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PART NUMBER

DANA TYPE BALL JOINTS ON FORD TRUCKS

PROBLEM

Poor steering wheel returnability.

EXPLANATION**Installation**

As these ball joints are an interference fit, both the ball joint and the axle should be at the same temperature before installation is attempted.

Do not heat the knuckle to aid in installation. Ford OEM ball joints and most quality aftermarket ball joints have a high-tech polymer bearing that may be distorted by excess heat. If a temperature differential is required to aid installation, cooling the ball joint would be the best choice.

A distorted ball joint housing from forced installation or a distorted bearing from excessive heat will cause poor steering wheel returnability.

Alignment Bushings

There are a variety of aftermarket alignment bushings for these vehicles that change caster and camber. If one of these bushings is required to align the vehicle, it is very important that when installing and adjusting the bushing that it be done with both the upper and lower ball joints loose. After the adjustment is complete, then tighten both upper and lower ball joints.

Failure to loosen both upper and lower ball joints when adjusting an alignment bushing will cause the ball joints to bind and will cause poor steering wheel returnability.

This will also stress the alignment bushing to the point that it may crack.