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Service Tips and Best Practices

Front Lower Ball Joint Installation: 2002-2000 Dodge RAM 2500 & 3500 RWD

Brand	Supreme	Product	Ball Joint	Date	February 2023
Part Number(s)	MK7369				

To ensure proper part performance, the below noted ball joint must fastened to the lower control arm using the correct torque value.

Part Number:
MK7369

Installation Notes: General:

- Discard old nuts and bolts. Do not reuse hardware.
- Verify press-in diameters and stud tolerances, including on steering knuckle side. Replace all damaged or out-of-specification mating components. Ensure to remove all rust, debris and other corrosion from steering knuckle taper. If old ball joint was loose in the steering knuckle or if an out-of-round condition, deformation or damage is discovered during inspection on the steering knuckle side, the steering knuckle must be replaced.



- Use only a calibrated torque wrench for all fastening procedures at correct preloaded vehicle ride height.
- Perform vehicle alignment after repair.

Installation Notes: General:

When servicing ball joints attached by rivets onto the control arm body, pay special attention to rivet removal, so as to not damage the body of the control arm assembly. Control arm surfaces must be free from dirt, cracks and any burrs generated from the removal of rivets.

- This control arm may be equipped with a tapered shank-type rivet. Forcing out a tapered shank rivet in the incorrect direction may damage the control arm beyond use. It is recommended to remove both sides of the rivet head and then carefully remove any other rivet fragments from the control arm assembly.
  - Ensure all mating surfaces are clear of rust, debris and burrs. Inspect control arm mounting flange for cracks or deformation condition. Do not reuse control arm body if these are found.
  - Place the new ball joint inside lower control arm mounting flange and install new mounting bolts and nuts. Torque the supplied ball joint to control arm nuts to (80-90LB-FT/108-121N-M). **See Figure 1**.
  - Install the replacement ball joint to steering knuckle castle nut. Torque castle nut to the following values depending on vehicle configuration-
    Light Duty: (95LB-FT/129N-M)
    Heavy Duty: (110LB-FT/136N-M)
  - Continue to tighten the slotted nut to the next available slot. Never back off the slotted nut to achieve alignment with the hole in the stud. Install and spread the replacement cotter pin.

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Figure 1.



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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