

# AXLE SHAFTS - FRONT

## Article Text

1994 Suzuki Swift

For Xeon

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### ARTICLE BEGINNING

DRIVE AXLES  
Suzuki FWD Axle Shafts

Swift

### DESCRIPTION

NOTE: This article covers independent front suspension front drive axles.

Axle shafts transfer power from transaxle or differential to drive wheels. All axle shafts consist of a shaft and flexible Constant Velocity (CV) joint at each end. Inner CV joint is splined or bolted to transaxle. On Swift, outer CV joint is splined to hub assembly and secured by axle shaft nut.

Inner and outer CV joints are enclosed in CV joint boots. Boots maintain lubrication and prevent contaminants from entering joint. Boots must be replaced when signs of leakage or cracks are present. Inner CV joint can be repaired, but outer CV joint must be replaced as an assembly.

NOTE: Vehicles equipped with automatic transmissions use Tripot type joints on inside of drive axle and Double Offset Joint (DOJ) type joints on outside. Vehicles equipped with manual transmissions use DOJ type joints on both ends of drive axles.

### TROUBLE SHOOTING

NOTE: See TROUBLE SHOOTING - BASIC PROCEDURES article in the GENERAL INFORMATION section.

### REMOVAL, DISASSEMBLY, REASSEMBLY & INSTALLATION

NOTE: When removing or overhauling FWD axle shafts, refer to illustrations. See Figs. 1-3.

Removal (Left Side Shaft)

1) Unstake drive axle nut. Remove nut. Raise and support vehicle. Drain transaxle fluid. Use large screwdrivers or pry bars to pry inner joint from transaxle to release retaining circlip. Disconnect stabilizer bar from suspension arm.

2) Remove lower suspension ball stud and nut. Disconnect lower suspension control arm. To remove drive axle assembly, pull inboard drive joint from differential, and then remove outer joint from drive hub.

Removal (Right Side & Center Shafts)

1) Unstake drive axle nut. Remove nut. Raise and support vehicle. Use a plastic hammer to drive shaft joint from center shaft. Disconnect stabilizer bar from suspension arm. Remove lower suspension ball stud and nut. Disconnect lower suspension control arm.

2) To remove drive axle assembly, pull inboard drive joint from differential, and then remove outer joint from drive hub. To remove center shaft, drain transaxle fluid. Remove center bearing support bolts, and remove center shaft from differential gear.

NOTE: DO NOT disassemble outer CV drive joint. If joint is faulty, replace as an assembly. DO NOT disassemble differential side joint assembly.

Disassembly

1) Remove boot band from differential side drive joint. Remove circlip. Remove drive joint housing. Remove circlip from drive axle. Remove ball drive joint from shaft. Remove inner and outer boots from drive axle shaft.

2) To disassemble center shaft and bearing, remove right side oil seal and circlip. Pull center shaft from center bearing. Remove left side oil seal and circlip. Remove center bearing from support.

Inspection & Cleaning

Check boots for breakage or deterioration. Replace as necessary. Check circlip, snap ring and boot bands, replace as necessary. Clean disassembled parts (except boots), in degreaser. Dry components with compressed air. Clean boots with cloth. DO NOT wash boots in degreaser.

Reassembly

1) Grease outer drive joint fully. Position boot on shaft and

fill inside of boot with about 3 ozs. (90 g) of grease. Install inner drive joint boot onto drive axle shaft. Install ball drive joint onto shaft, ensuring flat side of joint faces outer drive joint.

2) Install snap ring into shaft groove. Fill inside of boot with grease. Attach boots using boot bands. Ensure boot band clamp end is bent in a reverse direction of rotation. If boots are distorted or dented, correct before installing on vehicle.

3) To install center bearing and shaft, reverse removal procedure. Install circlip securely into groove of bearing support. Apply grease to oil seals.

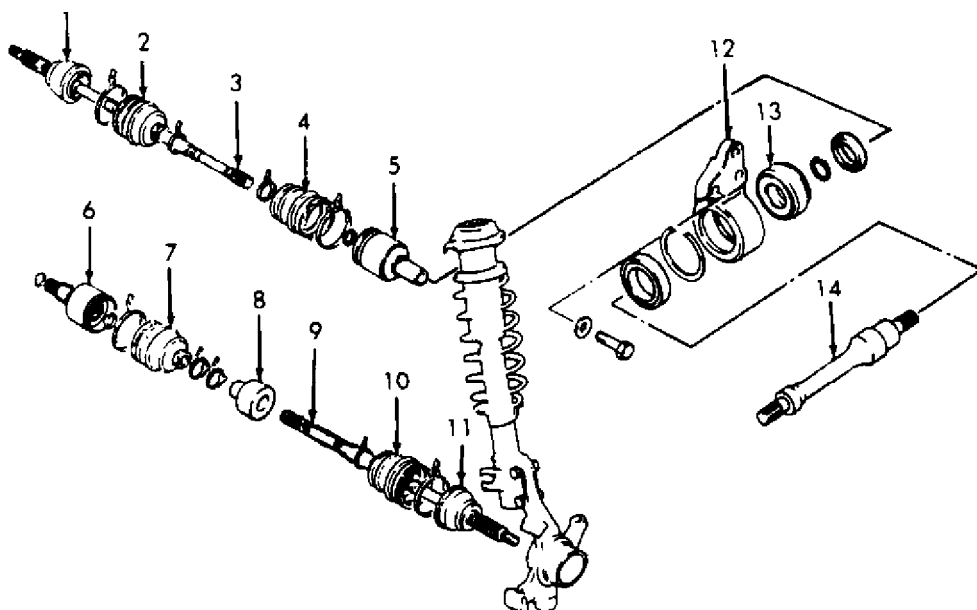
#### Installation

Clean and lubricate drive shaft oil seals. To install right side drive joint, push into differential until circlip locks into groove and drive axle is held in position. To complete installation, reverse removal procedures.

## TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

### TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS TABLE

Application	Ft. lbs. (N.m)
Center Bearing Support Bolt	30-44 (40-60)
Drive Axle Outer Nut	111-148 (150-200)
Lower Ball Joint Stud	37-52 (50-70)
Oil Drain Plug	
Automatic Transmission	13-17 (18-23)
Manual Transmission	18-22 (25-30)
Oil Filler & Level Plug	27-40 (36-54)
Stabilizer Joint Nut	13-21 (18-28)
Wheel Lug Nut	37-51 (50-69)



1. Right Side CV Wheel Joint
2. Boot
3. Right Side Drive Shaft
4. Boot
5. Right Side Differential CV Joint
6. Left Side Differential CV Joint
7. Boot

SWIFT

8. Dynamic Balancer
9. Left Side Drive Shaft
10. Boot
11. Left Side CV Wheel Joint
12. Center Support Bearing
13. Center Bearing
14. Center Shaft

Fig. 1: Identifying FWD Axle Components  
Courtesy of Suzuki of America Corp.

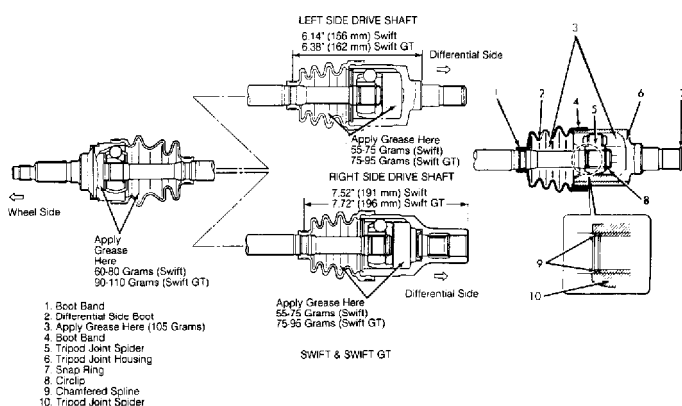
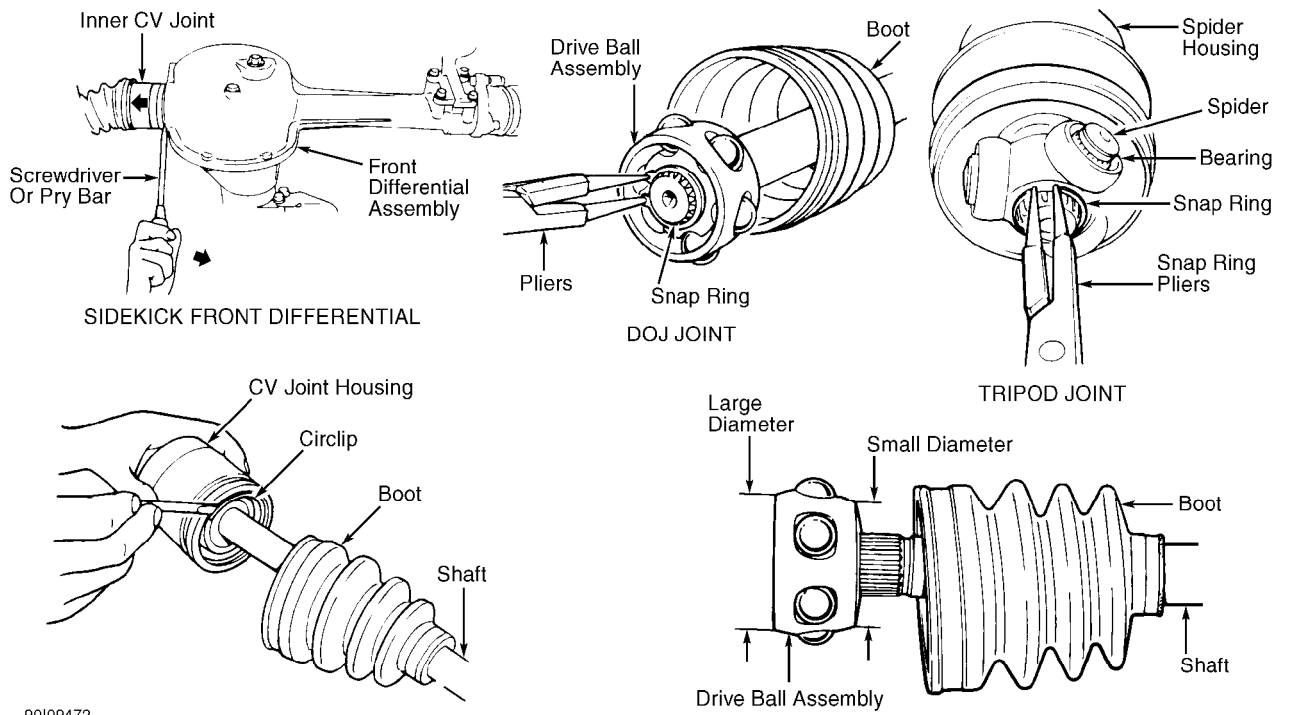


Fig. 2: Reassembling FWD Axle  
Courtesy of Suzuki of America Corp.



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 Fig. 3: Overhauling CV Joints  
 Courtesy of Suzuki of America Corp.

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