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Axle Shaft

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

- 1. Raise and support the front of the vehicle on jackstands and remove the wheels.
- 2. Remove the bolts attaching the axle shaft to the differential while the brake pedal is being depressed.
- 3. Remove the free running hub assembly with the brake pedal depressed.
- 4. Remove the brake caliper assembly without disconnecting the hydraulic brake line. Support or hang the brake caliper with a wire to avoid breaking the hose.
- 5. Remove the tie rod ball joint.
- 6. Support the lower link with a jack and remove the nuts attaching the lower ball joint on the lower link.
- 7. Remove the upper ball joint attaching bolts.
- 8. Remove the shock absorber lower attaching bolt.
- 9. Cover the axle shaft boot with a suitable protector, and then remove the axle shaft with the knuckle still attached.
- 10. Separate the axle shaft from the knuckle by removing the snapring and lightly tapping the shaft with a rubber mallet.

To install:

11. Install the axle shaft into the knuckle and then install the assembly.

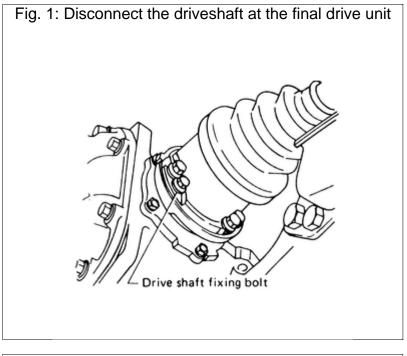
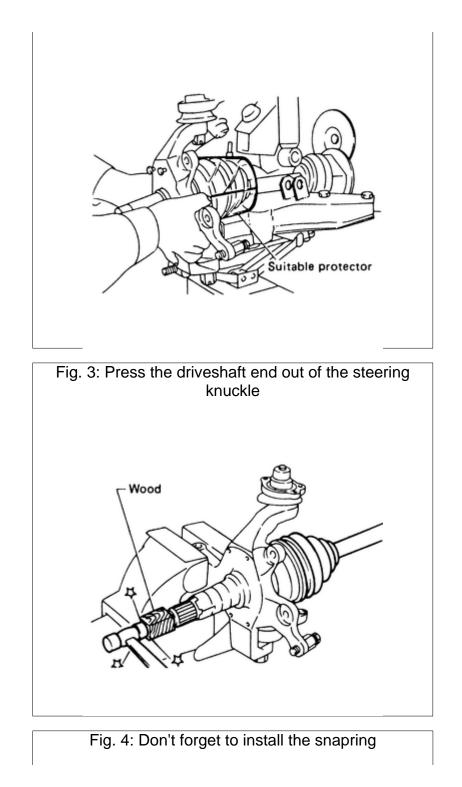
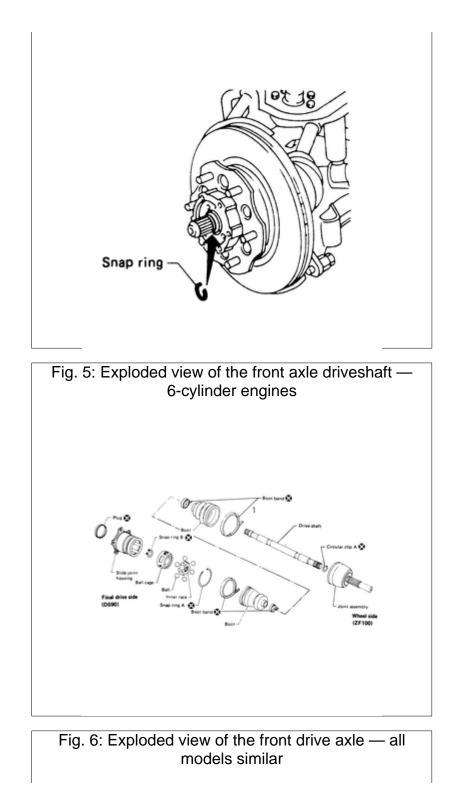
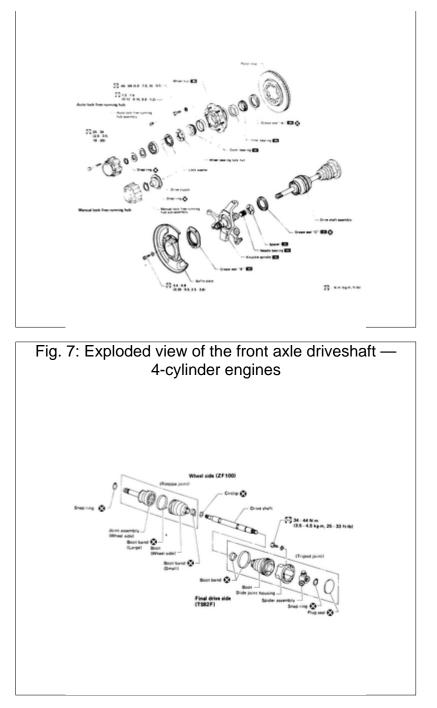


Fig. 2: Remove the driveshaft with the steering knuckle still attached







- 12. When installing the bearing spacer onto the axle shaft, make sure that the bearing spacer is facing in the proper direction. Temporarily install a new snapring on the axle shaft at the same thickness as it was before removal and then measure the axial end-play of the axle shaft with a dial gauge. The axial end-play should be 0.004–0.012 in. (0.1–0.3mm). Select another snapring if not within specifications.
- 13. Connect the shock absorber and tighten the bolt to 43–58 ft. lbs. (59–78 Nm).
- 14. Connect the upper ball joint and tighten the bolts to 12–15 ft. lbs. (16–21 Nm).
- 15. Connect the lower ball joint to the lower link and tighten the nuts to 35–45 ft. lbs. (47–61 Nm).
- 16. Install the tie rod ball joint and the brake caliper.
- 17. Install the hub and then connect the axle shaft to the differential and tighten the bolts to 25–33 ft. lbs. (34–44 Nm).
- 18. Install the wheels, remove the stands and lower the vehicle.

