GENERAL MOTORS SLIDING CALIPER DISCS

Chevrolet
GMC

NOTE – *Bendix sliding caliper disc brakes are used on all diesel engine models and all models equipped with Bendix Hydroboost. Bendix sliding caliper disc brakes are also used on models equipped with four-wheel disc brakes. All other models use Delco floating caliper disc brakes. See appropriate article in this section.*

DESCRIPTION

Bendix sliding caliper disc brakes use a single piston caliper. Front calipers are attached to a mount integral with the steering knuckle. Rear calipers are mounted to an adapter bolted to the drive axle. When brakes are applied, hydraulic pressure is passed to caliper piston. This force is transmitted to inner brake pad against inner rotor braking surface. Pressure then moves caliper inward, thus forcing outer disc pads against outer braking surface. When brakes are released, pressure is removed from caliper cylinder and rotor runout moves piston back into caliper cylinder to maintain sufficient rotor-to-pad clearance.

ADJUSTMENT & SERVICING

DISC PAD ADJUSTMENT

Pad wear is automatically compensated for by piston moving outward in cylinder bore; therefore, no disc pad adjustment in service is required. NOTE – *Inspect condition of disc pads whenever wheels are removed.* If any pad is worn to within 1/32" of rivet heads, replace complete set.

PARKING BRAKE

See Parking Brake Adjustment in General Motors Single Anchor Brake System in this Section.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

BLEEDING SYSTEM

See Hydraulic Brake Bleeding in this Section.

DISC BRAKE PADS

Removal – 1) To prevent master cylinder overflow when caliper is depressed, remove two-thirds of the brake fluid from master cylinder. Raise vehicle and remove wheel. Place a large "C" clamp on caliper and tighten clamp to bottom piston in cylinder bore. Remove clamp.

2) Remove key retaining screw, then using a brass rod and a light hammer, drive out caliper support key and caliper support spring. Remove caliper by pushing down against mount and rotating upward and away from mount. CAUTION – *Support caliper with wire. Do Not let caliper hang with weight on brake hose.*

3) Remove outer disc pad from caliper. It may be necessary to tap pad to loosen pad flange from caliper. Remove inner disc pad from mount, then remove disc pad anti-rattle clip.

Installation – 1) Lubricate caliper and mount sliding surfaces with silicone lubricant. Install new anti-rattle clip in mount. Place lower end of inner pad into mount and against anti-rattle clip, then slide upper end of pad into position. Be sure clip is still in correct position.

2) With caliper piston fully bottomed in cylinder bore, position outer pad on caliper and press tabs into place. If pad cannot be properly positioned by hand, use a large "C" clamp, taking care not to mar lining.

3) Install caliper on mount by pivoting caliper around upper mounting surface. While holding caliper against upper surface of mount, install new caliper support spring and new caliper support key. Using a soft hammer, drive key and spring into position, then install key retaining screw. Refill master cylinder. Install wheel and lower vehicle.

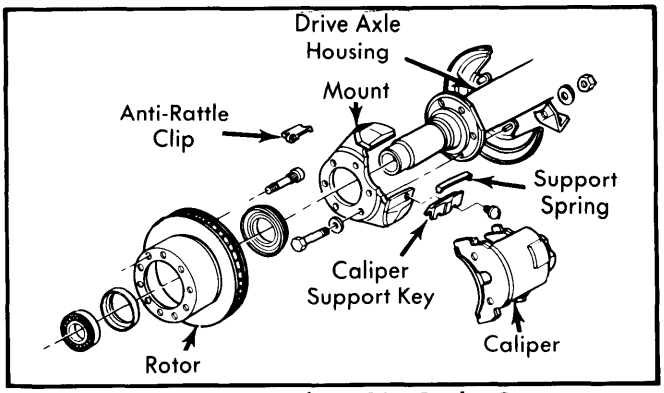

Fig. 1 Rear Sliding Caliper Disc Brake Components

BRAKE CALIPER

Removal & Installation – Caliper removal and installation procedures are same as for disc pad replacement, except it will be necessary to disconnect brake hose.

DISC ROTOR

Removal (2-WD Models) – 1) Raise vehicle and position on safety stands. Remove brake caliper without disconnecting brake line as previously outlined.

2) Remove grease cover from end of hub. Remove cotter pin, nut, washer and outer bearing. Remove rotor and hub assembly.

Installation – Install rotor and hub assembly on spindle. Install outer bearing, washer and nut. Adjust wheel bearing. See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment in WHEEL ALIGNMENT Section.*

Removal (4-WD W/Locking Hubs – Part Time 4-WD) – 1) Turn hub actuator knob to "LOCK" position. Rotate tire to make sure hub is locked.

2) Raise vehicle and position on safety stands. Remove brake caliper assembly without disconnecting brake line as previously outlined.

3) Remove 6 hub retaining plate screws. Remove retaining plate, actuating knob and "O" ring. Remove outer snap ring. Remove outer clutch retaining ring, actuating cam body, outer clutch gear and spring.

4) Remove snap ring from end of axle. Remove inner clutch gear and spring retainer plate (K10 and K20 models only). Remove wheel bearing lock nut, lock ring and inner adjusting nut. Remove rotor and hub assembly.

GENERAL MOTORS SLIDING CALIPER DISCS (Cont.)

Installation – **1)** Install rotor and hub assembly on spindle. Install inner nut and adjust wheel bearing. See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment in WHEEL ALIGNMENT Section.*

2) On K10 and K20 models, install spring retainer plate with flange side facing bearing. Install inner clutch gear. Press in on gear and install snap ring on axle.

3) Install pressure spring with large end toward bearing. Spring should extend 7/8" past spindle when correctly installed.

4) Install outer clutch gear, actuating cam body (with cams facing forward), outer clutch retaining ring and snap ring.

5) Install "O" ring on retaining plate. Install actuating knob on retaining plate. Install actuating knob with knob in "LOCK" position. Make sure grooves in knob fit into actuator cam body.

6) Install 6 cover bolts and seals. Tighten bolts to 35-40 INCH Lbs. Turn knob to "FREE" position and check hub operation. Install brake caliper as previously outlined.

Removal (4-WD, Full-Time Models) – **1)** Raise vehicle and position on safety stands. Remove brake caliper without disconnecting brake lines as previously outlined.

2) Remove grease cover on end of hub. Remove snap ring from end of axle. Remove drive gear. On K10 and K20 models, remove pressure spring.

3) Remove wheel bearing outer lock nut, lock ring and inner adjusting nut. Remove rotor and hub assembly.

Installation – **1)** Install rotor and hub assembly on spindle. Install inner nut and adjust wheel bearings. See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment in WHEEL ALIGNMENT Section.*

2) On K10 and K20 models, install pressure spring. On all models, install drive gear, snap ring and grease cover. Install brake caliper as previously outlined.

Removal (Optional Rear Wheel Disc Brakes) – **1)** Raise vehicle and position on safety stands. Remove brake caliper without disconnecting brake line as previously outlined.

2) Remove axle shaft flange bolts and remove drive axle. Bend lock tab on bearing lock nut and remove lock nut. Remove lock tab assembly. Remove inner bearing adjusting nut and washer. Remove rotor and hub assembly.

Installation – **1)** Install rotor and hub assembly into position on axle housing. Install outer bearing and washer. Make sure tang on washer is aligned with groove in axle housing.

2) Install inner bearing nut and adjust wheel bearings. See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment in WHEEL ALIGNMENT Section.*

3) Install drive axle shaft using a new flange gasket. Tighten bolts to 115 Ft. Lbs. Install brake caliper as previously outlined.

OVERHAUL

BRAKE CALIPER

Disassembly – **1)** With caliper assembly clean, to prevent contamination, remove plug from caliper inlet port and drain fluid from caliper housing. Place caliper assembly on bench with piston side up and place several shop towels between piston and outer legs of caliper housing.

2) Slowly and carefully apply air pressure to caliper inlet port until piston comes out of caliper housing. **CAUTION** – *Use low air pressure to remove piston. High pressure may cause piston to pop out with considerable force.* If piston is seized, tap lightly on end of piston with soft-faced hammer to free piston.

3) Remove boot from piston and seal from cylinder bore. Clean caliper housing and piston with denatured alcohol. Check cylinder bore, seal groove, and boot groove for damage and excessive wear. Replace piston if pitted.

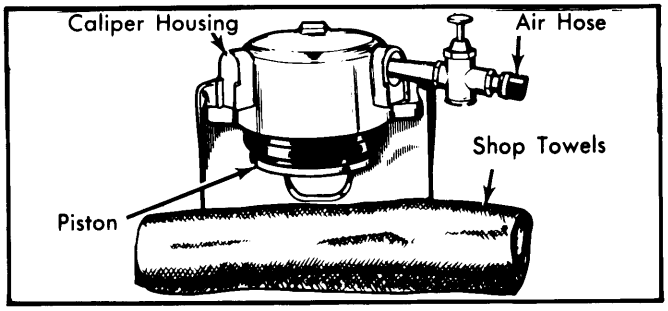

Fig. 2 Using Compressed Air to Remove Caliper Piston

DISC BRAKE ROTOR SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Disc Diameter	Lateral Runout	Parallelism	Original Thickness	Minimum Refinish Thickness	Discard Thickness
Diesel Engine Models	11.86"	.004"	.0005"	1.28"	1.230"	1.215"
All Others						
Front (Drum Rear)	12.50"	.004"	.0005"	1.530"	1.480"	1.465"
Front (Disc Rear)	14.25"	.004"	.0005"	1.530"	1.480"	1.465"
Rear①	13.75"	.004"	.0005"	1.530"	1.480"	1.465"

① – Optional on "P" models and Motor Home Chassis with 11,000 lb. axle.

GENERAL MOTORS SLIDING CALIPER DISCS (Cont.)

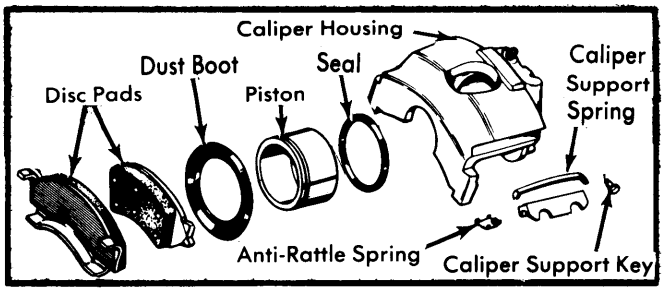

Fig. 3 Exploded View of Sliding Caliper Assembly

Reassembly – To assemble caliper, soak all parts in suitable brake fluid and reverse disassembly procedure. Use large C-clamp to seat piston in cylinder bore.

DISC ROTOR

Lateral Runout – Adjust wheel bearings until all endplay is eliminated. Attach dial indicator with contact tip of indicator on braking surface approximately one inch from rotor edge. Set indicator to zero and turn rotor through one complete revolution, noting indicator reading.

Parallelism – Check thickness of rotor at four or more points around circumference of rotor. Make all measurements at same distance from edge of rotor. If thickness variation is excessive, refinish or replace rotor as necessary.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs.
Brake Hose-to-Caliper	22
Support Key Retaining Screw	18
Application	**Inch Lbs.**
Hydraulic Line-to-Brake Hose	150
Bleeder Valve Screws	100