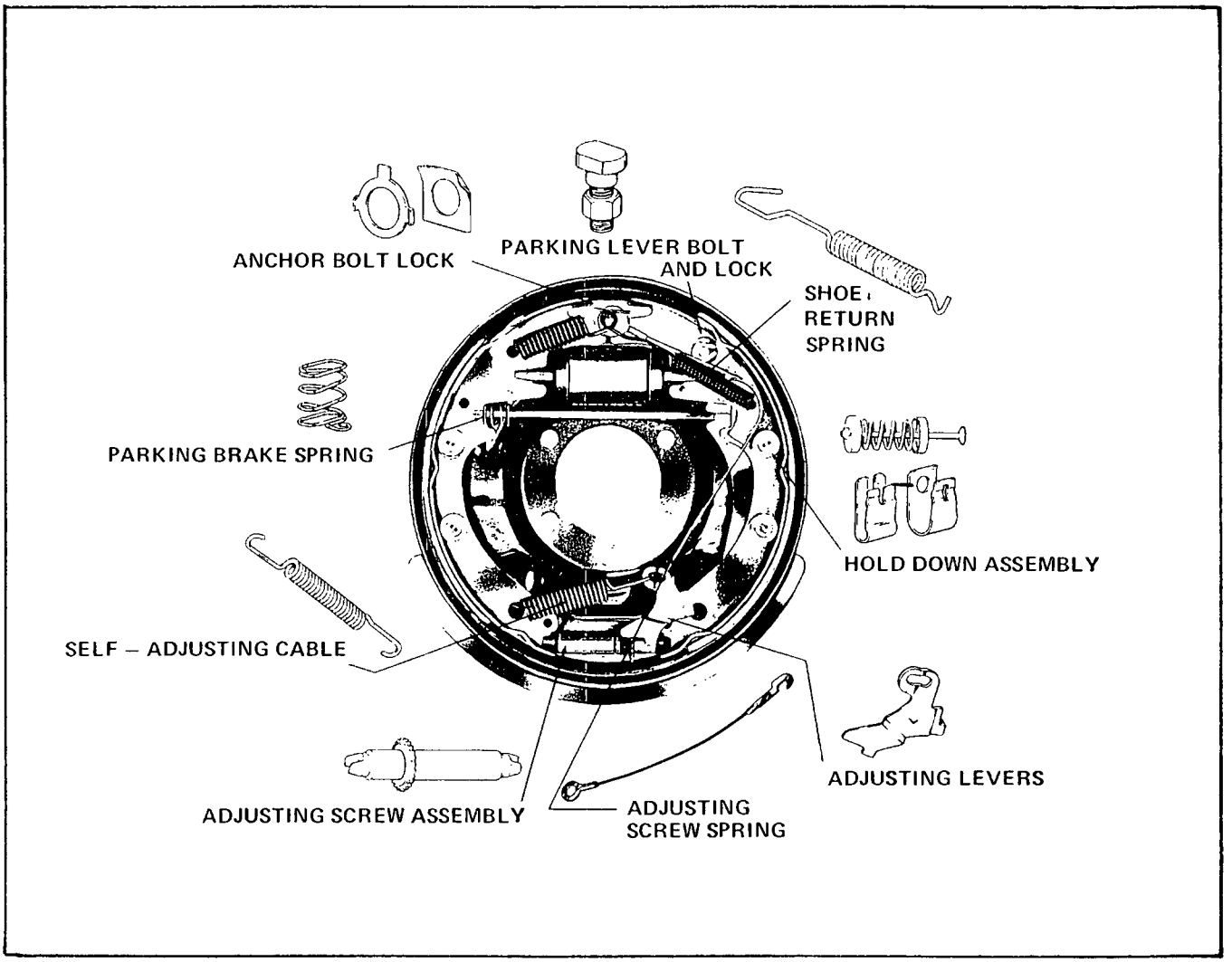
Hardware



Brake Shoe Return Springs - The functions of these springs is to return, as fast as possible, the brake shoes to the full off position. Brake shoe return springs are often color coded. The different color serves as a reminder that there is a variation in spring tension. This variation in tension is enough to cause pulls and dragging brakes if they are not installed properly. A weak return spring can cause a pull to the side with the weak spring. Weak springs will cause the brake shoes to return slowly, and in some cases not to return at all, which will result in damaging heat due to a dragging brake.

Hold Down Springs - Their function is to steady the shoe against the backing plate. A weak hold down spring can cause noise, improper lining wear and a dragging brake as it lets the shoe vibrate and cock. Brake shoe nails are also important as they do get bent through normal operation.

Adjusting Screw - This device enables the brake shoe to be adjusted closer to the brake drum surface to compensate for brake lining wear.

Adjusting Screw Spring - This connects both brake shoes to the adjusting screw.

Self Adjusting Springs - Since today's vehicles are equipped with self-adjusting brakes, an increase in the number of springs is necessary. The adjusting lever spring activates the adjusting screw when sufficient shoe to drum clearance permits. The tension of this spring is important in controlling proper brake adjustment.

The lever spring controls the movement of the adjusting screw. The override spring prevents the brakes from over-adjusting. Due to the critical features of self adjusting brakes, it is suggested that all springs and adjusting cables be replaced with brake overhauls.