

1965-1996 DIFFERENTIAL BREAK-IN PROCEDURES

1965-1996 Corvette Differential Break-In Procedures

WARNING: Removal of the center pin when installing axles, front driveshaft yoke or any parts inside your rebuilt differential will void warranty.

Street Use

When you first get your new Zip differential, check to make sure you are filling it up with the proper fluid. We highly recommend Driven Oil gear oil, part number MG-275*. You cannot use synthetic fluid for break-in. Failing to use the proper fluid can result in premature gear wear and/or failure and will not be covered under any warranty. It should take about 2¼ quarts of gear oil. Fill the differential through the fill plug until oil starts coming out of the fill hole. Once filled, you can start to do the break-in procedure.

1. Your first drive must be short, about 10 minutes, just to warm up the oil and get it circulating in the differential. You are going to want to pull the fill plug and add any oil needed to top it off.
2. The second trip should be only 30-40 miles of normal highway driving; you do not want to exceed 65. If you have a 4.11 or 4.33, keep it down to 55 mph. Repeat this procedure three more times.
3. After finishing the initial break-in procedure, your Corvette can be driven for unlimited distances but do not apply high loads to the differential for the first 500 miles. High loads such as full throttle launches, drag racing, road racing or any type of driving where throttle and traction are factors. You must first put an easy 500 miles on the differential.
4. Once you have reached the 500-mile break-in, drain the fluids and refill the differential with 75w-90 synthetic lube with friction additive. Zip highly recommend Driven Oil Synthetic fluid, our part number MG-276.

*Break in oil MG-275 does not include any additive, so you will need one bottle of part number POSI additive.

Road Racing Use

For road racing applications, you will not be able to properly break in your Corvette's differential. Zip suggests filling the differential with Driven Oil gear oil, part number MG-275. Go out during warmup and run a 20-minute warmup but keep the car at a safe cruising speed on the track without hard acceleration. Follow this procedure for two sessions. Once warm up sessions are completed, change fluids to Driven Oil synthetic gear oil, Zip number MG-276.

Drag Racing Use

We understand that some drag cars will not be able to successfully do the break-in because they are not streetable. We recommend you drive it around the pits to get the gear oil lubricating the bearings and clutches. Make a couple of easy passes just so the differential can get temperature and cool down time. Keep the break in oil in the differential for approx. 10 passes before changing over to Driven synthetic gear oil. If this is a street car that you drag race, please follow the break in procedures for the street.

There is no warranty on race application differentials. Please take precautions and make some easy passes before attempting a full launch on the differential.

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