

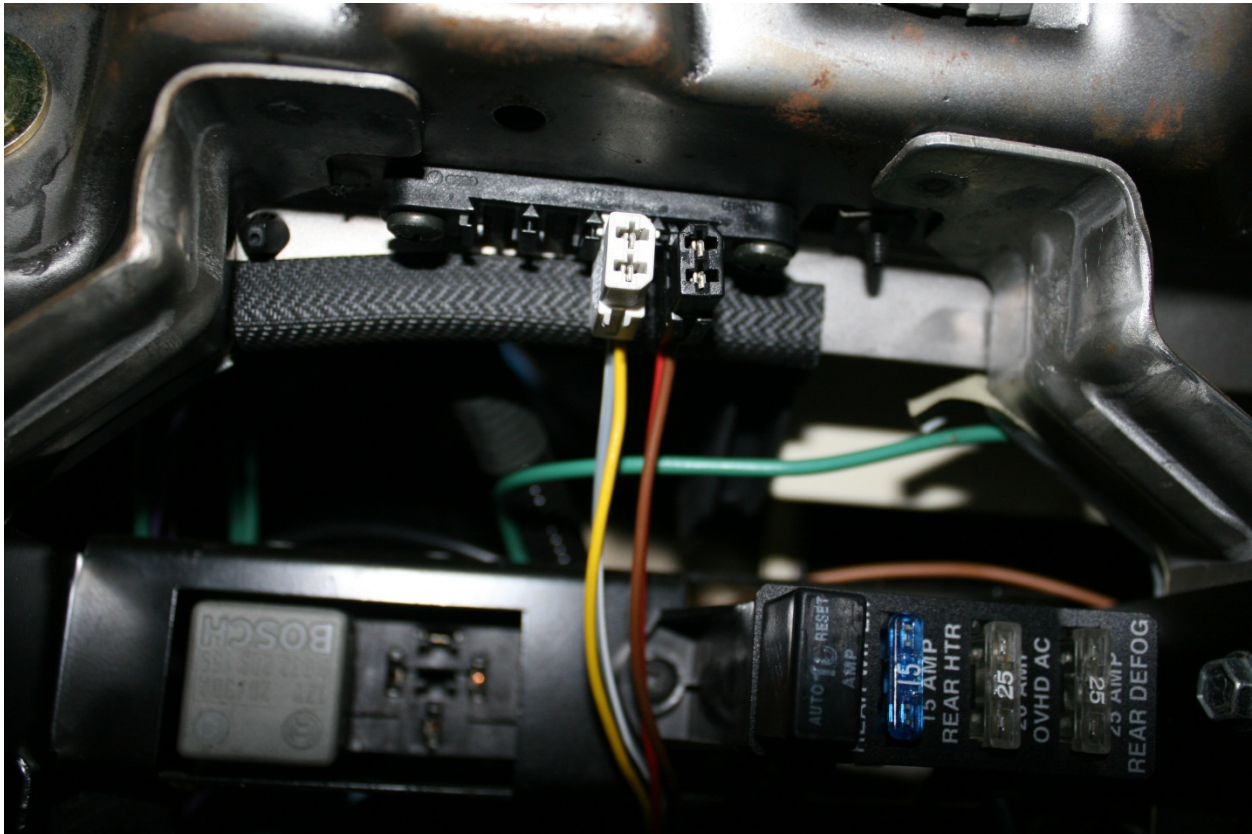
1995/96 Rialta ODB1 Connection

The connection consists of 2 square plugs. One white one black located at the top of the fuse compartment. The compartment is hidden behind the small storage area to the left and just under the steering wheel.



To open this compartment, just pull hard on the top near the black button. The button has small teeth that grip a metal bracket and will let go with a little yank! Behind the plastic cover you will find all the fuses for the cab section of the Rialta. Most were supplied by VW with the exception of a few at the top these were added by Winnebago for things like the Rear heat, Overhead A/C and rear defroster.

At the very top of the pannel you will see 2 square plugs. One white and one black. This is the connections for the ODB1 diagnostics.



You can see the connections in the photo above.

These connection need a special adapter to convert them to OBD2. HOWEVER just because you can adapt the connection this does not mean that you can use a OBD2 dianostic device to check anything about your Engine. The ODB1 connection was designed to be used with special diagnostic hardware and software that was exclusive to VW repair shops and dealers. There is an after market application that will run on a PC that will also read the ODB1 data. It can be used to read the trouble codes (the ones that cause the check engine light to come on) but not much else. The ODB1 connector can't be used by

the DMV to test you emissions equipment to pass your state required inspections!



The ODB1 to ODB2 adapter.



Connections on the ODB1 adapter. The adapter connected to the ODB1 ports.

The VIN number should show that the model year for the VW is 1995. The absence of the ODB2 port should also be proof that the vehicle is a 95 model year because all cars built in 96 or later required the ODB2 port.

The following is the description for the VW VIN code characters. The 10 character is the model year and 1995 should be an "S".

Explanation of Unique Identifiers With-in Your VW's VIN

Vehicle identification numbers are standardized - all contain 17 characters. VIN characters may be capital letters A through Z and numbers 1 through 0; however, the letters I, O and Q are never used in order to avoid mistakes of misreading. No signs or spaces are allowed in the VIN.

The position of each letter or number in the VIN code reveals important information about where and when your VW was made, the type of engine it has, the model or series of the car, various equipment/attributes and its production sequence. Each character or digit has a particular purpose as follows:

1st Character: The 1st character of your VW's vehicle identification number identifies the country where it was manufactured.

VIN Character 1 - Manufacturing Country Codes							
1 or 4	2	3	J	K	S	W	Z
USA	Canada	Mexico	Japan	Korea	England	Germany	Italy

2nd Character: The 2nd character in your VW's VIN specifies the manufacturer, for example:

VIN Character 2 - Car Manufacturer Codes								
A	B	H	A	D	N	T	V	V
Audi	BMW	Honda	Jaguar	Mercedes	Nissan	Toyota	Volvo	VW

3rd Character: The 3rd character in your VW's vehicle identification number indicates the vehicle type or manufacturing division. This varies among car makes and models.

4th - 8th Character: The 4th through 8th characters in your VW's VIN reveals its features/attributes, such as body style, engine type, model, series, etc. Again, this varies widely among car makes, models and equipment.

9th Character: The 9th character in your VW's vehicle identification number is a VIN accuracy check digit, verifying the previous numbers within the VIN. This check digit is a single number or letter "X" used to verify the accuracy of the transcription of the vehicle identification number.

There is a precise method for obtaining the check digit; however, it is not relevant to our discussion here. Suffice to say that after all other characters in the VIN have been determined by the manufacturer, the check digit is calculated by carrying out a mathematical computation. The correct numeric remainder - zero through nine (0-9) will appear. However, if the remainder is 10 the letter "X" is used to designate the check digit value.

10th Character: The 10th character in your VW's VIN tells you the model year. (This varies somewhat among car manufacturers - see the chart in the "Here's How to Find Your Car's VIN" section below for specific locations by car make.)

VIN Character - Model Year Codes										
1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	
1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	
B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	
1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
M	N	P	R	S	T	V	W	X	Y	
2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	

11th Character: The 11th character in your VW's vehicle identification number reveals the assembly plant for the vehicle.

12th - 17th Character: The 12th through the 17th character in your VW's VIN indicate the sequence of the vehicle for production as it rolled off the manufacturer's assembly line. The last four characters are always numeric.

These last six characters are perhaps the most critical portion of the VIN for most European cars. Because of mid-year production changes by car makers, these can be extremely important in identifying the proper part numbers for ignition, fuel, emission and engine components. These types of parts are often listed with the caveat that they fit vehicles up to a particular VIN or before/after a particular VIN sequence.

You may need to take this information to the DMV to get a waiver for your vehicle or at least get them to recognize the correct year of manufacture.

I hope this information helps anyone who is having problems finding and/or using the ODB1 connections. If you are interested in using the ODB1 port then I would suggest the Ross-Tech Diagnostic software and adapter available from <http://www.ross-tech.com> though not cheap it will help you in diagnosing major and minor problems with the Eurovan's engine and drive train. I have used mine to find some very elusive problems.

Another note I don't think you can use the ODB1 adapter to connect a scan gage or other active engine monitor to the ODB1 port. The data that streams from the computer is not compatible the ODB2 devices.

Robert Crouse

Crouse Consulting

