

REAR AXLE

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The design of all rear axle gear assemblies used on 1955 cars is identical to those used in 1954, although the gear ratios for different series vary to provide optimum performance and economy on all models. The 3.36 to 1 ratio rear axle

gear assembly is used as standard equipment on the 1955-62 and 60S Series cars. A 3.07 to 1 ratio axle is available for these models when ordered with the car. The rear axle ratio for the 75 Series is 3.77 to 1, and 4.27 to 1 for the 86 Series.

SPECIFICATIONS

Subject and Remarks	55-62, 60S	55-75	55-86
Axle shaft length			
Left (has left hand threaded wheel studs in flange)	30-1/4"	30-1/4"	32-3/4"
Right	32-1/2"	32-1/2"	35"
Runout (at ground surface near splines) not to exceed	.006"	.006"	.006"
Backlash - pinion and ring gear	.003"-.010"	.003"-.010"	.003"-.010"
Distance - outer face of flange to inner end of bearing inner race	3.075"-3.085"	3.075"-3.085"	
Minimum road clearance (under center of axle housing)	8"	8-1/4"	9"
Gear Ratio			
Standard	3.36-1	3.77-1	4.27-1
Optional	3.07-1		

TORQUE TIGHTNESS

Location	Size	Ft. Lbs. Min.	Ft. Lbs. Max.
Spring U-bolts	Special	45	52
Brake backing plate to axle housing (55-86 Comm.)	7/16-20	55	60
Brake backing plate to axle housing (55-62, 60S, 75)	3/8-24	35	40
Axle shaft hub nuts (86 Comm.)	1-14	285	315
Differential carrier to axle housing	3/8-24	30	40
Pinion shaft nut	7/8-14	200 Min.	
Universal joint screws	5/16-24	18	22
Intermediate propeller shaft yoke nut (75 & 86 Comm.)	1/2-20	40*	50*
Differential carrier pedestal clamp screw	1/2-20	50	60

* Back off 1/2 turn. See Note 10b, Step 5, 1954 Shop Manual.

OTHER NOTES AND REFERENCES
