TO PRACTICAL APPLICATION;

- Most of the time the application by year model is correct.
- If there is a published date for the part change, check the door placard.
- If there is still a problem with the part being correct, you may need to try older or newer by as much as two years.
- In some cases the catalogs will list a 1st design and a 2nd design instead of a date for the change.
- Here again you may need to look up and down in years.

