Chapter 11 Suspension and steering

'Denovo' fitment	155/65SF x 310 radial ply	
1100 Special (alloy option)	165/70HR x 10	
	lbf/in²	bar
Tyre pressures	42.00	
Crossply tyres:	24	1.7
Front		1.6
Rear (normal load)	22	1.7
Rear (fully laden)	24	1.7
Radial tyres		
145 x 10:		
Front	28	1.9
Rear	26	1.8
145/70SR x 12:		
Front	28	1.9
	28	1.9
Rear	20	
155/65SF x 310 Denovo:	26	1.8
Front		1.7
Rear	24	
165/70HR x 10:	1. C.	17
Front	24	1.7
Rear	26	1.8

Hydrolastic suspension

Note: The suspension and steering on vehicles equipped with Hydrolastic suspension is identical to models fitted with rubber cone suspension, with the following exceptions:

Front suspension

Type

Trim height (measured from the centre of the front hub to the edge of the wheel arch)

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Independent by interconnected Hydrolastic displacers and unequal length upper and lower suspension arms

13.5 in (343 mm) ± 0.37 in (9.5 mm)

Rear suspension

Type	
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Independent by interconnected Hydrolastic displacers, trailing radius arms and coil hold-down springs

Nm

83

207

52

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Torque wrench settings	lbf ft
Front hub nut (driveshaft):	
All models except Cooper S and 1275GT	60
Cooper S and 1275GT	150
Brake caliner retaining bolts	38
Tie-rod to subframe	22
Tie-rod to suspension arm	19
Upper suspension arm pivot shaft nut	53
Lower suspension arm pivot bolt nut	33
Roadwheel nuts	45
Steering column lower clamp pinch-bolt	12
Steering column upper clamp	14
Steering rack U-bolts	11
Tie-rod balljoint retaining nut	22
Swivel hub balljoint domed nut	75
Swivel hub balljoint to suspension arm	40
Swivel hub balljoint to suspension and	35
Steering wheel nut	38
Steering rack tie-rod ball housing collar	60
Rear hub retaining nut	53
Radius arm pivot shaft nut	

General description 1

The front and rear suspension assemblies and associated components are mounted on subframes which are bolted to the underside of the bodyshell. The subframes are of welded all-steel construction, the front subframe also providing mounting points for the engine/transmission assembly.

The front suspension on all Mini models is of the independent type, each side consisting of a lower wishbone and single upper link. The lower wishbone is supported in rubber bushes at its inner end, while the inner end of the upper link pivots on two caged needle roller bearings. The outer ends of the two suspension arms are bolted to the tapered shanks of the upper and lower swivel hub balljoints. Fore-andaft movement of each front suspension assembly is controlled by a tiebar bolted at one end to the lower wishbone and mounted at the other end, via rubber bushes, to the subframe. The swivel hub contain tapered roller or ball bearings which support the outer ends of the driveshafts, and also provides mounting points for the drum brake backplate or disc brake calipers. Suspension and steering movement of the swivel hub is catered for by adjustable upper and lower balljoints.

52

81

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The rear suspension on all models is also independent by means of two trailing radius arms. The forward end of each radius arm. contains a needle roller bearing and bronze bush, which allows the arm to pivot on a shaft bolted to the subframe. The brake backplate is bolted to the rear end of each radius arm, as is the stub axle which carries the rear wheel hub and bearings.

While all Mini models share the same suspension component layout, two different types of springing and damping have been employed. All models are now equipped with dry suspension, whereby a rubber cone spring and telescopic shock absorber are fitted to the suspension assembly at each wheel. Early Clubman and 1275GT models were equipped with Hydrolastic suspension, whereby a displacer unit which combines the actions of both spring and shock absorber is fitted to each suspension assembly, in place of the rubber cone. The displacer units are interconnected front-to-rear on each side