

Top 5 Noise Symptoms Associated With A Worn CV Shaft



1. Popping or clicking noises when turning. This indicates a worn or damaged outer CV joint. To verify this condition, place the vehicle in reverse, crank the steering wheel to one side and drive the vehicle backward in a circle (check the rearview mirror first!). If the noise gets louder, it confirms the diagnosis and the need for a new replacement CV shaft assembly.



2. A "clunk" when accelerating, decelerating or when putting the transaxle into drive. The noise comes from excessive play in the inner joint on FWD applications, either inner or outer joints in a RWD independent suspension, or from the driveshaft CV joints or U-joint in a RWD or AWD powertrain. To verify the condition, back the vehicle up, alternately accelerating and decelerating while in reverse. If the clunk or shudder is more pronounced, it confirms a bad inner joint.

3. A humming or growling noise. This can be due to inadequate lubrication in either the inner or outer CV joint caused by a damaged or split boot. However, this symptom is more often due to worn or damaged wheel bearings, a bad intermediate shaft bearing on equal length halfshaft transaxles, or worn shaft bearings within the transaxle.





A shudder or vibration when accelerating. This may be caused by play in the inboard or outboard joints, but the most likely cause is a worn inboard plunge joint. Similar vibrations can also be caused by a bad intermediate shaft bearing on transaxles with equal length halfshafts, or by bad motor mounts on FWD vehicles with transverse-mounted engines.

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5. A vibration that increases with speed. Note: This symptom is rarely caused by a failing CV ioint. An out-of-balance tire or wheel, an out-of-round tire or wheel, or a bent rim are the more likely causes.



Source: Brake & Front End

If you need further assistance, contact our Tech Department from 8:00am to 4:30PM CST at 417.831.1804 or toll free at 855.831.9444.



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The information provided is designed for professional installers. If you are unsure about terminology, procedures or other instructional references, please consult a professional installation repair facility.



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