1. Description

This procedure describes methods for the replacement and inspection of knee bolsters.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide industry-accepted requirements for performing high-quality repair of knee bolsters. This procedure is intended for use by professionals who are qualified through training and experience.

3. Referenced Documents

The following documents are considered part of this procedure by reference.

3.1 Procedures
PS01 Personnel Safety
RE21 Airbag Systems
RF41 Finish Application

3.2 Other Information
Vehicle-specific repair information
4. Equipment And Material Requirements

Does not apply.

5. Damage Analysis

5.1 General Damage

Inspect a knee bolster for these types of damage:

- visible damage
- misalignment to adjacent panels
- distortion
- damaged brackets
- loose or damaged mounting fasteners
- improper previous repairs

Determine whether the knee bolster should be replaced. Repairs may be limited to refinishing. Follow the vehicle maker’s recommendations.

6. Personnel Safety

6.1 General Safety

General safety information is in PS01.

6.2 Passive Restraint System Safety

Passive restraint system safety information is in RE21.

7. Environmental Safety

Does not apply.

8. Vehicle Protection

Does not apply.
9. Repair Procedure

9.1 Removal
To remove a knee bolster:

- 1. Disarm the passive restraint system, following the vehicle maker’s recommended procedure.
- 2. Remove or reposition the required parts to access the knee bolster mounting brackets.
- 3. Remove the knee bolster from the mounting brackets.
- 4. Remove the knee bolster from the vehicle.
- 5. Remove the knee bolster mounting brackets, if damaged.
- 6. Plan to replace any defective fasteners with the same type, size, and grade.

9.2 Installation
To install a knee bolster:

- 1. Attach the knee bolster to the mounting brackets.
- 2. Torque the fasteners to the vehicle maker’s recommendations.
- 3. Continue vehicle reassembly.

10. Use Of Recycled [Salvage] Parts

10.1 Inspection Of Salvage Parts
Do not install a salvage knee bolster having any of these defects:

- visible damage
- improper previous repairs

11. Inspection And Testing

11.1 Inspection Of A Replaced Knee Bolster
Inspect a replaced knee bolster for these conditions:

- correct position
- proper tightening of all fasteners
- proper finish condition and appearance

Correct any defects.