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Service Tips and Best Practices

Correct Installation Orientation: GM 2500/3500 Truck & SUV Front Upper Ball Joint

Brand	Supreme	Product	Ball Joint	Date	November 2022
Part Number(s)	MK6696				

To ensure proper part performance, the below noted ball joint must be pressed-in using the correct orientation when mating to the front upper control arm.

Part Number:
MK6696

For a successful repair outcome, adhere to the following:

- Before installation of ball joint, ensure all mating surfaces are clear of rust, debris and burrs. Inspect control arm mounting flange for cracks, deformation and or an out of round condition. Do not reuse control arm body if these are found. **See Figure 1**.

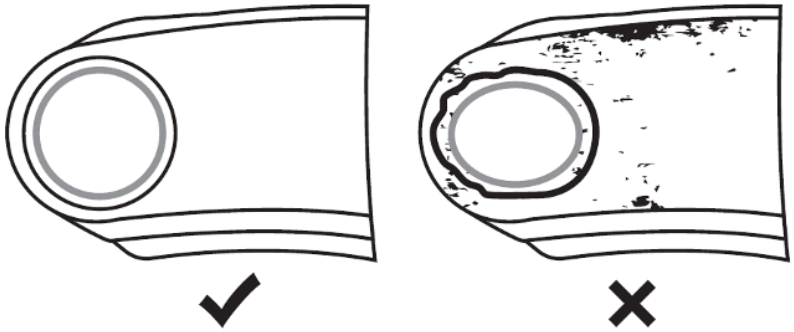


Figure 1.

- Verify press-in diameters and stud tolerances, including on steering knuckle side. Replace all damaged or out-of-specification mating components.
- When pressing-in ball joint, ensure pressure is applied to the mounting flange and not the ball joint back plate. Contact with the back plate during install may lead to damage and or impaired performance of the ball joint.
- Locate drilled index mark on ball joint flange. **See Figure 2**.
- Before press-in, it is recommended to create an alignment mark on both control arm and ball joint housing using a suitable implement, such as a grease pencil. This will assist in attaining correct orientation during press-in.



Figure 2. Drilled index mark on ball joint flange (circled)

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- During press-in, index mark must be oriented so that it is perpendicular to the wheel (facing outboard). For an illustration of correct installation orientation, **see Figure 3**.

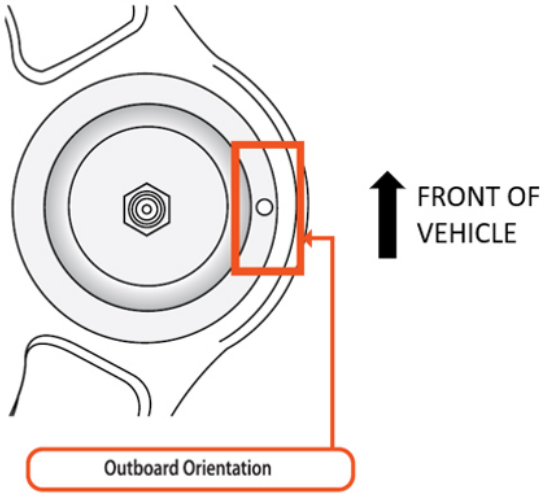


Figure 3. Correct ball joint installation orientation when mated to front upper control arm. Note drilled index mark position (highlighted orange box)

Always ensure to refer to the factory service manual for correct diagnostic procedures, component removal and installation methods and fastening torque values and procedures where applicable. Only use a calibrated torque wrench for final fastening.

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