

# Prevent premature bearing failures on 1990-78 Chrysler FWD

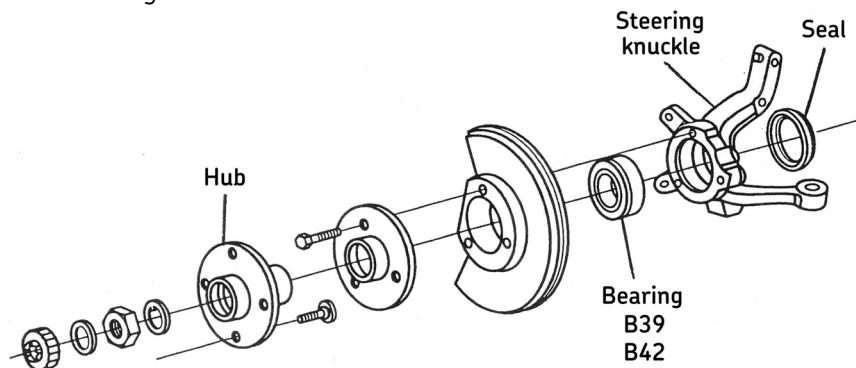
TT 08-027

August 2008

## Tech tip

Proper installation procedures on 1990-1978 Chrysler FWD front wheel bearings will prevent comebacks and premature failures. Applications that use SKF bearing numbers B39 and B42 are affected (see figure 1). After the old bearing is removed from the steering knuckle, per manufacturers' instructions, clean and lubricate the bearing pocket before installing the new bearing.

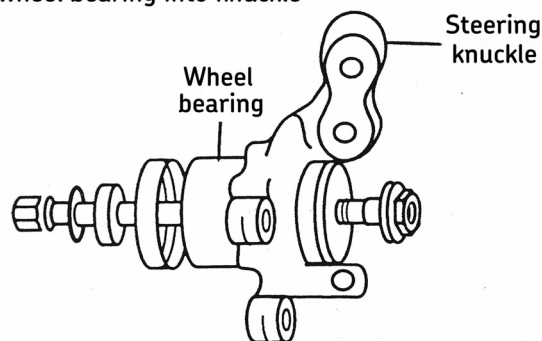
Figure 1



The first step in reassembly is to install the new bearing into the steering knuckle via pressure on the outer race only (see figure 2). Next, install the hub into the bearing and knuckle assembly, making sure the inner race is supported during assembly. **Caution: not supporting the inner race or hammering in the bearing will put flat spots in the race which will lead to brinelling and premature failure of the bearing.**

Install wheel bearing into knuckle

Figure 2



**Do not tighten the spindle nut with an impact wrench.** The torque spec (180 ft-lbs) is very important because it sets bearing preload.

SKF Vehicle Service Market North America  
890 N. State St., Suite 200  
Elgin, IL 60123  
1-800-882-0008



Install confidence  
[www.vsm.skf.com](http://www.vsm.skf.com)