

Chapter 8 Driveline

Information

The engine is passed through the clutch, into the transmission case and then to the axles through the driveshafts. The disc is held in place against the flywheel by the pressure plate. During disengagement for gear shifting, the clutch pedal and operates the linkage to pull on the throwout lever so the bearing pushes on the pressure plate springs, disengaging the clutch. The driveshafts are one-piece construction with a universal joint at the rear to allow for vertical movement of the axles. Each driveshaft is connected to the transmission with a splined slip joint at one end to compensate for length during operation.

Removal, inspection and installation

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Secure the vehicle and support it securely on jackstands. Remove the transmission and transfer case (Chapter 7). Remove the starter motor, throwout bearing and clutch housing. Note the relationship of the clutch cover and flywheel for reference during installation.

Loosen the clutch cover bolts one turn at a time, following a crisscross pattern, so the spring tension will be released gradually. Remove the clutch cover and bolts, taking care that the driven plate does not rotate. Note the direction which the driven plate faces, to simplify installation.

Inspect the flywheel and pressure plate contact surfaces for score marks and damage. If necessary, have these surfaces machined. Replace the components with new ones. Check the clutch disc thickness and compare it to the Specifications.

Remove the pilot bushing lubricating wick and soak

9 Lightly lubricate the throwout lever pivot points with moly-base grease.

10 On models so equipped, install the pilot bushing lubricating wick.

11 Insert a clutch alignment tool or equivalent (such as the proper size screwdriver handle) through the clutch driven plate hub and use it to center the plate on the flywheel.

12 With the driven plate centered, place the clutch cover in position and install the mounting bolts finger tight. Tighten the bolts a little at a time, following a crisscross pattern, to the specified torque and remove the alignment tool.

13 Install the clutch housing and tighten the bolts to the specified torque.

14 Install the starter motor.

15 Attach the throwout bearing to the lever. Unless the vehicle has very low mileage, it is a good practice to install a new throwout bearing whenever the clutch is replaced.

16 Install the transmission and transfer case and lower the vehicle.

Clutch pedal free play adjustment

17 The clutch pedal free play should be checked (Chapter 1) and adjusted at the specified interval, when the clutch doesn't engage properly or when new clutch parts have been installed.

1953 through 1971 models

18 Three types of clutch linkages were used on these models. Early model CJ-2A and CJ-3A vehicles used a combination cross tube and cable mechanism, while early model CJ-3B, CJ-5 and CJ-6 vehicles have a cross-shaft tube and lever-type linkage. V6 models were equipped with a cable-type clutch linkage.

19 To adjust the CJ-2A and CJ-3A linkage, loosen the clutch cable lever cable adjusting locknut and use a wrench to unscrew the cable until the specified free play is achieved (Chapter 1). Tighten the locknut.

20 To adjust the cross-shaft tube and lever-type clutch linkage, loosen the jam nut on the cable clevis and lengthen or shorten the clutch fork cable to obtain the specified measurement. After adjustment, tighten the jam nut securely.

