



GENERAL SERVICE BULLETIN

Power Running Board (PRB) Deployment Concerns - Grinding Noise, Auto Reversal And/Or Stopping In Mid-Travel

18-7081
05 December
2018

Model:

Ford 2015-2019 F-150
2017-2019 F-Super Duty
2015-2019 Expedition
Lincoln 2015-2019 Navigator

Summary

Power Running Board Cleaning And Maintenance

Service Instruction

Some 2015-2019 F-150/Expedition/Navigator and 2017-2019 F-Super Duty vehicles equipped with power running boards may exhibit a grinding noise, auto reversal and/or stopping in mid-travel during deployment. This article will provide cleaning and maintenance instructions to help prevent these types of concerns.

Cleaning:

Fully deploy the running boards and inspect the tracks for signs of dirt or debris. The manual deployment procedure can be found in the vehicle's Owner's Manual. If the running boards will not fully deploy, extend the running boards by hand by placing downward force on the running board as it deploys.

If there is dirt/debris buildup, clean between the links and bushing ends/tracks using high-pressure water. The use of a car wash wand is best to prevent excessive water pressure from damaging nearby components.

Example of a dirt/debris covered running board (Figure 1)

Figure 1



Clean running board after pressure washing (Figure 2)

Figure 2



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Using a penetrating grease like Motorcraft® Penetrating and Lock Lubricant to clean the bushing locations of both running board hinges. This will help remove any embedded rust/debris that pressure washing may not have removed. If any leftover debris/rust is present after using the penetrating grease, use a pressure washer once more to help remove it.

Example of using the penetrating and lock lubricant (Figure 3)

Figure 3



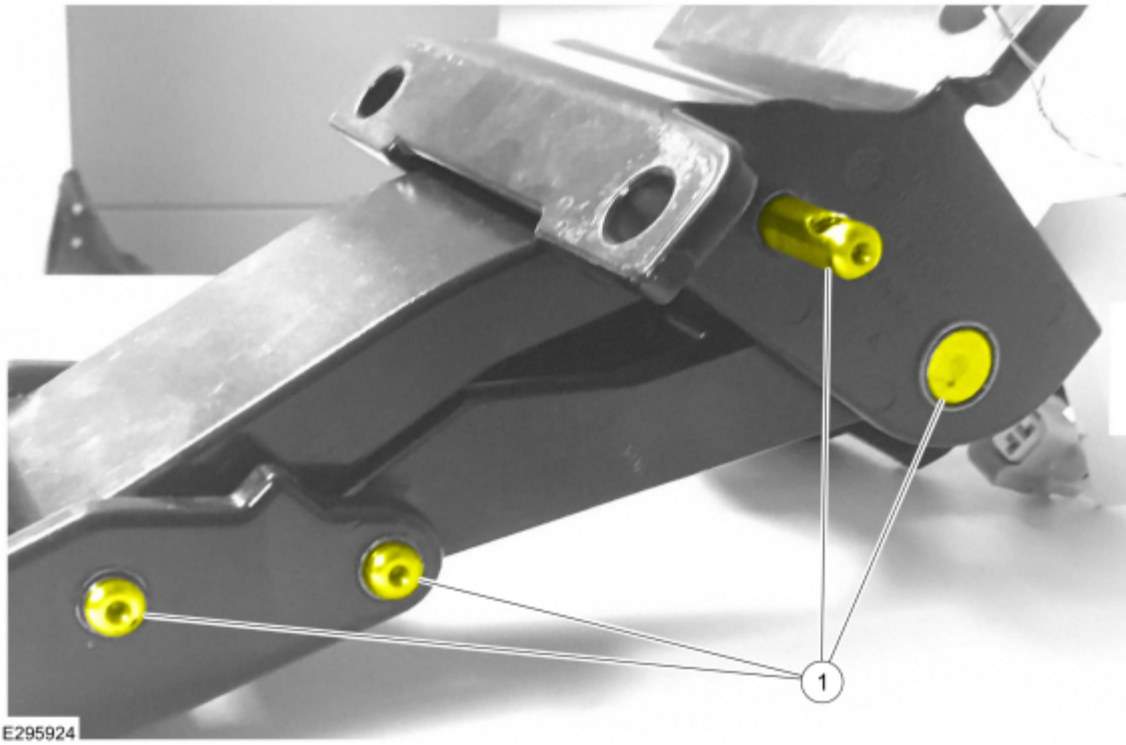
Once cleaned, fully retract and deploy each power running board to verify correct operation.

Maintenance:

To help prevent power running board deployment concerns in the future, using a lithium grease can help to keep debris away from the moving parts of the running board. Use Motorcraft® Multi-Purpose Grease on each bushing location.

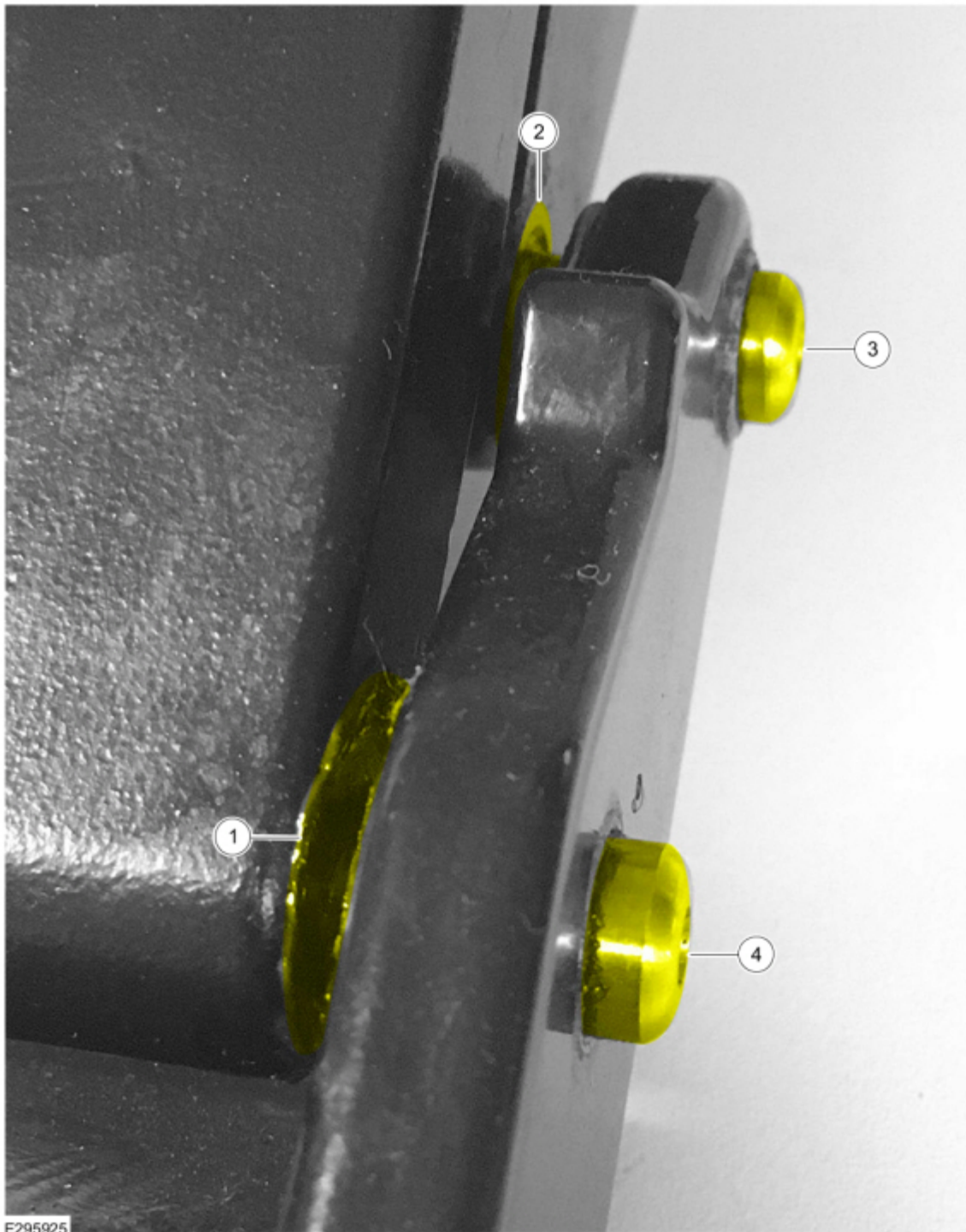
Four bushing locations shown. (Figure 4)

Figure 4



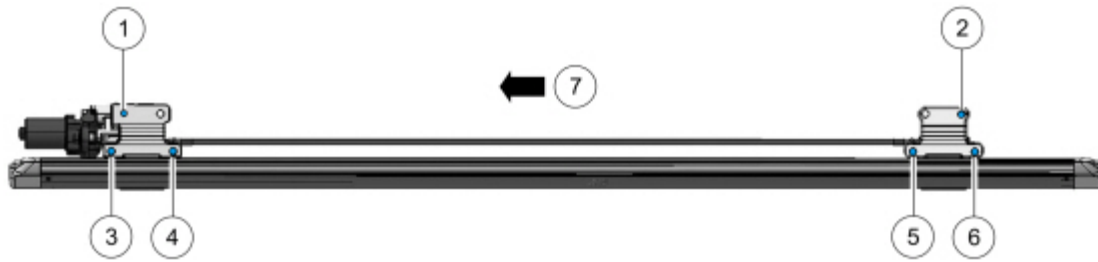
There are 16 bushings per running board. Example of multi-purpose grease usage on two bushings. (Figure 5) Lubricate the inside and outside.

Figure 5



If power washing and lubrication didn't correct the concern, the power running boards can be realigned if they are still binding during deployment. The power running board bolts can be loosened allowing the running board to free float for alignment. Once the running board is in the desired position, tighten following the torque sequence.

Bolt torque sequence (Figure 6)



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Item	Description
1	Front upper attachment, 4-way locator
2	Rear upper attachment, 2-way locator
3, 4, 5, 6	Lower attachment, clearance holes
7	Front of vehicle

References:

Proper Care and Cleaning instructions for the power running boards in the Owner's manual.

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NOTE: This information is not intended to replace or supersede any warranty, parts and service policy, workshop manual (WSM) procedures or technical training or wiring diagram information.