

*This bulletin is supplied as technical information only and is not an authorization for repair. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, or otherwise, without written permission of DaimlerChrysler Corporation.*

**SUBJECT:**

New Repair Procedures With Separate Liftgate Latch Motor And Components

**OVERVIEW:**

This bulletin involves additional procedures to assist the technician in the diagnosis and repair of the liftgate latch system.

**MODELS:**

- |             |      |                                                     |
|-------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1999 - 2002 | (WJ) | Grand Cherokee (Domestic and International Markets) |
| 2001 - 2002 | (WG) | Grand Cherokee (International Markets)              |

**SYMPTOM/CONDITION:**

The customer may describe a condition where the liftgate does not open correctly when the rear liftgate outside handle is used.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The liftgate latch system consists of the following general components:

1. An outside latch handle with an adjustable latch rod retention clip.
2. A latch control assembly consisting of: an electric (power lock motor) actuator, a plastic manual lock/unlock lever mechanism, two adjustable latch cable retention clips, and a metal bracket.
3. Two latch cables, each with a threaded end for adjustment purposes.
4. Two liftgate strikers, with spring loaded wedge bumper, that attach to the body D-Pillar (side) of the liftgate opening. The liftgate strikers are adjustable.
5. Two liftgate latches, each with a rubber stop bumper. Each latch attaches to the vertical side of the liftgate and engage the respective liftgate striker. The rubber bumper is integral to a latch reinforcement plate that is held in place by the same screws used to secure the latch to the liftgate. The rubber bumpers, in conjunction with the spring loaded plastic wedge bumper of the striker, serve to limit liftgate vibration when closed. The latches, wedges, and bumpers are not adjustable.
6. A latch rod connecting the outside liftgate handle to the latch assembly. The latch rod has a threaded end to allow for adjustment.

**DIAGNOSIS:**

When the liftgate fails to open as designed, then the possible causes may be one or more of the following:

1. The liftgate, striker(s), or bumper(s) may be out of position, adjustment, or worn.
2. One or both latches are worn (do not operate smoothly).
3. The liftgate latch actuator (power lock motor) is inoperative or partially inoperative.

4. The latch rod between the outside latch handle and the latch control assembly is loose or out of adjustment.
5. One or both latch cables are out of synchronization. Either loose, binding, stretched, or out of adjustment.

**PARTS REQUIRED:**

The following is a list of recently released liftgate latch system components.

**NOTE: THE LIFTGATE LATCH ACTUATOR (POWER LOCK MOTOR) CAN BE SERVICED SEPARATELY.**

Qty.	Part No.	Description
AR (1)	05018479AB	Actuator, Liftgate Latch (Power Lock Motor)
AR (1)	05086394AA	Clip, Latch Rod Plastic Retention
AR (1)	05086395AA	Clip, Latch Cable Plastic Retention
AR (1)	05086387AA	Cable, Liftgate Latch (left side)
AR (1)	05086386AA	Cable, Liftgate Latch (right side)
AR (1)	05086391AA	Latch, Liftgate (left side)
AR (1)	05086390AA	Latch, Liftgate (right side)

**REPAIR PROCEDURE:**

**LIFTGATE, STRIKER, OR BUMPER ADJUSTMENT:**

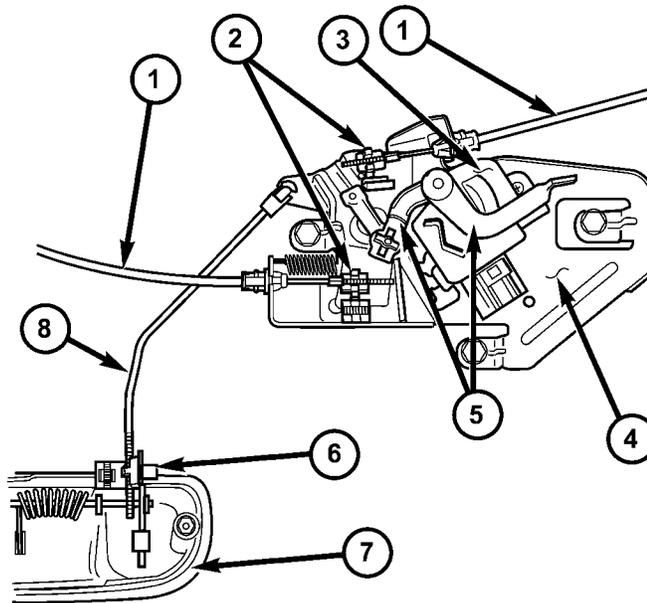
1. Verify the liftgate is properly centered and is flush with its body opening. Refer to the 2002 Grand Cherokee Service Manual (p/n 81-370-02064) for additional technical assistance with adjustment. Page 23-9 (Liftgate - Adjustment) and page 23-113 (Gap and Flush).
2. Verify each liftgate striker (D-Pillar) is positioned correctly to its respective latch. Adjust each striker as necessary.
3. Verify the sliding wedge and rubber bumpers are not worn such that they lock together and prevent the liftgate from opening smoothly. If either or both parts are excessively worn, replace and realign for proper contact. The liftgate latch has three positions, one is unlatched and then there are two latched positions. The first latched position is called the secondary latch position and is the first click sound heard as the latch closes. The second latch position is the fully latched position (second click of the latch). As the liftgate is closed, the bumper and wedge should be in contact with each other slightly prior to the time the latch enters its secondary latch position (first click of the latch). The bumper contact timing can be adjusted by rotating the striker. Verify that the striker loop is centered within the latch "fishmouth" opening. Tighten the striker attaching screws to 28.2 Nm (250 in. lbs.).

**LIFTGATE LATCH ACTUATOR (POWER LOCK MOTOR) SERVICE:**

1. Remove the interior liftgate trim panel.
2. Verify the liftgate latch actuator (power lock motor) operates correctly in both the lock and unlock modes. Refer to the 2002 Grand Cherokee Service Manual, page 8N-7 (Power Lock Motor), for detailed diagnostic assistance.

**NOTE: THE LIFTGATE LATCH ACTUATOR (P/N 05018479AB) CAN BE SERVICED SEPARATELY. THE ENTIRE LATCH CONTROL ASSEMBLY DOES NOT REQUIRE REPLACEMENT IF ONLY THE LATCH ACTUATOR NEEDS TO BE REPLACED.**

3. Removal and installation of the actuator involves (Fig. 1):
  - a. Remove the electrical connector from the actuator.
  - b. Remove the screw used to secure the manual lock/unlock lever to the actuator. Move the manual lever to the side.
  - c. Remove the screw used to secure the actuator to the latch control bracket.
  - d. Slide the old actuator from the latch control bracket.
  - e. Installation is the reversal of this process. Tighten the actuator attaching screws to 1.4 Nm (12.4 in. lbs.). Tighten the manual lock/unlock lever screw to 1.1 Nm (9.7 in. lbs.).
4. Cycle the manual lock/unlock lever to verify that it operates correctly.
5. Install the interior liftgate trim panel.



80e8dc7d

**Fig. 1 LATCH CONTROL ASSEMBLY & HANDLE**

- 1 - LATCH CABLES (BOTH ARE ADJUSTABLE)
  - 2 - LATCH CABLE PLASTIC RETENTION CLIPS (CLIP IS SHOWN WITH OPEN COVER)
  - 3 - LATCH ACTUATOR / POWER LOCK MOTOR (CAN BE SERVICED SEPARATELY)
  - 4 - LATCH CONTROL ASSEMBLY METAL BRACKET
  - 5 - MANUAL LOCK / UNLOCK LEVER MECHANISM
  - 6 - LATCH ROD PLASTIC RETENTION CLIP (CLIP IS SHOWN WITH OPEN COVER)
  - 7 - OUTSIDE LIFTGATE LATCH HANDLE (REAR VIEW)
  - 8 - LATCH ROD (ADJUSTABLE)
-

**LATCH ROD ADJUSTMENT:**

1. With the liftgate closed, slowly open (pull on) the outside liftgate handle.
2. Determine if excessive handle travel is required to unlatch the liftgate. If so, adjustment to the latch rod may be required.
3. Open the liftgate. Do not close the liftgate during the adjustment process.
4. Remove the interior liftgate trim panel.
5. Open the plastic latch rod retention clip on the outside handle. Disconnect the latch rod from the outside handle.
6. Verify that the latch control assembly is in its fully returned position.
7. Gently pull on the latch rod and attach the threaded end of the latch rod to the open retention clip. Make sure all excess play has been removed between the outside liftgate handle and the latch assembly. With the excess play removed, verify that the latch control assembly is still in its fully returned position.
8. Fully close the plastic retention clip.
9. Cycle the manual lock/unlock lever to verify that it operates correctly.
10. Install the interior liftgate trim panel.

**LATCH CABLE(S) ADJUSTMENT:**

1. With the liftgate closed, slowly open (pull on) the outside liftgate handle.
2. Determine if one or more of the following occurs:
  - a. Excessive handle travel is required to unlatch the liftgate.
  - b. Only one side of the liftgate will unlatch.
  - c. As one side of the liftgate unlatches, more than 2 MM (0.080 in.) of additional outside handle travel is required to unlatch the other side (latches are not synchronized/timed).
3. To adjust the latch cables, open the liftgate. Do not close the liftgate during the adjustment process.
4. Remove the interior liftgate trim panel.
5. Open the latch rod retention clip and remove the latch rod.
6. Open both latch cable retention clips and remove the threaded end of the cable from each clip.
7. Verify that the latch control assembly is in its fully returned position.
8. Verify that both latch cables slide smoothly and do not bind.
9. Using a screwdriver, fully latch (close) both liftgate latches. This step is necessary to remove excess cable play at the latch end of the cable.

**NOTE: BOTH LATCHES MUST BE IN THE FULLY LATCHED (CLOSED) POSITION TO PROPERLY ADJUST THE LATCH CABLES.**

10. Gently pull on the latch cable threaded end to remove any excess play in the cable.
11. While pulling on the latch cable, seat the threaded end of the cable into the opened retention clip.
12. Remove the excess play from the other latch cable and seat the cable threaded end into its respective opened retention clip. Make sure the latch is in its fully latched (closed) position.
13. Apply a small bead of RTV to both open cable retention clips and threaded cable ends. This will prevent the threaded ends from rotating within the retention clips.
14. Close both cable retention clips. Verify complete clip closure.

15. Gently pull on the latch rod and attach the threaded end of the latch rod to the open retention clip. Make sure all excess play has been removed between the outside liftgate handle and the latch assembly. With the excess play removed, verify that the latch control assembly is still in its fully returned position.
16. Cycle the manual lock/unlock lever to verify that it operates correctly.
17. While the liftgate is open and the latch control assembly is still uncovered, slowly open (pull on) the outside latch handle to unlatch both side latches. Verify both latches unlatch.
18. Close the liftgate.
19. Slowly open (pull on) the outside liftgate handle to verify correct operation of the liftgate latch system.
20. Install the interior liftgate trim panel.

**LIFTGATE LATCH OR CABLE SERVICE:**

1. Remove the interior liftgate trim panel.
2. Remove the three (3) latch attaching screws.
3. Remove the latch plate (with rubber bumper).
4. Remove the latch from the liftgate.
5. Disconnect the latch cable and electrical connector.
6. Installation of a latch or cable is the reversal of this process. Tighten attachment screws to 15.8 Nm (140 in. lbs.).
7. Adjust the latch cable if the latch or cable has been serviced. Refer to the above Latch Cable Adjustment section for directions.
8. Install the interior liftgate trim panel.

**POLICY:**

Reimbursable within the provisions of the warranty.

**TIME ALLOWANCE:**

<b>Labor Operation No:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
08-30-10-09	Actuator/Motor, Liftgate Latch - Test and Replace	0.5 Hrs.
23-41-09-04	Clip, Liftgate Rod / Cable - Replace - One or All	0.4 Hrs.
23-41-18-08	Cable, Liftgate Latch to Remote Control - Replace - Right	0.4 Hrs
23-41-18-09	Cable, Liftgate Latch to Remote Control - Replace - Left	0.4 Hrs.
23-41-01-04	Latch, Liftgate - Test and Replace - Right	0.5 Hrs.
23-41-01-05	Latch, Liftgate - Test and Replace - Left	0.5 Hrs.

**FAILURE CODE:**

Refer to Labor Operation Time Schedule Manual for Appropriate Failure Code.