

## 2004 Toyota Prius Rear Drum Brake Self Adjuster Kits

2023-08-22 - Herman Munster – Apex, North Carolina, USA

Here is what is absolutely the case... I took off the right (passenger) rear drum first, the adjuster was GOLD, and the adjuster was REVERSE thread. Absolutely.

In August 2023, I purchased both the left and right rear drum brake self-adjuster kits from Advance Auto Parts, for my 2004 second generation Toyota Prius, Carquest Wearever Part Numbers 12562 and 12563 respectively. For the purchased parts, the right is gold colored (cadmium plated?) and the left is silver colored. One has a "normal thread" star wheel screw, and one has a "reverse thread" star wheel screw. I found that the direction of rotation of the Advance Auto star wheel screws was the opposite of what I took off my car. On my car, the right (passenger) side adjuster was GOLD colored, and had a REVERSE thread (clockwise = loosen), and the left (driver) side was SILVER, and had a NORMAL thread (clockwise = tighten). Meanwhile, the Advance Auto right side was indeed GOLD colored, but the thread was NORMAL instead of reverse. In the end, I put the Advance Auto, 12563, gold colored right side part on the left side of my car, and vice versa. Note also that the steel levers, with multiple bends and angles, that serve as the ratchetting mechanism for the star wheel, are also side specific. One is stamped with the part number 23718, and one with 23719. They physically will not fit properly on the incorrect side.

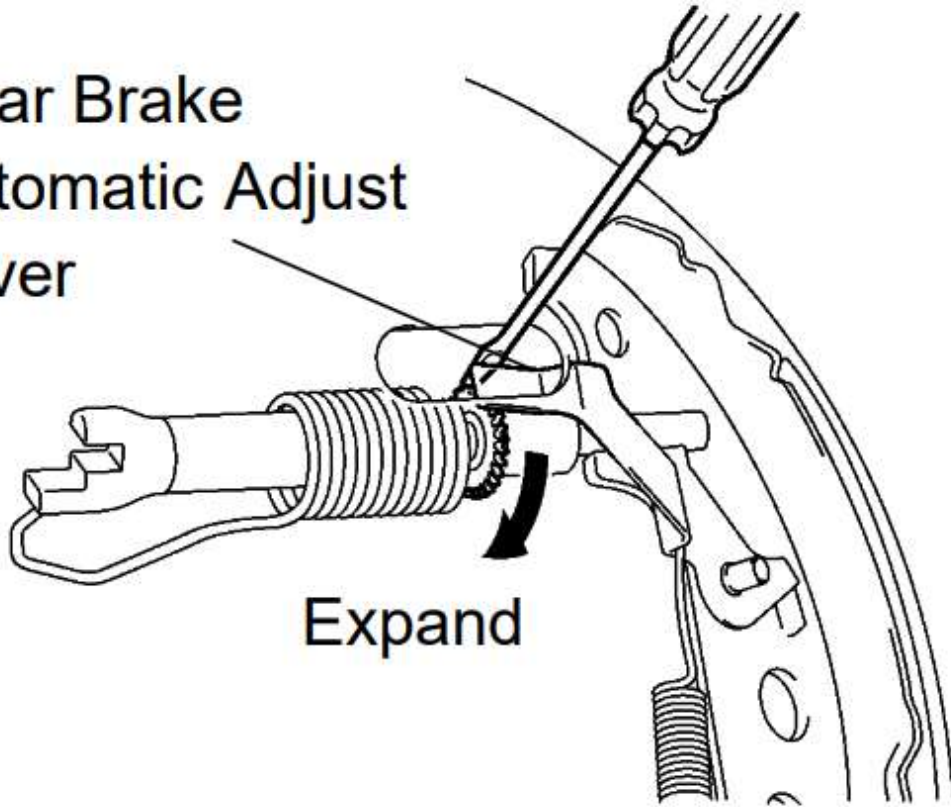
One of the three reviews previously posted at Advance Auto, for the left adjuster, 12562, also mentioned that it was for the right side instead of the left.

I looked further into this, at Rock Auto, which displayed 6 different brands. All of the brands appeared to have the same color code scheme as Advance Auto, EXCEPT Dorman brand. Dorman 6047 is labeled/stamped left, colored gold, but has a reverse thread. Dorman 6048 is labeled right, is silver, and has a regular thread. So, the whole industry seems to be very confused.

<b>Brand</b>	<b>Side</b>	<b>Part Number</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Thread</b>	<b>Rachet Lever</b>
Raybestos	Right	H12563	Gold	?	23718
Dorman	Right	6048	Silver	Regular	R
ACDelco	Right	18K2064	Gold	?	23718
Raybestos	Left	H12562	Silver	Reverse	23719?
Dorman	Left	6047	Gold	Reverse	L
ACDelco	Left	18K2063	Silver	Reverse	?

While the possibility exists that the self-adjusters were installed improperly before I first removed the drums, I am quite sure this is not the case. Another poster at PriusChat provided a link to a repair procedure for the rear drum brakes for a Gen 2 Prius. The procedure states that it is for the left (driver's) side, and the drawing clearly show the left trailing arm at times. Further, the drawings show the self-adjuster star wheel being adjusted through the access hole in the backing plate. If you look carefully at their direction of rotation, you will see that this left side is indeed a normal thread. The diagram shows a counter clockwise rotation of the screw, and states that this will EXPAND the self-adjuster, which means the screw is coming out of the threaded hole, which is normal thread.

Rear Brake  
Automatic Adjust  
Lever



Expand

P

F40023

This image shows that the repair section manual is describing the procedure for the left (driver's) side because of the orientation of the other suspension components:

