

# **TROUBLE TRACER – BRAKE PADS**



#### **PAD CONTAMINATION**

**APPEARANCE** Friction material is contaminated with either oil, grease or brake fluid

- CAUSE Spillage during maintenance, or fluid that has leaked from the caliper
- **EFFECT** The vehicle pulls to one side during braking
- Reduction in braking performance
- **REMEDY** Identify and repair cause of contamination
  - Replace the brake pad set



### **RUSTY PADS**

APPEARANCE Rust between the friction material and back plate

**CAUSE** A brake pad sticking in the caliper bracket when braking flexes the back plate, cracking the friction material. Corrosion worsens this, separating the friction material and back plate

**EFFECT** • Noise and soft pedal feel

- Once material has separated, brakes will not work
- **REMEDY** Replace brake pad set
  - Clean and maintain caliper to ensure the pad fits freely into the caliper during installation



#### **CRACKED PADS**

**APPEARANCE** Small cracks in the centre of the pad

- **CAUSE** The cracks indicate that the caliper is sticking. The piston bends the back plate causing the back plate to flex, cracking the friction material
- **EFFECT** Noise while braking
  - Uneven pad wear
  - Vehicle pulling to one side during braking
  - Overheating on 1 side of the vehicle
- **REMEDY** Maintain and service the caliper
  - Replace the brake pad set



### **GLAZING**

**APPEARANCE** The brake pad friction material is glazed

- **CAUSE** High intermittent pad temperature over short time periods • Overly harsh braking during the bedding-in period
- **EFFECT** Temporary reductions in brake performance
- **REMEDY** If light glazing is evident, no action is required If heavy glazing is evident, replace brake pad set
  - Check the disc condition



### **TAPERED PADS**

- **APPEARANCE** Uneven wear or tapered pads **CAUSE** • The caliper is distorted and the caliper slides are sticking Excessive caliper clearance
  - **EFFECT** Premature pad wear and noise while braking • Uneven braking pressure

**REMEDY** Replace pad set and maintain & service caliper Note: Some vehicles use pads that are tapered by design. Refer to vehicle application to determine if they are outside normal degree of taper



#### EDGE CRUMBLING

| APPEARANCE | Uneven wear pattern on t                                                                                     |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CAUSE      | Brake pad is sticking with<br>pad to stay in contact with<br>pad temperature                                 |
| EFFECT     | Pad surface may glaze rec                                                                                    |
| REMEDY     | <ul> <li>Investigate cause of cali</li> <li>Maintain the caliper</li> <li>Replace the brake pad s</li> </ul> |

## **UNEVEN WEAR – WEAR LIP**

**APPEARANCE** Uneven wear on the pad surface

| <b>CAUSE</b> An irregularly worn brake this pattern of wear on the      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul><li>EFFECT • Squeal and Judder</li><li>Premature pad wear</li></ul> |
| SOLUTION Replace pads and discs                                         |

#### FARANOF Domogod pode

| PEARANCE | Damaged pads         |      |
|----------|----------------------|------|
| CAUSE    | • These "handed" pad | ls a |
|          | set, and need to be  | fitt |

- the caliper
- **EFFECT** Damaged pads Reduced brake performance
- inserted diagram

### WORN OUT PADS

| APPEARANCE | The friction material is con                                             |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CAUSE      | There has been no regular maintenance                                    |
| EFFECT     | <ul> <li>The vehicle pulls to one</li> <li>Damage to the disc</li> </ul> |

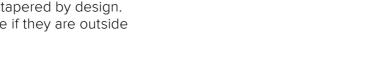
- **SOLUTION** Check the disc for damage

# BACK PLATE DAMAGE

**APPEARANCE** Damaged back plate

**EFFECT** • Braking efficiency Irregular pad wear Noise & judder

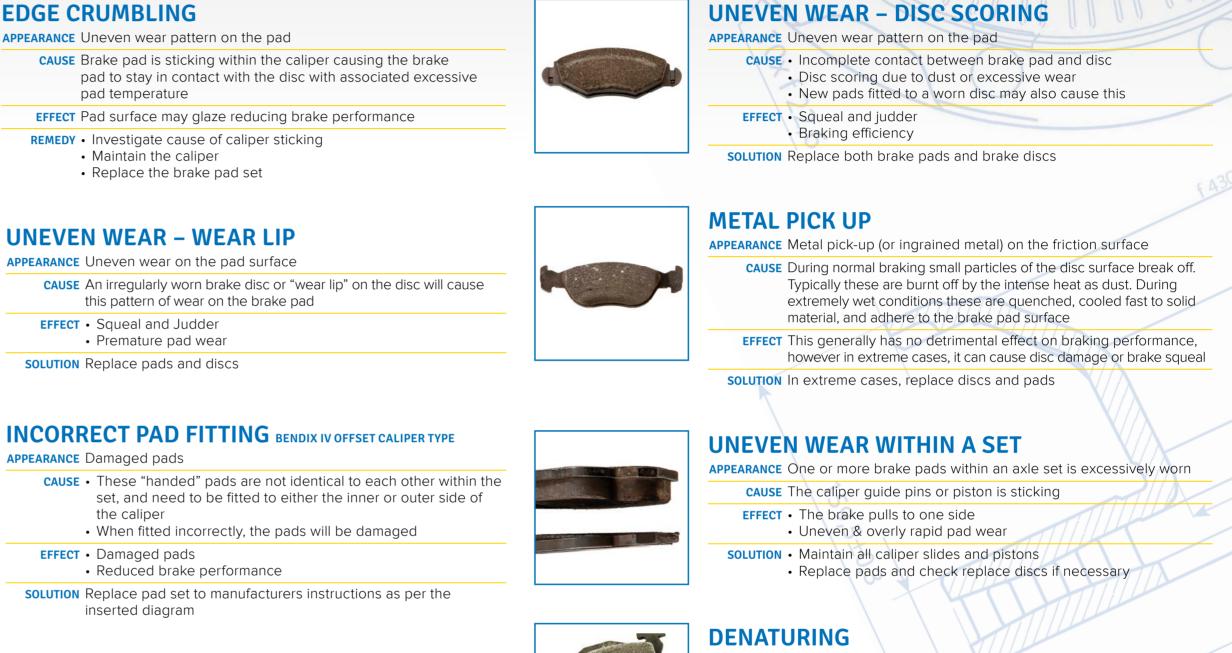
**SOLUTION** Replace the brake pad set











mpletely worn out ar check of pad wear or proper brake

side during braking

• High squeal and other brake noise

• Replace pad set and the disc if it has suffered damage

CAUSE Incorrect assembly, or excessive force used during fitting

| APPEARANCE | Partially charred or burnt friction material (will show whitish outer edges)                                                                                              |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CAUSE      | Prolonged excessive pad temperature due to intensive use or dragging of the brake pad on the disc                                                                         |
| EFFECT     | <ul> <li>Reduction in initial brake efficiency</li> <li>Excessive material deterioration and abnormal wear</li> <li>Material becomes brittle, chips and cracks</li> </ul> |
| SOLUTION   | <ul> <li>Investigate cause for overheating of brake pad</li> <li>If damage is not excessive, pads will be effective under normal use</li> </ul>                           |

If the damage is extensive replace brake pad set

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