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Service Tips and Best Practices

Common Indicators of a Failing Driveshaft Center Support Bearing

Brand	BXT	Product	Driveshaft Centre Bearing	Date	March 2021
Part Number(s)	Various				

A driveshaft center bearing or driveshaft support bearing is designed to support a vehicle's driveshaft as it rotates. Furthermore, it allows a degree of flexibility for the driveshaft and can absorb some of the vibrations encountered while a vehicle travels over imperfect roads.

Commonly, as the support bearing nears its end of service life or is damaged while in operation, one or more of the following symptoms may emerge:

- A noticeable shudder and or jolt as the vehicle moves from a complete stop. This may be attributed to the inability of the driveshaft to flex throughout the proper range of motion. This shudder and or jolt may put excess stress onto other drivetrain components.
- Atypical and unusual noises while the vehicle is in motion. These may occur during acceleration, deceleration and or at a continuous speed. These noises will originate from underneath the vehicle and may take the form of a howling, grinding, knocking and or squealing.
- The vehicle operator may sense or feel a notion of lost performance or increased resistance/drag as the vehicle is in motion.

If one or more of the above symptoms are displayed, ensure to refer to the vehicle's factory service manual for correct diagnostic, removal and replacement procedures.

A support bearing which is diagnosed to be out of specification and or damaged should be replaced to restore ride quality and prevent damage to associated drivetrain components such as the driveshaft, transmission or differential. Additionally, if encountering an excessively worn support bearing, it is prudent to inspect associated drivetrain components and vehicle chassis for abnormal wear and or damage.

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