

## Steering

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## Environmental protection

The chassis itself is virtually maintenance-free. It is simply checked when the vehicle is in the garage for regular service and maintenance. However, a trend is developing that is seeing modern vehicles becoming heavier and often having large wheels due to more extensive equipment features. Vehicle axles, on the other hand, are getting lighter and more compact all the time. This increases the stress and strain to which steering components are exposed, all in all making chassis repairs more likely.

Steering components are often made from a combination of rubber and metal. Wear occurs where these materials are susceptible: rubber ages, it becomes porous and can tear. Metal is susceptible to corrosion and can bend out of shape. During regular service and maintenance, bearing bushings and ball heads undergo visual inspection. Torn sleeves, knocked-out ball heads and ball joints must be replaced immediately. Damaged or misshapen wishbones, track rods and stabilising connecting rods must also be replaced. During the inspection, the garage also checks [shock absorbers](#) for tightness and function. The tread wear pattern of the tyres and the directional stability of the vehicle indicate whether the axle geometry has been set correctly.

## Function



The steering system must steer the vehicle in the direction the driver wants it to go. It must be responsive and support precision driving. The steering is part of the frame of vehicle, or the [chassis](#), to be more precise. Apart from the steering, the chassis comprises wheel suspension, suspension, brake, damping, wheel carrier and subframe. It is its job to establish the requisite conditions for directional stability and dynamic driving, at the same time damping impacts from the road.

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The movements of the steering wheel are transmitted via

- the steering gear,
- the steering linkage and
- the steering arm

to the steering stub and thus to the front wheels, where they manipulate the steering angle. In turn, the angle determines the direction in which the vehicle travels. However, the steering behaviour of the vehicle is not determined by the position of the steering wheel alone. Drive and brake forces or compression when driving over bumps in the road can affect the direction in which the driver wishes to travel. To minimise the resulting interference, vehicle manufacturers working in collaboration with the components industry have developed ingenious axle designs which help to ensure that even in poor road and weather conditions, modern vehicles can be steered safely regardless of whether the driver is accelerating or applying the brakes.

## Depreciation

Most repairs carried out by garages involve work on steering parts. The chassis itself is virtually maintenance-free; it is simply checked.

Modern vehicles are often heavier or have larger wheels. These distinguishing features combined with lighter and more compact vehicle axles make component repairs more likely.

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DRIV



Lemförder\_EN





Kolbenschmidt



KYB UK



Moog



Herth+Buss



ZF



GKN\_EN



CORTECO\_EN



Bosch

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