

Subject: Erratic fuel gauge

While helping a Healey 100 owner, there was a problem reading the fuel gauge because the needle would jiggle and be erratic. Checked the gauge itself - OK. Pulled the sender from the tank. Moved the float arm manually, gauge read properly! By chance I wiggled the float arm and experienced the same erratic behavior, similar to the behavior when in the tank. Apparently the pivoting float shaft must be in complete contact with the sender body for continuity. This shaft is part of the "fingers" that contact the windings of the rheostat and must have continuous ground.

Made up a ground strap that is soldered to the float arm and connected to the sender body. The ground strap is a "desoldering braid" from Radio Shack and does not interfere with the float operation.

This may not be the solution for everyone, but it completely solved our problem.
Charlie Hart

