

PACKARD-CLIPPER

DIVISION OF STUDEBAKER-PACKARD CORPORATION

November 2, 1955

1580 EAST GRAND BOULEVARD
DETROIT 32, MICHIGAN

ALL PACKARD DEALERS

IMPORTANT!

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REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Gentlemen:

It has been found some of the flanged rear axle shafts as produced by one of our vendors and which have been used in production of 1956 Packard and Clipper models thus far do not conform to engineering specifications. Where this non-conformance to engineering specifications exists it is possible for rear axle shaft failure to occur at the flanged end.

Rear axle shafts now being used in production are satisfactory. They are identified by a daub of white or red paint in the center of the outside end of the shaft which may readily be seen when the hub shell covers are removed.

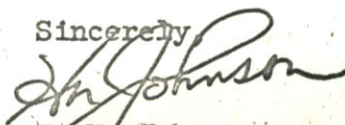
IT IS NECESSARY AND IMPERATIVE THAT THE REAR AXLE SHAFTS BE REPLACED IN ALL 56TH SERIES PACKARD AND CLIPPER MODELS WHICH YOU HAVE RECEIVED OR MAY RECEIVE ON WHICH THE DAUB OF WHITE OR RED PAINT DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE END OF THE REAR AXLE SHAFT. NO SUCH VEHICLES YOU HAVE RECEIVED OR MAY RECEIVE ARE TO BE DRIVEN IN DEMONSTRATOR SERVICE OR OTHERWISE OR DELIVERED TO CUSTOMERS UNTIL THE REAR AXLE SHAFTS HAVE BEEN CHANGED.

We are arranging to ship to you just as quickly as possible on a no charge basis with transportation charges prepaid, sufficient rear axle shafts (these will be identified by a daub of red paint on the end of the shaft) to replace those in 56th Series Packard and Clipper models you have received or may receive where the replacement is necessary. Therefore, it will not be necessary for you to place an order for them. Your Zone Office will advise you of shipments of replacement rear axle shafts as they are made.

Just as quickly as they are received they are to be installed in 56th Series Packard and Clipper models where the rear axle shafts are not identified with a daub of white or red paint in the center of the outside end of the shaft. Complete installation instructions are attached.

The rear axle shafts removed from these vehicles are to be returned immediately after replacement to your Parts Warehouse. We will honor your claim for 1.3 hours labor per vehicle to cover labor of installation plus transportation for the return of the axle shafts replaced upon receipt of your RFA's covering the replacements.

Sincerely,



H. N. Johnson
Assistant Service Manager

56TH SERIES PACKARD AND CLIPPER AXLE SHAFT
REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Raise the rear of the car and remove the wheel shields, hub shell covers and the rear wheels. Remove the spring type retaining nuts from the wheel bolts and remove the brake drums.
2. Line up the hole in the axle shaft flange with one of the retaining nuts that hold the brake backing plate to the axle housing and remove the nut.

Rotate the axle shaft and repeat this operation until four nuts are removed.

3. Pull the axle shaft and bearing assembly part way out of the housing and then install two of the backing plate retaining nuts to temporarily hold the backing plate in place.

Remove the axle shaft assembly from the housing.

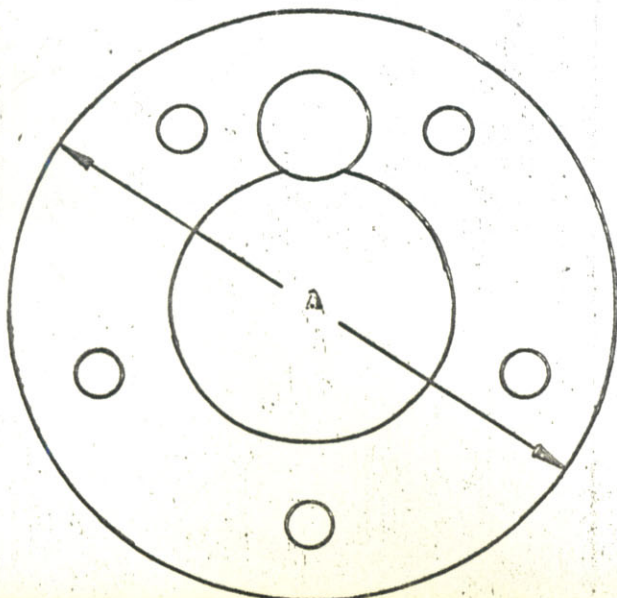
NOTE: When removing the shaft, care should be exercised so as not to damage the oil seal.

4. Remove the two nuts which are temporarily holding the brake backing plate to the axle housing, replace or "permatex" the axle shaft bearing retainer plate gasket.
5. Slide the new axle shaft assembly into the housing exercising care not to damage the seal with the shaft splines. Engage the shaft splines with the splines in the differential side gear.

Place the bearing retainer plate in position, install the four retaining nuts and torque tighten the nuts to 50 to 70 ft. lbs.

Install the brake drums and the spring type retainers, install the wheels, hub shell covers and the wheel shields.

NOTE: Rear axle shafts for Packard and Clipper models are not interchangeable. They may be identified visually by checking the outside diameter of the flange (dimension "A" on the following sketch). For Packard models this diameter is approximately 6 5/8"; for Clipper models approximately 6".



END VIEW AXLE
SHAFT & FLANGE