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› Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft Instruction Manual for Dodge Nitro and Jeep Liberty

Dorman 630-020

Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft Instruction Manual

Compatible with Select Dodge Nitro and Jeep Liberty Models

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft is engineered as a direct replacement component for specific vehicle applications. This part is designed to restore the proper function of your vehicle's drivetrain by replacing a damaged or worn original equipment axle shaft.

1.1. Compatibility

This axle shaft is compatible with the following vehicle models and years:

- **Dodge Nitro:** 2009, 2010, 2011
- **Jeep Liberty:** 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Always verify fitment using your vehicle's make, model, and trim level before installation.

1.2. Key Features

- **Direct Replacement:** Designed to match the fit and function of the original equipment axle shaft.
- **Complete Kit:** Includes necessary installation hardware and components for specific vehicle applications.
- **Durable Construction:** Manufactured to rigorous standards to ensure reliable performance and longevity.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Upon unpacking, ensure all components are present and undamaged:

- 1 x Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft
- 1 x Axle Bearing Assembly
- 1 x Axle Seal



Image 1: Full view of the Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft. This image displays the complete axle shaft, including the flange and splined end, ready for installation.

3. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Installation of a drive axle shaft requires specialized tools and automotive knowledge. It is highly recommended that this procedure be performed by a qualified automotive technician.

3.1. Safety Precautions

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands or a lift before beginning work. Never rely solely on a jack.
- Disconnect the vehicle's battery to prevent accidental electrical discharge.
- Allow hot components to cool before handling.

3.2. General Installation Steps (Professional Installation Recommended)

1. Safely lift and support the vehicle.
2. Remove the wheel and brake assembly to access the axle.
3. Drain the differential fluid if necessary, depending on the axle design.
4. Remove the differential cover or access plate to expose the C-clip (if applicable).
5. Remove the retaining bolts or clips securing the old axle shaft.
6. Carefully slide the old axle shaft out of the axle housing.
7. Inspect the axle housing and differential components for any damage or wear.
8. Install the new axle seal and bearing assembly as provided with the Dorman 630-020.
9. Carefully slide the new Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft into the axle housing, ensuring the splines engage correctly with the differential.
10. Secure the axle shaft with the appropriate retaining bolts or C-clip.
11. Reinstall the differential cover (with a new gasket and proper sealant) and refill with the correct type and amount of differential fluid.
12. Reassemble the brake components and wheel.
13. Lower the vehicle and perform a test drive to ensure proper function and check for any leaks or unusual noises.



Image 2: Close-up view of the flange end of the Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft. This end connects to the wheel hub assembly.



Image 3: Close-up view of the splined end of the Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft. This end engages with the differential gears.

4. FUNCTION OF THE DRIVE AXLE SHAFT

The drive axle shaft is a critical component of a vehicle's drivetrain, responsible for transmitting power from the differential to the wheels. In a rear-wheel-drive or four-wheel-drive vehicle, the rear axle shafts connect the differential's side gears to the wheel hubs, allowing the wheels to rotate and propel the vehicle. Proper functioning of the axle shaft ensures smooth power delivery and vehicle mobility.

5. MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

While the Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft is designed for durability, regular vehicle maintenance contributes to its longevity and overall vehicle safety.

- **Regular Inspections:** During routine vehicle service, have a technician inspect the axle shafts for signs of damage, bending, or excessive play.
- **Differential Fluid:** Ensure the differential fluid is maintained at the correct level and changed according to the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations. Low or contaminated fluid can lead to premature wear of differential components and axle shaft splines.
- **Axle Seals:** Periodically check for leaks around the axle seals. Leaking seals can lead to fluid loss and potential damage to the axle bearing and differential.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

If you experience issues after axle shaft replacement or suspect a problem with your axle shaft, consider the following:

- **Vibration:** If vibrations occur, especially at certain speeds, it could indicate an improperly installed axle shaft, a bent shaft, or issues with other drivetrain components.
- **Unusual Noises:** Clunking, clicking, or grinding noises from the rear of the vehicle can suggest problems with the axle shaft, bearings, or differential.
- **Fluid Leaks:** Leaks around the wheel end or differential housing indicate a faulty axle seal or improper installation.

If any of these symptoms are observed, it is crucial to have the vehicle inspected by a qualified technician immediately to prevent further damage or safety hazards.

7. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Manufacturer	Dorman Products
Brand	Dorman
Model Number	630-020
Item Weight	20.1 pounds
Product Dimensions	38.5 x 7.8 x 7.8 inches
Manufacturer Part Number	630-020
OEM Part Number	52114548AC; 6036668AA

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding the Dorman 630-020 Drive Axle Shaft, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Dorman Products website. For technical support or assistance with product-related inquiries, please contact Dorman customer service directly.

You can find more information and contact details on the [Dorman Store on Amazon](#).

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