

3 WARNING SIGNS OF A FAILING STARTER



Listed below are some of the more common problems that occur in starters along with some of the likely causes and remedies. Due to the number of types of units and systems that exist this is only a general listing of the most common problems, possible causes and remedies that are possible. Also check for vehicle specific Dixie Tech Tips at: www.dixie-electric.com/catalog.

1 STARTER DOES NOT OPERATE or Starter operates slowly.

POSSIBLE CAUSES

- Weak or dead battery
- Damaged cables or connections
- Defective ignition switch and/or wiring
- Defective starter
- Defective starter solenoid
- Overheated engine
- Incorrect engine oil (too heavy) or old oil

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Charge or replace the battery
- Repair/replace cables and connectors
- Repair/replace the switch or wiring
- Replace the starter
- Replace the starter or solenoid
- Allow the engine to cool, possibly install a heat shield on the starter. If the problem persists, check the engine cooling system.
- Replace oil with correct viscosity

2 STARTER RUNS, but does not turn the engine (does not engage ring gear or flywheel)

POSSIBLE CAUSES

- Faulty solenoid
- Faulty ring gear or flywheel
- Improper installation of the starter
- Damaged starter drive
- Defective starter

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Replace the solenoid or starter
- Replace the ring gear or flywheel
- Check and adjust the starter positioning
- Replace the starter
- Replace the starter

3 STARTER REMAINS ENGAGED after the engine starts.

POSSIBLE CAUSES

- Improper use of spacers
- Faulty ignition switch or solenoid wiring
- Damaged solenoid
- Starter mounting hardware is loose (starter misalignment)
- Low voltage to the starter

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Check and adjust spacers
- Repair or replace the wiring/switch
- Replace the solenoid or starter
- Align starter and tighten hardware
- Load test the battery and check the wiring for voltage drops