

# ***CHILTON***

# **LABOR GUIDE**

**2004 Edition**

**1981-2004 Domestic & Imported Cars, Light  
Trucks, Vans & SUVs**

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**Chilton  
Labor Guide  
2004 Edition**

**1981-2004 Domestic & Imported Cars,  
Light Trucks, Vans & SUVs**

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## **EDITORIAL POLICY**

### **Model Year Information**

This guide is published toward the end of the year proper to the edition year. Every effort is made to gather current data from the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) when they publish it. Different OEMs choose to release their new model information at different times of the year. Indeed, the same OEM can publish information early one season and late the next season. As a result, not all models are equally current when each edition of this guide is published.

Although information in this guide is based on industry sources and is as complete as possible at the time of publication, some vehicle manufacturers may make changes which cannot be included here. Information on very late models may not be available in some circumstances. While striving for total accuracy, the publisher cannot assume responsibility for any errors, changes, or omissions that may occur in the compilation of this data.

### **Safety Notice**

Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles, as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

Repair procedures and techniques, tools and parts for servicing vehicles, as well as the skill and experience of the individual performing the work vary widely. It is not possible to anticipate all of the conceivable ways or conditions under which vehicles may be serviced, or to provide cautions as to all of the possible hazards that may result. Standard and accepted safety precautions and equipment should be used when handling toxic or flammable fluids. Safety goggles or other protection should be used during cutting, grinding, chiseling, prying, or any other process that can cause material removal or projectiles.

Some procedures require the use of tools specially designed for a specific purpose. Before substituting another tool or procedure you must be completely satisfied that neither your personal safety nor the performance of the vehicle will be endangered.

## **LOCATING AND USING THE INFORMATION**

### **Locating Information**

The Table of Contents, starting on the next page, lists each manufacturer and most model-specific sections in this manual.

To find where a particular model-specific section is located in the book, look in the Table of Contents or on the Tab Index preceding each major section. Once you have found the vehicle model you are looking for, refer to the index that starts each model group to find where the specific labor operation is located. At the upper left-hand side of the model group index page is a listing of the main system groups within that section and the page numbers on which they are found. Following the main group listing is an alphabetical listing of operations and their page numbers.

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## Overlapping Labor Times

Labor times shown, unless noted otherwise, consider all necessary steps required in performing the operation. However, when multiple operations are performed on a vehicle, and have overlapping labor times, a reasonable deduction should be made from the total times given. Your judgment is the best guide in these situations.

This manual is a guide for computing fair labor times, but it is not intended to be unconditional. There are many variations between the way different service providers are equipped, or perform the same job. Labor times are based on the "Law of Averages" and are not set according to the best technician or the technician-in-training. They are a blend.

## Severe Service Times

Extra labor time should be considered when the vehicle exhibits advanced age, high mileage, lack of maintenance, abuse, or has operated in a climate that creates extra effort needed to free up seized bolts, replace broken fasteners, remove rust, degrease and clean parts, etc. Additional time should also be added when more than normal road testing is required. Suggested Severe Service Times are displayed for your use as needed.

## Technician's Skill Level Codes

- (A) Highly Skilled:** A technician with multiple certifications, usually a master technician, who has thorough knowledge of operating systems and has strong diagnostic skills.
- (B) Skilled:** A technician with one or more certification(s) who has knowledge of operating systems and can make accurate diagnosis using test equipment.
- (C) Semi-Skilled:** An apprentice technician working toward certification.

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The recommended times for the repairs described in this publication with respect to Ford and Lincoln-Mercury branded products are not based solely upon time studies conducted by Ford Motor Company. The repair times it recommends to its franchised dealers for warranty repairs are based on time studies of the diagnostic and repair procedures it conducts and publishes in Ford Motor Company service manuals. Accordingly, the recommended repair times specified in this publication are designed for aftermarket repairs only.

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