

# PLYMOUTH 1996-2000 Breeze

## PRECAUTIONS

The battery is vented to release excess hydrogen gas that is created when the battery is being charged or discharged. However, even with these vents, hydrogen gas can collect in or around the battery. If hydrogen gas is exposed to flame or sparks, it may ignite. Do not smoke, use flame, or create sparks near the battery. Personal injury and vehicle damage may result. The battery contains sulfuric acid, which is poisonous and caustic. Avoid contact with the skin, eyes, or clothing. In the event of contact, flush with water and call a physician immediately. Keep out of reach of children.

To protect the hands from battery acid, a suitable pair of heavy duty rubber gloves, not the household type, should be worn when removing or servicing a battery. Safety glasses also should be worn. Remove metallic jewelry worn on hands or wrists to avoid injury by accidental arcing of battery current.

Do not allow jumper cable clamps to touch each other when connected to a booster source. When using a high output boosting device, do not allow the disabled vehicle's battery to exceed 16 volts. Personal injury or damage to electrical system can result.

It is important that the battery, starting system, and charging system be thoroughly tested and inspected any time a battery needs to be charged or replaced. The cause of abnormal discharge, over charging or early battery failure must be corrected before a battery is replaced or returned to service.

The battery Group Size number, the Cold Cranking Amperage (CCA) rating, and the Reserve Capacity (RC) rating or

Ampere-Hours (AH) rating can be found on the original equipment battery label. Be certain that a replacement battery has the correct Group Size number, as well as CCA and RC or AH ratings that equal or exceed the original equipment specification for the vehicle being serviced.

## BATTERY

### Removal

The battery is sealed and water cannot be added. A side post battery is used in this vehicle. It is located inside the lefthand wheel well behind a protective shield. The battery is accessible without removing the wheel and tire assembly.

1. Verify that ignition switch and all accessories are "OFF."
2. Disconnect and isolate battery ground cable from remote terminal on shock tower, **Fig. 1**.
3. Turn steering wheel to full lefthand position.
4. Twist four plastic retaining screws one quarter turn to release battery splash shield (4), **Fig. 2**.
5. Disconnect battery blanket heater cord, if equipped, **Fig. 3**.
6. Remove battery ground cable, then remove battery positive cable.
7. Remove bolt attaching battery strap to battery retainer strap, **Fig. 3**.
8. Remove retainer strap bolt, **Fig. 3**.
9. Slide battery to rear of tray and lift over lip. Use care not to tip battery; this will prevent acid from spilling out.
10. Remove battery.
11. Remove battery blanket heater if equipped.

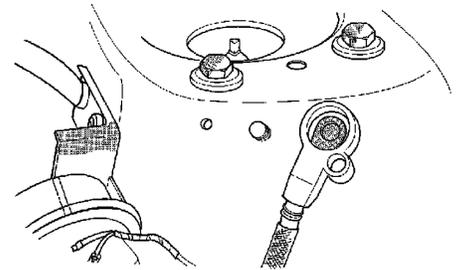
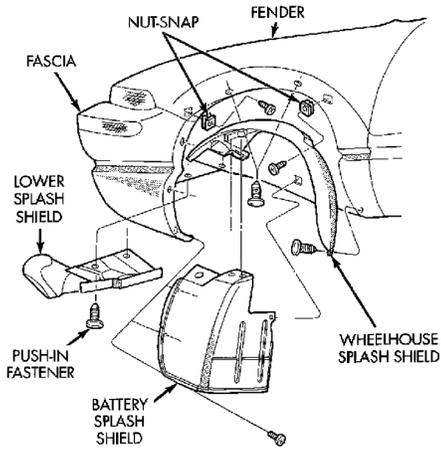


Fig. 1 Battery remote ground cable removal

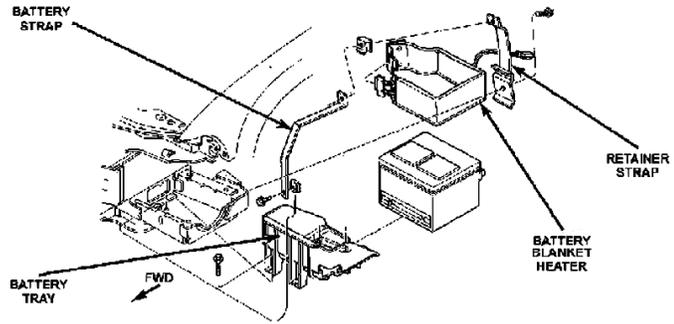
### Installation

Do not over tighten battery cable clamps; damage to clamps can result.

1. Install battery blanket heater if equipped.
2. Install battery.
3. Install retainer strap bolt.
4. Install bolt attaching battery strap to battery retainer strap.
5. **Torque** battery hold down clamp bolt to 142 inch lbs.
6. Connect battery positive cable. Connect battery positive cable first, then connect battery ground cables.
7. Connect battery ground cable.
8. **Torque** battery clamp nuts to 150 inch lbs.
9. Connect battery blanket heater cord, if equipped.
10. Install battery splash shield.
11. Center steering wheel.
12. Connect battery ground cable to remote terminal on shock tower.



**Fig. 2 Battery splash shield removal**



**Fig. 3 Battery removal**

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