

Diagnostics in this article assume a certain skill level and knowledge of Ford-specific diagnostic practices. REFER to: Diagnostic Methods .

DIAGNOSIS AND TESTING > REAR DRIVE AXLE AND DIFFERENTIAL > SYMPTOM CHART(S) > SYMPTOM CHART - DIFFERENTIAL

Condition	Possible Sources	Actions
Axle overheating	Axle lubricant low	CHECK the lubricant level. FILL the axle to specification. REFER to: Differential Fluid Level Check .
	Incorrect or contaminated lubrication type	INSPECT the axle for damage. REPAIR as necessary. CLEAN and REFILL the axle to specification as necessary. REFER to: Specifications .
	Bearing preload adjusted too tight	CHECK the ring and pinion for damage. INSPECT the ring and pinion wear pattern. ADJUST the preload as necessary. REFER to: Drive Pinion .
	Excessive gear wear	INSPECT all the axle gears for wear or damaged. INSTALL new components as necessary. REFER to: Drive Pinion . REFER to: Differential Carrier .
	Incorrect ring gear backlash	INSPECT the ring gear for scoring. INSPECT the ring and pinion wear pattern. ADJUST the ring gear backlash as necessary. REFER to: Ring Gear Backlash Adjustment .
Broken gear teeth on the ring gear or pinion	Overloading the vehicle	INSTALL a new ring and pinion. REFER to: Drive Pinion . REFER to: Differential Carrier .
Differential side gears/pinion gears are scored	Insufficient lubrication	INSTALL new gears. FILL the axle to specification. REFER to: Differential Carrier . REFER to: Differential Carrier - Vehicles With: Electronic Locking Differential (ELD) .
	Incorrect or contaminated lubricant type	INSTALL new gears. CLEAN and REFILL the axle to specification. REFER to: Differential Carrier . REFER to: Differential Carrier - Vehicles With: Electronic Locking