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Supporting Today's Vehicle Technician

Weak or No Booster Assist Due to Vac Hose Problems

Application All vehicles equipped with vacuum brake boosters.

Problem Weak or no power assist.

Cause Insufficient vacuum volume to operate booster at maximum efficiency.

Solution Check vacuum draw available with a gauge connected between engine and booster. At idle, healthy engines draw somewhere between 17 and 22 in Hg.

Check vacuum by depressing brake pedal firmly until it stops. The gauge should read a drop to approximately 10 in. Hg and then quickly recover to a normal reading. If vacuum takes too long to recover, there is a restriction in the volume, i.e.: fitting clogged or vacuum hose collapsed. Repair as necessary.

Note While a defective booster will cause a hard pedal, a spongy or low pedal requires a hydraulic system check.

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