

AXLE SHAFTS - FRONT

Article Text

1991 Volkswagen Passat
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Wednesday, August 25, 1999 07:52PM

ARTICLE BEGINNING

1990-91 DRIVE AXLES
FWD Axle Shafts

1990-91 Passat
1991 Cabriolet, Corrado, Fox, Golf GTI, Jetta

TROUBLE SHOOTING

DRIVE AXLE (FWD) TABLE

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PROBLEM

Possible Cause	Action
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GREASE LEAKING

Ripped CV Boot	Replace Boot
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CLICKING NOISE WHILE CORNERING

Dry/Worn CV Joints	Replace Outer CV Joints
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CLUNK ON ACCELERATION

Dry/Worn CV Joints	Replace Inner CV Joints
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Worn Trans. Gears/Bearings	Inspect Trans.
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VIBRATION/SHUDDER ON ACCELERATION

Dry/Worn CV Joints	Replace CV Joints
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Alignment Out	Check Alignment
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Incorrect Spring Height	Check Spring Height
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SQUEALING OR HUMMING

Dry/Worn CV Joints	Lube/Replace CV Joints
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Faulty Wheel Bearing	Replace Wheel Bearing
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REMOVAL, DISASSEMBLY, REASSEMBLY & INSTALLATION

NOTE: Clean wax from existing bolts or nuts to make sure tightening torque is correct.

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Removal (Fox)

Remove axle shaft nut. Remove wheel. Remove brake caliper and secure out of way. Remove transaxle-side CV joint flange bolts. Loosen transaxle-side CV joint from transaxle flange. Mark ball joint position on control arm. Remove ball joint from control arm. Pull axle shaft out of wheel bearing housing.

NOTE: DO NOT heat wheel bearing housing to remove axle shaft. Damage to wheel bearing will result.

Disassembly & Reassembly

1) Remove axle shaft boot(s). Using a drift, remove protective cap from CV joint. Remove circlip from transaxle-side CV joint. Support CV joint with axle assembly on Support Stand (VW 402). Using Driver (VW 408A), press transaxle-side CV joint off axle shaft. DO NOT disassemble transaxle-side CV joint, replace complete unit.

2) To remove outer CV joint, use a drift and hammer to drive CV joint off axle shaft. Rotate inner race and remove balls. Inspect for galling or wear. Grease balls and reinstall. To reassemble, reverse disassembly procedure. Use new circlips and boot clamps during assembly.

Installation

1) Apply locking compound around splines, not more than 1/4" wide. Install axle shaft. Bring ball joint into same position as marked before removal. Tighten ball joint. See TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS TABLE at end of article. Install new axle shaft nut.

2) Check camber, and adjust as necessary. Install wheel assembly. Allow locking compound to dry one hour before driving vehicle.

Removal & Installation (Except Fox)

1) Remove axle shaft nut. Remove wheel. Remove brake caliper, and secure aside. Remove tie rod end bolts. Remove 2 bolts attaching spindle assembly to strut assembly. Remove lower ball joint bolt or nut if necessary.

2) Remove spindle assembly. Loosen transaxle-side CV joint from transaxle flange. Remove axle shaft assembly. To install, reverse removal procedure. Install new axle shaft nut. See TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS TABLE at end of article.

Disassembly & Reassembly

1) Remove axle shaft boot(s). Using a drift, remove protective cap from CV joint. Remove circlip from transaxle-side CV joint. Support CV joint with axle assembly on Support Stand (VW 402). Using Driver (VW 408A), press transaxle-side CV joint off axle shaft. DO NOT disassemble transaxle-side CV joint, replace complete unit.

2) To remove outer CV joint, use a drive and hammer to drive CV joint off axle shaft. Rotate inner race and remove balls. Inspect for galling or wear. Grease balls and reinstall.

3) To remove vibration damper, mark location on axle shaft for reassembly. On some models, drive roll pin out. On all models,

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remove vibration damper. To reassemble, reverse disassembly procedure.
Use new circlips and boot clamps during assembly.

AXLE SHAFT LENGTH TABLE

Application In. (mm)

Corrado

Left Axle 17.20 (432.8)
Right Axle 26.00 (666.5)

Fox

Left & Right Axles 20.12 (511.0)

Except Corrado & Fox

Left Axle 17.44 (442.9)
Right Axle 26.66 (677.1)

TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS TABLE

Application Ft. Lbs. (N.m)

Cabriolet & Corrado

Axle Shaft Nut 170 (230)
Brake Caliper Bolt 47 (63)
Lower Ball Joint Nut 18 (25)
Tie Rod End Nut 22 (30)
Transaxle-Side CV Joint-To-Transaxle Bolt . 33 (45)
Spindle Assembly-To-Strut Nut 58 (78)

Fox

Axle Shaft Nut 170 (230)
Brake Caliper Bolt 47 (63)
Lower Ball Joint Nut 47 (63)
Tie Rod End Nut 22 (30)
Transaxle-Side CV Joint-To-Transaxle Bolt . 33 (45)

Golf, GTI & Jetta

Axle Shaft Nut 170 (230)
Brake Caliper Bolt 47 (63)
Lower Ball Joint Bolt 36 (50)
Tie Rod End Nut 26 (35)
Transaxle-Side CV Joint-To-Transaxle Bolt . 33 (45)
Spindle Assembly-To-Strut Nut
Jetta with ABS 70 (94)
All Others 60 (80)

Passat

Axle Shaft Nut 195 (265)
Brake Caliper Bolt 47 (63)
Lower Ball Joint Nut 92 (125)
Tie Rod End Nut 30 (40)
Transaxle-Side CV Joint-To-Transaxle Bolt . 33 (45)
Spindle Assembly-To-Strut Nut 70 (95)

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