

## Short Shifters and Bushings

In this article we will explain the benefits and improvement from installing a short shifter with performance shifter bushings.

### What are they?

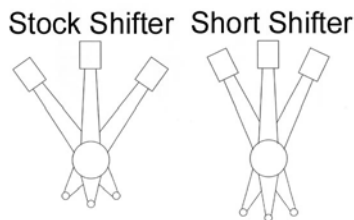
A short shifter changes the pivot point to require less movement of the shifter to change gears in your car. Performance shifter bushings are replacement bushings made from stiffer material than stock to give a more direct and solid shift.



CorkSport Short Shifter and Bronze-Oil Bushings

### The Short Shifter

The name "short shifter" is deceptive as the shifter itself is not actually shorter. The name refers to shortening the "throw" required to change gears. The shifter works by moving the leverage/pivot point higher on the shifter.



The illustration above shows a stock shifter on the left and a short shifter on the right. The length of the shaft under the pivot ball is longer on the short shifter. This causes the shaft above the pivot to move less when change gears. The downside is that slightly more effort is required to shift. This can be

compensated for with a weighted shift knob, such as the one offered by MazdaSpeed.

### Performance Bushings

Performance shifter bushings are made to replace the stock soft plastic bushings Mazda uses in the shift linkage. They work well but eventually wear out and fall apart. This leaves your shifter feeling loose and sloppy. Performance replacement bushing materials range from Polyurethane to Delrin and even bronze material.



Shifter Bushings

The bushings in the picture above show soft "stock" plastic bushings on the left and CorkSport Bronze-Oil bushings on the right. With the installation of performance shifter bushings shifting you will feel a more positive gear engagement and shifter movement.

### Summary

A short shifter and/or performance shifter bushings are a great upgrade for any car, whether you're doing some spirited daily driving on your way to the grocery store, or you need the precision and speed that a short shifter offers when you're racing at your favorite track.