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Power Window Lift Motors and Regulators: Top 10 Do's and Don'ts

The tips and hints below will help ensure a safe and successful installation of the replacement unit. However, for complete step-by-step installation instructions always refer to the vehicle service manual or equivalent reference and the information supplied with the unit. If you do not have the experience or proper tools to safely remove and install both units, you should seek the services of a qualified technician.

Things to DO:

1. Do secure the glass while working on the motor or regulator to prevent it from dropping and breaking.
2. Do lubricate the running surfaces of the regulator mechanism with high-temperature urethane-based grease before installing in the door.
3. Do install the motor so the window glass movement matches the direction selected by the window switch.
4. Do test all functions of the window after completing the installation:
 - 2 and 4 wire motors - check that up and down action matches switch direction.
 - 4 and 6 wire motors - check that all auto-functions work correctly.
 - 6 and more wire motors - check anti-pinch safety function reverses when encountering an obstacle in the travel path of the glass.
5. Do secure any wire harness or cable that may snag on the window regulator as it moves past.

Things NOT to DO:

1. Do not operate the window mechanism with hands or any body part near the window regulator mechanism to prevent pinching or injury.
2. Do not install using smaller gauge wiring or connectors that may not be able to handle the electric current.
3. Do not remove a motor from an "unlocked" regulator with an energized spring. Clamp or secure by drilling a hole through the regulator gear and frame. Then install a bolt with a nut and washers to lock the regulator and avoid sudden release.
4. Do not allow children or others to play or be in the area unsupervised during the repair.
5. Tighten securely, but do not over-tighten clamps or brackets that hold the glass.

Safety concerns and information:

Because of original manufacturer verification and consolidation, wire color and connections must not be assumed. Before operating a window for the first time, be sure arms, hands and head are clear of the window path.

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