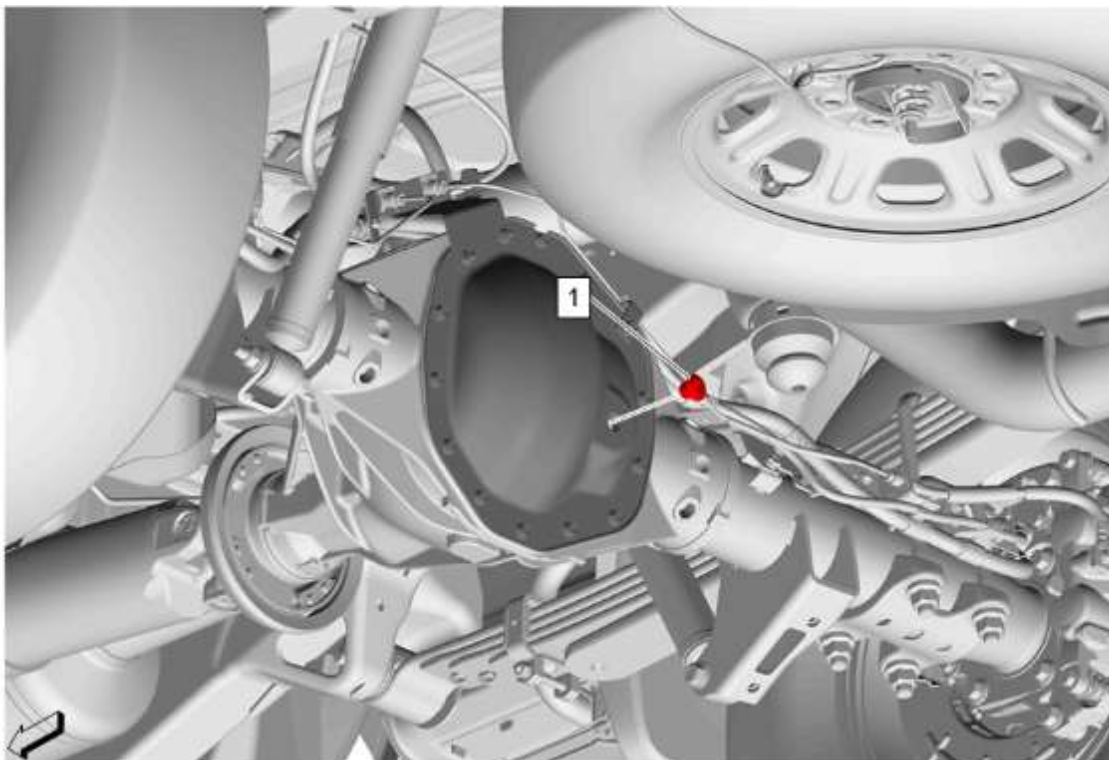


Rear Axle Lubricant Level Inspection

Note: All axle assemblies are filled by volume of fluid during production. They are not filled to reach a certain level. When checking the fluid level on any axle, variations in the readings can be caused by factory fill differences between the minimum and the maximum fluid volume. Also, if a vehicle has just been driven before checking the fluid level, it may appear lower than normal because the fluid has traveled out along the axle tubes and has not drained back to the sump area. Therefore, a reading taken five minutes after the vehicle has been driven will appear to have a lower fluid level than a vehicle that has been stationary for an hour or two. Remember that the rear axle assembly must be supported to get a true reading.

1. Raise and support the vehicle. [Lifting and Jacking the Vehicle](#)
2. Make sure the vehicle is level.



3. Clean the area around the rear axle fill plug.
4. Rear Axle Housing Fill Plug (1) » Remove

Note: The axle lube that is used may appear dark in color and may leave a dark film on the internal components. This darkened color does not affect the durability of the lube nor will it adversely affect the oil from providing the necessary lubrication it was designed to do. This darkened oil does not need to be replaced unless there is a strong burnt oil smell to the lube. If the oil has a strong burnt oil smell, then all components would need to be visually inspected and any parts that are damaged would then need to be replaced along with the oil.

5. Inspect the axle lubricant level, it should be **0 – 10 mm (0 – 0.4 in)** below the fill plug opening.
6. If the axle lubricant level is low, add lubricant until the level is **0 – 10 mm (0 – 0.4 in)** below the fill plug opening. Use the appropriate axle lubricant: [Adhesives, Fluids, Lubricants, and Sealers](#)

Caution: Refer to [Component Fastener Tightening Caution](#)

7. Rear Axle Housing Fill Plug (1) » Install and tighten — [Fastener Specifications](#)