2004-2006 Nissan Sentra - Rear Brake Shoe

2004-2006 Nissan Sentra | Advanced | 1-2 hours per side | $79 DIY

TOOLS

Floor jack and jack stands Lug wrench Brake spring pliers and hold-down spring tool Flat screwdriver Wire brush High-temperature brake grease Drum jacking bolts (if rusted on) Torque wrench Camera/phone (for reference photo)

PARTS

Rear brake shoe set for 2004-2006 Nissan Sentra (B15) $52.00
Rear drum hardware kit (springs, pins, adjusters) $27.00
Brake drums (if scored or beyond spec) $52.00

STEPS

1. **Get the right drum hardware kit - Buy rear brake shoes listed for the 2004-2006 Sentra,** plus a drum hardware kit with springs, hold-down pins, and adjusters. Tired springs cause most uneven shoe wear - new hardware with the shoes is cheap insurance.
2. **Lift the rear and remove the wheel - Loosen the rear lug nuts on the ground, then jack** the rear onto stands under the subframe or axle beam. Chock the front wheels and release the parking brake - drums won't come off with it engaged. Remove the wheel.
3. **Remove the brake drum - Pull the drum off - if rusted on, thread two bolts into the** jacking holes. Note the adjuster position first. A deep lip or heavy scoring means machine or replace it - new shoes won't bed on a ruined drum.
4. **Photograph the spring layout - Photograph the springs, adjuster, and shoe positions** before touching anything - the photo is your reassembly map. Note which shoe has the longer lining (it faces the rear on most B15s) and where each spring anchors.
5. **Disassemble one side at a time - Remove the hold-down and return springs and the** adjuster, lift the shoes off the plate; keep the parking-brake cable on its lever. Do one side at a time so the other is a reference. Lay the parts out in order.
6. **Clean and lubricate the backing plate - Brush the backing plate clean and grease the six** raised shoe contact pads with high-temp brake grease. Clean and lightly lubricate the adjuster threads. Wipe grease off friction surfaces - contaminated shoes must be replaced.
7. **Assemble the new shoes and hardware - Install the new shoes, springs, and adjuster** exactly per your photo, seating each spring in its anchor hole. Reset the adjuster to its original setting as a starting point. Confirm the parking-brake lever moves freely and the shoes sit cen...
8. **Refit the drum and adjust - Slide the drum back on - slight drag after expanding the** adjuster a few clicks is right. Spin it by hand for even, light contact with no hard spots. Reinstall the wheel, lower the car, torque the lug nuts.
9. **Set the parking brake and road-test - Apply and release the parking brake to center the** shoes, then drive and brake to seat the linings. Pedal firm, parking brake holding within a few clicks. After the drive, a much hotter drum signals a dragging adjuster.

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