

## How to determine alternator pulley width

When upgrading your vehicle from a generator to an alternator it's important to know the width of the alternator pulley which is determined by the existing generator V belt width in the vehicle.

To determine the correct pulley width, simply **measure the top side of the V belt**. Standard belt and pulley widths will be a narrow 3/8", wide 5/8" and ultra wide 3/4". 1/2" wide belts were only used in early Thunderbirds. [See example of belt and pulley below.](#)

Most American cars went to narrow 3/8" belts in the 1950's, many trucks stayed with 5/8" wide belts into the 1950's and very early cars and trucks used 3/4" belts.

If your vehicle is an early car or truck made in the 1920's or 1930's and not sure if 5/8" or 3/4" wide then chose the 3/4" pulley as the 5/8" belt will also work on the 3/4" pulley.

Remember to tighten your new alternator tight enough so the belt does not slip on the pulley, loose belts will cause slippage and low or no alternator output.

