

Car Transmission Repair

Steak Electronics

2018 (revised 2019)

1 Work Log

Just a quick note here.

I awoke one morning to find my car would not shift beyond first gear, and that the MPH gauge had failed. I smelt something burning. Upon opening the hood I found a bunny (alive) inside. I was able to coerce him to leave, and then repaired the two wires he chewed up.

Car was back in working condition.

See pictures.



Figure 1: Cut off the connector at one end, so I can attach wires to it. This is what connected to the transmission



Figure 2: Wires visibly chewed here



Figure 3: Further up the wire sleeve, where the wires are not chewed. Here I can cut them and solder new wires in. There are four wires here, as the sleeve was used for multiple wires.

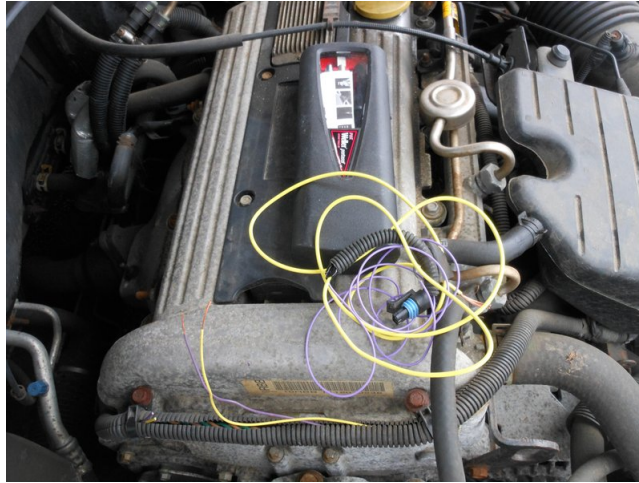


Figure 4: With portable soldering iron (portasol butane powered) and some wire, this is an easy fix. A little scary, though, being close to the gas line. Even if gas burns not explodes I don't want any surprises. I made sure nothing was open, exposed, or leaking. Be careful out there!

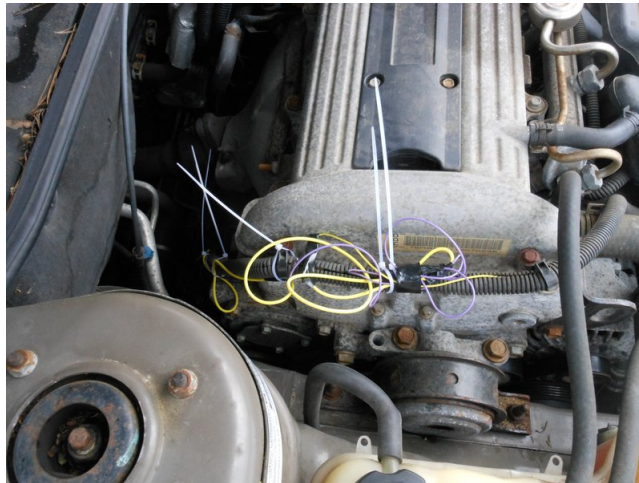


Figure 5: It's a sloppy hack, but function over form. The car works! We are set until the bunny returns. This time I gave him lots of easily accessible wire to chew.

2 Additional Details

The bunny had chewed up two of the wires. What happened, is that two sense wires (?) to the transmission had failed, and as a result, the car was unable to control the transmission. A mechanic later implied that animals chewing wires was not uncommon. I was even fortunate enough to run into a bunny stuck in the car. Perhaps I caught him in the act.

Since the wires were broken, it was simply an issue of having a portable soldering iron, and some solder. I brought the iron down to my car, adding some additional wire on, and soldered both ends. A trivial job for an electronics-wise fellow.

Soldering near the engine was a little scary, but I didn't leave anything open. Get in and get out.