

## Tom Schwennesen's Steering Rack Experience

Does your Triumph car steering rack move? Have you ever replaced the steering rack bushings? Recently, while driving my TR6, I noticed the response in my steering wheel was slightly off which may have led me to run over several autocross cones. Several years ago, I had replaced the stock rubber mount bushings with polyurethane bushings, which did not totally eliminate the steering rack movement. Next fix was to cut some leather straps and install them between the poly bushings and the hold down clamps. The solution was much better, but it still did not eliminate all the steering rack movement. With my participating in autocross, I needed total elimination of any steering rack movement. So, I ordered a set of solid aluminum steering rack mounts from [www.goodparts.com](http://www.goodparts.com) which cost \$45. Replacing the steering rack bushing and hold down clamps wasn't difficult, but since I installed an engine fan shroud on my car, replacing the poly bushings and clamps with the aluminum mounts was a little time consuming due to the restricted access. I did the job by myself and the total job took less than 2 hours. The tools used were a 1/2 inch open end wrench and a 1/2 inch socket and ratchet. Since installation of the parts, I can tell you turning the steering wheel takes a little more effort, but the car is very responsive to any steering wheel movement. If you need to replace either the rubber, or poly bushings, consider the solid aluminum mounts. Yes, there is a future consideration of corrosion from the contacting of dissimilar metals, aluminum and steel. However, since we live in a snowless environment, any serious corrosion will be years down the road. If you are really concerned about corrosion you could put some black electrical tape between all the parts where the dissimilar metals come in contact. I am totally pleased with the steering response and I look forward towards avoiding those orange autocross cones.

Tom