



# Brake system components

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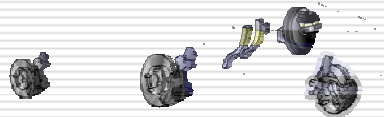
Matthew Whitten  
Brookhaven College



## Brake system

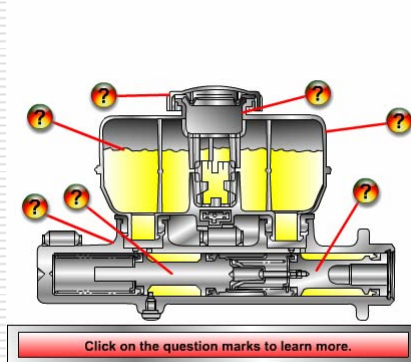
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- ☐ Master cylinder
  - ☐ Brake lines
  - ☐ Brake fluid
  - ☐ Hydraulic valves
  - ☐ Disc brakes
  - ☐ Drum brakes
  - ☐ Power assist unit
  - ☐ Parking brake
  - ☐ Anti-lock system
- 





## Master cylinder

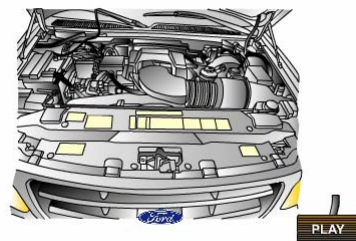


- ☐ Foot operated hydraulic pump
- ☐ Components:
  - Brake fluid reservoir
  - Housing
  - Pistons
    - ☐ Primary
    - ☐ Secondary
  - Rubber piston cup
  - Return spring



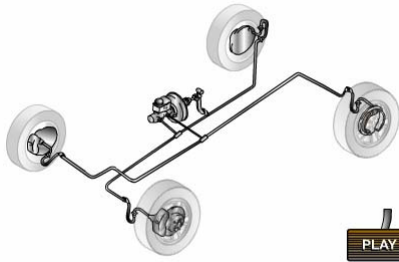
## Dual Master cylinders

- ☐ Two separate hydraulic circuits split front to rear of diagonally.
- ☐ DOT mandate 1967 requires dual circuit braking systems.
- ☐ These systems use two separate brake pistons in the same bore of the master cylinder.





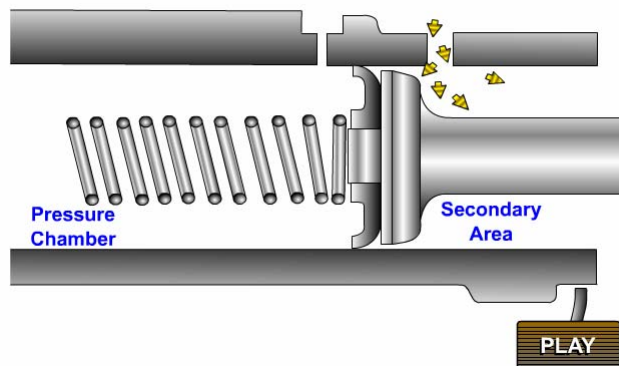
## Master Cylinder operation



- Your foot applies pressure to the brake lever, which applies mechanical force to the primary piston.
- Pedal pressure is transmitted hydraulically to the secondary piston.
- A complete hydraulic failure in one system would not affect the other.

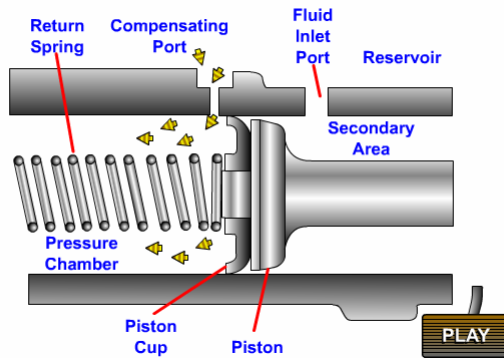


## Fill Port





## Compensating Port



## Brake pressure control valves

- ☐ Control valves ensure that the correct pressure is applied to each individual wheel brake assembly.
- ☐ Types used by Ford:
  - Proportioning valve
  - Metering valve
  - Combination valve
  - Height sensing brake valve
  - Shuttle valve



## Purpose

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- ☐ Proportioning valve:
    - Controls pressure applied to rear drum brakes. Decreases the rate of brake application above a set-point as brakes are applied harder.
  - ☐ Metering valve:
    - Delays pressure to disc brakes until rear brakes begin to operate. (calibrated springs and cavities)
  - ☐ Shuttle valve:
    - Used with proportioning valve. Provides higher brake pressure to rear brakes if the front brakes develop a leak. Opens a bypass around proportioning valve.
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## Purpose

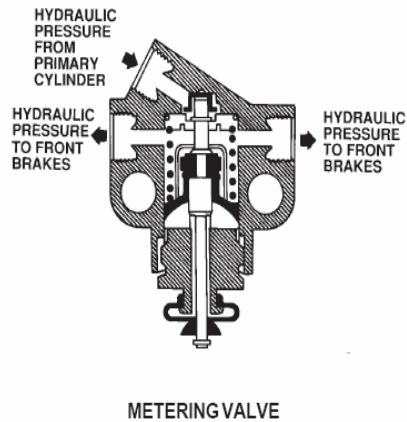
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- ☐ Combination:
    - Contains the proportioning valve, metering valve, and sometime the shuttle valve.
  - ☐ Height sensing:
    - Regulates hydraulic pressure to rear brakes based on the amount of load carried by the vehicle.
  - ☐ Residual Pressure Valve
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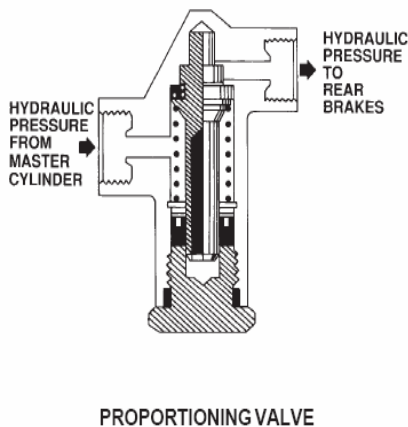


## Metering Valve

- ❑ The metering valve is used on vehicle designed with disc front and drum rear brakes.
- ❑ Used to equalize engagement.
- ❑ If the same pressure reached the drum and disc brakes the disc brakes would react faster.
- ❑ Disc brakes requires more pressure to operate than drum brakes.



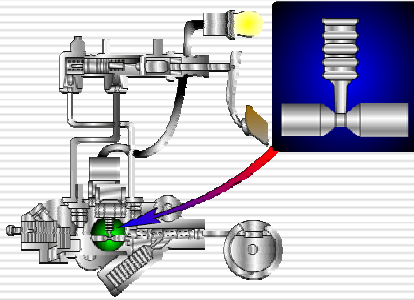
## Proportioning Valve



- ❑ When the brake pedal is applied the full rear brake pressure passes through the valve until it reaches a set-point.



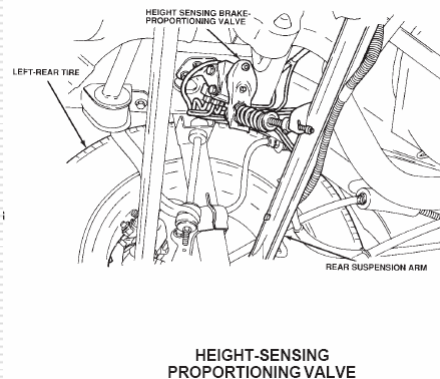
## Combination Valve



- Replaces
  - Metering valve
  - Proportioning valve
  - Pressure differential switch
- Some manufacturers have used a two function combination valve that combines only a pressure differential switch and a proportioning or metering valve



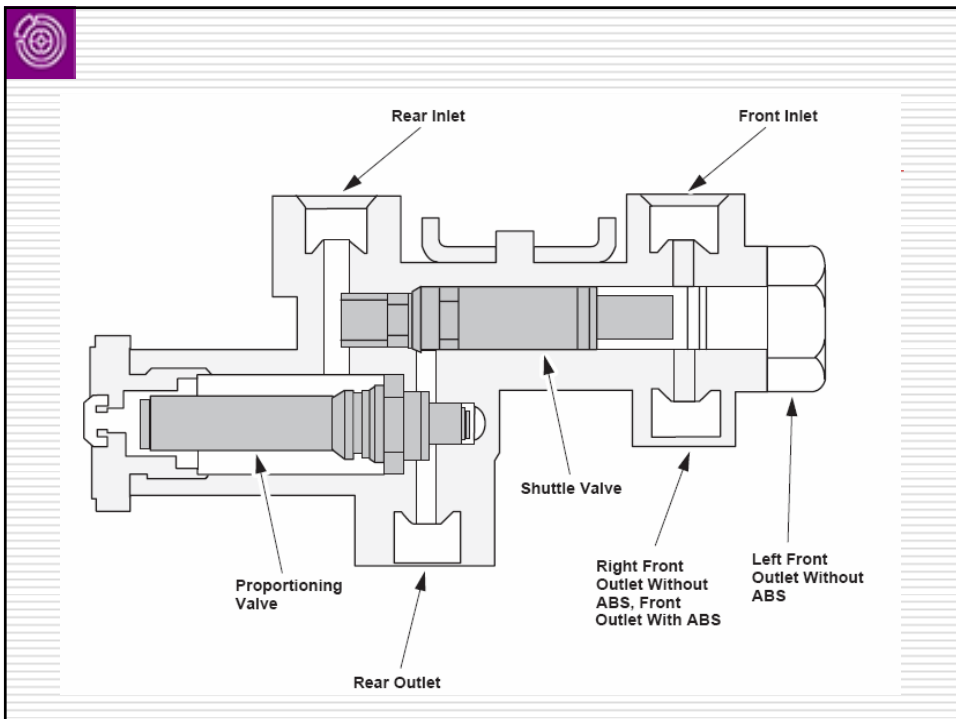
## Height Sensing Brake Proportioning Valve





## Shuttle Valve

- ❑ Safety valve that provides full pressure to rear brakes if front brakes develop a leak.
- ❑ Bypasses the proportioning valve.
- ❑ If front brake pressure is low the shuttle valve will move uncovering the bypass port.







## Brake Fluid



- Brake fluid properties
  - High boiling point
  - Low freezing point
  - Non-corrosive to rubber and metal brake parts
  - Ability to lubricate rubber and metal brake system parts
- Most brake fluid is poly glycol or silicone based although a few European manufacturers have used a mineral oil based brake fluid



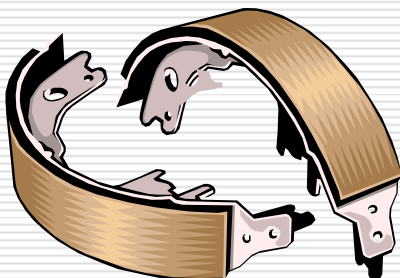
## Brake fluid characteristics

Fluid Grade	<b>DOT 3</b>	<b>DOT 4</b>	<b>DOT 5</b>	<b>DOT 5.1</b>
Fluid Type	Poly Glycol	Poly Glycol	Silicone	Poly Glycol
Boiling Point	401° F	446° F	500° F	518° F



## Brake pads (coefficient of friction)

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- A brake's linings coefficient of friction is affected by
    - Surface finish
    - Composition
    - Temperature
  - Brake linings must resist fading as temperature increases
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## Friction lining material rating.

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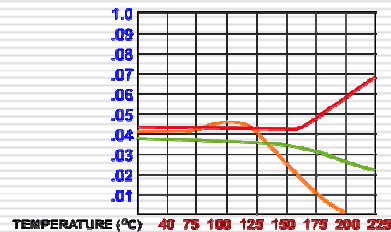
Edge Code	Coefficient of Friction
<b>C</b>	Not over 0.15
<b>D</b>	Over 0.15 but not over 0.25
<b>E</b>	Over 0.25 but not over 0.35
<b>F</b>	Over 0.35 but not over 0.45
<b>G</b>	Over 0.45 but not over 0.55
<b>H</b>	Over 0.55

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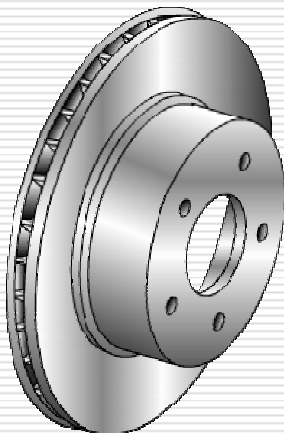


## Brake Pads

- Organic linings
  - Bonded non-metallic fibers
- Semi-metallic linings
  - Commonly constructed of 50% iron, steel and/or copper fibers
- Metallic linings
  - Powdered metal formed into blocks
- Synthetic linings
  - Fiberglass and aramid fibers



## Disc Brakes



- Fade resistant design
  - Heat
  - Water
- Self adjusting
- Brake noise during normal operation
  - Increased with the use of semi-metallic pads



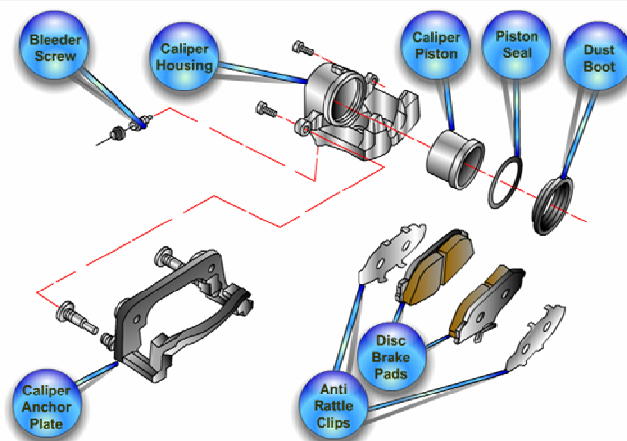
## Disc Brake Parts



- Rotor
  - Solid or ventilated
- Caliper assembly
  - Caliper housing
  - Piston
  - Square cut piston seal
  - Dust boot
  - Bleeder screw
- Brake pads



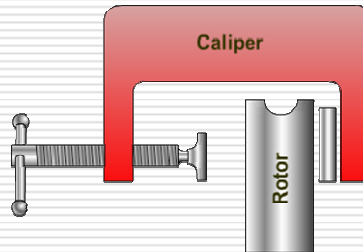
## Caliper Components



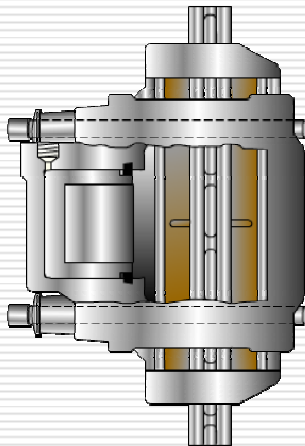


## Disc Brake Operation

- Hydraulic pressure moves the caliper piston and inner brake pad outward
- The floating caliper assembly then moves inward applying the outer pad and balancing the apply force



## Floating or Sliding Caliper

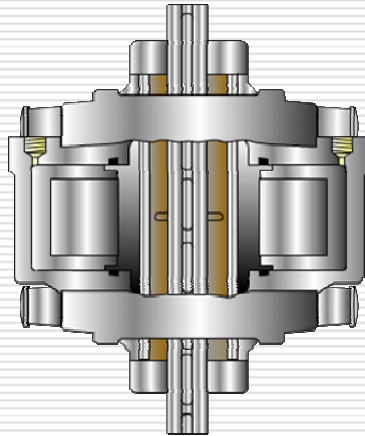


- The caliper floats on pins or V shaped surfaces allowing the outboard fixed pad to move toward the rotor as the inboard pad is applied



## Fixed Caliper

- ☐ One or more pistons on each side of the caliper apply the brake pads
- ☐ Multiple pistons
  - Increase clamping force
  - Decrease brake pad deflection



## Drum Brakes

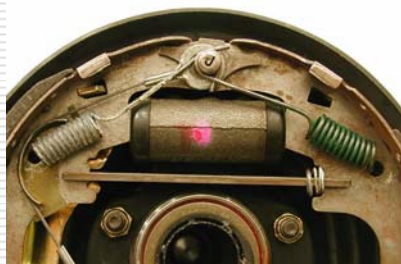
- ☐ Backing plate
- ☐ Wheel cylinder
- ☐ Brake shoes
  - Primary and secondary
- ☐ Hold down springs
- ☐ Brake shoe return springs
- ☐ Self-adjuster
- ☐ Brake drum





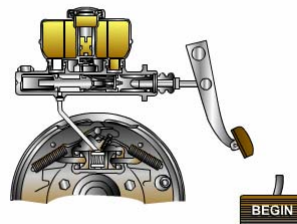
## Wheel Cylinders

- ❑ Brake system pressure from the master cylinder expands the wheel cylinder's cup seals and forces the pistons outward
- ❑ Most wheel cylinders also utilize cup seal expanders to improve sealing when the brake system pressure is not present



## Drum brake operation

- ❑ Master cylinder pressure moves the wheel cylinder pistons and brake shoes outward
- ❑ When the pressure is released the brake return springs move the brake shoes back to their original position

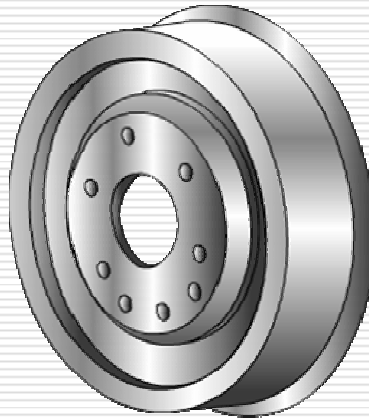




## Drum brake operation

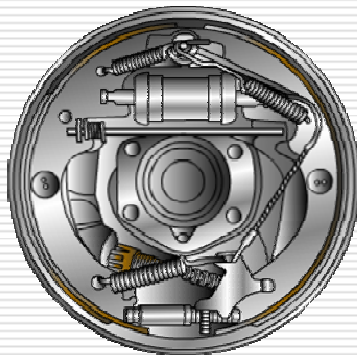
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- Drum brakes are mechanically self energizing when applied
- Two drum brake designs are common
  - Duo Servo
  - Balanced or leading-trailing



## Duo servo

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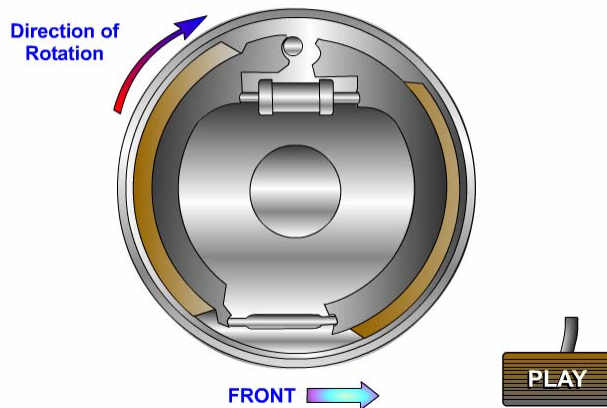


- Duo servo drum brakes require the least apply pressure
- Hydraulic pressure moves the wheel cylinder pistons and brake shoes outward
- The shoes contact the rotating drum and the primary shoe forces the secondary shoe into the drum



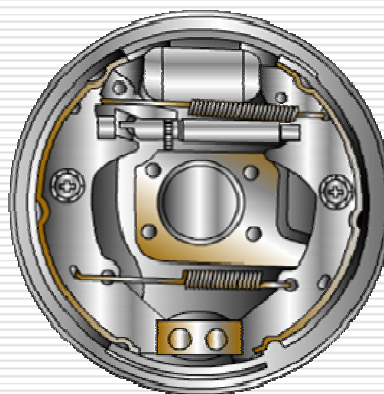


## Duo servo operation



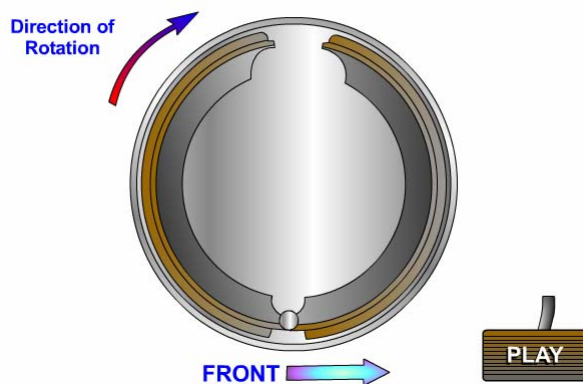
## Leading trailing

- Hydraulic pressure moves the wheel cylinder pistons and brake shoes outward
- The rotating drum forces the leading shoe into the anchor pin and the trailing shoe contacts the drum on its trailing edge.





## Leading trailing operation



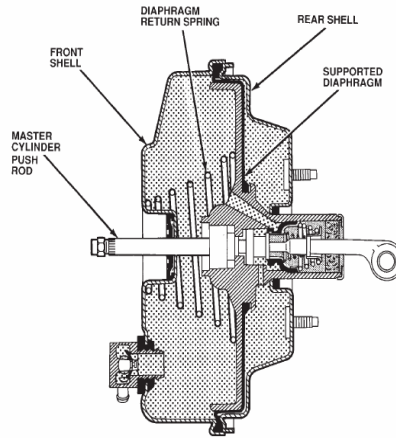
## Operator power assist

- ☐ Vacuum booster
  - Requires vacuum for operation
- ☐ Hydro-Boost
  - Uses power steering pump
- ☐ Anti-lock
  - Uses anti-lock motor to charge accumulator



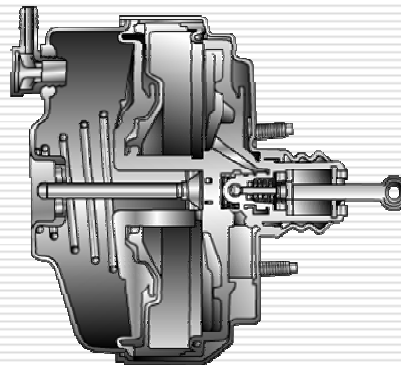
## Vacuum booster components

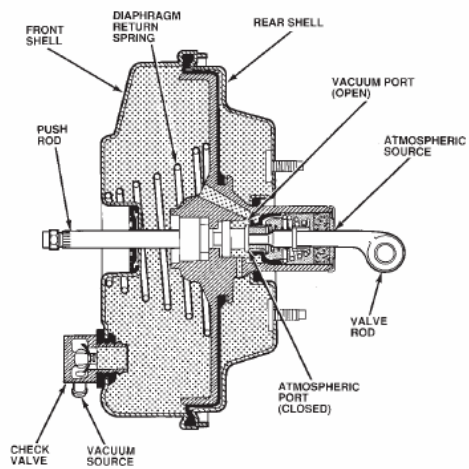
- ❑ Master cylinder pushrod:
  - Not field adjustable
- ❑ Front/Rear shell
  - Housing for and support for diaphragm
- ❑ Return spring
  - Returns diaphragm to not applied position
- ❑ Input rod.



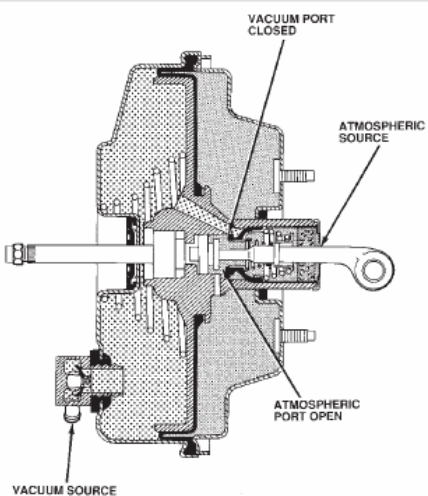
## Vacuum Boost

- ❑ Three modes of operation
  - Released
  - Applied
  - Holding

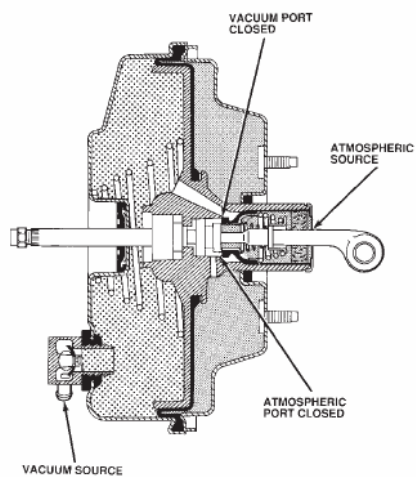




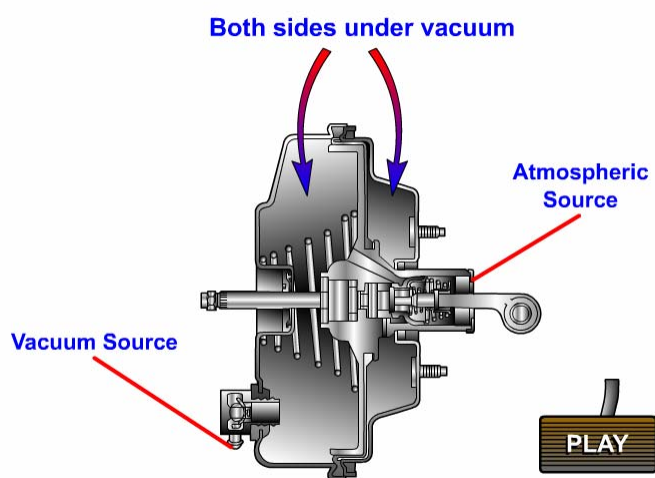
**Vacuum Booster in Released Position**



**Vacuum Booster in Applied Position**



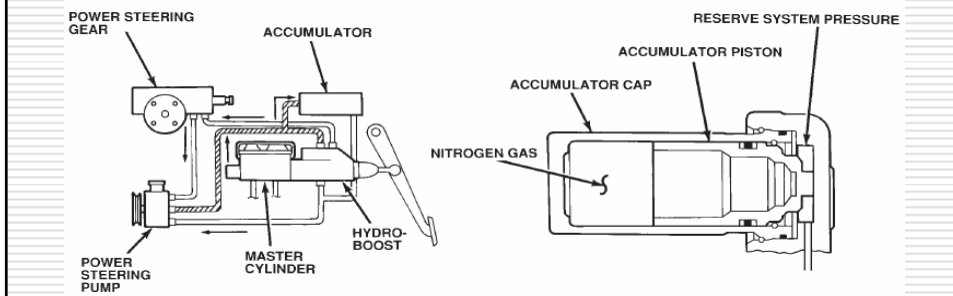
Vacuum Booster in Holding Position





## Hydro-Boost

- ❑ The power steering pump provides the pressures needed for power assist.
- ❑ Uses an accumulator for safety situations when the engine may die.



## Hydro-Boost fluid flow

