

SUSPENSION & POTHOLES

Suspension systems serve a dual purpose — contributing to the car's road handling and braking for good active safety and driving pleasure, and keeping vehicle occupants comfortable and reasonably well isolated from road noise, bumps, and vibrations, etc. However, drive over too many potholes and you may start noticing changes in riding performance. Review the symptoms below to see what the probable causes are for each.

\$\$ SAVER:

Before you start replacing parts, it's a good idea to check all of the mounting nuts and bolts to be sure the problem isn't being caused by simple looseness!

SYMPTOM:

FLIP-FLOP WHEEL SHIMMY

Wheels seem to wander and wiggle rapidly back and forth

- **Low or uneven tire pressure**
- **One or more wheels out of balance:** have wheels balanced
- **Uneven or excessive tire wear**
- **Vehicle out of alignment**
- **Worn steering components:** inspect tie rods and steering rack for excessive play and repair if needed

SYMPTOM:

WHEEL IS HARD TO TURN

Especially while moving at slow speeds

- **Low power steering fluid**
- **Loose or worn power steering belt**
- **Bad power steering pump**
- **Leaking power steering rack:** inspect steering rack for leaks and replace rack if needed

SYMPTOM:

CAR GOES UP AND DOWN AFTER YOU GO OVER A BUMP

- **Worn shocks or struts:** replace shocks and/or struts
- **Broken or slipped leaf spring:** inspect leaf springs and repair or replace as needed.

SYMPTOM:

PULLING TO ONE SIDE WHILE DRIVING

- **Low or uneven tire pressure**
- **Uneven tire wear:** check front tires for even wear and replace both front tires
- **Alignment:** check and adjust wheel alignment
- **Steering components:** inspect tie rods and steering rack
- **Sticking brake caliper:** inspect brakes for uneven wear or excessive heat and repair as needed



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With the warmer weather comes the inevitable...pot holes, reeking havoc on your vehicle's suspension. Don't go into spring ill-prepared, use the list we are giving you to be on the look out for wear and tear. If you notice any of these symptoms, give us a call and we will do our best to fix the problem and get you back on the road.

Monthly Funny: J E E P stands for Jump Excitedly into Every Pothole

Mark & Darcy

HOURS MON - WED & FRI : 8AM-5PM • THUR : 8AM-9PM