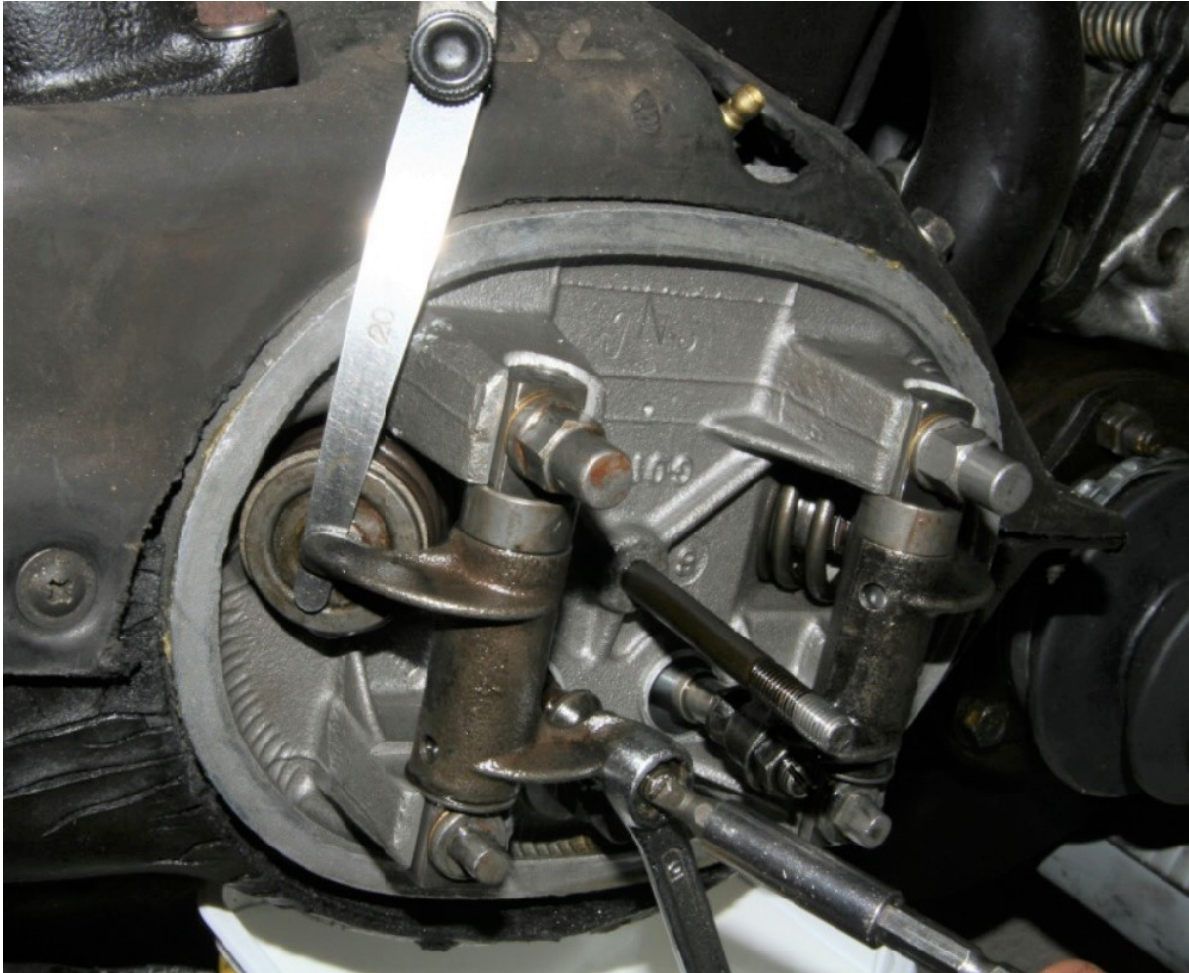


2CV VALVE CLEARANCE ADJUSTMENT

By Graeme Dennes

Revision 2



Adjusting a Valve in the 2CV

Incorrect valve clearances can result in hard starting, loss of power, reduced engine life and potentially, engine damage.

The front valves are the exhaust valves and connect to the exhaust manifold. The rear valves are the inlet valves and connect to the inlet manifold.

The method is drawn directly from "Citroen Repair Manual No. MAN 8161, Vol. 1, October 1983, All 'A' Vehicles, Operation No. A. 112-0, Adjusting The Rockers."

It states:

This adjustment must be carried out with the engine cold.

Set a valve when the corresponding one, on opposite cylinder, is fully open.

<i>Intake</i>	=	<i>0.2mm</i>
<i>Exhaust</i>	=	<i>0.2mm</i>

When the inlet (intake) valve on one cylinder is fully open (valve spring at maximum compression), set the clearance of the inlet valve on the opposite cylinder.

Similarly, when the exhaust valve on one cylinder is fully open (valve spring at maximum compression), set the clearance of the exhaust valve on the opposite cylinder.

The valve clearance is checked by placing a 0.2mm feeler gauge between the end of the valve stem and the tip of the rocker arm as shown in the photo above. The feeler gauge should have a firm sliding fit, showing some resistance when moving. If the feeler gauge can just fit between them, then the clearance is correct. If there's no resistance, the clearance is too great.

When completed, thoroughly clean the rocker cover and gasket and the mating surface on the cylinder head. The new rubber gasket from Burton does not have to be glued to the rocker cover and may be removed for cleaning and reused. Make sure the rocker cover is evenly aligned on the cylinder head then seat the securing nut by hand. Use a spanner to turn the nut a further one and one-half turns.

After both rocker covers have been refitted, run the engine for a couple of minutes then switch off and check for oil leaks. Top up the engine oil.

Exhaust Valve Clearances

Over recent years, the writer has noticed some comments on the internet suggesting the exhaust valve clearances should be increased to 0.25mm (and even 0.3mm!) with unleaded fuels. The writer presented this anecdotal information to the Burton Car Company engineering staff for advice.

The advice was very clear. Keep the figure at 0.2mm!