



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

Auto Safety Hotline

**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393  
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123  
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

18-FEB-2001

Od\_or \_\_\_\_\_  
R\_dt \_\_\_\_\_  
Pd\_rt \_\_\_\_\_  
Ip\_ltr \_\_\_\_\_

Reference No.

740998

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

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) <small>(Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side)</small>	Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading
4T1BF12B1YU143592	TOYOTA	AVALON	1997	

Purchase Date 01-JUN-2000 <input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used	Dealer's Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	Engine Size (CID/CCL) _____ No. Cylinders _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Turbo <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Injection
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Transmission Type <input type="checkbox"/> Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic	Antilock Brakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Restraint System <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Point Belt <input type="checkbox"/> Driverside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> Passengerside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbelt <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Point Belt	Cruise Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Drive Train <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Van <input type="checkbox"/> Minivan <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Util Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle	Body Style <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Door <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-Door <input type="checkbox"/> Stationwagon <input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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## FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 01400000	Part Name(s) STEERING:GEAR:RACK AND PINION	Location <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Rear	Failed Part(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
No. of Failures 1	Date(s) of Failure(s) 15-OCT-2000 Mileage at Failure(s) 44000 Vehicle Speed at Failure(s)	Failed Part(s) Available? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	NHTSA Previously Contacted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

## APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form.)

Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Fatalities	Estimated Property Damage	Reported to Police <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

RACK AND PINION STARTED LEAKING FLUID AND WITHIN 2 WEEKS NO LONGER HELD ANY FLUID AND THE RACK AND PINION NEEDED REPLACED. CONTACTED TOYOTA AND THEY FILED THE COMPLAINT, BUT OFFERED NO REMEDY AND WOULD NOT ACKNOWLEDGE ANY OTHER COMPLAINTS ON THE SAME ISSUE. FROM OTHER RESEARCH THIS APPEARS TO BE A VERY COSTLY PROBLEM ON MANY OF THE '97 AVALONS. \*AK

CONTINUE ON BACK IF NEEDED

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.