



MERCRUISER SERVICE BULLETIN

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Lubrication of Stern Drive Unit - MerCruiser 160-120-80 and 60

LUBRICATION OF STERN DRIVE UNIT - MERCUISER 160-120-80 and 60

MerCruiser 160-120-80 and 60 Stern Drive Units have the drive shaft housing oil chamber and the gear housing oil chamber inter-connected thru an oil passage. Lubricate the MerCruiser 160-120-80 and 60 Stern Drive Units as follows:

UPPER GEAR CHAMBER (CHECKING OIL LEVEL)

1. Remove "OIL FILL" and "OIL VENT" plugs and gaskets located on the right and left sides of the drive shaft housing. (Figures 1 and 2) Lubricant must be even with bottom edge of threaded "OIL VENT" hole when unit is level.
2. Add EXTRA-DUTY Gear Lubricant (C-92-32641) if level is down.
3. Replace "OIL FILL" and "OIL VENT" plugs and seal gaskets.

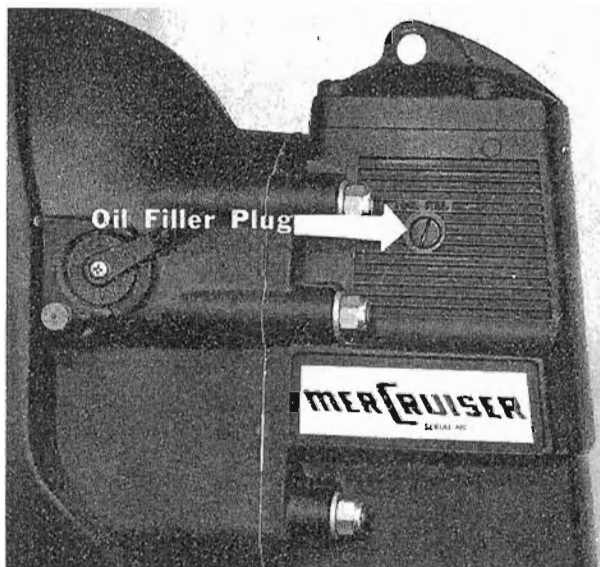


Fig. 1. Oil Filler Plug in Upper Gear Chamber

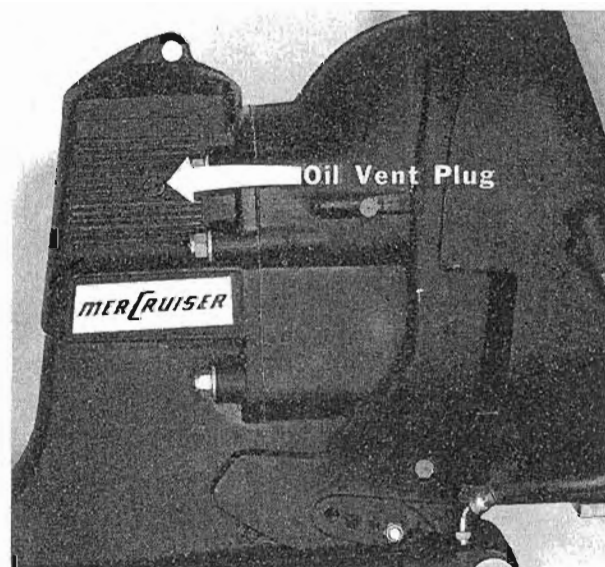


Fig. 2. Oil Vent Plug in Upper Gear Chamber

UPPER GEAR CHAMBER (COMPLETE REFILLING)

If the upper gear chamber is completely drained of gear lubricant, or for winter storage, the following procedure for refilling must be used.

1. Remove the "AIR VENT" plug located on the left side of the gear housing, just above the anti-cavitation plate (Figure 3), the "OIL VENT" plug located on the right side of the drive shaft housing (Figure 2) and the filler plug located on lower left side of the gear housing (Figure 3), being careful not to lose the accompanying washers.

(OVER)

2. Insert lubricant tube into filler plug hole and inject lubricant until excess fluid starts to flow out of gear housing air vent screw hole (Figure 3), indicating that the gear housing is filled.
3. Replace air vent plug, taking special care that washer is in place under head of plug so that water will not leak past threads into gear housing.
4. Continue filling thru the gear housing filler plug (Figure 3), until excess fluid starts to flow out of oil vent hole in drive shaft housing (Figure 2), indicating that both gear chambers are full.
5. Replace oil vent and filler plugs, taking special care that washer is in place under head of each.

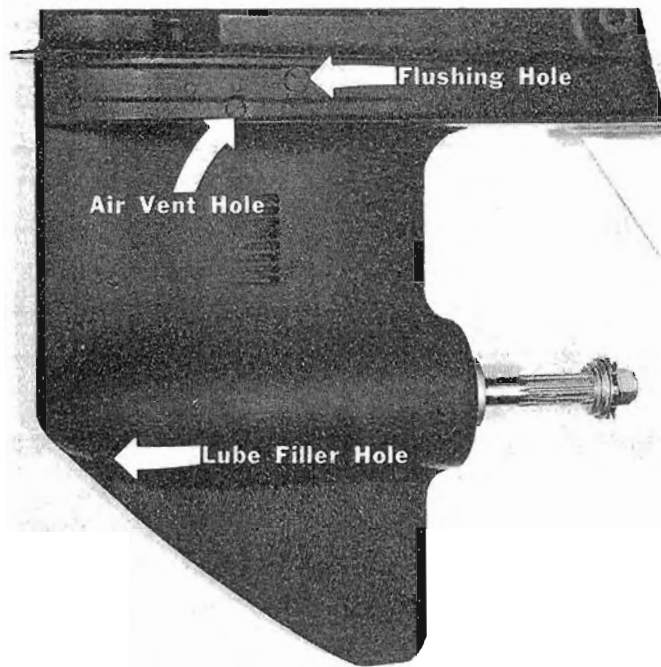


Figure 3. Air Vent Screw Hole and Oil Filler Hole

LOWER GEAR HOUSING

Since the two oil chambers are inter-connected, the lower gear housing will maintain a proper oil level automatically, if the upper gear chamber oil level is maintained according to the above instructions.

NOTE: Gear lubricant must be drained from gear housing before removing gear housing from drive shaft housing so that uncontrolled discharge of lubricant will be avoided.