



AAA Service Advisory



2011 Model Ford Explorers use a transaxle as opposed to early years utilizing a transmission and rear wheel drive. This makes the 2011 two wheel drive version front wheel drive. This is a departure from the traditional rear wheel drive version that has been produced by Ford in previous years.

Concern: Damage to the drivetrain if the vehicle is towed on the front drive wheels.

Vehicle: 2011 model year Ford Explorer, two wheel drive vehicles.



Photo is courtesy of the Ford Motor Company®

Below is the procedure page from the 2011, AAA/CAA Towing and Service Manual:

Ford Explorer 2011

FWD

Car Carrier Tie-Down

TOW LIMITS	TRANS	MPH	MILES
Front	Auto	50	UNLTD
	Manual	N/A	N/A
Rear	Auto	0	0
	Manual	N/A	N/A

Examples

CAUTION

TOW INFORMATION:
Use wheel-lift or car carrier equipment with safety chains and proper tie-down devices. Additional ramping may be required when loading onto a car carrier.

CAUTION: When towing from the rear with a wheel-lift, a dolly is required under the front wheels to prevent transaxle damage. Do not use J-hooks for loading or tie-down, as they may cause damage to suspension or other components.

SHIFT INTERLOCK OVERRIDE: An override is provided under the storage compartment forward of the transmission shifter. Ensure the vehicle will not roll. Open the storage compartment cover and remove the rubber liner. Carefully pry up the access door in the bottom of the storage compartment using a screwdriver or similar tool. Locate the interlock lever forward of the shifter. Pull back on the tab while attempting to shift the vehicle out of Park (P).

SERVICE INFORMATION:
JUMP-STARTING: The battery is located under the hood on the driver's side. Follow all normal jump-starting precautions as outlined in the "General Information" section in the front of this manual. After the battery in this vehicle has been discharged or disconnected from the system it may take a while for the computer to relearn its proper idle settings and the transmission must relearn its shift strategy. According to the manufacturer, this is normal and does not affect the function or durability of the transmission. The shift strategy may take a couple of drive cycles to relearn. These vehicles may also be equipped with a push button start system. If the system does not detect the key, even though it is in the car, place the keyfob in the slot in the front of the center console storage compartment with the buttons facing out and the key ring attachment pointed up.

TIRE CHANGING: Some model are equipped with a spare tire, jack and tire tools are located under the floor liner in the rear cargo area. On models without a spare tire, an inflator kit is provided. Refer to the instruction on the inflator kit to ensure proper installation methods are followed.

FUEL DELIVERY: The computer controls the fuel pump and it will shut the fuel pump off in the case of a hard jolt. If this happens, cycling the ignition key from on to OFF and back to ON again should restart the fuel pump. These vehicles are also equipped with the Ford Easy Fuel system. A funnel to assist with fuel transfer is located in the spare tire well in the rear cargo area.

If you have questions or comments regarding this advisory, please e-mail the AAA Technical Training and Research Department at: RPST@national.aaa.com