

Braking the Habit: Rethinking Copper Grease Application



Some believe that copper grease prevents brake squeal when applied to the back of brake pads. However, modern brake pads include anti-squeal shims or coatings, making this unnecessary. Using copper grease can actually increase noise if applied.

Juratek brake pads are fitted with premium anti-noise shims. The effectiveness of these shims is assured by tests we carry out to SAE2521, the test developed by the OEM automotive industry to measure the noise performance of a vehicle braking system.

The test is carried out on a test rig comprising of a full vehicle corner and is contained in an anechoic (soundproof) chamber to prevent external noise pollution.

STOP! Further reasons why copper grease and brake pads don't mix:

- **Interference with ABS and ESP systems**

Copper is conductive. If copper grease contaminates sensors, it can interfere with electronic signals.

- **Braking pad sliding issues**

Copper grease often attracts road debris and brake dust, forming an abrasive sludge that can cause brake pads to stick, rather than sliding freely in the caliper.

- **Potential rubber seal damage**

Most copper greases are petroleum-based and not rubber safe. The grease can degrade rubber seals over time, leading to leaks, contaminated brake fluid, or even brake failure.



When is copper grease still useful?

Copper grease does still have its place to prevent seizing or corrosion – just not with modern braking systems!

On non-braking contact points, it is better to use a ceramic or silicone-based lubricant designed for use with modern braking systems.

