



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
POSTED 1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

Date Received

RECEIVED

FEB 28 AM 10:55

Office

ed in

up in

Reference

OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

559926

Daytime Telephone Number

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☒ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner

Date 2/14/01

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Vehicle Identification No. (VIN.) (Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side)

Make

Model

Year

1P3XP44K7LN180646

Plymouth

Sundance

1990

Purchased Date

Dealer's Name

Scotch Motors

Engine Size

2.5L

☐ Turbo☐ Diesel☐ Gas☐ Fuel Injection☒ New ☐ Used

Dealer's City

CARBONDALE

State

PA

Zip Code

18407

No. Cylinders

4

Manufacture Date (on driver's door or pillar)

Transmission Type

☐ Manual☒ Automatic

Restraint System

☒ Driverside Air Bag☐ Morobelt☐ Passengerside Air Bag☐ 2-Point Belt☐ 3-Point Belt

Cruise Control

☒ Yes☐ No

Drivetrain

☒ Front☐ Rear☐ 4-Wheel

Vehicle Type

☒ Car☐ Sport Utility☐ Van☐ Truck☐ Minivan☐ Motorcycle☐ Other

Body Style

☐ 2-Door☐ 4-Door☐ Stationwagon☐ Pick Up Truck☐ Other

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Part Name(s)

Engine Valve Cover Gasket

Location

☐ Left☒ Front☐ Right☐ Rear

Failed Part(s)

☒ Original☐ Replacement

Handicap Adaptive Equip

☐ Yes☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Brand

Tire Name

Complete Tire Size

No. of Failures

Date(s) of Failure(s)

Mileage at Failure(s)

Vehicle Speed at Failure(s)

Failed Part(s)

Available?

☐ Yes ☐ No

NHTSA Previously

Contacted?

☐ Yes ☐ No

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies). Attach photos if available.)

Crash

☐ Yes ☐ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☐ No

Number of Persons Injured

Number of Fatalities

Reported to Manufacturer

☐ Yes ☐ No

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

* Refer to enclosed letter

Continue on back.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to a49 U.S.C. Chapter 301. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Mail postage free or fax to 202-366-7882



**U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NSA-10.01
400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This attachment is my incident information. I am a modest man who drives a modest car. I am not seeking extra special attention. I merely want the piece of mind that I drive a safe and reliable automobile.

I drive a 1990 Plymouth Sundance. The car is not as aged as the model year indicates. My grandfather owned the car since purchasing it in 1990 until his death. He was not able to drive the car for several years due to illness. As of 1997, the car had just over 20,000 miles

I have since become the exclusive driver. While in the act of driving, my car has lost *all* oil several times over the past 4 years. The result is the obvious stress to the engine. Without oil, the engine could seize. There is also the potential of an oil fire. I run the risk of having no car or serious injury, simply by driving my car. The problem with my 1990 Plymouth Sundance is that the engine valve gasket cover blows off and the potential risks result.

Upon further investigation through online sources, there is a factory recall on 1990 Plymouth Sundance engine valve gasket covers that are described by the NHTSA as "may dislocate" and "could cause fire."

There is a factory recall describing the very same problem for the very make, year, and model as my car. My vin.# does not correspond to the potential half million plus affected. It is possible that one got by Chrysler. Further, my concern is that by not realizing the problem, Chrysler does not have the protocol to solve the problem. Please assist me in making my car safe.

I have included pictures of the very problem described in the recall, taken July 2000.

Sincerely,





U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ADMINISTRATION

We are enclosing the information that you recently requested from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). We hope it meets your needs. If you would like any additional information, please contact the Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236).

Although you have not indicated that you are currently experiencing a safety-related problem with your vehicle, you can assist in our efforts to identify safety defects in motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment (such as child safety seats, tires, jacks, etc.). When it is determined that a safety defect exists, NHTSA is authorized to order the manufacturer to notify owners of the problem and to repair or replace the motor vehicle or item of the vehicle equipment at no cost to the owner.

In order to allow us to take action to protect the public from safety defects, we need as much information as possible. Therefore, if you are currently experiencing any safety problems with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment, or if you experience such problems in the future, we request that you report such problems to NHTSA on the enclosed paid-postage Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ). Each report we receive is analyzed and entered into a computerized data system that assists us in identifying potential safety defect trends. An electronic VOQ form by which vehicle owners can report safety-related problems is also available and can be sent through the Internet World Wide Web at http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/voq_form.html.

Please include as much information as possible so that we can use your report to the maximum extent. However it is not necessary to complete all of the boxes on the VOQ if you are not sure of the information. The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is very useful to us in determining the extent of problems. The VIN of the vehicle can be found on your state vehicle registration form. It is also located inside the vehicle adjacent to the windshield pillar (driver's side). For tires, the tire brand and complete size are needed.

The Privacy Act prohibits our identifying you to the manufacturer without your permission. However, if you are willing to have us provide your name and address to the manufacturer of your vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment, please mark the appropriate box and sign the form. Often when the name and address of the owner are provided to the manufacturer, along with the information on the problem, the manufacturer is able to resolve the problem to a consumer's satisfaction.

Thank you for retaining the enclosed VOQ and for submitting it if you experience a safety problem.

Kathleen DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects Investigation





Office of Defects Investigation Recall Database

Call the **Auto Safety Hotline** toll free at (888) 327-4236 to report safety defects or to obtain information on cars, trucks, child seats, highway or traffic safety.

Report Date: January 9, 2001 07:00:49 PM

NHTSA CAMPAIGN ID Number: 89V237000
Component: ENGINE:GASKETS:VALVE COVER
Manufacturer: CHRYSLER CORPORATION
Potential Number of Units Affected: 634000

Year: 1990

Make: PLYMOUTH

Model: SUNDANCE

Manufactured From: SEP 1988 To: SEP 1989

Year of Recall: '89

Type of Report: Vehicle

Summary:

THE ENGINE VALVE COVER GASKET MAY DISLOCATE AND ALLOW AN ENGINE OIL LEAK AT THE GASKET.

THE LEAKAGE OF OIL IN THE ENGINE COMPARTMENT COULD CAUSE A FIRE.

REPLACE GASKET COVER WITH REVISED COVER, AND RTV SEALANT WILL BE APPLIED IN PLACE OF A GASKET.

SYSTEM: ENGINE VALVE COVER GASKET.

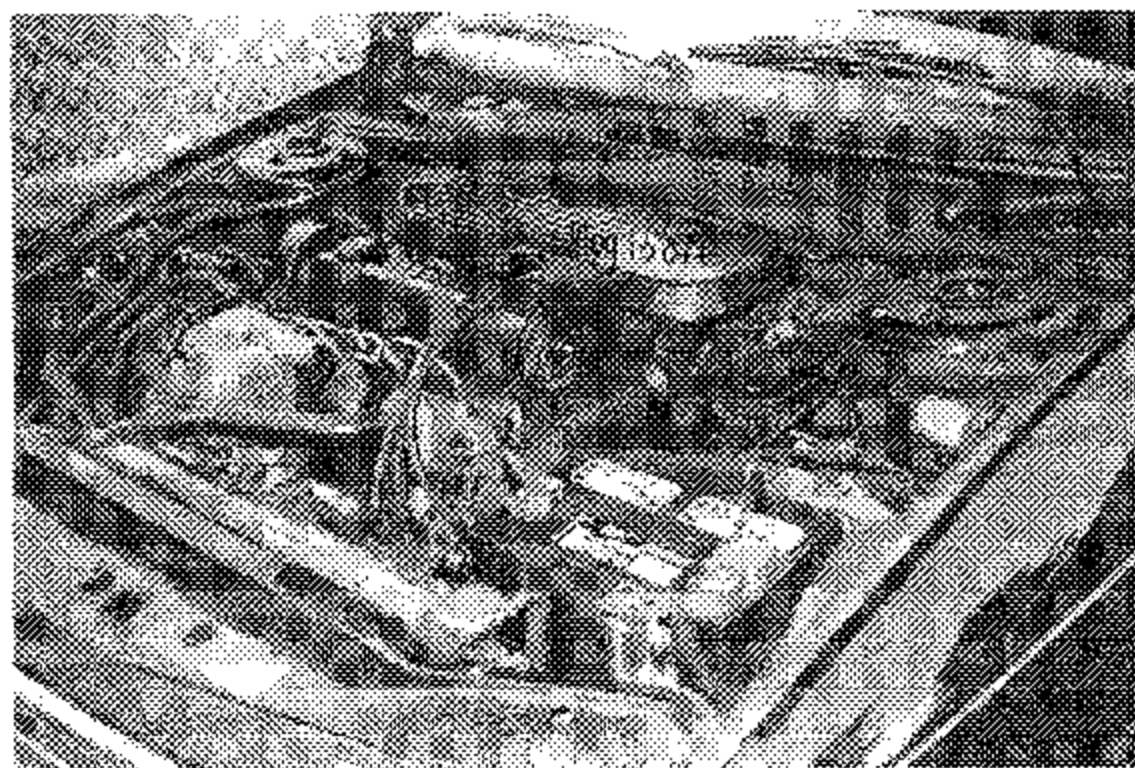
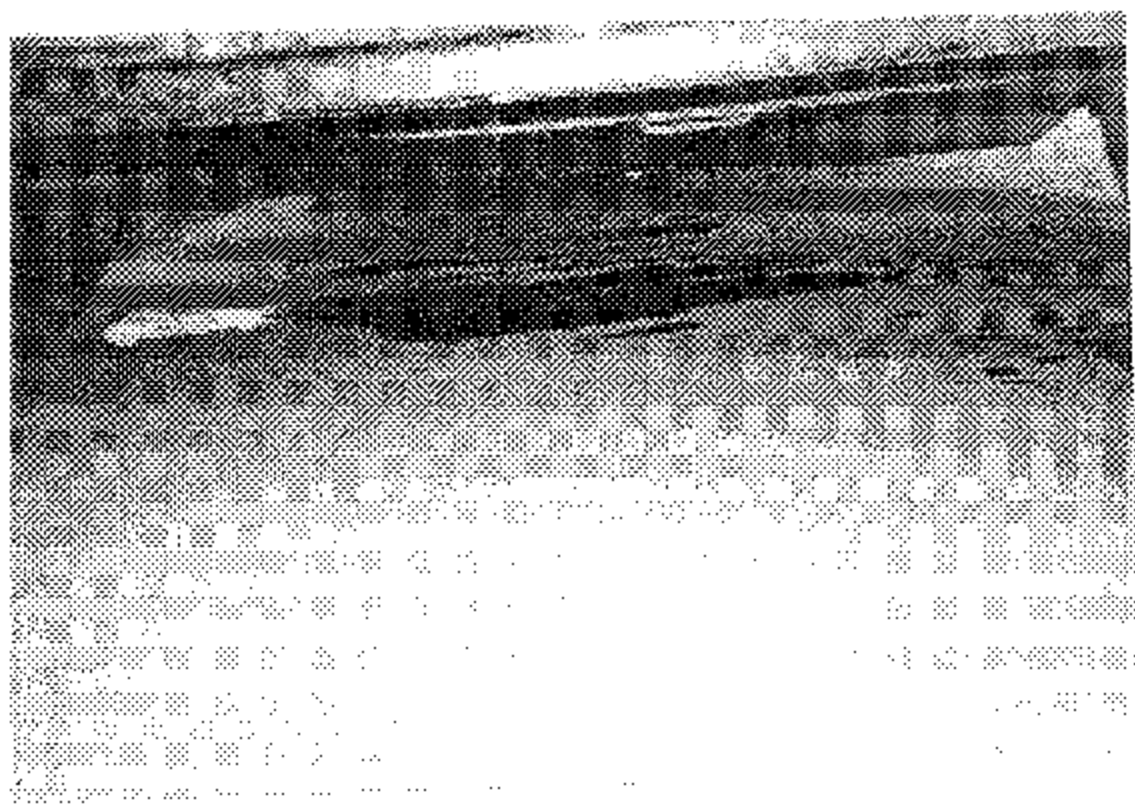
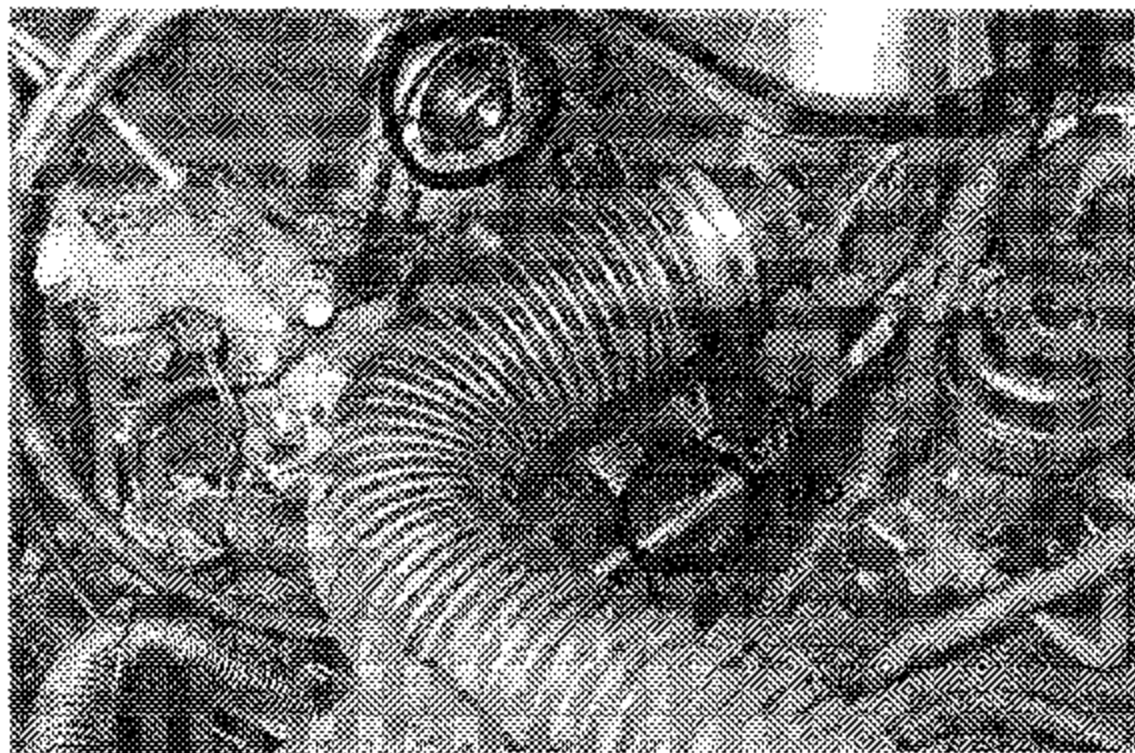
VEHICLE DESCRIPTION: PASSENGER CARS, LIGHT TRUCKS, AND MINIVANS.

This search returned 1 record.

[New Search](#)
[Return to Safety Problems and Issues](#)



[Send mail to the Web Master](#)





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od_n

up_jtr

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**THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE WITHHELD TO
PROTECT UNWARRANTED INVASION OF
PERSONAL PRIVACY PURSUANT TO
EXEMPTION 6 OF THE FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(5)**

(Page 1 through Page 5)



