

Diagnosis and Testing

Suspension System

Preliminary Inspection

1. Road test the vehicle.
 - If any suspension alignment or ride height concerns are present, REFER to Symptom Chart: Suspension System.
 - Verify the customer concern by carrying out a road test on a smooth road. If any vibrations are present, REFER to Symptom Chart: NVH.
2. Inspect the tires.
 - Check the tire pressures with all normal loads in the vehicle and the tires cold. REFER to the VC label.
 - Verify that all tires are sized to specification. REFER to the VC label.
 - Inspect the tires for incorrect wear and damage. INSTALL new tires as necessary.
3. Inspect the chassis and underbody.
 - Remove any excessive accumulation of mud, dirt or road deposits from the chassis and underbody.
 - Front or rear suspension components.
 - Suspension fastener(s).
 - Incorrect spring usage Spring(s).
 - Shock absorber(s).
 - Strut(s).
 - Suspension bushing(s).
 - Steering system components.
 - Wheel bearing and wheel hub(s).
4. Inspect for aftermarket equipment.
 - Check for aftermarket changes to the steering, suspension, and wheel and tire components (such as competition or heavy duty). The specifications shown in this manual do not apply to vehicles equipped with aftermarket equipment.

Symptom Chart: Suspension System

Diagnostics in this manual assume a certain skill level and knowledge of Ford-specific diagnostic practices.
REFER to: Diagnostic Methods (100-00 General Information, Description and Operation).

Condition	Possible Sources	Actions
Vehicle drifts/pulls	Refer to the Diagnostic Routine.	GO to Pinpoint Test A
Wander	Overloaded, unevenly or incorrectly loaded vehicle	NOTIFY the customer of incorrect vehicle loading.
	Ball joint(s)	CARRY OUT a ball joint inspection. REFER to: Suspension System (204-00 Suspension System - General Information, Diagnosis and Testing). INSTALL new control arm(s) as necessary. REFER to: Lower Arm (204-01 Front Suspension, Removal and Installation).
	Damaged or missing front strut mount bearing(s)	INSTALL a new front strut mount bearing(s) as necessary. REFER to: Front Strut and Spring Assembly (204-01 Front Suspension, Disassembly and Assembly).
	Loose, worn or damaged front wheel bearing(s)	INSPECT the wheel bearings. INSTALL new wheel bearings as necessary. REFER to: Front Wheel Bearing and Wheel Hub (204-01 Front Suspension, Removal and Installation).
	Loose, worn or damaged suspension component(s)	INSTALL new suspension component(s) as necessary.
	Loose suspension fasteners	INSPECT the suspension fasteners. TIGHTEN to specifications.
	Steering components	INSPECT the steering system. INSTALL new components as necessary.