



NUMBER: 03-005-21

GROUP: 03 - Differential and Driveline

DATE: November 11, 2021

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SUBJECT:

Rear Axle Vibration, Shudder Or Chatter

OVERVIEW:

This bulletin involves changing the rear axle lube to possibly address a chatter, shudder or vibration.

MODELS:

2020 - 2021	(DT)	RAM 1500 Pickup
2020 - 2021	(DS)	RAM 1500 Pickup
2020 - 2021	(DX)	RAM Truck (Mexico)

NOTE: This bulletin applies to vehicles within the following markets/countries: North America, LATAM, APAC and EMEA.

NOTE: This bulletin applies to vehicles equipped with an Anti-Spin Differential Rear Axle (Sales Code DSA).

SYMPTOM/CONDITION:

The customer may describe the following:

- A chatter, shudder, or vibration from the rear axle during turns.

NOTE: This may happen more as the vehicle ages, especially if the vehicle is used extensively for towing or hauling heavy loads. The cause of the concern may be due to degradation of the rear axle fluid. It is very important to follow the routine maintenance schedules on these vehicles when it comes to changing the rear axle fluid if the vehicle is used primarily for towing or hauling heavy loads. If you experience a vehicle with the above condition, please perform the proper maintenance procedures for the rear axle and replace the fluid first before replacing any hardware components.

NOTE: This service bulletin is only applicable to vehicles that have no history of an axle fluid replacement. If the vehicle usage includes police, taxi, fleet, off-road or frequent trailer towing, regular axle fluid changes are required every 3 years or 30,000 miles (whichever comes first) per the Maintenance Schedule in the vehicle Owner's Manual.

DIAGNOSIS:

If the customer describes the symptom/condition listed above and indicated by proper maintenance records, perform the Repair Procedure.

PARTS REQUIRED:

For all proper fill quantities, Refer to the detailed service procedures available in DealerConnect> Service Library under: Service Info> 04 - Vehicle Quick Reference/Capacities and Recommended Fluids/Specifications.

Qty.	Part No.	Description
Refer to the detailed service information for correct capacities and recommended fluids.	68218657AB	SAE 75W-140 (MS-8985) - Synthetic Axle Lubricant (3.92 Rear Axle)
Refer to the detailed service information for correct capacities and recommended fluids.	68340460AA	SAE 75W-90 (MS-A0160) - Synthetic Gear Lubricant (3.21 3.55 Rear Axle)
148 ml (5 oz)	04318060AD	Limited Slip (Friction Modifier) Additive

REPAIR PROCEDURE:

NOTE: When performing routine maintenance to the rear axle, closely inspect the rear axle hardware components for abnormal wear or damage, and repair as necessary per normal warranty repair guidelines.

1. Test drive vehicle by doing parking lot maneuvers, confirm a chatter or vibration noise is coming from the rear axle while making low speed turns.
2. Raise and support the vehicle. Refer to the detailed service procedures available in DealerConnect> Service Library under: Service Info> 04 - Vehicle Quick Reference/Hoisting/Standard Procedure.
3. Remove the differential drain plug and drain the lubricant from the axle housing.
4. Install differential drain plug with thread sealant after all the lubricant is done draining from the axle housing. Tighten to 70 N·m (52 ft.lbs).
5. Remove the differential fill plug.
6. Fill differential with lubricant through the fill hole. Refer to the detailed service procedures available in DealerConnect> Service Library under: Service Info> 04 - Vehicle Quick Reference/Capacities and Recommended Fluids/Specifications.
7. Install the proper amount of friction modifier additive to the rear axle through the fill hole.
8. Install the differential fill hole bolt to the rear differential cover. Tighten to 70 N·m (52 ft.lbs).
9. Lower the vehicle.
10. Test drive the vehicle by following the same procedure as in [Step 1](#) to confirm the noise concern has been resolved. If the noise is not resolved normal diagnosis should be performed.

POLICY:

Reimbursable within the provisions of the warranty.

TIME ALLOWANCE:

Labor Operation No:	Description	Skill Category	Amount
03-01-00-91	Fluid, Rear Axle - Drain and Fill (Includes Friction Modifier) (DS & DX) (1 - Semi-Skilled)	2 - Automatic Transmission	0.6 Hrs.
03-01-00-92	Fluid, Rear Axle - Drain and Fill (Includes Friction Modifier) (DT) (1 - Semi-Skilled)	2 - Automatic Transmission	0.7 Hrs.

FAILURE CODE:

ZZ	Service Action
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