

Name _____

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1) What is the purpose of a track rod?

2) What are the disadvantages of a solid rear axle?

3) What is meant by "dog tracking"?

4) What must be done to ensure safety when replacing the rear shock absorbers?

5) What is the purpose of a torque arm?

Answer Key

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- 1) A track rod is a rod attached to the body or frame on one end and the rear axle on the other. The purpose of the track rod is to keep the rear axle centered under the vehicle. The suspension may use either coil springs or struts.
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- 2) Solid rear axles have the following disadvantages: high unsprung weight, side-to-side shock transference, and reduced tire adhesion.
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- 3) Dog tracking refers to the sideways angle of the vehicle while traveling straight. It is commonly caused by the rear axle steering the vehicle toward one side, while the driver controls the direction of the vehicle with the front wheels.
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- 4) When replacing rear shock absorbers, the rear axle must be supported by tall safety standards to prevent the rear axle from dropping when the shocks are removed.
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- 5) A torque arm absorbs engine torque and reduces axle windup.
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