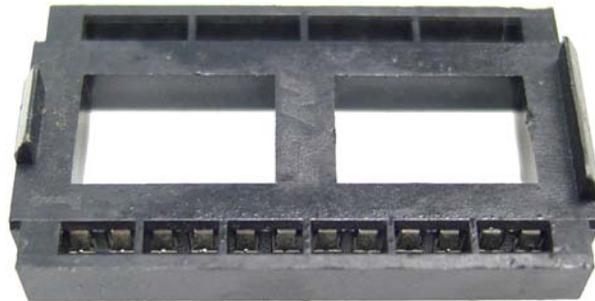


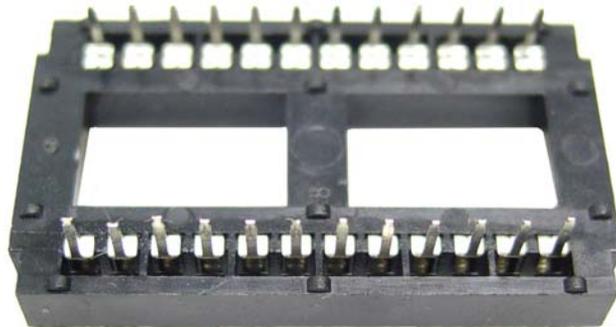
Chip Sockets On Turbo 3.8 ECM's

The ECM's used on the different years of turbo cars vary in a number of ways. The early ('84-'85) ECM used GM part number 1226459 and were designated either CMM or DNN PROM codes depending on the year. The later ('86-'87) ECM was GM part number 1227148 and designated ACXA for the PROM code. Both styles of ECM's used the same "Limp Home" chip and physically similar PROM sockets, but that's where the similarity ended. They are not interchangeable, and have major differences electrically.

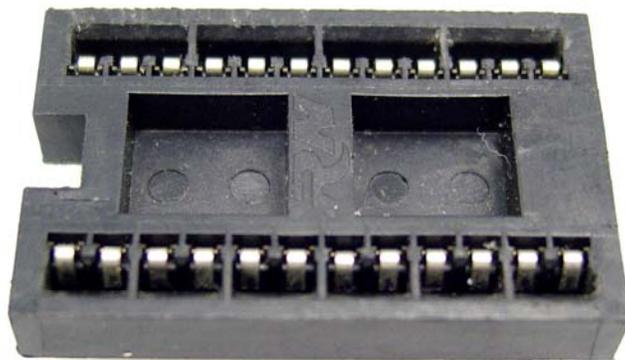
Robinson-Nugent manufactured the PROM sockets and carriers for these ECM's. The early ECM used this style of socket:



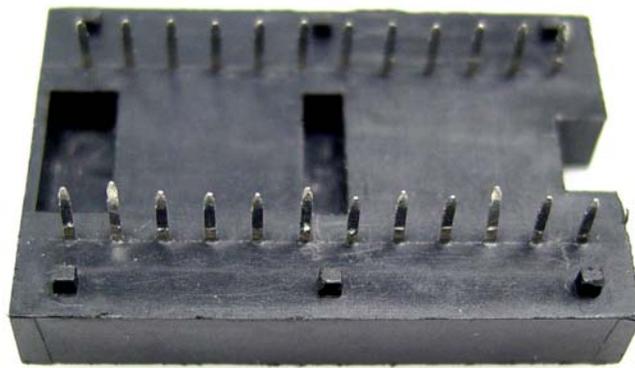
This socket was produced with a standard 0.6" lead spacing and was designed to accommodate the standard chip carrier commonly used on all of the turbo cars. Here is a bottom view of this socket:



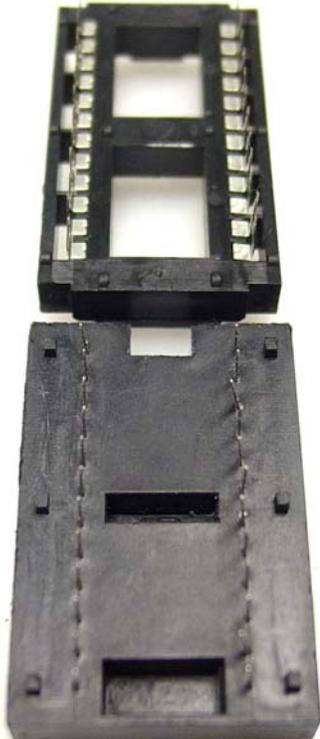
Starting in 1986, the ECM was re-designed and a slightly different socket was used:



The new design socket still accepted the standard RN chip carrier, but its lead spacing was changed to 12 mm:



The early style sockets are still available, but in order to install this socket into the later ECM's, you would need to "jog" the pins slightly in order to properly insert them into the ECM socket location. This can be done using a pair of needle-nose pliers to gently shift each of the 24 pins into the correct location on the PC board.



Note the comparison of the pin spacing between the late design (foreground) and the early design. The socket had a closed bottom and the pins were 12 mm apart as opposed to .6" as found on the earlier RN socket. The receiving ends (top) of the sockets, however, are similar in design so that they both can accept the standard RN carrier. Since the difference in lead spacing is minimal, the replacement socket, early style, can be used to replace the socket on all years of ECM's.

The chip carrier is no longer available from Robinson-Nugent. Casper's Electronics has produced a replacement carrier which is a direct plug-in for all years of chip sockets and uses the standard 2732 EPROM IC. Here is an image of the currently available carrier:

