

Spicer 42434

Spicer 42434 Differential Cover Instruction Manual

Genuine OE Replacement Part

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Spicer 42434 Differential Cover. The Spicer 42434 is a genuine Original Equipment (OE) replacement part designed to meet the quality and performance standards of your vehicle's original components. Proper installation and maintenance are crucial for ensuring the longevity and optimal function of your vehicle's differential system.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working on your vehicle. Failure to follow safety guidelines can result in serious injury or damage to the vehicle.

- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands before working underneath it. Never rely solely on a jack.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Allow the differential to cool before servicing to prevent burns from hot fluid.
- Dispose of old differential fluid and gaskets responsibly according to local regulations.
- If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified automotive technician.

3. COMPATIBILITY

The Spicer 42434 Differential Cover is compatible with the following vehicle models:

- 1992 - 1998 Ford F-350
- 1994 - 1996 Dodge RAM 2500
- 1994 - 1996 Dodge RAM 3500

Always verify compatibility with your specific vehicle's make, model, and year before installation.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general steps for replacing a differential cover. Specific procedures may vary by vehicle. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for detailed instructions.

Required Tools and Materials:

- Socket wrench set
- Drain pan
- Scraper or gasket removal tool
- New differential fluid (refer to vehicle specifications)
- Gasket or RTV sealant (as recommended by manufacturer)
- Clean rags
- Torque wrench

Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare the Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and block the wheels. Raise the vehicle and support it securely with jack stands.
2. **Drain Differential Fluid:** Place a drain pan under the differential. Loosen and remove the bolts holding the old differential cover. Carefully pry the cover away from the housing to allow the fluid to drain.
3. **Remove Old Cover and Gasket:** Once the fluid has drained, completely remove the old differential cover. Use a scraper to thoroughly clean the mating surfaces on both the differential housing and the new cover, removing all traces of old gasket material or sealant. Ensure the surfaces are smooth and free of debris.
4. **Inspect Differential Components:** While the cover is off, visually inspect the differential gears and bearings for any signs of wear or damage.
5. **Install New Cover:** Apply a new gasket or a bead of RTV sealant (following manufacturer's instructions) to the clean mating surface of the new Spicer 42434 Differential Cover. Carefully position the new cover onto the differential housing.
6. **Secure Cover Bolts:** Install the cover bolts, tightening them finger-tight in a crisscross pattern.
7. **Torque Bolts:** Using a torque wrench, tighten the bolts to the manufacturer's specified torque settings, again following a crisscross pattern to ensure even pressure. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for exact torque specifications.
8. **Refill Differential Fluid:** Remove the fill plug (if applicable) and add the recommended type and amount of differential fluid until it reaches the bottom of the fill hole. Reinstall the fill plug.
9. **Check for Leaks:** Lower the vehicle and drive it for a short distance. Re-check for any leaks around the differential cover.



Image 1: Top view of the Spicer 42434 Differential Cover, showing the bolt holes and fill plug opening.



Image 2: Underside view of the Spicer 42434 Differential Cover, showing the internal structure and part number.

5. OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

The differential cover is a passive component that protects the differential gears and retains the lubricating fluid. Proper operation relies on correct installation and maintaining adequate fluid levels.

- Ensure the differential is filled with the correct type and amount of fluid as specified by your vehicle manufacturer.
- Regularly check for leaks around the differential cover, especially after off-road use or heavy towing.
- Avoid impacts to the differential cover, as damage can lead to fluid leaks and potential differential failure.

6. MAINTENANCE

Routine maintenance of your differential cover and the differential system is essential for optimal performance and longevity.

- **Fluid Level Check:** Periodically check the differential fluid level. This is typically done by removing the fill plug; the fluid level should be at the bottom of the fill hole.
- **Fluid Change:** Follow your vehicle manufacturer's recommendations for differential fluid change intervals. This usually involves draining the old fluid, cleaning the cover and housing, and refilling with new fluid.
- **Leak Inspection:** Visually inspect the differential cover and surrounding area for any signs of fluid leaks during routine vehicle inspections. Address any leaks promptly to prevent differential damage.
- **Damage Inspection:** Check the cover for dents, cracks, or other physical damage that could compromise its integrity or lead to leaks.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Common issues related to differential covers are typically associated with fluid leaks.

Issue: Differential Fluid Leak

Possible Causes:

- Improperly installed gasket or sealant.
- Damaged or old gasket.
- Loose cover bolts.
- Cracked or damaged differential cover.
- Overfilled differential fluid.

Solutions:

- Re-torque cover bolts to specifications.
- If leaks persist, drain fluid, remove cover, clean mating surfaces, and reinstall with a new gasket or fresh sealant.
- Inspect the cover for damage; replace if necessary.
- Ensure correct fluid level.

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, consult a professional mechanic.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Part Number	42434
Brand	Spicer
Model	42434
Item Weight	6.01 pounds
Product Dimensions	12.6 x 12.3 x 7.8 inches

Attribute	Detail
Country Of Origin	Brazil
Type	Genuine OE Replacement

9. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Spicer products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty details, including coverage period and terms, please refer to the official Spicer website or contact their customer support directly. Retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

10. SUPPORT

If you have questions regarding the Spicer 42434 Differential Cover, installation, or require technical assistance, please visit the official Spicer website or contact their customer service department. Contact information can typically be found on the manufacturer's website.

Spicer Official Website: www.dana.com/aftermarket/spicer