

ENGINE



Truck Pillars/Glow Shift gauges install

ABOVE: We love our Truck Pillar with Glow Shift gauges, here showing one of seven color options.

Next up was to source gauges to go in the Truck Pillars, so we ordered up some sweet new gauges from Glow Shift (www.GlowShiftDirect.com, 888-474-2843). Glow Shift

has been building high quality gauges for a number of years and we decided to go with a modern feel on our choice: the white face, seven-color gauges; traditional white faced gauges during

INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

By Tim Lund/www.OffroadFabricator.com

Quick and easy upgrades are always fun, especially when they are as quick and easy as a set of pillar gauges. Truck Pillars (www.TruckPillars.com) specializes in pillar gauge pods for '84-'95 Toyota trucks, so we went to their website and ordered up two, triple gauge Truck Pillars (\$79.50 each, includes shipping) for the Grudge Match 4Runners and a 2-gauge Truck Pillar (\$69.50, includes shipping) for the 4WD Toyota Owner magazine shop assistant's truck (hey, we gotta pay him somehow for all the crap he puts up with). The Truck Pillars hold standard 2-1/8" size gauges.

the day; your choice of seven different colors at night.

The Pillar Pods and the Glow Shift units installed very easily, are great to look at, and keep us informed about water temperature (\$50), boost/vacuum (\$40), and fuel pressure (\$57). They included all wiring and sending units,

too. Together, the Truck Pillars and Glow Shift gauges are a well-built, high-quality package that transmits important data in an instant. Simply pick the gauges you want, install in the Truck Pillar, and you're ahead of the game. Recommended for any Toyota truck owner.



1. The OE pillar cover comes off easily with a screwdriver. Slip in under the edge of the cover, slide it down until you find the snap lock and carefully pry apart; then slide down to the next snap lock and repeat. Once you have the two snap locks free, simply lift and remove the OE pillar cover.



2. Hold the Truck Pillar into place, then use a 1/8" drill bit to slide in through the Truck Pillar's mounting holes and carefully spin the drill a couple revolutions to mark the A-pillar. Remove the Truck Pillar and drill the two holes.



3. For a trial run we held the Truck Pillar back into place and ran in the supplied mounting screws. Everything fit up just fine so we pulled them back off to wire in the Glow Shift gauges.



4. Route all the wires first and then slide the gauges into place. The Glow Shift gauges fit into the Truck Pillar nice and tight; to make sure they stay that way, we used a bead of silicone sealant around the gauges.



5. We then wired up all the gauges, stringing together the grounds into one ground wire, the ignition key-on 12V+ onto the same 12V+ stringer, and the 12V constant also to a single stringer. This makes wiring simple and clean. It was then time to set the Truck Pillar into place and run in the mounting screws. Make sure to carefully tuck all the wires into place. Now that we have the gauges wired in and working properly, we'll strip down the Truck Pillar, clean them up with SEM "Plastic and Leather Prep" (P/N 38353) and then use a vinyl-based rattle can paint to match the gray interior.



6a

6a & 6b. Here is the Truck Pillar with Glow Shift gauges installed. During the day, the gauges are cool white. Yet note how you can choose from seven different colors for nighttime. For the Grudge Match 4Runners we chose what some might think is an interesting choice of gauges: Fuel Pressure, Vacuum/Boost and Water Temp. (Glow Shift has dozens of options to choose from). The water temp is a no-brainer, obviously to keep track of coolant temps. The Vacuum/Boost at first will be used just to watch vacuum for troubleshooting engine run functions and to help track driving style; the higher and steadier the vacuum reading is, the better mileage you will achieve. The Fuel Pressure gauge will also be used to help keep an eye on engine run functions. In the future, when we start playing with the 22REs to build more power, the Fuel Pressure and the Boost function on the Vacuum/Boost gauges will be indispensable. ✓



6b

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