

# 1956 - 1968 Corvette: Service News: Connecting Rod Bolt Usage

**Model Year:** 1956-1968

**Subject:** Connecting Rod Bolt Usage

**Source:** Chevrolet Service News

**Date:** August, 1968

A new connecting rod assembly incorporating a 7/16" diameter connecting rod bolt is being used in late built Corvette R.P.O. L-88 (427 cu. in., 430 H.P.) engines and heavy duty M4 service engines. Early built R.P.O. L-88 engines and all other 427 cu. in. engines incorporate the 3/8" diameter bolt. The connecting rod nut used on the 7/16" diameter bolt should be torqued to 70 ft.-lbs.; the 3/8" diameter bolt nut should be torqued to 45 ft.-lbs.

Due to considerable variance between connecting rod bolt usages, a chart has been included in this article giving a listing of connecting rod applications by model year and by part number.

| Connecting Rod Bolt Usage Chart |                                                                      |  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Year                            | Application                                                          |  |
| 1968                            | Corvair                                                              |  |
|                                 | 4 & 6 cylinder engines (except 292)                                  |  |
|                                 | 292 cu. in. engine                                                   |  |
|                                 | 307, 327 & 350 cu. in. engine                                        |  |
|                                 | 366, 396, & 427 (except Corvette RPO L-88 2nd Design) cu. in. engine |  |
|                                 |                                                                      |  |
|                                 |                                                                      |  |

|                  |                                                                              |  |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                  | Corvette RPO L-88 2nd Design (427 cu. in., 430 H.P.) <sup>1</sup>            |  |
| <b>1967</b>      | Corvair                                                                      |  |
|                  | 4 & 6 cylinder engines (except 292)                                          |  |
|                  | 292 cu. in. engine                                                           |  |
|                  | 283, 327 & 350 cu. in engine                                                 |  |
|                  | 366, 396 & 427 cu. in. engine                                                |  |
|                  |                                                                              |  |
| <b>1963-1966</b> | Corvair                                                                      |  |
|                  | 4 & 6 cylinder (except 292 engine & 1963 L-6 engine used in K Series Trucks) |  |
|                  | 292 cu. in. engine                                                           |  |
|                  | L6 engine used in 1963 K Series Trucks                                       |  |
|                  | V-8 engines (except 348, 409, 366, 396 & 427)                                |  |
|                  | 348 & 409 (except Special High Performance RPO Z-11)                         |  |
|                  | Special High Performance 409 engine (RPO Z-11) offered in 1963               |  |
|                  | 366, 396 & 427 cu. in. engine                                                |  |
|                  |                                                                              |  |
| <b>1962</b>      | Corvair                                                                      |  |
|                  | 6 cylinder engines (except Chevy II)                                         |  |
|                  | Chevy II 4 & 6 cylinder engine                                               |  |
|                  | V-8 engines (except 348 & 409                                                |  |
|                  |                                                                              |  |

|                                                                                                                           |                                        |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|
|                                                                                                                           | engines)                               |  |
|                                                                                                                           | 348 & 409 cu. in. engine               |  |
| <b>1956<sup>2</sup>-1961</b>                                                                                              | Corvair                                |  |
|                                                                                                                           | 6 cylinder engines                     |  |
|                                                                                                                           | V-8 engines (except 348 & 409 engines) |  |
|                                                                                                                           | 348 & 409 cu. in engine                |  |
|                                                                                                                           |                                        |  |
| <p>1: Also used in Heavy Duty M4 service engines.<br/> 2: For model years prior to 1956 reference Parts Catalog under</p> |                                        |  |

| <b>Connecting Rod Bolt Configuration</b> |                   |  |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Part No.</b>                          | <b>Thread</b>     |  |
| 3732718                                  | 3/8-24 x 2        |  |
| 3789421                                  | 3/8-24 x 1 29/32  |  |
| 3836670                                  | 3/8-24 x 2 1/4    |  |
| 3837689                                  | 3/8-24 x 2 25/64  |  |
| 38623720                                 | 3/8-24 x 2 1/8    |  |
| 38923670                                 | 11/32-24 x 1 7/8  |  |
| 3916399                                  | 3/8-24 x 1 39/64  |  |
| 3942409                                  | 7/16-24 x 2 1/8   |  |
| 6255636                                  | 5/16-24 x 1 57/64 |  |

Online URL:

<https://www.corvetteactioncenter.com/tech/knowledgebase/article/1956-1968-corvette-service-news-connecting-rod-bolt-usage-686.html>