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> Dorman 697-987 Front Driver Side Steering Knuckle Instruction Manual

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Model: 697-987 | Brand: Dorman

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Dorman 697-987 Front Driver Side Steering Knuckle is a precision-engineered component designed to directly replace the original knuckle on specific vehicle models. This part is rigorously tested to ensure reliable performance and longevity, meeting strict manufacturing standards using durable materials.

Key features include:

- **Direct replacement:** Designed to replace the original knuckle on specific vehicles.
- **Reliable fit:** Precision-engineered to match the dimensions of original components.
- **Trustworthy construction:** Manufactured to strict standards using durable materials.
- **Rigorously tested:** Thorough quality control measures ensure longevity.



Image: The Dorman 697-987 Front Driver Side Steering Knuckle, showcasing its robust design and mounting points.

VEHICLE COMPATIBILITY

This steering knuckle is compatible with the following vehicles. Before purchasing or installing, it is crucial to confirm fitment for your exact vehicle's make, model, and trim level.

- **Kia Rio:** 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
- **Kia Rio5:** 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

UNDERSTANDING STEERING KNUCKLES AND SPINDLES

Steering knuckles and spindles are critical components of a vehicle's suspension and steering system. They serve several important functions, including providing a mounting point for the wheel hub, brake caliper, and suspension components, as well as facilitating steering movement.

While knuckles, being solid metal castings, do not frequently require service, they may need replacement due to:

- **Impact Damage:** A significant impact, such as hitting a curb, can cause cracks or deformation, especially in aluminum knuckles.
- **Bearing Replacement Issues:** Improper bearing replacement can wear out the bearing pocket, leading to a loose wheel bearing and necessitating knuckle replacement.
- **Component Failure:** Failure of associated components like bushings or ball joints can also lead to the need for knuckle replacement, particularly in aluminum items where the risk of damage during component removal is high.

Sourcing used knuckles from salvage yards often presents risks, as these parts may have pre-existing issues or require additional waiting time for dismantling and delivery. Similarly, traditional spindle-equipped vehicles can experience damage to the spindle shaft during the extraction of inner bearing races.



Image: Rear view of the Dorman 697-987 Steering Knuckle, showing the hub and bearing assembly area.

DORMAN'S SOLUTION AND ADVANTAGES

Dorman offers steering knuckles and spindles in two primary formats to cater to various repair needs:

- **Bare/Unloaded Knuckles:** These are fresh knuckles designed to accept new mating components, suitable for traditional repairs.
- **OE Fix Loaded Knuckles:** These pre-assembled units are particularly beneficial for both commercial shops and DIY enthusiasts. They eliminate the need for a shop press and reduce waiting time for individual components, allowing for same-day job completion. This efficiency can increase bay throughput for shops and offer a lower labor bill to customers, improving repair approval rates.

Dorman's commitment to quality is paramount. They conduct diligent analysis of their products and those of competitors, including independent third-party testing. This rigorous testing ensures that Dorman's parts meet or exceed industry standards for material composition, elongation, hardness, and ultimate tensile strength, providing superior value and reliability.

INSTALLATION GUIDANCE

Installation of a steering knuckle typically requires specialized tools and automotive knowledge. It is recommended that this procedure be performed by a qualified technician.

When replacing the steering knuckle, ensure all mating components are in good condition. Dorman also offers a comprehensive range of supporting parts necessary for servicing this area of the vehicle, including:

- Dust caps
- Cotter pins
- Castellated nuts
- Spindle washers

Having all necessary parts on hand ensures a complete and efficient repair.

MAINTENANCE

Regular inspection of your vehicle's suspension and steering components is crucial for maintaining safety and performance. Pay attention to any unusual noises, vibrations, or changes in steering feel. Address any signs of wear or damage promptly to prevent further issues and ensure the longevity of your steering knuckle and related parts.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience any of the following symptoms, it may indicate an issue with your steering knuckle or related suspension components:

- Unusual noises (e.g., clunking, grinding) from the wheel area.
- Excessive play or looseness in the wheel.
- Uneven tire wear.
- Vehicle pulling to one side.
- Difficulty steering or loose steering feel.

If any of these symptoms occur, it is recommended to have your vehicle inspected by a professional technician to diagnose and address the problem.

SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Manufacturer	Dorman Products
Brand	Dorman
Model	Dorman 697-987: Left Steering Knuckle
Item Weight	6.25 pounds
Product Dimensions	10.8 x 9 x 6.1 inches
Item model number	697-987
Exterior	Machined
Manufacturer Part Number	697-987
OEM Part Number	517151G100
Hollander Number	515-50115BL

ASIN	B00IWR3R08
Date First Available	March 10, 2014

WARRANTY & SUPPORT

Dorman is committed to providing high-quality automotive replacement parts. For specific warranty information or technical support regarding your Dorman 697-987 Steering Knuckle, please refer to the official Dorman website or contact their customer service directly.

You can also visit the [Dorman Store on Amazon](#) for more products and information.