

1936 JD Unstyled "B" Basic Magneto Timing



This tractor came from the factory with a WICO AP or a Fairbanks Morse magneto. A WICO C or WICO X will work fine as long as it has LONG tangs. The mag can be installed 180 degrees out and the easiest way to get it right is to remove the RH spark plug. With the RH sparkplug removed the RH cylinder has no compression, so the only compression you will feel when rotating the flywheel is the LH IMPULSE. Turn the flywheel CCW until you feel compression. You should see a spark as the LHIMPULSE dot on the flywheel gets even with the line on the transmission shaft cover. If the spark does not occur at LH IMPULSE remove the mag and rotate the tangs 180 degrees.

Timing the exact point of impulse is done by loosening the mag (SLIGHTLY) and rotating it forward or backward as needed.

The tractor pictured is my wife's, and we got it from the Bobby Johnson estate in 2013.