

Troubleshooting the Brake System (cont.)

Problem	Cause	Solution
Grabbing brakes (severe reaction to brake pedal pressure.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brakelining(s) contaminated by grease or brake fluid Parking brake cables incorrectly adjusted or seized Incorrect brakelining or lining loose on brakeshoes Caliper anchor plate bolts loose Rear brakeshoes binding on support plate ledges Incorrect or missing power brake reaction disc Rear brake support plates loose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine and correct cause of contamination and replace brakeshoes in axle sets Adjust cables. Replace seized cables. Replace brakeshoes in axle sets Tighten bolts Clean and lubricate ledges. Replace support plate(s) if ledges are deeply grooved. Do not attempt to smooth ledges by grinding. Install correct disc Tighten mounting bolts
Dragging brakes (slow or incomplete release of brakes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brake pedal binding at pivot Power brake unit has internal bind Parking brake cables incorrectly adjusted or seized Rear brakeshoe return springs weak or broken Automatic adjusters malfunctioning Caliper, wheel cylinder or master cylinder pistons sticking or seized Master cylinder compensating ports blocked (fluid does not return to reservoirs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loosen and lubricate Inspect for internal bind. Replace unit if internal bind exists. Adjust cables. Replace seized cables. Replace return springs. Replace brakeshoe if necessary in axle sets. Repair or replace adjuster parts as required Repair or replace parts as necessary Use compressed air to clear ports. Do not use wire, pencils, or similar objects to open blocked ports.
Vehicle moves to one side when brakes are applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorrect front tire pressure Worn or damaged wheel bearings Brakelining on one side contaminated Brakeshoes on one side bent, distorted, or lining loose on shoe Support plate bent or loose on one side Brakelining not yet seated with drums or rotors Caliper anchor plate loose on one side Caliper piston sticking or seized Brakelinings water soaked Loose suspension component attaching or mounting bolts Brake combination valve failure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflate to recommended cold (reduced load) inflation pressure Replace worn or damaged bearings Determine and correct cause of contamination and replace brakelining in axle sets Replace brakeshoes in axle sets Tighten or replace support plate Burnish brakelining Tighten anchor plate bolts Repair or replace caliper Drive vehicle with brakes lightly applied to dry linings Tighten suspension bolts. Replace worn suspension components. Replace combination valve
Chatter or shudder when brakes are applied (pedal pulsation and roughness may also occur.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brakeshoes distorted, bent, contaminated, or worn Caliper anchor plate or support plate loose Excessive thickness variation of rotor(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace brakeshoes in axle sets Tighten mounting bolts Refinish or replace rotors in axle sets