

Installation Manual



AIR SUSPENSION KIT

RAM 4500/5500 CHASSIS CAB (2WD/4WD)*

Including Cab & Chassis

Eliminate your vehicle's sag, sway and bottoming out while providing added support for an overall smooth and safe ride with this extreme duty air suspension kit. Rated for up to 7500 lbs of load-leveling capacity⁺, this kit is ideally suited for those towing/hauling big loads on a regular basis.

* See application guide for proper fitment.

+ Applications vary. Never exceed manufacturer's recommended Gross Vehicle Weight Rating

Thank you and congratulations on the purchase of an Air Suspension kit.

Please read the entire manual prior to starting the installation to ensure you can complete it once started. If you are unsure whether you are qualified to install the Air Suspension kit, consult a qualified service professional before beginning the installation.

SAFETY WARNINGS!

You must read and abide by the instructions found in this manual, paying close attention to the helpful (+), cautionary (!) or dangerous (!) warning icons highlighting important safety recommendations and maintenance suggestions throughout this manual. **Failure to abide by all instructions in this manual will void the warranty.**

HELPFUL INSTALL TIP
Additional information that could potentially make the job a little easier.

PLEASE USE CAUTION
Unsafe practices could result in damage to you or your vehicle, or others.

DANGER WARNING
Hazards which could result in severe personal injury or death.

- !** Serious personal injury or death may result from an air spring failure or accident due to improper installation or air spring pressure operation or maintenance.
- !** Inflating an unsecured air spring is dangerous. If it bursts, it could be hurled into the air with explosive force resulting in serious personal injury or death. Never inflate an air spring unless it is secured to the vehicle.
- !** Removing and replacing air springs can be dangerous. This is only a job for a qualified service professional. Never perform air spring service procedures without proper training, tools, and equipment.
- !** An air suspension kit will not increase the GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating), as the GVWR is determined by the vehicle manufacturer. **Do not exceed the maximum capacity listed by the vehicle manufacturer.**

- !** For safe and proper operation of the vehicle, never operate the vehicle under the minimum or over the maximum listed PSI in the air spring(s), (see: *MIN/MAX PSI* chart on the final page of this manual). Staying within the pressure limits will ensure a reasonable duration of the air springs. **Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and will void the warranty.**

BEFORE STARTING THE INSTALLATION

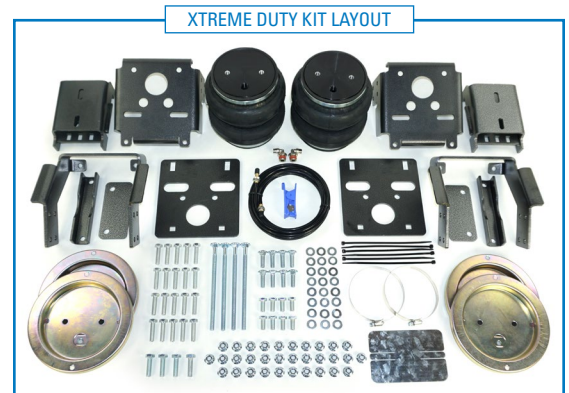
- !** Always read your vehicle owner's manual and follow all instructions and warnings therein prior to modifying your vehicle.
- !** Ensure the application information is correct for the make, model and year of the vehicle you are installing the kit on.
- !** It is recommended to always jack the vehicle on the axle. If lifting the vehicle with a floor jack or hoist on the frame, never allow the air spring to limit the travel of the axle. Suspending the axle with the air spring limiting the axle travel **will damage the air spring and void the warranty.** (This warning does not apply to In-Coil Springs)
- !** The air spring must have clearance between itself and the surrounding components to prevent any contact when the air spring is inflated or compressed. Trimming off excess bolt length may also be required to ensure no contact with the spring or other suspension components can be made once installed. **Failure to do so will void the warranty.**
- !** Some vehicles are equipped with a rear wheel brake proportioning valve. Check with the manufacturer before installing the air spring kit, as it may affect braking performance.
- !** This kit contains push-to-connect fittings; using scissors or wire cutters to cut the nylon air line will distort the line and cause the connection to leak. The air line must be cut off squarely with the hose cutter provided in this kit, or a sharp utility knife. **Failure to do so will void the warranty.**
- +** It is recommended to use additional thread sealant or Teflon tape on fittings during the installation for a proper seal.
- !** Always ensure the bolts are not over-torqued; especially when a torque value is provided, failing to use the provided torque value(s) can lead to **premature failure and will void the warranty.**
- +** It is recommended to use a good quality anti-seize on all fasteners to reduce the chance of corrosion and help facilitate removal, if required at a later date.

KIT CONTENTS

Please confirm the items below are provided in your kit before starting the installation. Reference the kit explosion diagram on the following page for part assembly.

XTREME DUTY KITS		QTY	PART #
A	Double Convoluted Spring	2	HP10438

XTREME DUTY JOUNCE BUMPER KITS		QTY	PART #
B	Double Convoluted Spring w/ Jounce Bumper	2	HP10438J



COMMON KIT CONTENTS		QTY	PART #
C	Roll Plate	4	HP10069
D	Fitting, 90° Brass Air	2	HP1245
E	Bracket, Upper Frame	2	HP1643
F	Bracket, Frame Mounting	2	HP2165
G	Bracket, Air Spring Mounting	2	HP2166
H	Bracket, Lower	2	HP2167
I	Plate, Shim 3/16"	2	HP2153
J	Axle Strap	2	HP1383
K	Bolt, 3/8" – 24 x 7/8" Hex Head	8	HP1002
L	Bolt, 3/8" – 16 x 1 1/4" Hex Head	20	HP2152
M	Bolt, 3/8" – 16 X 1.25" Carriage	8	HP1149
N	Bolt, 3/8" – 16 X 7" Carriage	4	HP1409
O	Bolt, M10 x 1.5 x 35mm Hex Head	4	HP1134
P	Washer, 3/8" Flat	24	C653
Q	Nut, 3/8" - 16 Nylon Lock Flange	32	HP1338
R	Heat Shield	1	HP0012
S	Worm Gear Ring Clamp	2	HP1001

REQUIRED TOOLS

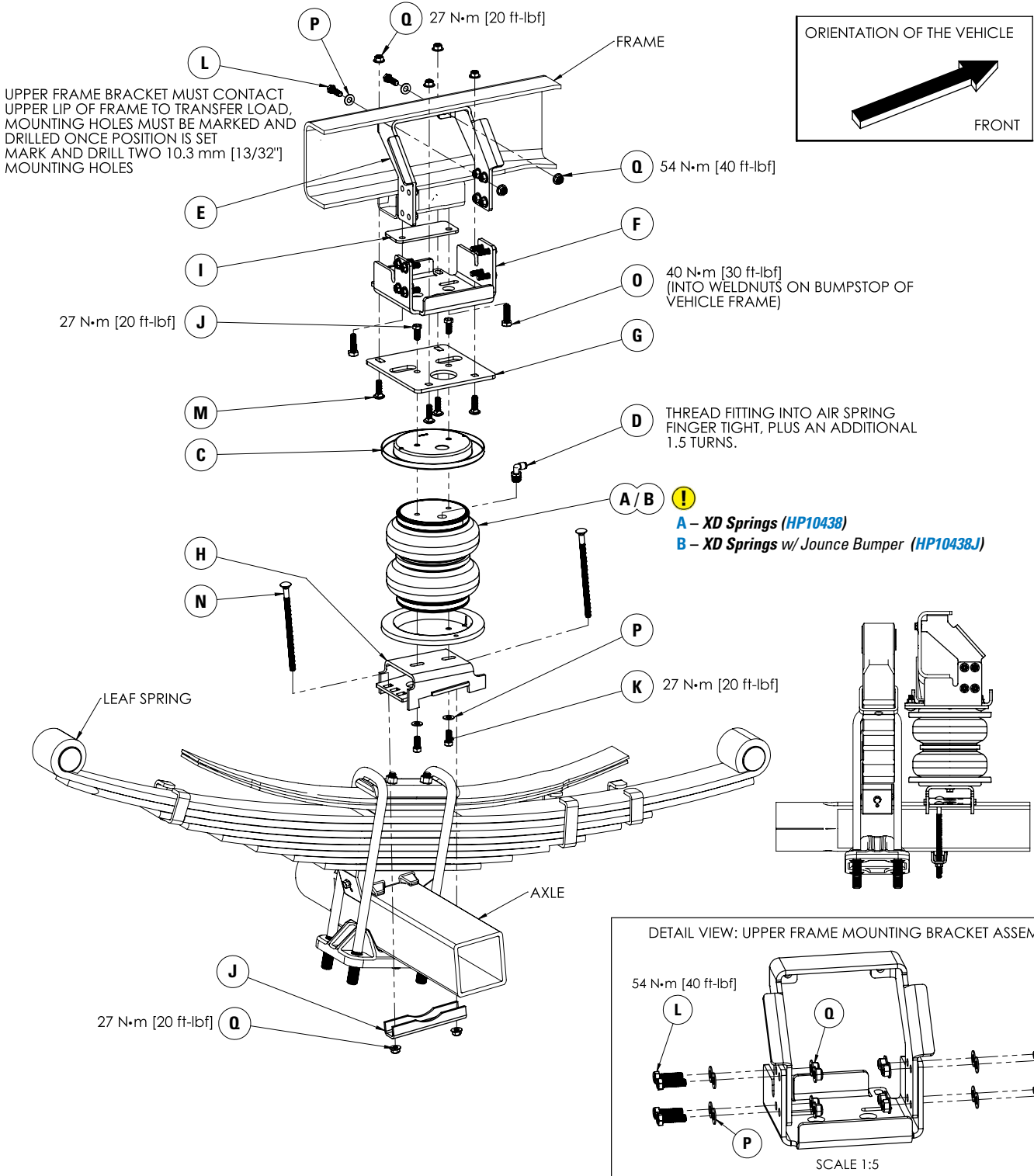
- Hoist or Floor Jack
- Safety Stands
- Safety Glasses
- Torque Wrench
- Standard Combination Wrenches
- 7/32" Hex Allen Wrench
- Ratchet
- Metric & Standard Sockets
- Hose Cutter (included) or Sharp Utility Knife
- Pipe Thread Sealant
- Spray Bottle with Dish Soap/Water
- Air Compressor/Compressed Air Source (to test/fill air springs)



WARNING: This product can expose you to the chemical Hexavalent Chromate, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov

KIT EXPLOSION DIAGRAM

DRIVER SIDE ASSEMBLY SHOWN (Passenger side assembly is mirrored)



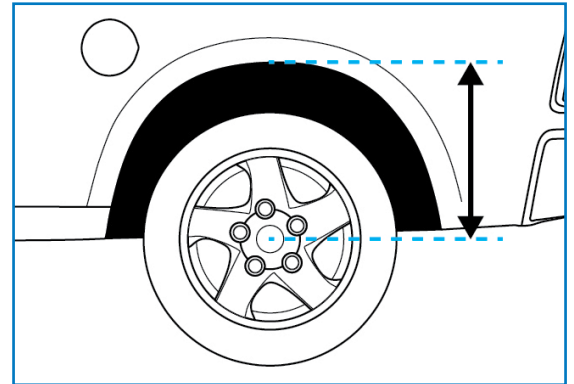
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1 MEASURE STOCK RIDE HEIGHT & CLEARANCE

Park the vehicle on a level surface and remove any unnecessary weight from the vehicle to attain a "Normal Ride Height".

Using a measuring tape, measure the distance between the center of the wheel hub and the bottom of the fender well (see Figure 1A for reference) this will give you your stock Normal Ride Height.

Note the ride height for all four tires.



1A

2 REMOVE REAR WHEELS

+ PLEASE NOTE: This step is optional for this installation but will make the install easier to complete.

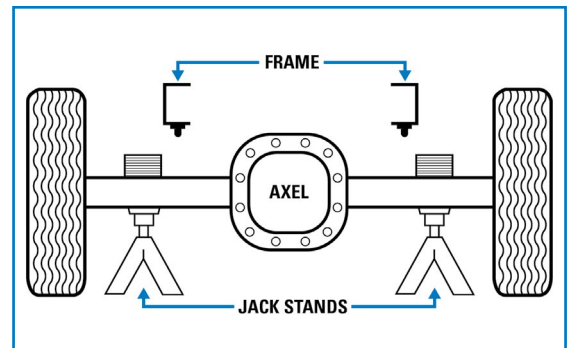
Place wheel chocks in front of and behind both front wheels.

Raise the rear of the truck high enough to remove both wheels and attain a comfortable working height.

Place two jack stands under rear axle (as shown in Figure 1B).

Lower the vehicle until the axle is supported by the jack stands.

Remove rear wheels.



1B

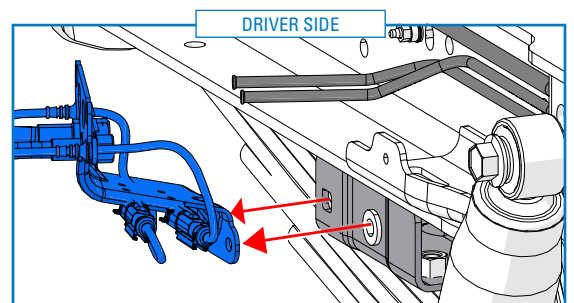
3 REMOVE JOUNCE BUMPER

DRIVER SIDE ONLY: Disconnect the brake line bracket from the frame (as shown in Figure 3A) and push to the side to simplify the installation of the upper bracket. Retain OE hardware for reinstallation in Step 10.

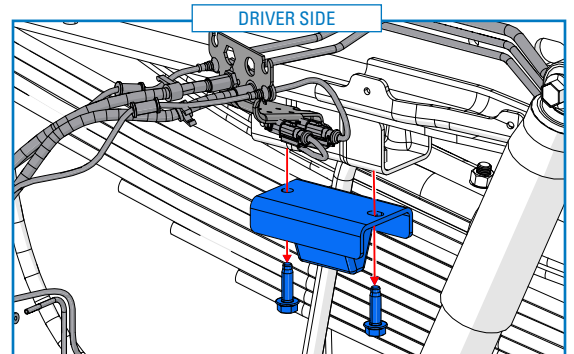
Remove the two bolts securing the jounce bumper to frame (as shown in Figure 3B).

+ The Passenger side of the vehicle does not have the brake line bracket shown in Figures 3A / 3B.

Remove the jounce bumper and discard the bolts as they will not be reused in this installation.



3A



3B

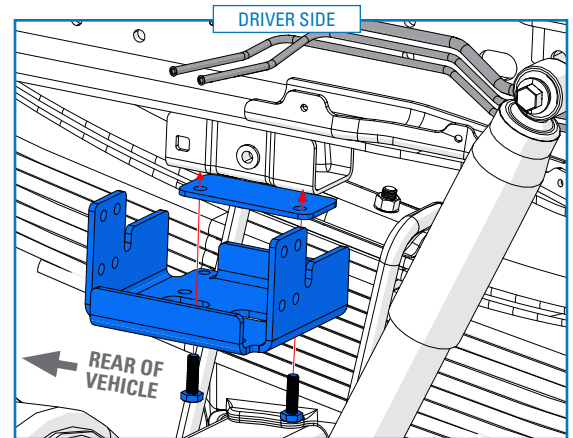
4 ATTACH THE UPPER FRAME BRACKET

Fasten the shim plate and the upper frame bracket to the vehicle by inserting two M10 x 1.5 x 35mm hex bolts through both brackets (as shown in Figure 4) into the holes previously occupied by the jounce bumper hardware.

The shim plate should sit completely under the frame, where the jounce bumper has been removed.

- ⚠ **CAUTION:** Adjust the bracket toward the **REAR** of the vehicle. The side of the lower bracket should be in contact with the jounce bumper mount.

Torque the bolts to 40 N•m (30 ft-lbs)



5 MARK HOLES FOR UPPER SUPPORT BRACKET

Place the upper support bracket in position on the vehicle frame (as shown in Figure 5A).

DRIVER SIDE ONLY: The fuel lines will need to be unclipped and moved downwards for proper fitment.

Two mounting holes must be drilled through the frame in the indicated locations (see Figure 5B).

- ⚠ **On some vehicles, it may be necessary to modify or remove an exhaust hanger mount on the Passenger side if there is interference with the support bracket.**

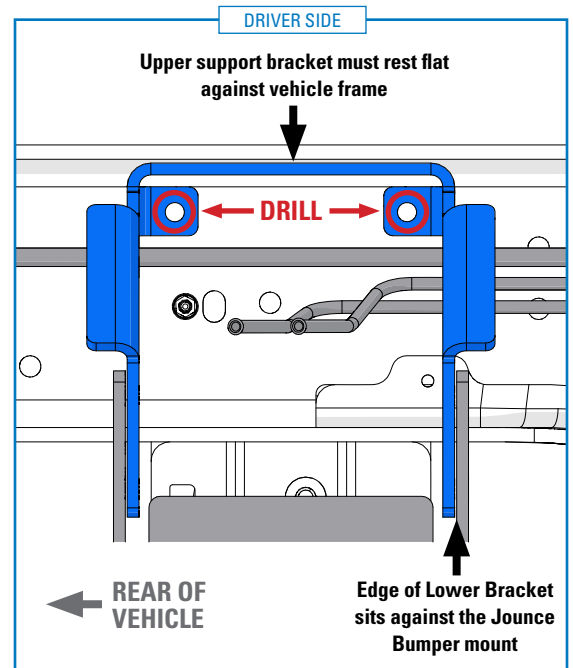
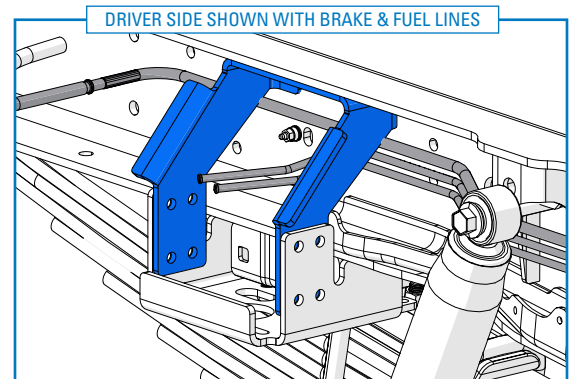
Position the upper support bracket so the upper bracket surface rests flat against the top of the frame channel (as shown in Figure 5B) and the back surface rests flat against the rear of the frame channel.

Using the bracket as a template, mark the center points of the mounting holes to be drilled.

- ⚠ **IMPORTANT:**
The upper support bracket **MUST** rest flat against the vehicle frame as shown before marking holes to be drilled. Incorrect placement of the bracket may result in kit failure or vehicle damage during use.

Remove the upper support bracket and drill two 13/32" holes through the frame in the marked positions.

- ⚠ **Use caution to not damage any brake, fuel or electrical lines during drilling.**



4

5A

5B

6 ATTACH UPPER SUPPORT BRACKET

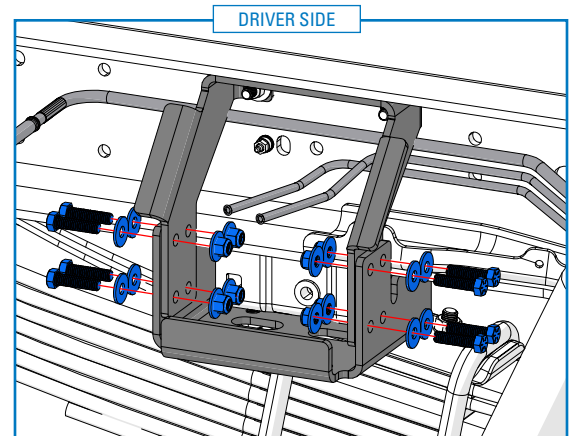
- ⊕ *Clear any metal shavings or debris before placing the upper support bracket in the vehicle.*

Line up the holes in the upper support bracket with the drilled holes in the frame and holes in the upper frame bracket.

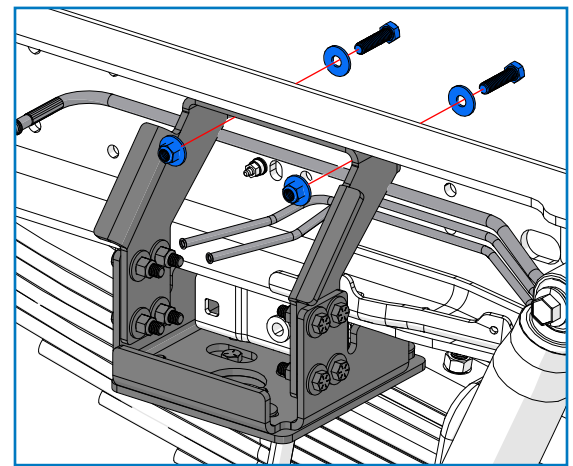
Attach the bracket (as shown in Figures 6A and 6B) using ten 3/8" – 16 x 1.5" bolts, twenty 3/8" flat washers and ten 3/8" nylon lock nuts.

Torque the two bolts securing the bracket to the frame first to 54 N•m (40 ft-lbs).

Torque the remaining eight bolts evenly to 54 N•m (40 ft-lbs).



6A



6B

7 ASSEMBLE SPRINGS AND UPPER BRACKETS

Install the air fitting into the port on the top of the air spring. Tighten the fitting finger tight plus an additional 1.5 turns.

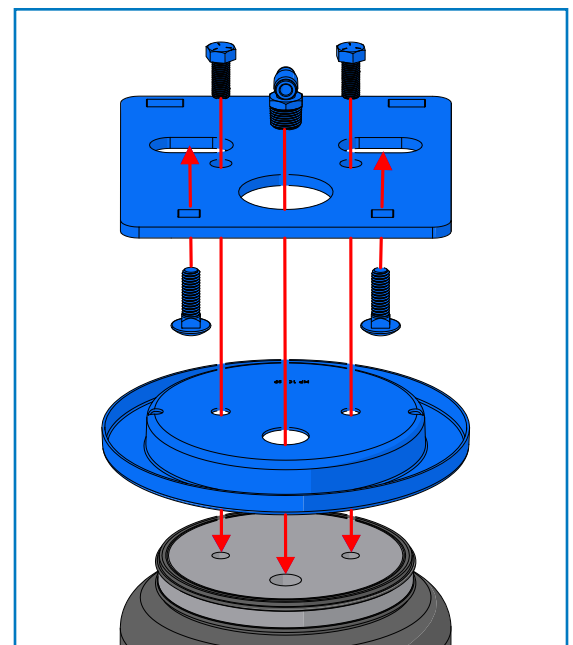
- ⊕ *The use of Teflon tape or thread sealant is recommended.*

Insert two 3/8" – 16 x 1.25" carriage bolts through the square holes as shown in Figure 7.

- ⊕ *Carriage bolts must be inserted through bracket before attaching bracket to spring as the roll plate will block the holes.*

Set a roll plate and the upper spring bracket on the top surface of the air spring. Ensure all holes are aligned and install two 3/8" – 24 x 7/8" hex head bolts.

Torque bolts to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).



7

8 ASSEMBLE SPRINGS AND LOWER BRACKETS

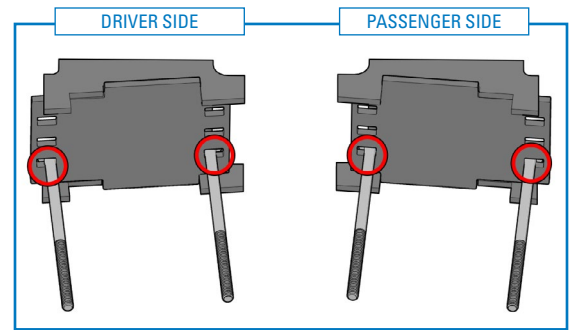
Insert two 3/8" – 16 x 7" carriage bolts through the lower brackets.

- ⊕ *Carriage bolts must be inserted through bracket before attaching bracket to spring as the roll plate will block the holes.*
- ⚠ *Ensure the bolts are inserted through the correct indicated holes (shown highlighted with the circles in Figure 8A).*

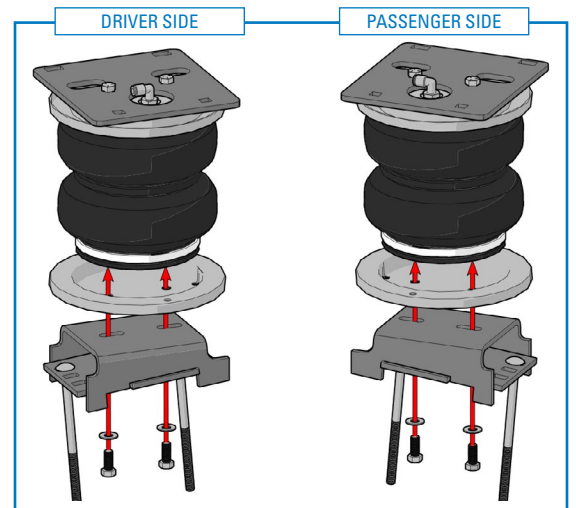
Set a roll plate on the bottom surface of the air spring, followed by the lower bracket assembly.

- ⚠ *Note the orientations of the lower brackets relative to the air inlet port (as shown in Figure 8B) as incorrect bracket orientation will result in installation issues.*

Ensure all holes are aligned and secure with two 3/8" – 24 x 7/8" hex head bolts and two small 3/8" flat washers.



8A



8B

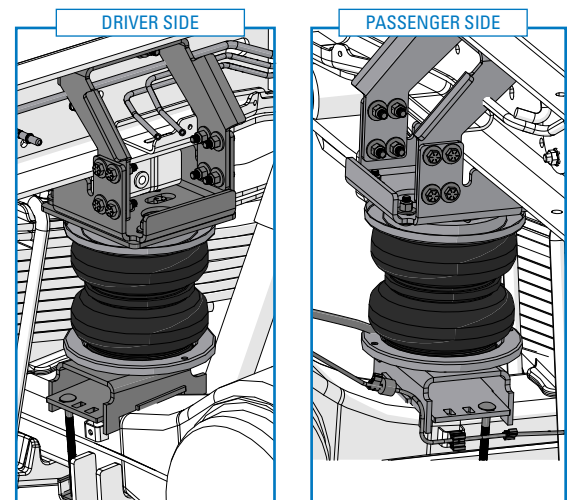
9 INSTALL SPRING ASSEMBLY

Install the spring assemblies into the vehicle (as shown in Figure 9A's Driver & Passenger sides).

- ⊕ *It may be necessary to raise the frame a few inches to provide adequate clearance for installation.*

Insert the two previously installed carriage bolts through the holes in the upper frame bracket and secure the assembly using two more 3/8" - 16 x 1.25" carriage bolts, four 3/8" flat washers and four 3/8" nylon lock nuts (see Figure 9B & 9C on the following page for reference).

Do not fully tighten hardware at this time to allow for spring alignment.



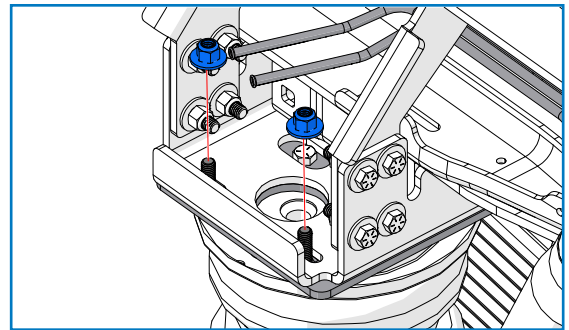
9A

Step & Passenger side notes continue on the following page...

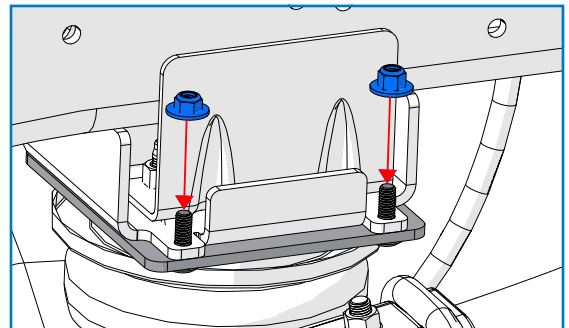
PASSENGER SIDE ONLY: It may be necessary to remove the emergency brake line from the axle clip on the Passenger side or adjust the axle clip if interference occurs with the lower bracket (as highlighted in Figure 9D).

The axle clip should be re-torqued to 20.3 N•m (15 ft lbs).

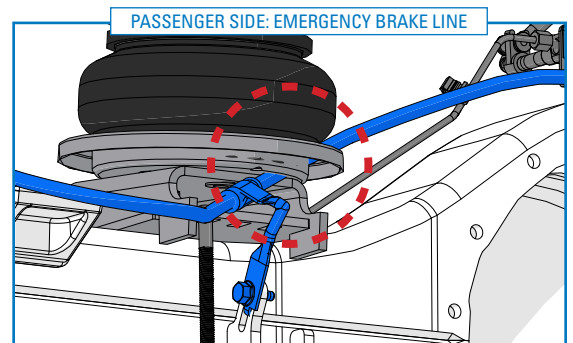
- ⊕ *The hard brake line may need to be pushed toward the differential to gain clearance for the lower bracket to sit correctly (see Figure 9E for reference).*



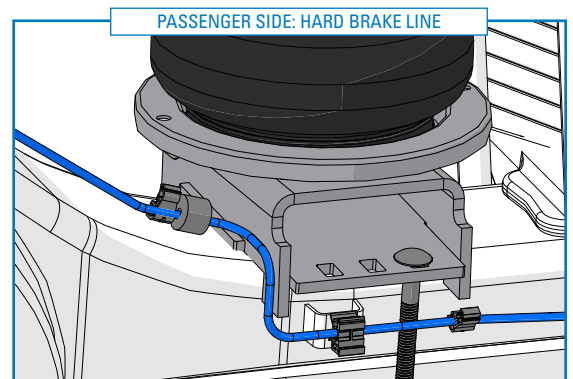
9B



9C



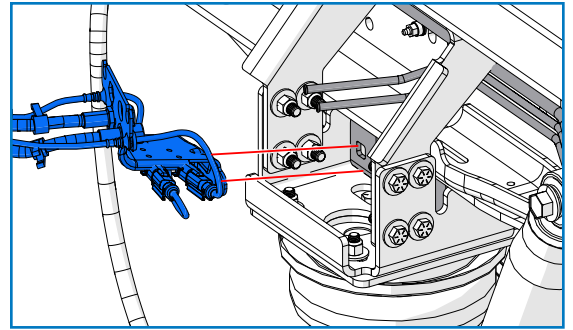
9D



9E

10 RECONNECT BRAKE LINE BRACKET

DRIVER SIDE ONLY: Reconnect the brake line bracket, previously removed in Step 3, to the frame, reusing the OEM hardware, torque to 20.3 N•m (15 ft lbs).

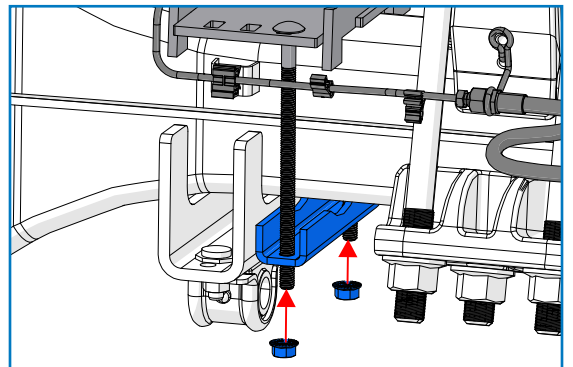


10

11 INSTALL AXLE STRAP

Secure the lower bracket to the axle with an axle strap and two 3/8" serrated flange nuts.

Do not fully tighten hardware at this time to allow for spring alignment



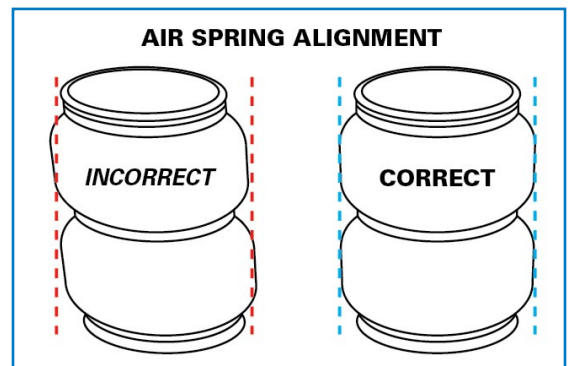
11

12 ALIGN SPRING ASSEMBLIES

Adjust the upper spring bracket and lower bracket on the axle to best align the air springs (see Figure 12 for reference).

When alignment is achieved, torque hardware as follows:

- Torque the four 3/8" nylon lock nuts on the upper bracket assembly to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).
- Torque the two 3/8" serrated flange nuts on the axle strap to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).



12

13 INSTALL HEAT SHIELD

Bend tabs on the heat shield so the required 1/2" of dead space exists between the heat shield and exhaust when attached.

Attach the heat shield to the exhaust pipe on passenger side using two ring clamps (shown in Figure 13).

Each hose clamp holds a tab against exhaust pipe.



13

INSTALL AIR LINE

Two fill valves are provided in this kit. The most common place to install them is in place of the license plate fasteners. Alternatively, two 5/16" holes can be drilled in a location of your choosing.

Cut the air line assembly into two equal lengths with the hose cutter provided in this kit or a sharp utility knife.

⚠ PLEASE NOTE: *This kit contains push-to-connect fittings; using scissors or wire cutters to cut the nylon air line will distort the line and cause the connection to leak. The air line must be cut off squarely with a hose cutter or a sharp utility knife.*

Install one air line at a time starting at the fill valve location. Place a 5/16" nut on the air valve. Leave enough of the inflation valve in front of the nut to extend through the hole, install a flat washer, and 5/16" nut and cap (reference Figure A for assembly). There should be enough valve exposed after installation – approximately 1/2" – to easily apply a pressure gauge or an air chuck.

Route the air line back to the NPT fitting on the air spring, then cut the hose to length. Moisten the end of the air line prior to inserting it into the fitting and push it in until it stops.

Repeat with the other fill valve.

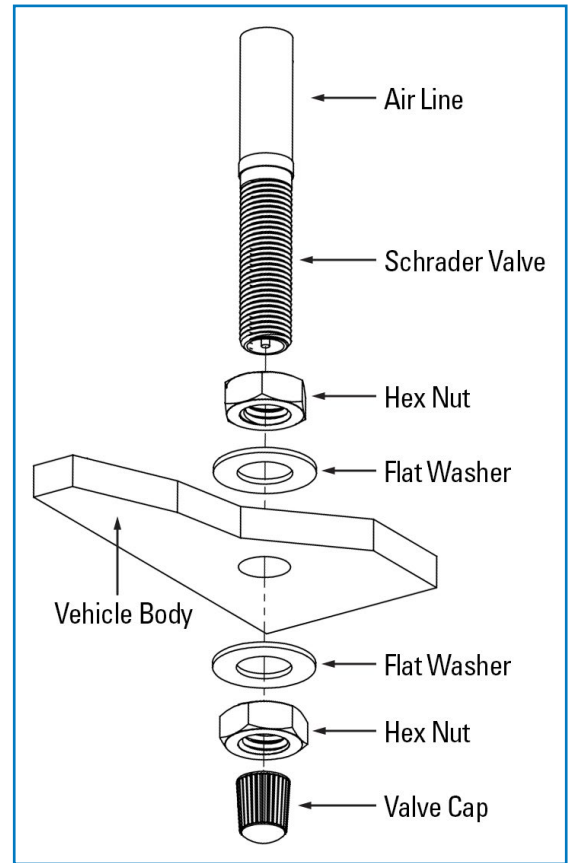
Secure the air lines using the provided tie-straps, away from any moving items and heat sources.

CHECK SYSTEM FOR LEAKS

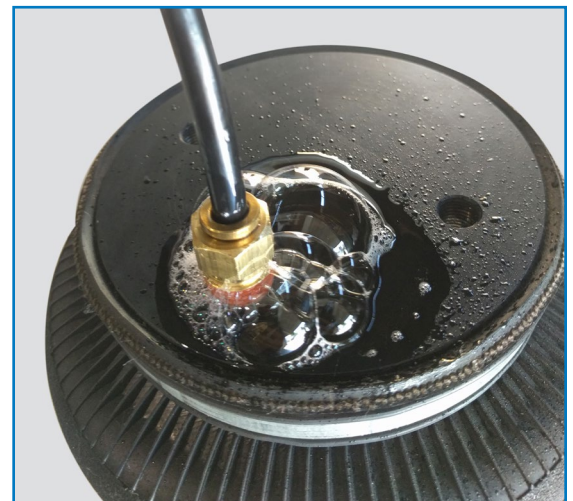
Using the *MIN/MAX PSI* chart on the following page; inflate both air springs to 10 psi less than the maximum recommended pressure for the air spring part number included in this kit; then use a mixture of dish soap and water on all air line connections to detect any air leaks. Large, expanding bubbles indicate a leak (as shown in Figure B).

⚠ Leak must be repaired, and then retested until no leaks exist.

Recheck the pressure on the following day. If one or both of air springs have lost pressure, an air leak is present and must be repaired.



A



**Air Spring & NPT Air Fitting may differ between kits*

B

CONGRATULATIONS! You have completed the install

After Installation continues on the following page.

Thank you again, and congratulations on the installation of your Air Suspension kit.

AFTER COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION

- ! The air spring must have clearance between itself and the surrounding components to prevent any contact when the air spring is inflated or compressed. Trimming off excess bolt length may also be required to ensure no contact with the spring or other suspension components can be made once installed. **Failure to do so will void the warranty.**
- ! If the vehicle’s tires were removed during the installation; re-install and torque all wheel fasteners (lug nuts) to the manufacturer’s specifications. Re-torque all wheel fasteners after the first 500 miles of driving.
- ! **Review your vehicle owner’s manual and adhere to all instructions and post-installation requirements related to vehicle modifications.**

OPERATING YOUR VEHICLE WITH AIR SUSPENSION

Air springs have minimum and maximum recommended pressure requirements:

MIN / MAX PSI: REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR AIR SPRING(S)				
PART #	SPRING STYLE	SPRING TYPE	MIN PSI	MAX PSI
HP10687	In-Coil	STANDARD DUTY	5 PSI	50 PSI
HP10560		STANDARD DUTY	5 PSI	70 PSI
HP10001	Sleeve Style	STANDARD DUTY	10 PSI	100 PSI
HP10173		STANDARD DUTY		
HP10199		STANDARD DUTY		
HP10083	Single Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10083J		HEAVY DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI* / 5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10000	Double Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10000J		HEAVY DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI* / 5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10068	Large Double Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10438	Double Convoluted	EXTREME DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10438J		EXTREME DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI* / 5 PSI	100 PSI

* Springs with a jounce bumper can be run at zero PSI when vehicle is unloaded only

Never operate the vehicle under the minimum or over the maximum listed PSI in the air spring(s). Staying within the pressure limits will ensure maximum air spring life. **Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and void the warranty.**

- ! **It is recommended to check the air pressure in your air springs daily, for the first 5 days, to ensure a leak has not developed.**

Air springs are designed to maintain the vehicle’s stock ride height with a load. Do not use the air springs as a means to lift vehicle with no load. This will result in a harsh ride.

SERVICING YOUR VEHICLE WITH AIR SUSPENSION

It is recommended to always jack the vehicle on the axle. If lifting the vehicle with a floor jack or hoist on the frame, never allow the air spring to limit the travel of the axle. Suspending the axle with the air spring limiting the axle travel **will damage the air spring and void the warranty.** (This warning does not apply to In-Coil Springs)

WARRANTY

See accompanying limited warranty included with this kit for details.