

TUMBLEWEEDS

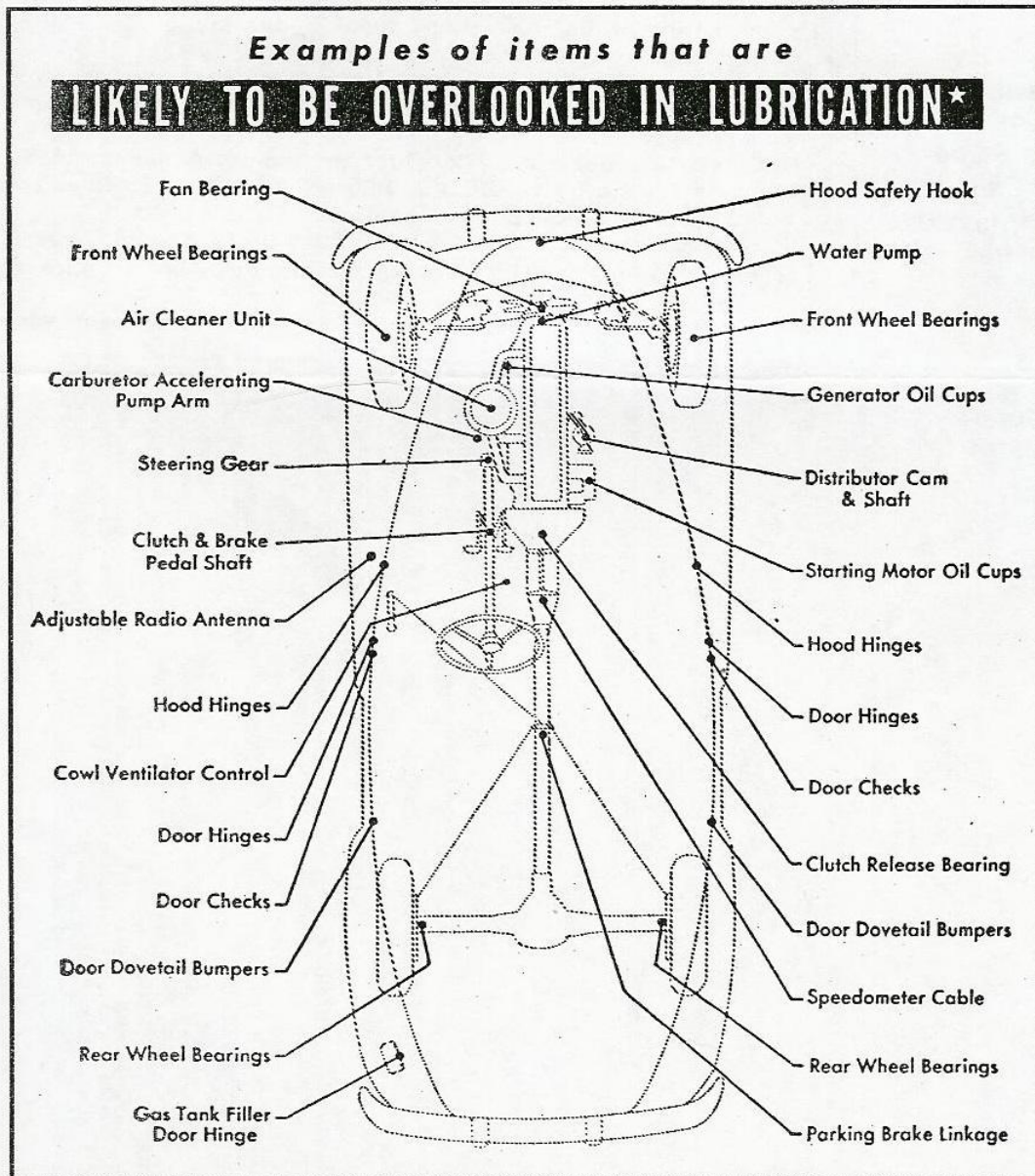
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Technical Corner by Hans Smaling

How often do we hear from people who admire our old cars: 'They don't make 'em like they used to' ?. I fully agree that they don't. In my humble opinion modern cars are far superior to the old ones mechanically, but their bodies are chintzy. Modern technology has enabled automotive engineers to come up with engine, suspensions and transmissions that outperform and outlast the ones of 40 or 50 years ago by a large margin, whilst demanding far less maintenance. Just compare the maintenance chart of your modern daily driver with the picture below of a 1940's car. Plus, this does not reflect the gain in reliability over the same period.

Now, if only manufacturers could find a way to get rid of all that cheap plastic they use nowadays without increasing gross vehicle weight.....



Lube chart courtesy of "Skinned Knuckles" magazine, Vol. 25 - No. 11