

**MODEL IDENTIFICATION**

In most sections of this manual, the individual models are identified by the chassis type instead of the model sales designation. The chassis type designations are the first six digits of the vehicle's serial number. A serial number tag is attached on all late model vehicles on the left windshield post, on older vehicles on the cross member above the radiator.

For example, sales designation model 450SL is chassis type 107.044.

In some instances, only the first three digits (107) will be referred to. In this case, this section applies to all vehicles of this particular chassis type.

Owners who have cars designated 350SL, please note that the vehicle chassis type designation should be checked; it should be 107.044, the same as for the 450SL.

The explanation for this is that during the first year of importation, the 450SL carried the name plate 350SL for certain reasons. The U.S. version of these vehicles, however, is identical in its various components and equipment to the 450SL.

The 380SL was introduced in model year 1981, provided with an aluminum 3.8 liter engine, and a new automatic transmission.

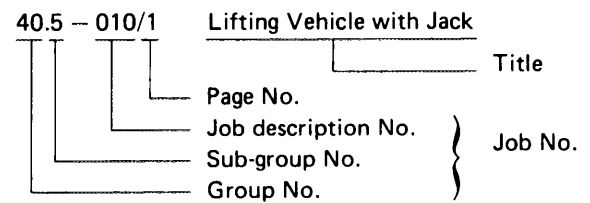
The body style remained unchanged.

The 560SL was introduced in model year 1986. Changes specific to this model are listed in the supplement in the back of this manual.

**Location of Specific Repair Instructions**

Locate main component group in Group Index. The individual groups are separated by an easily visible dividing page. Check group contents, first page following dividing page of each group, for the exact job description required. The job numbers are listed on top of the first page of each job description after the group number and page number are listed on the lower left corner.

Example:



The original page format was developed for use on microfiche. In order to use the same originals for printing, the page numbers could not be positioned on the lower outside corner of each page.

Data, adjusting values, machining dimensions, tightening torques and tools are listed at the beginning of each Section.

All the dimensions are in metric units, provided no other unit of measure is used. The indicated part numbers are serving exclusively for identification and better differentiation of individual versions. When ordering spare parts, the part numbers must be taken from the spare parts literature.