



Manual High Idle

by Flopster843

19 Jul 2009

Summary

The Dodge Ram truck equipped with the Cummins engine comes from the factory with a manual high idle option or a "PTO Idle Up" option. However it is not activated by default. This high idle can be used when your truck is sitting still to keep your air conditioner cold, keep your heater hot/warm up faster, provide extra alternator power for high electrical drain devices, help prevent "wet stacking," and anything else you might find a higher idle speed handy.

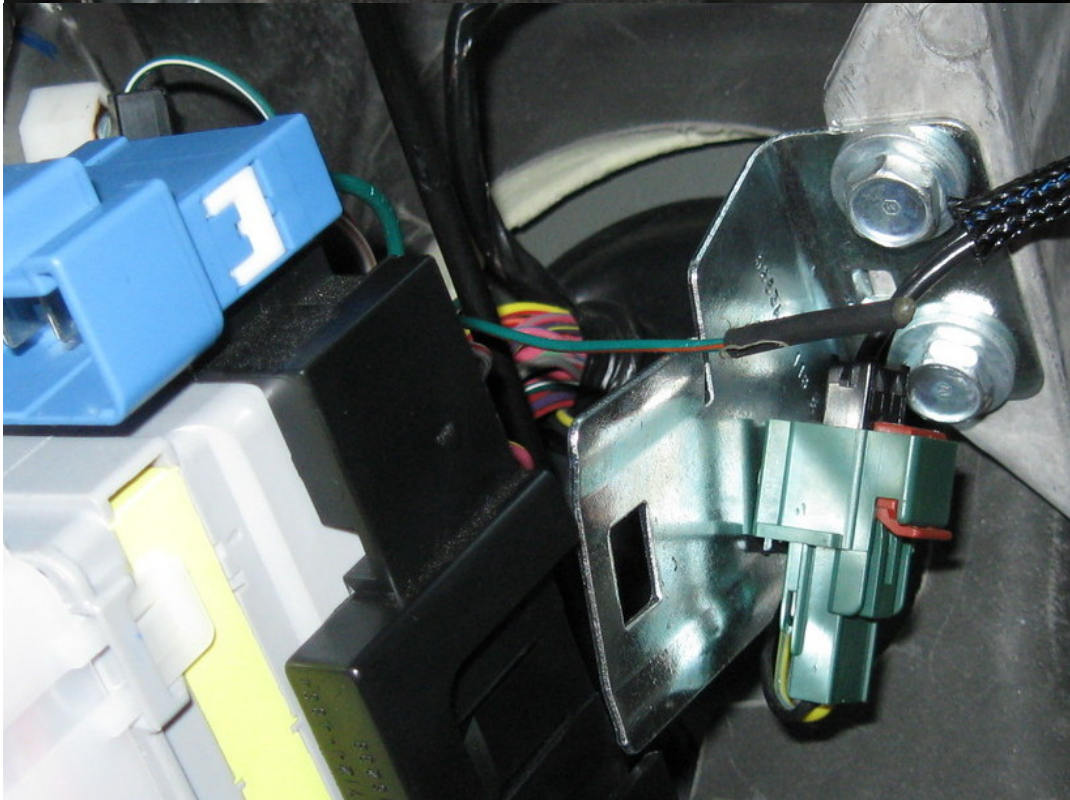
Enabling

- 1) You must activate this option in the truck's computer. This requires a downloader style programmer such as the Smarty or PMT, or a trip to the dealership so they can use the Starscan. I went to the dealership since I don't have a programmer yet. My dealer charged me \$31.90 to enable both the high idle and the fog lights with high beam options. (I highly suggest doing both at the same time since they both require a Starscan.) If your truck is an automatic then this is all you have to do. If not, proceed to step 2. The Starscan procedures are as follows:

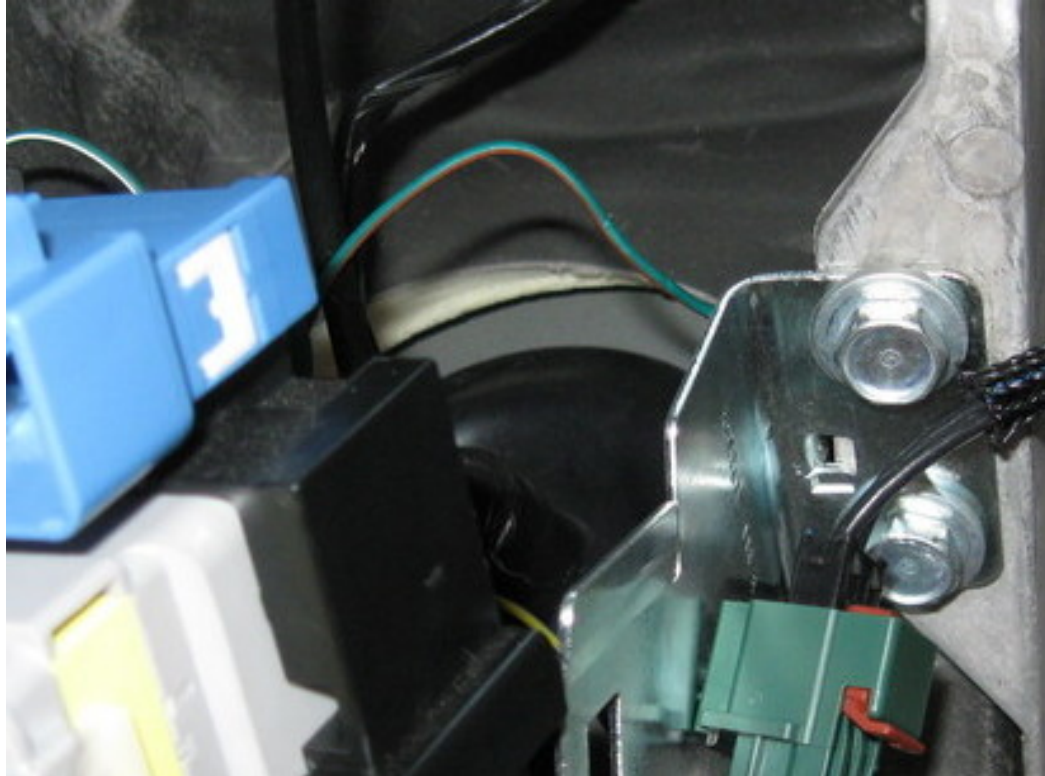
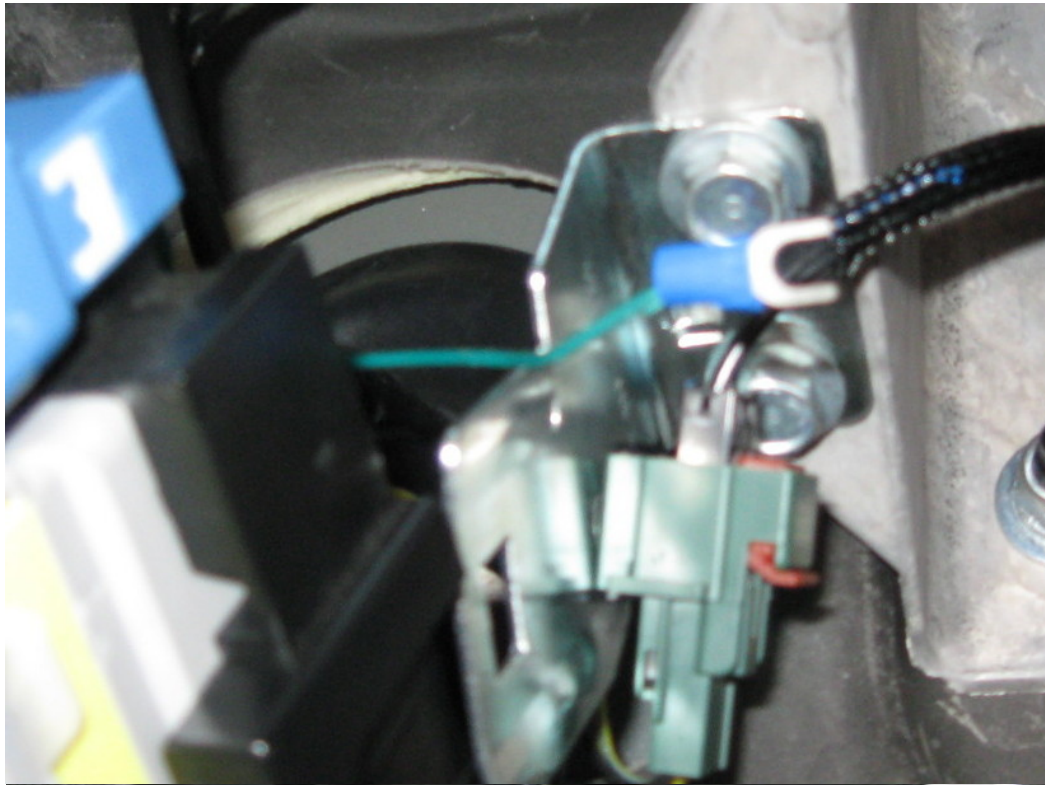
Starscan Main Menu > ECU View > PCM > Misc. Functions > Idle Up Feature Enable > Start > Next > Next > Enable > Next > Finish

- 2) If you have a manual transmission, you also need to ground a wire inside your truck. This wire is used to hook up a clutch pedal safety switch that you can purchase from Dodge to install. The theory is, when you press the clutch the idle up will disengage. The switch is fairly expensive and the idle up will disengage when you press the brake pedal or release the parking brake anyway, so there's really no need for it.

- a) Locate the white and blue electrical connectors directly behind your parking brake assembly. (The blue part is where you plug your trailer brake controller box harness into.) Press the clip on the right side of the connectors to release the entire assembly from the metal bracket. Behind this connector you will find a green wire with an orange tracer. It will be approximately 4-6 inches long and will have heat shrink on the end of it.



- b) You will need to ground this wire. Strip the end of it and attach a crimp connector to it. You must find a good place to attach this wire to a solid ground. I decided to ground it against the metal bracket holding the wire connector. Loosen the two bolts holding the bracket to the metal support beam. Slide the wire connector between the bracket and support beam and retighten the bolts. This will provide a solid ground and it won't be able to be seen once the electrical connectors are re-attached to the bracket. Now reattach the electrical connectors to the support bracket. That's it, you're finished.



Operation:

- 1) With the truck running, place transmission in **NEUTRAL** (Manual Transmission) or in **PARK** (Automatic Transmission.)
- 2) Set the **PARKING BRAKE**.
- 3) Press the **CRUISE CONTROL ON** button. The green "CRUISE" light should illuminate.
- 4) Press the **SET** button. Idle should increase to 1100(min)-1500(max) RPMs.
- 5) Press the **RESUME - ACCEL** button to increase RPMs, Press the **DECEL** button to decrease RPMs. (100 RPM per click)
- 6) To disengage; Press Cruise Control OFF button, step on the brake, disable the parking brake, or place transmission in gear and start moving.