Digital dash-equipped Buick Regals were fitted with a “stand-alone” odometer that has a single six digit rolling display which has five digits in white with black background, and a sixth digit that is reversed, black numeral with white background. This is the 1/10 digit. This odometer is not linked to a trip odometer, as was used on the analog-dash equipped vehicles.

There are two distinctly different odometers used in the G body production; the domestic version, calibrated in MILES and the export version, calibrated in KILOMETERS. These can be distinguished by the color of the driving gear and color of the intermediate gear as shown in the image below:

The VSS sensor pickup is affixed to the rear of the assembly with a single screw. The sensor is focused on the interrupter drum which rotates with the speedometer and reflects two pulses back to the pickup for every revolution of the speedometer cable. Thus, if the cable is rotating at 1000 RPM, equivalent to 60 MPH (96 KPH) the VSS pulse train returns 2000 Hz.

When purchasing a used Buick Regal, Grand National or T-Type, always look closely at the odometer for signs of tampering. It is fairly easy to modify the tallied mileage on the odometer, otherwise known as “setting back” the mileage to artificially enhance the value of the car. If you should find white lines between the numerals on the odometer, it is an indication of a broken seal and purchasing the vehicle should be avoided. In the image below, the dash had been tampered with and the white lines are clearly visible. Also look for chipped paint around the mounting screws indicating further tampering and/or removal of odometer.