



98-5A, *Publication Date: MARCH 18, 1998*

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Brakes - Preventing Brake Vibration - Service Tip</b></li><li>• <b>Wheels - Proper Lug Torque Procedures - Service Tip</b></li></ul> | <b>Article No.<br/>98-5A-4</b> |
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**FORD:**

1972-97 THUNDERBIRD  
1976-86 LTD  
1976-97 MUSTANG  
1981-97 CROWN VICTORIA  
1982-88 EXP  
1982-98 ESCORT  
1984-94 TEMPO  
1986-97 TAURUS  
1988-93 FESTIVA  
1989-97 PROBE  
1994-97 ASPIRE  
1995-98 CONTOUR

**LINCOLN-MERCURY:**

1979-83 MONARCH, ZEPHYR  
1979-97 COUGAR  
1980-83 MARK VI  
1980-98 CONTINENTAL, TOWN CAR  
1981-86 LYNX  
1983-86 MARQUIS  
1984-92 MARK VII  
1984-94 TOPAZ  
1986-97 SABLE  
1987-89 TRACER  
1987-97 GRAND MARQUIS  
1991-94 CAPRI  
1991-97 TRACER  
1993-98 MARK VIII  
1995-98 MYSTIQUE

**LIGHT TRUCK:**

1979-96 BRONCO  
1979-97 ECONOLINE, F-150-350 SERIES  
1984-90 BRONCO II  
1984-97 RANGER  
1986-97 AEROSTAR  
1988-97 F SUPER DUTY  
1991-97 EXPLORER  
1993-97 VILLAGER  
1995-98 WINDSTAR  
1997 EXPEDITION  
1998 NAVIGATOR

**ISSUE:**

The use of air impact tools to tighten wheel lug nuts can lead to overtightened and/or unevenly tightened wheel

lug nuts. Air impact tools typically used for wheel lug nut removal and installation can generate up to 475 N-m (350 lb-ft) of torque. Overtightened and/or unevenly torqued wheel lug nuts may cause:

- Brake vibration
- Distortion of the wheel hub
- Distortion of the brake rotor
- Brake rotor runout
- Damage to the wheel
- Damage to the wheel nuts and studs

**ACTION:**

All wheel lug nuts should only be tightened to specification using a torque wrench or by using the Rotunda ACCUTORQ 164-R0314 or equivalent on a 1/2" drive air impact tool. The "ACCUTORQ" lug nut sockets limit the torque of the air impact tool, preventing overtightening or uneven tightening of the wheel lug nuts. The torque limiting devices (regulators) on air impact tools will not reduce the output torque enough to prevent overtightening of the wheel lug nuts.

**NOTE:**

REFER TO THE APPROPRIATE SERVICE MANUAL OR THE CHART IN FIGURE 1 FOR THE CORRECT WHEEL LUG NUT TORQUE SPECIFICATION. THE CHART IN FIGURE 1 ALSO PROVIDES THE CORRECT "ACCUTORQ" LUG NUT SOCKET TO USE.

**ACCUTORQ SOCKETS**

<b>VEHICLE</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>LB-FT TORQUE</b>	<b>TOOL COLOR</b>
<b>FORD</b>				
Aspire	1994-97	21mm	80	Light Brown
Contour	1995-98	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Crown Victoria	1981-97	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Escort ZX2	1998	21mm	80	Light Brown
Escort	1991-98	21mm	80	Light Brown
Escort	1982-90	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
EXP	1982-88	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Festiva	1988-93	21mm	80	Light Brown
Granada	1975-82	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
LTD	1978-86	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Mustang	1976-97	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Probe	1989-97	21mm	80	Light Brown
Taurus	1986-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Tempo	1984-94	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Thunderbird	1987-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Thunderbird	1972-86	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
<b>LINCOLN</b>				
All Models	1980-88	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
<b>MERCURY</b>				
Capri	1991-94	21mm	80	Light Brown
Capri	1979-86	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Cougar	1987-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Cougar	1979-86	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Lynx	1981-86	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Marquis	1983-86	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Mystique	1985-88	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Monarch, Zephyr	1979-83	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Sable	1986-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Topaz	1984-94	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Tracer	1991-97	21mm	80	Light Brown
Tracer	1987-89	21mm	80	Light Brown
Grand Marquis	1987-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
<b>LIGHT TRUCK</b>				
E-150/F-150	1979-97	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
E/F-250/350	1989-97	7/8"	140	Turquoise
E/F-250/350 (Dual Rears)	1994-97	7/8"	140	Turquoise
F-Super Duty	1988-97		140	N/A
Aerostar	1986-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Bronco	1979-96	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Bronco II	1984-90	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Courier	1979-83	21mm	65	Black
Explorer	1991-97	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Ranger	1984-97	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Windstar	1995-98	13/16"	100	Dark Brown
Villager	1993-97	21mm	80	Light Brown
Expedition	1997	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey
Navigator	1998	19mm-3/4"	100	Grey

**Figure 1 - Article 98-5A-4**

The "ACCUTORQ" socket is intended for lug nut installation, not removal. When using the "ACCUTORQ" socket, the output torque of the air impact tool must be set to 217-339 N-m (160-250 lb-ft), usually this will be the lowest setting on the air impact tool.

The "ACCUTORQ" lug nut sockets are available through Rotunda Equipment. The four-piece set (164-R0314) fits most Ford Motor Company cars and light trucks. The tool set consists of four (4) lug nut sockets and a storage case. The set can be ordered by calling Rotunda Equipment at 1-800-ROT-UNDA (768-8632).

**CAUTION:**

**AIR IMPACT TOOLS SHOULD NOT BE USED TO TIGHTEN WHEEL LUG NUTS UNLESS THE "ACCUTORQ" LUG NUT SOCKET OF THE CORRECT SPECIFICATION IS USED.**

**NOTE:**

DO NOT USE AIR IMPACT TOOLS ON LOCKING WHEEL LUG NUTS. THEY ARE TO BE HAND-TORQUED ONLY.

**OTHER APPLICABLE ARTICLES:** NONE

**SUPERSEDES:** 97-17-6

**WARRANTY STATUS:** INFORMATION ONLY

**OASIS CODES:** 301000, 303000, 306000

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