

Front Suspension Noise

From a Studebaker Service Bulletin:

All models with rubber and steel inner suspension bushings

Please record this article on the Service Bulletin Reference page at the end of the Steering and Front Suspension section of your 1956' Passenger Car Shop Manual. This supersedes the article in Service Bulletin No. 312 on page 4 under the title of "Control Arm Bushing Retainers - All Models". The plain washers formerly installed on the control arm inner shaft bushing retainer cap screws are no longer used in production. They are shown as item 3, Fig. 8, on page 4 and item 5, Fig. 12, on page 6 of the Front Suspension and Steering section of the 1956 Passenger Car Shop Manual. Therefore, it is necessary and important that the bushing retainer cap screws be torqued to the proper specification.

Noise at the front suspension may result from bushing looseness at the upper control arm inner shaft. This can be caused by: the retaining screw having backed out leaving the bushing loose, the bushing retainer being worn and not holding the inner sleeve of the bushing, or the bushing itself being worn.

Remove and inspect the bushing retainer. The inner side of the retainer should have 6 serrations in good condition. The outside of the retainer should not have pronounced galled spots from the lock washer. Replace the retainer if necessary. Then, be sure to tighten the cap screws to the specified torque.

If the retaining screw has worked loose, install a "Nylok" self-locking screw which has been released under Part No. 1541700. Also a plain washer, Part No. G446211, has been released for service to replace the original lock washer used in production. It is recommended that this screw and washer be installed in all cases where the original production retaining screw has loosened and a noise condition exists. The new screw should be tightened to the proper torque of 35 ft.-lbs.

Under no circumstances should there be any lubricant applied to the bushing or retainer to cure a noise condition at this point.