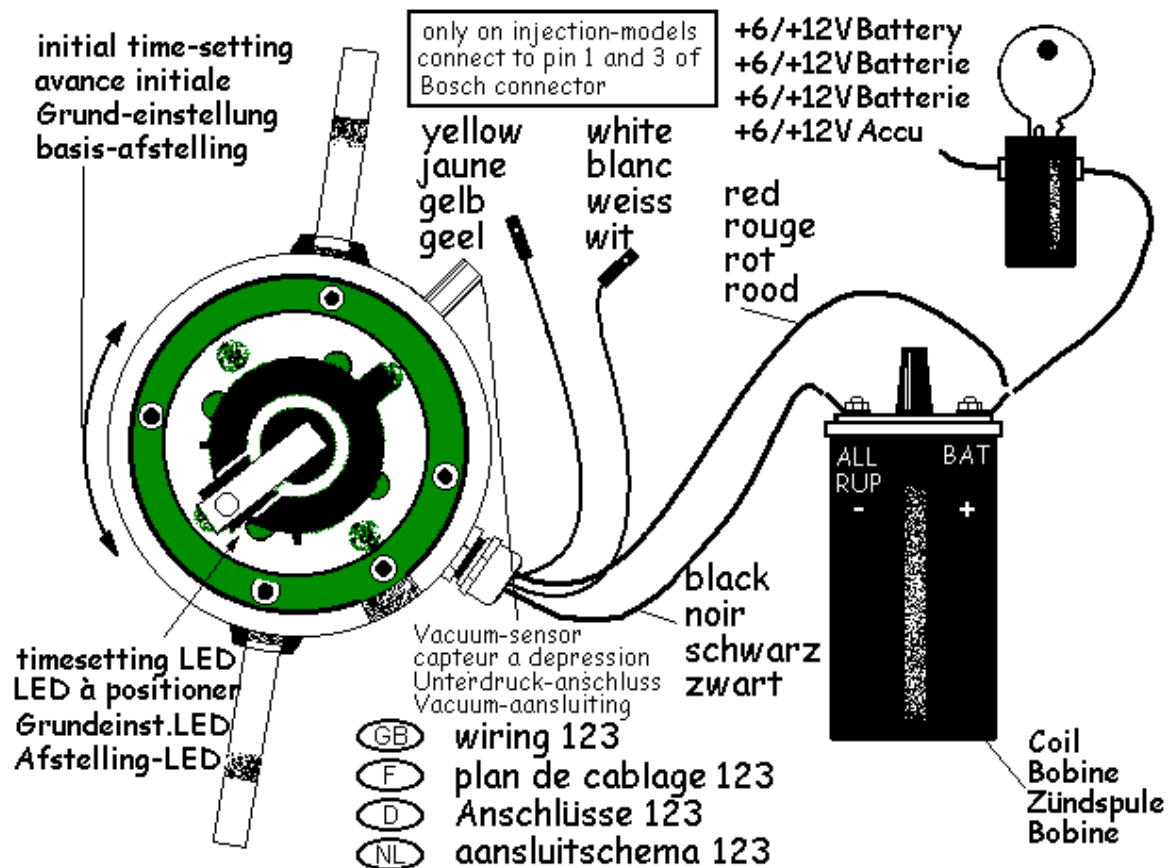


## Mounting instructions for the '123ignition'

type : 123\MERCEDES-4-R-V & 123\MERCEDES-4-R-V-IE  
 for : W110, W115, W123 engines ( 6 or 12 Volt ; negative earth only )



### IMPORTANT

Please read the entire instructions before you begin installation. If after reading you are unsure of the procedure to be followed, please ask someone who knows. Remember to work safely.

### STEP 1: Find the static timing point

On the **old** distributor, note the position of the ignition wire to the number one cylinder. Remove the distributor cap and turn the engine in its normal direction so that the rotor almost points to the number one cylinder position. Now carefully turn the engine further until the indication for Top Dead Center ( TDC ) is shown. The engine is now at the static timing point required by the 123ignition. ( in other words : the engine is at the end of the compression stroke for the number one cylinder )

**Important** : curve's B, C & D are **not** set at TDC. ; check the workshopmanual for details.

## STEP 2: Out with the old, in with the new

You may wish to verify that the correct advance curve has been selected in your '123' : using a 5mm Allen wrench remove the hexagonal plug in the bottom face of the housing. Inside the hole you'll find a 16 position rotary switch, marked '0' to 'F' .



curve selector '0' to 'F'  
sel. de courbe d'avance '0' à 'F'  
Kurve-schalter '0' bis 'F'  
Curve-schakelaar '0' tot 'F'

Check the technical data below for the proper setting. Select the curve of your choice ; re-insert the plug and tighten securely. Now remove the spark plug wires and coil wire from the old distributor-cap and remove the old cap. Disconnect the points wire from the coil. Unscrew the hold down nut at the base of the distributor and pull the old unit out.

Now remove the distributor-cap from the '123' and carefully insert the '123' in the hole, turning the rotor until the drive gears mate and the unit falls into place. Rotate the housing of the '123' so that the cables and vacuum-tube come out conveniently.

If necessary, the drive gear can be repositioned on the shaft to accommodate a different rotational position. To do this, remove the '123' and carefully remove the retaining spring from the drive gear, then use a small punch to tap out the pin and re-assemble at an angle more suitable to your needs.

## STEP 3: Static timing the '123'

Connect the red wire to the BAT-terminal of the coil, according to the schematic. For now, do NOT connect the black wire. Turn on the ignition.

Slowly turn the housing of the '123' in a counter-clockwise direction, until the green LED just lights up. (the LED shines through one of the four holes in the aluminium disc below the rotor) While turning, **also** turn the rotor in a counter-clockwise direction, to remove any free play in the drive gear.

Finally, tighten the '123' securely, as it is also the electrical ground of the '123'.

Turn off the ignition.

## STEP 4: Finish the wiring

Connect the black wire to the RUP-terminal of the coil, according to the schematic.

Connect the spark plug leads in the proper sequence to the cap, starting with the wire for the number one cylinder at the position pointed to by the rotor of the '123'.

Also connect the high voltage wire from the coil to the center position of the cap. Attach the cap to the distributor. Keep the red and black wire well away from the high voltage leads and away from moving parts, using tie-wraps or other suitable means.  
Connect the vacuum-tube to the ignition.

## **STEP 5: Start and test drive**

You can now start your engine. If you have worked accurately, your ignition should be adjusted well enough to take a test drive. To achieve ultimate accuracy a fine adjustment using a stroboscope should be performed. ( check the dynamic timing data in the workshop manual )

Disconnect the vacuum-tube whilst fine-tuning. Enjoy your 123ignition!

## **TIPS**

- Do NOT disconnect ANY electric wire, when the engine is running. This is bad practice when using high-tech electronic systems, such as the 123ignition.
- Sparks are much stronger with a 123ignition : use good quality sparkplug leads, and a good coil. The primary resistance should **not** be lower than 1 ohm.
- Resistor-core silicone ignition-leads are the better choice!
- Mistrust old coils : they all look alike, but you can't see if they have been overheated many times! Buy a new one, now you know that this one will not be overheated anymore...
- Fresh sparkplugs to go with the new coil and wires will ensure optimum ignition performance.
- Replace the cap and rotor every 30.000 km. Here is ordering info :  
Bosch straight cap : 1.235.522.050 / 1.235.522.058 / 1.235.522.059 / 1.235.522.145 / 1.235.522.167  
Bosch rotor : 1.234.332.024



## Technical data

Operating voltage 4,0 to 15,0 Volts, negative earth only.  
 range 600 to 7000 rpm  
 temperature -30 to 85 degrees Celsius  
 coil stock coil, or "High Energy"-coil, primary resistance **not** below 1 ohm.  
 engines standard Mercedes engines, advance-curves selectable by a switch through the bottom of the housing.

curve	replaces distributor:	for engine	model
0	0231.115.064 0231.170.138	W115, compr. 1 : 9,0	200/220/230
1	0231.115.064 0231.170.138	W115, E85/LPG, compr. 1 : 9,0	200/220/230
2	0231.170.237	W123, compr. 1:9,0	200 / 230
3	0231.170.237	W123, E85/LPG, compr. 1 : 9,0	200 / 230
4	VJUR4 BR27T 0231.115.027	W110, compr. 1 : 8,7	190C
5	VJUR BR27T 0231.115.027	W110, E85/LPG, compr. 1 : 8,7	190C
6	0231.115.052	W110, compr. 1 : 9,0	190C / 200
7	0231.115.052	W110, compr. 1 : 8,6	200
8	0231.115.060 0231.115.065	W115, 1 : 9,0	220 US
9	0231.115.052	W110, E85/LPG, compr. 1 : 9,0	190C / 200
A	0231.115.052	W110, E85/LPG, compr. 1 : 8,6	200
B *	VJU4BR14 / 22 / 27 / 29		180a, 190
C *	VJURBR28		180b
D *	VJ4BR11, VJR4BR24		190SL
E	--	--	--
F	--	--	--

\* follow Mercedes' instructions for static and dynamic setting

vacuum-advance as specified for the original distributor  
 dwell microprocessor controlled, depending on coil current  
 current-timeout after +/- 1 second. If the engine is not running, the current is switched off to prevent overheating of the coil  
 spark balance software controlled, better then half a degree crankshaft  
 wiring red = +6 resp. +12 Volt  
 black = 'minus'-pole of the coil