

Trouble Tracer Brake Pads

Brake specialists Ferodo have produced a useful fault diagnosis chart to highlight the issues that can result from incorrect brake pad fitment, pad handling and other brake problems. Below are some of the examples from the chart.



Pad Contamination (1) Appearance

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

Cause

Spillage during maintenance, or fluid that has leaked from the caliper

Effects

The vehicle pulls to one side during brakingReduction in braking performance

Remedy

- Identify and repair cause of contamination
- Replace the brake pad set



Glazing (2)

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 reduction 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



Uneven Wear/Wear Lip (3) Appearance

Uneven wear on the pad surface

Cause

An irregularly worn brake disc or "wear lip" on the disc will cause this pattern of wear on the brake pad **Effects**

Squeal and Judder

Premature pad wear

Remedy

Replace brake discs and pad



Back Plate Damage (4)

Appearance

Damaged back plate

Cause

Incorrect assembly, or excessive force used during fitting

Effect

- Braking efficiency
- Irregular pad wear
- Noise & judder

Remedy

Replace the brake pad set



Uneven Wear Within a Set (5) Appearance

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One or more brake pads within an axle set is excessively worn

Cause

The caliper guide pins or piston is sticking **Effect**

- The brake pulls to one side
- Uneven & overly rapid pad wear

Remedy

Maintain all caliper slides and pistons

• Replace pads and check/replace discs if necessary



Rusty Pads (6) 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 also 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



Tapered Pads (7) 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 their normal degree of taper

You can contact Ferodo Technical Support on 00800 333 7256, support@etcc.tech or at Ferodo.com. The Fault Diagnosis Chart that these faults were taken from can be downloaded from Techtips.ie.

