

# **MSD<sup>®</sup>** **IGNITION** **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

## **MSD 8 Ignition PN 7800**

### **Parts Included:**

1 – MSD 8 Ignition, PN 7800  
1 – Capacitor Filter, PN 8830  
4 – Vibration Mounts

1 – Coil Harness, Orange and Black  
1 – Mag Pickup Harness, Violet and Green  
1 – Ignition Switch Harness, Red

### **Recommended Coils:**

Pro Power Coil, PN 8201  
Pro Power HVC II Coil, PN 8261

**WARNING:** During installation, disconnect the battery. When disconnecting, always disconnect the negative cable first and install it last.

**WARNING:** When using and MSD 8 there is high voltage present on the coil primary terminals. Never touch the coil or connect test equipment to these terminals.

- The MSD 8 is a race-only Ignition Control. It should be used with the supplied Capacitor on its power leads.
- The battery of the electrical system must be fully charged. The MSD 8 will use approximately 36 amps at 12,000 rpm.
- Note that there is no Points/Amplifier trigger input. If you are using a timing control or triggering the ignition from the ECU of an EFI system, use the Mag+ terminal.
- A crank trigger is the preferred method of triggering the MSD 8.
- The MSD 8 does not have a built-in rev limiter. An external Rev Limiter, PN 8978, is available separately.
- Correct grounding is important to the ignition system performance. Follow the example in Figure 1 with the Capacitor Filter.
- It is not recommended to lengthen the power leads of the ignition.
- It is recommended to disconnect the heavy power leads when welding on your car. Also disconnect the tach ground wire.
- Inspect the cap, rotor and wires as a part of routine maintenance. The output of the MSD 8 puts a lot of load on the secondary ignition components.

## WIRING

| Power Cables                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Heavy Red</b>                  | Connects to the battery positive (+) terminal.                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Heavy Black</b>                | Connects to a shared ground with the Capacitor Filter coming from the battery negative (-) terminal.                                                                                                        |
| <b>Small Red (IGN)</b>            | Connects to the IGN terminal and supplies a switched 12 volt source.                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Orange (C+)</b>                | Coil positive (+) wire. This is the only wire that makes contact with the coil positive terminal.                                                                                                           |
| <b>Black (C-)</b>                 | Coil negative (-) wire. This is the only wire that makes contact with the coil negative terminal.                                                                                                           |
| <b>Violet (M+)<br/>Green (M-)</b> | Magnetic Pickup positive wire from the crank trigger pickup.<br>Magnetic Pickup negative wire from the crank trigger pickup.<br><br><b>Note:</b> If using a Timing Control, its Yellow wire connects to M+. |

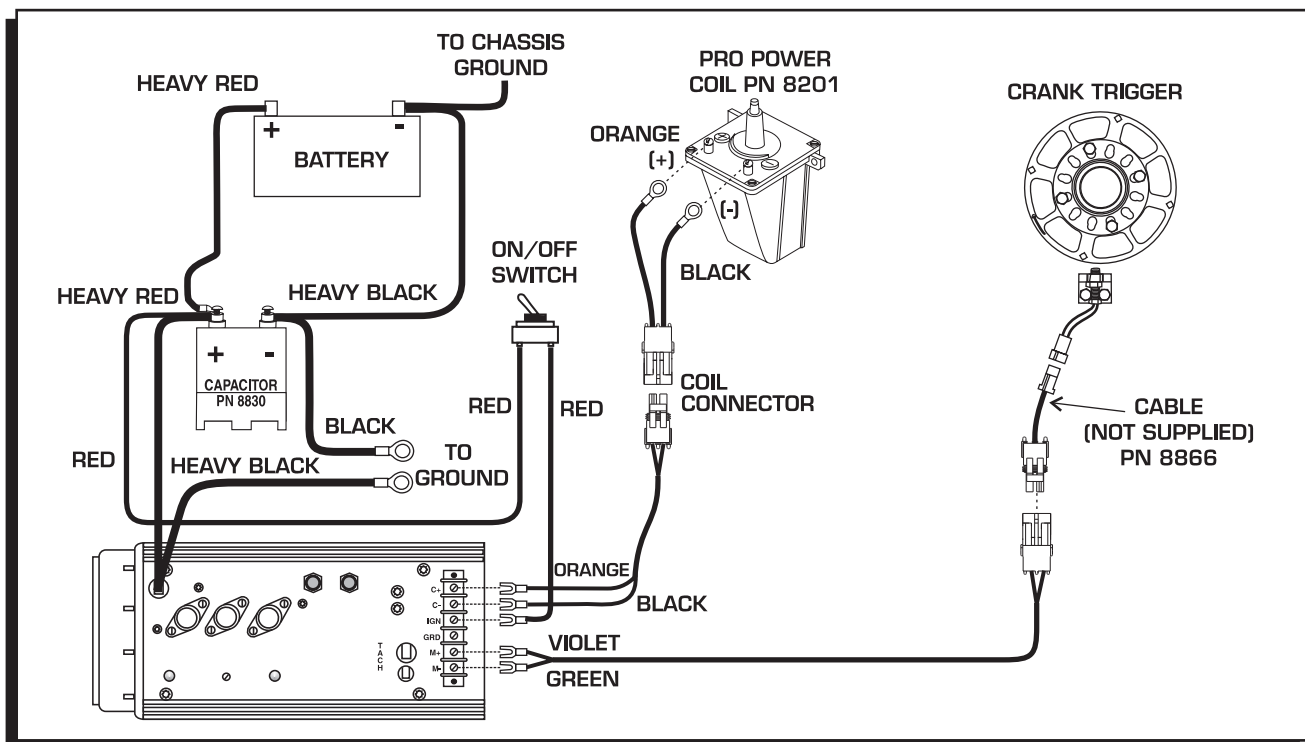


Figure 1 Wiring the MSD 8 with a Crank Trigger.

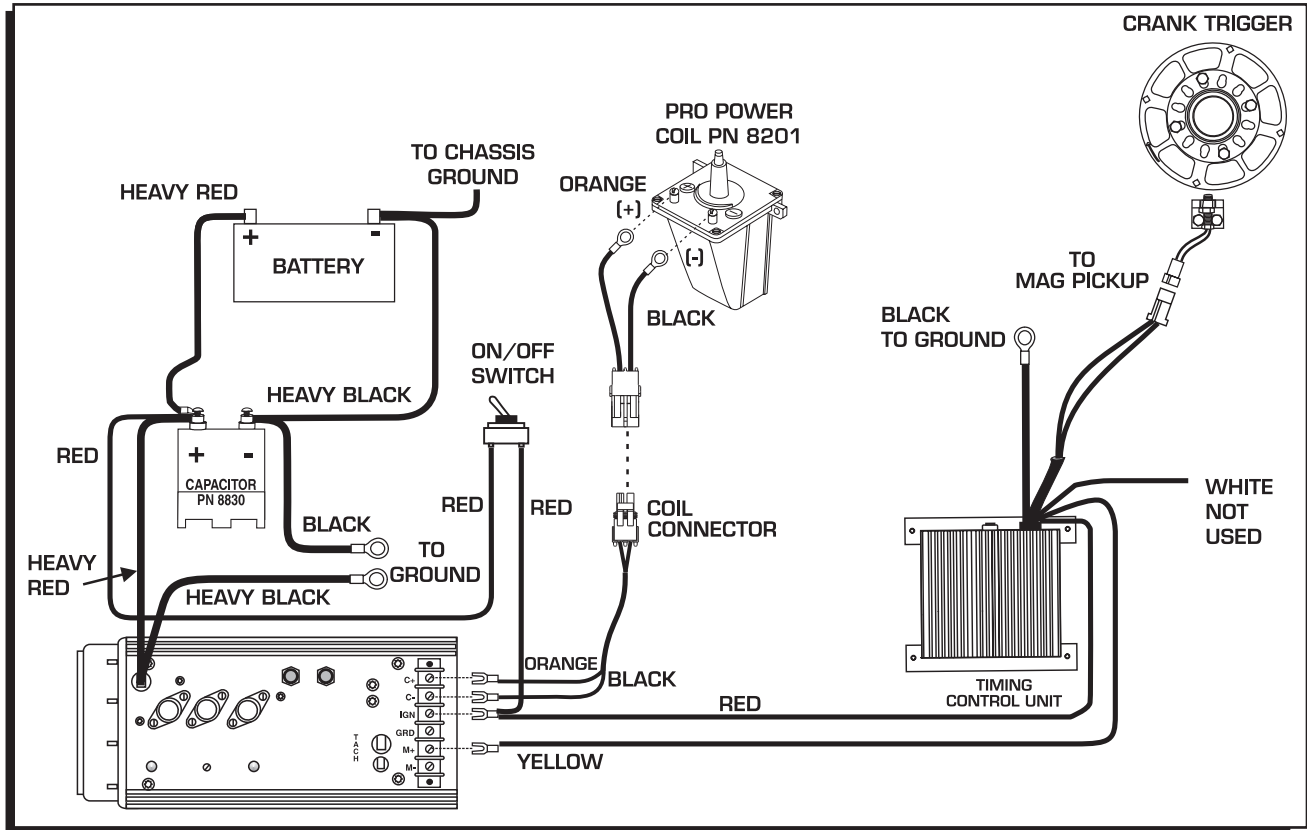


Figure 2 Wiring the MSD 8 with a Timing Control.

## TECH NOTES



## This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

When returning the unit for repair, leave all wires at the length in which you have them installed. Be sure to include a detailed account of any problems experienced, and what components and accessories are installed on the vehicle. The repaired unit will be returned as soon as possible using Ground shipping methods (ground shipping is covered by warranty). For more information, call MSD Ignition at (915) 855-7123. MSD technicians are available from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday - Friday (mountain time).

\*Intended normal use means that this item is being used as was originally intended and for the original application as sold by MSD Ignition. Any modifications to this item or if it is used on an application other than what MSD Ignition markets the product, the warranty will be void. It is the sole responsibility of the customer to determine that this item will work for the application they are intending. MSD Ignition will accept no liability for custom applications.