

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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‘A gentleman does not motor about after dark.’ —Joseph Lucas

Morris Minor clutch linkage fix

by Charlie Durning

Morris Minor clutch linkage fix by Charlie Durning In the past there has been some discussion about Morris Minors having a notchy “on/off” feel in the clutch linkage and the clutch action being difficult to modulate. Well, not willing to leave well enough alone, I decided to see what I can do about improving the clutch feel. First thing was to remove the clutch linkage pieces and inspect. To be frank, though effective, the linkage was not well thought-out by the factory and was downright crude. The linkage was made up of a series of fat levers with holes and a couple of steel rods. The places where the rods were connected to the holes in the levers were badly worn. Those wear points could make the linkage feel notchy. In thinking about a solution, I decided that converting to spherical rod ends would solve the notchy feeling in the clutch action. Upon further inspection of the linkage geometry, it looked like moving the hole on the lever at the clutch pedal would make the clutch easier to modulate.



Notchy clutch? Old parts and new parts you'll need to make the fx.

Drill here per Charlie's instructions

The modification was an easy task that included a piece of 5/16"-24 threaded rod and three spherical rod ends. All the parts were inexpensive and available locally. The modification of the lever at the clutch pedal was simply to drill a new hole. Relocating that hole will lessen the clutch pedal effort. Once the parts were made, the installation only took a few minutes. A test drive confirmed the improvement in the clutch operation. Some may say that this improvement will take away some of the old English charm of the Morris. Maybe so, but the improvement did make the Morris more pleasurable to drive.



All installed, improvement confirmed.

Photos by Charlie Durning