

More Leg room

by Tom Endy 2023

Back in Henry Ford's day the average height of an adult was shorter than today's adults. Henry himself was only 5' 10", and his son Edsel, who had a lot to do with the design of the Model A was somewhat shorter. As a result both father and son did not consider taller folks when designing the Model A and it does not accommodate anyone over six feet tall in the driver's seat very well. Today many tall folks in the Model A kingdom are looking for ways to push the front seat back a few inches.



Henry Ford and Edsel Ford in 1928.

My grandson Ben at age 17 is already 6' 1" and his dad is 6' 3" and both had difficulty fitting behind the wheel of Ben's 1930 Tudor. Something had to be done to create more leg room. Fortunately a 1930 Tudor has an easy solution. The two front seats are attached to the floor with pivot studs at the bottom front of the seat so the seat can be tilted forward for access to the rear seats. Bratton's Antique Auto offers pivot studs that have a two inch set back. The part number is 37281 and they sell for \$57.75 a pair. A pair will do one seat, and the driver's seat is all that has to be moved back in most cases. The extended pivot studs allow the seat to tilt the same. I suspect the original pivot studs were forged and the extended ones must be forged as well, thus the high cost.



Ben, 17 years old and 6' 1".



The standard pivot studs Henry and Edsel provided.



The Bratton two inch set back pivot studs.



The extended pivot stud installed on the driver's seat of Ben's 1930 Tudor.