2008-2012 Ford Escape - CV Axle Replacement

2008-2012 Ford Escape | Advanced | 2-3 hours | $170 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket 17mm Socket 21mm Socket
Socket Wrench Jack Stands Lug Wrench
Torque Wrench Flathead Screwdriver
Rubber Mallet Pry Bar

PARTS

Front CV Axle Assembly 8L8Z-3B437-A $150.00
Front Axle Seal 8L8Z-7A189-A $20.00

STEPS

1. **Loosen the axle nut and support the vehicle - Crack the axle nut loose with the wheel on** the ground (often high torque or staked). Then crack the lugs, chock the rear wheels, jack the front at the approved lift point, and support with jack stands. Remove the wheel. Wear gloves and eye...
2. **Remove brakes and free the hub - Remove the caliper and hang it - never let it dangle by** the hose. Remove the axle nut fully. Separate the lower ball joint or strut so the hub swings out enough to clear the axle splines.
3. **Separate the axle from the hub and transmission - Push the axle stub out of the hub (a** punch on the end helps - protect the threads). Pry the inner CV joint from the transmission with a pry bar, catching splashed fluid. Plug the transmission opening if the axle will be out a while.
4. **Compare and install the new axle - Compare length, inner joint style, and ABS ring** against the old axle. Seat the inner joint fully until the circlip clicks into the transmission - don’t damage the seal. Slide the outer stub through the hub and start the axle nut by hand.
5. **Reassemble suspension and brakes - Reconnect the ball joint/strut and torque to spec.** Reinstall rotor and caliper. Torque the new axle nut to the specified value (replace if it is a one-time stretch nut) and stake or cotter it if required.
6. **Refit the wheel, check fluid, and road-test - Reinstall the wheel, lower the vehicle, and** torque the lugs in a star pattern. Top off transmission fluid if any was lost. Road-test for click-on-turn noise and check the inner seal for leaks. Get an alignment if the ball joint or strut wa...

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