

Excessive Brake Pedal Effort

Excessive brake pedal effort is characterized by a very stiff brake pedal and increased stopping distances.

Excessive brake pedal effort can be caused by:

- Vacuum assisted brakes.
 - Improper brake booster operation.
 - Improper booster operation could also be caused by a lack of vacuum due to leaking or restricted vacuum lines, a faulty booster check valve, low engine vacuum, or a faulty vacuum pump (diesel engines).
- Hydraulic assisted brakes.
 - Improper brake booster operation.
 - Improper booster operation could also be caused by low power steering fluid level, a loose or damaged accessory belt, or a faulty power steering pump.
- Binding brake pedal bushing.
- Faulty brake pressure control valve.
- Overheated brakes.

Excessive Brake Pedal Effort Diagnosis

To determine the cause of excessive brake pedal effort, perform the following tests:

- Inspect for binding and wear at the brake pedal bushing.
- Check brake booster operation.
- Check brake pressure control valve for contamination.