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Author: George Mooney

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Coding Information

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Title: Fan belt replacement guidelines for frayed edges

Applies To: All Models

CHANGE LOG

Please refer to the change log text box below for recent changes to this article:

07/17/2025 - Initial Article Release

DESCRIPTION

This document provides guidance on when belt replacement is necessary due to frayed cords, helping users distinguish between normal manufacturing characteristics and abnormal wear. Belts made with Aramid (Kevlar) cords may appear fuzzy or frayed due to the manufacturing process, while Polyester cord belts typically have cleaner edges. Minor fraying is often normal and does not require replacement. However, pronounced or uneven fraying—especially from pulley misalignment or wear—may indicate a problem. This document aims to prevent unnecessary belt replacements caused by misinterpreting normal belt appearance.

SYMPTOM(s)

Customer Observations or Concerns:

Frayed belt.

SPECIAL TOOL(s) / SOFTWARE

Not Applicable

[Tools Resource Center](#)

SERVICE PARTS INFORMATION

Not Applicable

DIAGNOSTIC STEP(S)



WARNING:

To prevent personal injury and / or death, always wear safe eye protection when performing vehicle maintenance.



WARNING:

To prevent property damage, personal injury, and / or death, park the vehicle on a hard, flat surface, turn the engine off, set the parking brake, and install wheel chocks to prevent the vehicle from moving in either direction.

Step	Action	Decision
#	<p>DIAGNOSTIC: If the belt is frayed, determine if this is considered normal, view the illustrations in Figures 1 & 2.</p> <p>Is the condition considered acceptable, YES/NO?</p>	<p>Yes. No Action needed</p> <p>No. Continue diagnostics to determine the root cause of the belt failure.</p>

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

ACCEPTABLE



NOT ACCEPTABLE



Figure #1 : Acceptance Criteria

Acceptable belt vs an unacceptable frayed belt

Edge of aramid cord belt.



Edge of polyester cord belt.



Here are some photos showing the edge cord appearance of different cord materials.

Aramid cord (also called Kevlar if purchased from DuPont) has more of a "fuzzy" appearance and the yellow color makes it stand out more compared to polyester. This is normal and does not affect the performance of the belt.

Polyester can have a blue, orange or cream color and cuts much more cleanly.

Here is an example of a cord hanging out the edge of a belt, which would be considered a quality defect **on a new belt**.

Belts rubbing against flanges or other unintended objects can also cause this failure mode, which would not be considered the fault of the belt.



* This photo shows a $\frac{3}{4}$ " cord tale created on a test stand where the belt edge rubbed against a pulley flange.

Figure # 2: Aramid vs Polyester

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Warranty Claim Coding:

Refer to the [Warranty Coding Manual](#) for Group and Noun Codes.

Standard Repair Time(s):

Refer to the [SRT Manual](#) for Repair Times

OTHER RESOURCES

[Master Service Information Site](#)

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