

Grease 'Em Up



Dear Half-Mast,

Do we use gear oil or grease when we install the rear tandem wheel bearings on a HEMTT? The technical manual says gear oil, but some of our unit's senior mechanics want to use grease.

SFC M.S.F.



Dear SFC M.S.F.,

Your question reminds me of the time a buddy replaced wheel bearings on the rear end of his old '67 Chrysler. Within a week those bearings were toast! He found out the hard way that an initial lube with grease was needed to install those bearings.

Well, the same goes for the rear tandem wheel bearings on your HEMTT. Grease is used as an initial lubricant until the gear oil from the axle and differential gets to those bearings. By the way, you'll find this info in Para 12-2 of TM 9-2320-279-20-2. And you don't have to re-grease the bearings on a scheduled basis.

Half-Mast