

**Tip from [Carroll](#)
(Internet Fiero List member)**

Replace that broken tape player belt for just a few dollars....

When my tape player (standard GM auto reverse AM/FM tape player) quit working only the radio would play. I don't know why a broken belt prevented the CD adapter from working but it did. After I replaced the belt everything works. Once the radio is out it takes only about ten minutes to replace the belt.

Everything is accessed from the bottom of the unit. Lay the radio upside down on an old towel. Remove the bottom plate by removing three hex head screws, one on each side and one on the back. Lift the bottom plate off by tilting it forward and lifting it off. You will now see the tape unit. It is held in by four hex head screws. Two are on the lower back side and two are towards the front facing up. Once these are out slip the wiring plug off the back of the unit and lift out the tape unit and place it on the table without turning it over. Remove the bottom housing of the tape unit by removing three hex head screws that face up. Lift off the housing and flip it over. You do not have to disconnect the wires. Just lay the housing next to the unit. You will now see the pulleys which are held in place by yet another plate. It is held in place by four phillips head screws that face up. Two are close together on one side, one is on the other side and the last is between the pulleys toward the front of the unit. When removing one of these small phillips head screws I stripped out the head. I used a Dremmel tool and cut a slot so I could use a flat blade screw driver to remove it. Lift this plate up and note that it is sort of hooked over a switch on the back of the unit. Make a note how this is positioned before you slide it off so you will know how it goes back on. You will now see the two large pulleys toward the front of the unit and the small drive pulley at the lower left. Note the position of the properly installed belt. I put it on wrong the first time and had to reposition it. In the tape player you will see two large pulleys sitting side by side. To the lower left (assuming you have the unit sitting with the back facing you) you will see the small drive pulley. The belt goes around the small drive pulley at the lower left, around the outside of the right large pulley, and then between the two large pulleys on its way back to the drive pulley. If you put it around the outside of both large pulleys it won't work (I know from experience). While you have the tape player open take the time to clean everything with rubbing alcohol using a Q-tip. Assemble the unit by reversing the order. I video taped replacing mine the last time I did one. If you need I can digitize a few of the frames and attach them to e-mail. Total cost was less than two dollars. When I ordered the belt from a local electronics supply store I got several extras because I have six GM cars all with the same tape player. The belt size is listed as

SCQ 8.8

SCQ 224 MM

PRB

Projector Recorder Belt Corp.