LoadLifter 5000™

AIR LIFT® Since 1949

Installation Guide

Toyota Tacoma

Watch the video
Info on Table of Contents page

Kit 57386

For maximum effectiveness and safety, please read these instructions completely before proceeding with installation.

Failure to read these instructions can result in an incorrect installation.

MN-1201 • Revision 012409 • ERN 10376

Protect your Air Lift Purchase by Completing your Warranty Registration

Thank you for purchasing an Air Lift load support product!

Take a photo of your sales receipt and then scan the QR code to complete your online warranty registration.

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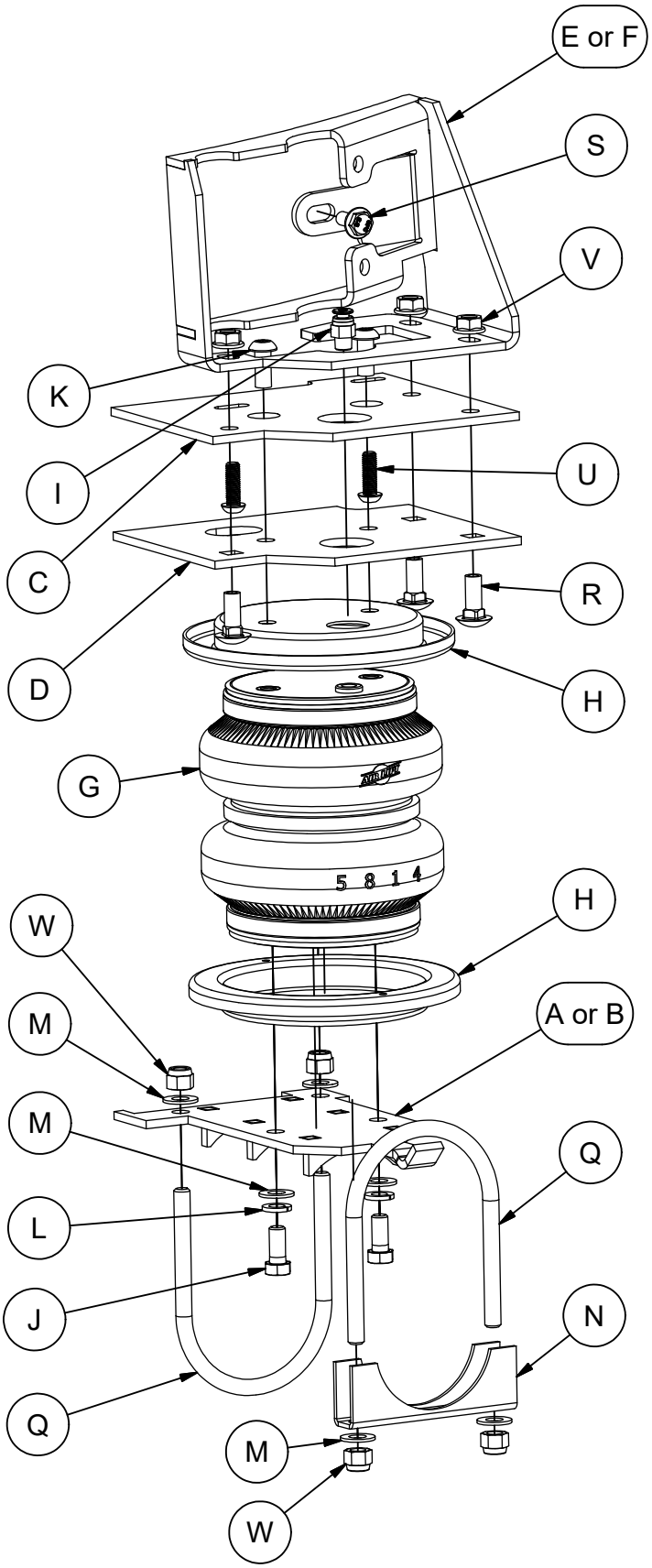
Video-enhanced installation guides

Visit airliftcompany.com/workshop/category/install-videos to access our installation video archive*.

* Subject to availability

System Overview



Passenger's
(right) Side

Fig. 1

Hardware and Tools

HARDWARE LIST

Item	Part#	Description	Qty
A	03054	Lower bracket, right hand	1
B	03067	Lower bracket, left hand	1
C	07092	Upper frame bracket	2
D	11183	Upper spring bracket	2
E	11191	Upper brace, left hand	1
F	11196	Upper brace, right hand	1
G	58439	Air spring	2
H	11951	Roll plates	4
I	21839	Straight fitting	2
J	17203	3/8-24 X 7/8" Hex cap screw	4
K	17527	3/8-24 X 3/4" Button-head cap screw	4
L	18427	3/8" Split lock washer	4
M	18444	3/8" Flat washer	12
N	01852	Axle saddle bracket	2
O	11192	Wire harness relocation bracket, right hand	1
P	11193	Wire harness relocation bracket, left hand	1
Q	11771	3/8-16 U-bolt	4
R	17134	3/8-16 X 1" Carriage bolt	6
S	17444	M8-1.25 X 20mm Hex flange bolt	3
T	17587	1/4-20 X 1/2" Hex cap screw	2
U	17937	M8-25mm Button-head cap screw	4
V	18422	3/8-16 Serrated flange lock nut	6
W	18435	3/8-16 Nylon lock nut	8
X	18501	M8 Flat washer	1
Y	18522	M8-1.25 Nylon lock nut	1
Z	18662	1/4-20 Serrated flange lock nut	2
AA*	20086	Air line assembly	1
BB*	10466	Zip ties	6
CC*	21230	Valve cap	2
DD*	18411	Star washer	2
EE*	21234	Rubber washer	2
FF*	18501	M8 Flat washer	2
GG*	21233	5/16" Hex nut	4

* These parts are not shown in the System Overview (Fig.1).

TOOLS NEEDED

Description	Qty
Standard and metric open-end or box wrenches	Set
9/16 ratchet wrench	1
Ratchet	1
Standard and metric regular and deep-well sockets	Set
Torque wrench	1
5mm and 7/32" hex-key wrench (3/8" socket is preferable)	1
Hose cutter, razor blade, or sharp knife	1
Hoist or floor jack	1
Safety glasses	1
Safety stands	2
Air compressor or compressed air source	1
Spray bottle with dish soap/water solution	1

STOP! Missing or damaged parts? Call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892 for a replacement part.

Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation and maintenance of the LoadLifter 5000 air spring kits. All LoadLifter 5000 kits utilize sturdy, reinforced, commercial-grade single or double, depending on the kit, convolute bellows.

The air springs are manufactured like a tire with layers of rubber and cords that control growth. LoadLifter 5000 kits provide up to 5,000 pounds (2,268kg) of load-leveling support with air adjustability from 5-100 PSI (.34-7BAR).

It is important to read and understand the entire installation guide before beginning installation or performing any maintenance, service or repair.

NOTATION EXPLANATION

Hazard notations appear in various locations in this publication. Information highlighted by one of these notations must be observed to help minimize risk of personal injury or possible improper installation, which may render the vehicle unsafe. Notes are used to help emphasize areas of procedural importance and provide helpful suggestions. The following definitions explain the use of these notations as they appear throughout this installation guide.

DANGER

INDICATES IMMEDIATE HAZARDS WHICH WILL RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.

WARNING

INDICATES HAZARDS OR UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH COULD RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.

CAUTION

INDICATES HAZARDS OR UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE VEHICLE OR MINOR PERSONAL INJURY.

NOTE *Used to help emphasize areas of procedural importance and provide helpful suggestions.*

Install the System

PREPARE THE VEHICLE

1. Lift the vehicle and support the frame with safety stands. Remove the rear wheels. Drop the axle down low enough to later set the air springs into position between the frame and axle (Fig. 2).

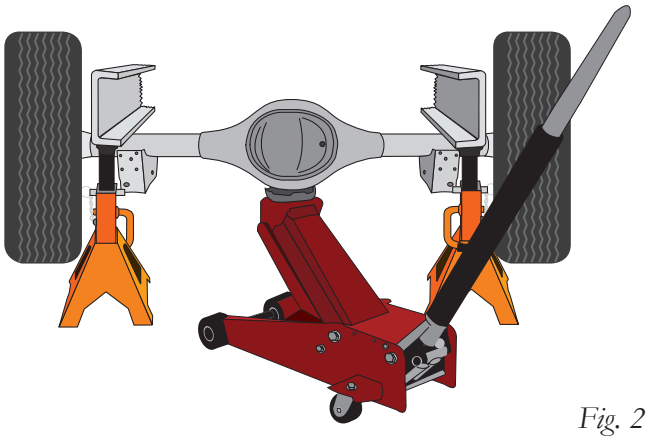


Fig. 2

2. Unbolt and remove both jounce bumpers from the frame rail. Also, remove the two bolts holding the module to the passenger's (right) side frame rail (Fig. 3).

Fig. 3

3. Remove the plastic frame hole covers from the side of the frame, right behind the axle (Fig. 4).

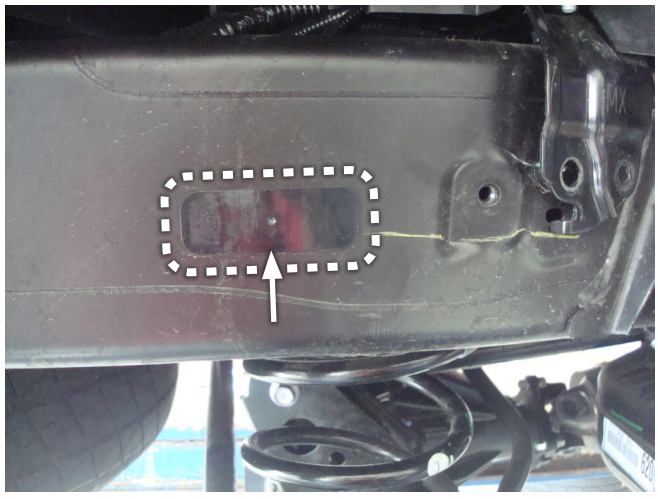


Fig. 4

4. Remove the electric brake wiring harness connector that mounts to the bracket welded forward of the axle on both sides by pushing in on the tabs underneath and pushing it out of the slot (Fig. 5).

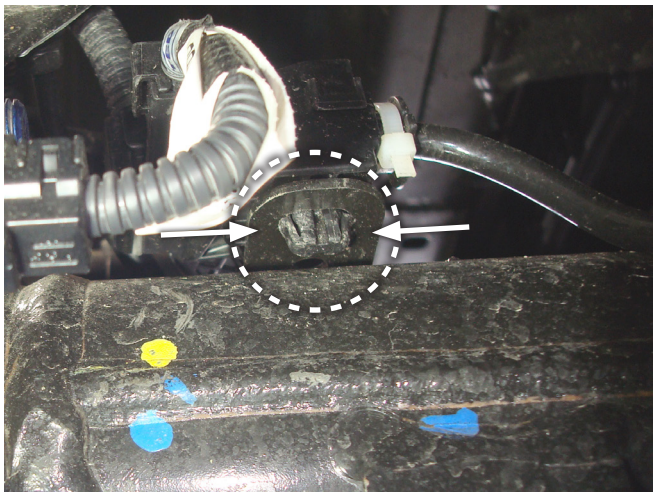


Fig. 5

5. Install the left- and right-hand wiring harness relocation brackets (O and P) onto the axle brackets the connectors were previously removed from, with the 1/4" hex-head bolt (T) and 1/4" serrated flange lock nut (Z). Mount with the flanges on the brackets facing down to lock them in place (Fig. 6). Torque to 65 lb.-in. (7Nm). Push the connector into the new bracket. Figure 7 shows the top view, passenger's (right) side installation.

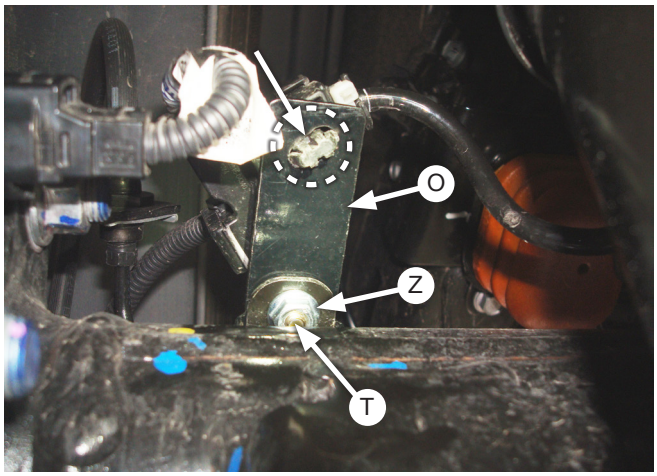


Fig. 6

Fig. 7

6. Insert the lower axle U-bolt (Q) from the back side of the passenger's (right) side axle just outboard of the lower spring seat (Fig. 8) and through the small hole in the lower control arm bracket (Fig. 9), then rotate it so that the threaded portion is pointing up (Fig. 10).

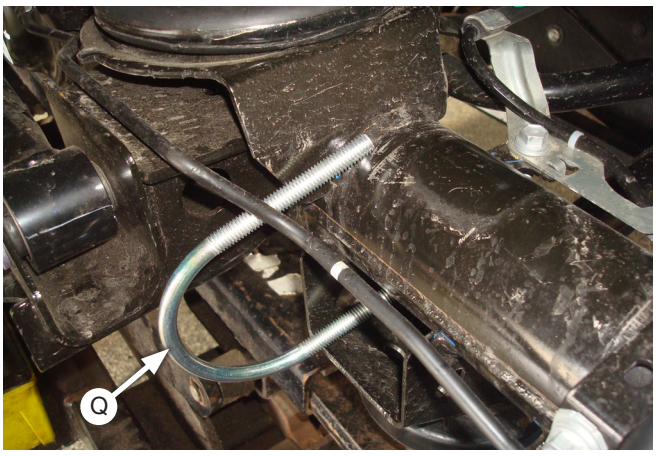


Fig. 8

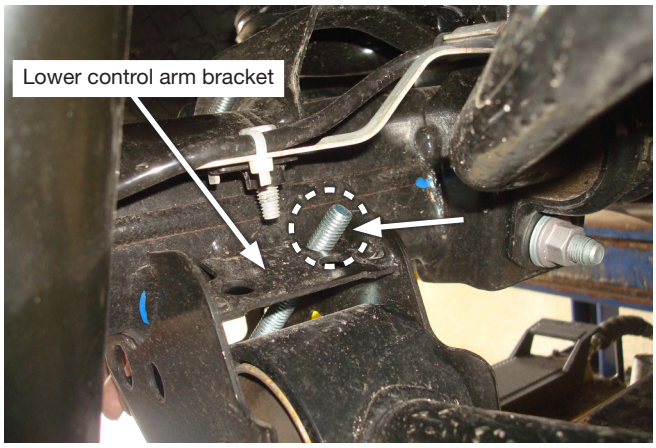


Fig. 9

Fig. 10

7. To install the U-bolt (Q) on the driver's (left) side, it will be necessary to remove the bolt holding the brake line bracket on the back side of the axle (Fig. 11).

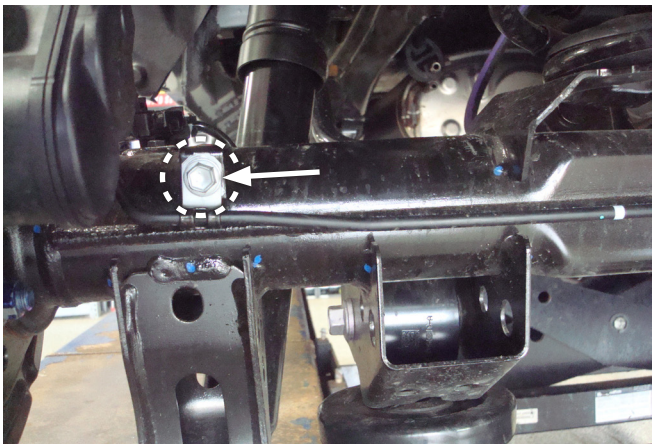


Fig. 11

8. From the back side of the driver's (left) side axle, insert the lower axle U-bolt (Q) over the axle, just outboard of the lower spring seat (Fig. 12), through the small hole in the lower control arm bracket (Fig. 13), and rotate it so that the threaded portion is pointing up (Fig. 14).

NOTE *It will be necessary to pull back slightly on the hard brake line to make clearance for the U-bolt to fit over the axle.*

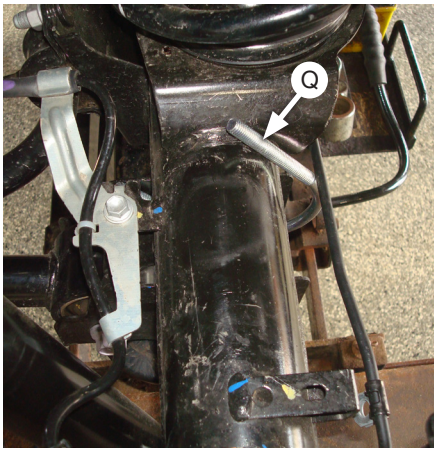


Fig. 12

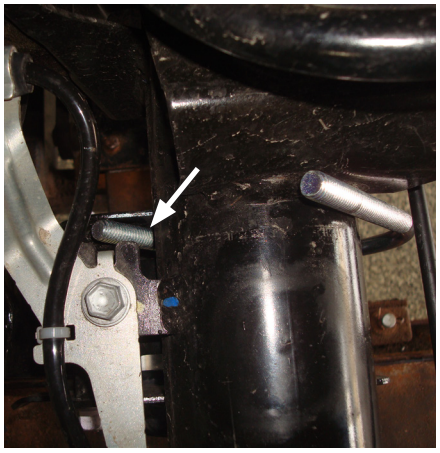


Fig. 13

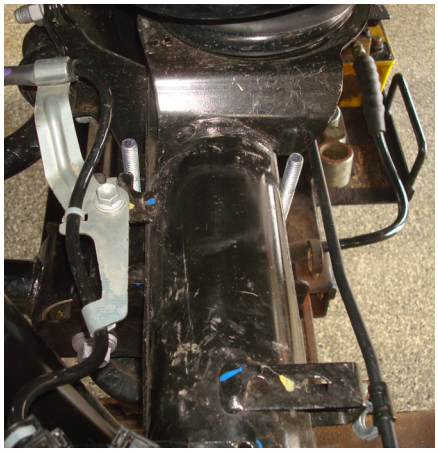


Fig. 14

9. Re-install the bolt removed from the hard brake line on the back side of the axle (previously removed in step 7).

10. Install the two frame brackets (C) to the underside of the frame using the M8 button-head cap screws (U), making sure the large cutout in the bracket is facing outboard and is behind the axle (Figs. 15 & 16). Leave loose at this time.

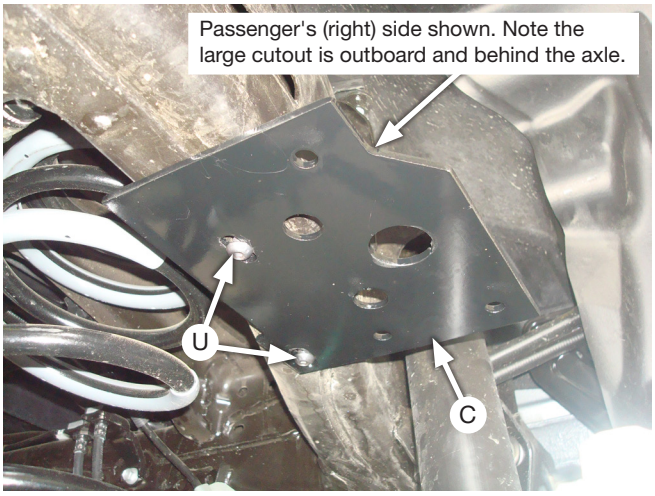


Fig. 15

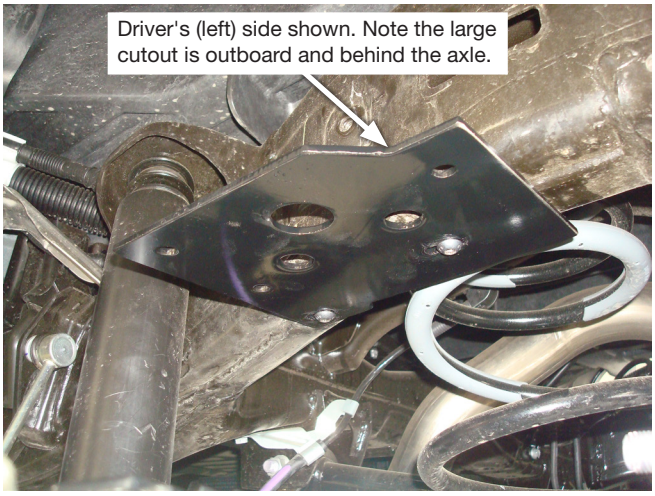
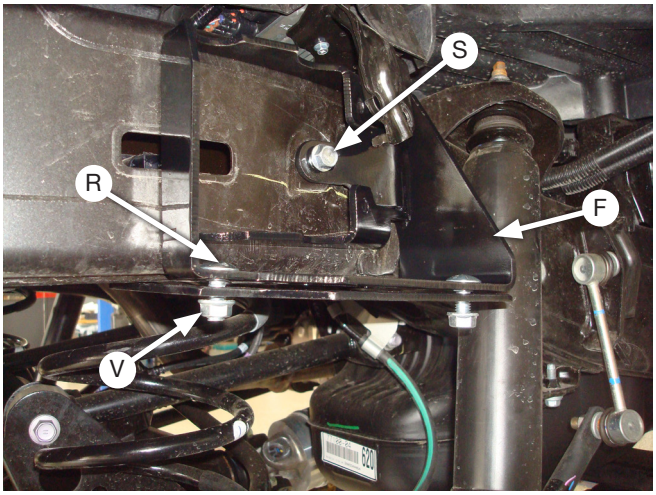


Fig. 16

11. Slide the left- and right-hand upper braces (E and F) into position on top of the frame brackets previously installed (Fig. 17). For alignment purposes, insert two 3/8" carriage bolts (R) down through the outboard square holes/slots as shown and cap with two 3/8" serrated lock nuts (V). Tighten finger-tight only! Install the 8mm hex flange bolt (S) through the sides of the brackets and into the frame. Push both Left-hand and Right-hand assemblies as far forward in the slots as possible. Torque all hardware except the carriage bolts to 18 lb.-ft. (24Nm). Remove the carriage bolts previously installed for alignment purposes.



Passenger's (right) side shown.

Fig. 17

12. Install the module bracket removed in step 2 to the passenger's (right) side upper brace, with the remaining 8mm hex flange bolt (S) and cap with 8mm flat washer (X) and 8mm nylon lock nut (Y). Torque to 18 lb.-ft. (24Nm) (Fig. 18).

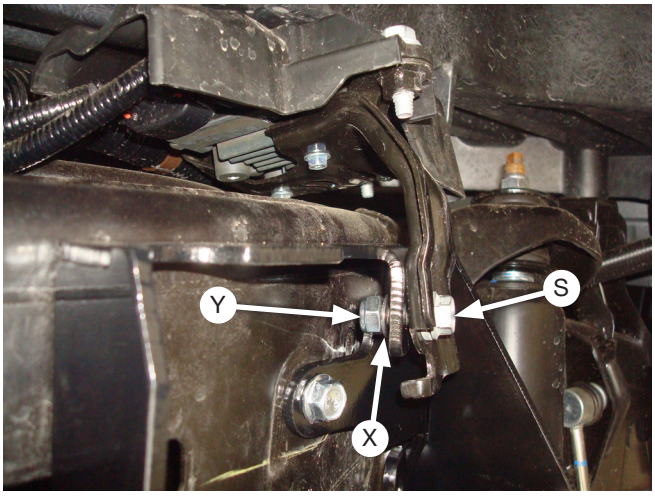


Fig. 18

ASSEMBLE THE AIR SPRINGS

1. Set a roll plate (H) over both air springs (G) and install the straight fittings (I). Tighten the fittings 1 1/2 turns past finger-tight (Fig. 19).

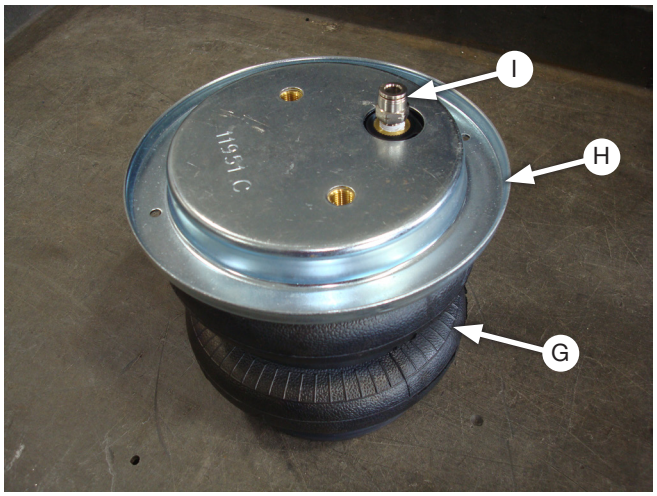


Fig. 19

2. Insert two carriage bolts (R) into each air spring upper bracket (D), then set both brackets over both air spring assemblies (Fig. 20) but flip the brackets opposite of each other when attaching, making them left- and right-hand units (Fig. 21). Attach the upper brackets with 3/8" button-head cap screws (K) and torque to no more than 20 lb.-ft. (27Nm).

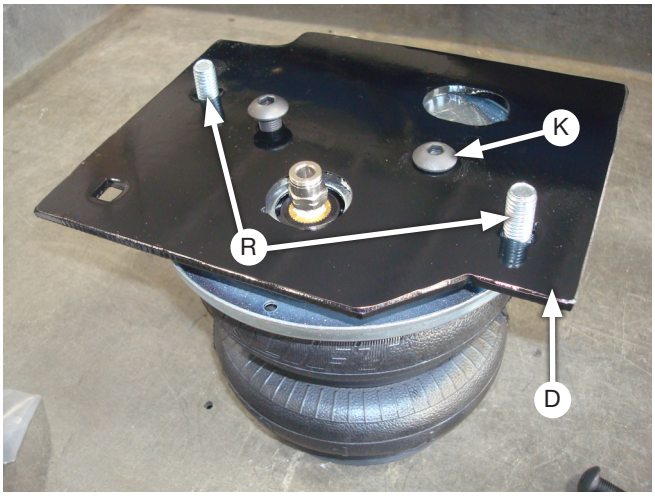


Fig. 20

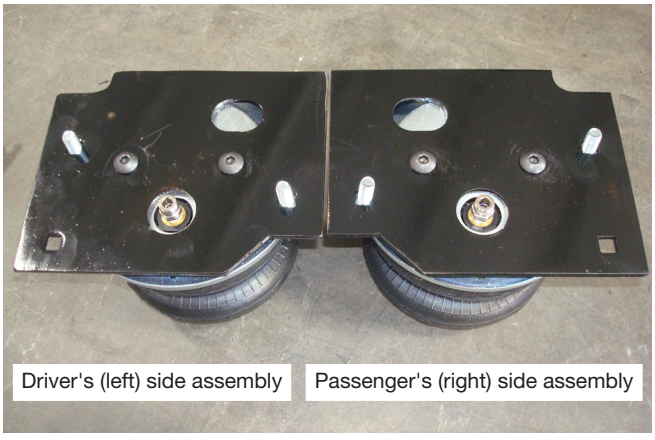
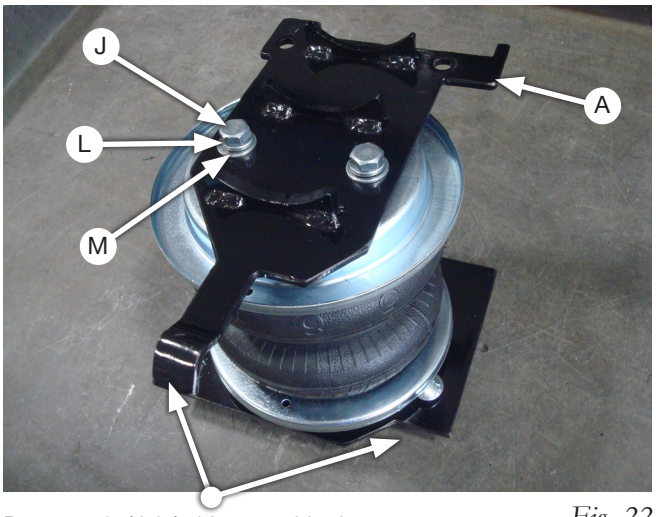


Fig. 21

3. Flip the assemblies over and set the roll plates over the bottom of the air springs. The lower brackets (A & B) are left- and right-hand specific, and the “finger” on the lower brackets must be pointing in the same direction as the large cutout on the side of the upper brackets (Fig. 22). Attach the lower bracket with the 3/8" hex cap screws (J), lock washers (L) and flat washers (M). Torque to no more than 20 lb.-ft. (27Nm).



Passenger's (right) side assembly shown.
Note the "finger" on the lower bracket will be on the same side as the cutout in the upper bracket.

Fig. 22

4. Figure 23 shows left- and right-hand assemblies.

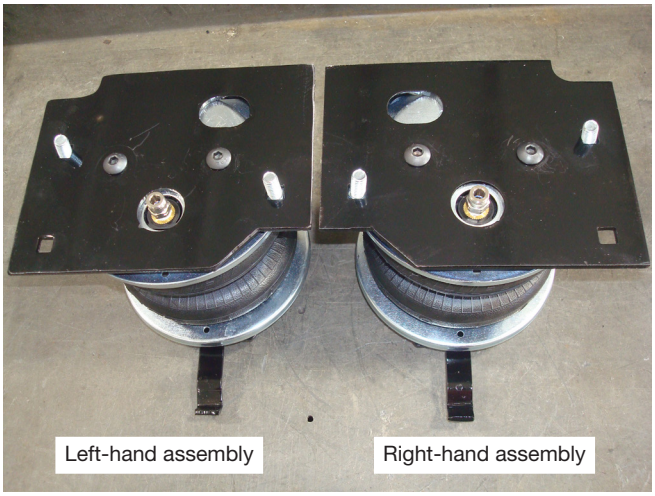


Fig. 23

INSTALL THE AIR SPRING ASSEMBLIES

1. With the axle hanging, set the left- and right-hand assemblies into position on the axle, making sure the inboard U-bolts previously installed insert into the inboard holes of the lower bracket. Raise the axle up while aligning the two carriage bolts in the upper spring bracket with the existing holes in the frame bracket (Fig. 24). Install the remaining carriage bolt (R) and cap with the 3/8" serrated flange lock nuts (V). Torque to 18 lb.-ft. (24Nm).

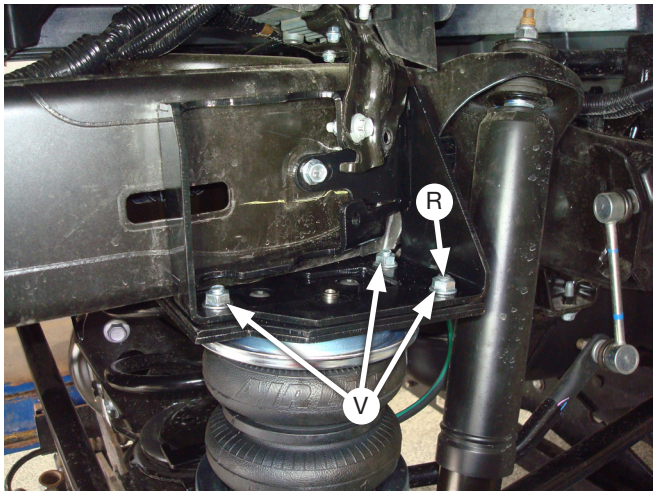


Fig. 24

2. Ensure the lower bracket is nested on the axle correctly, cap the inboard U-bolts with the 3/8" flat washers (M) and nylon lock nuts (W) (Fig. 25). Leave loose at this time.

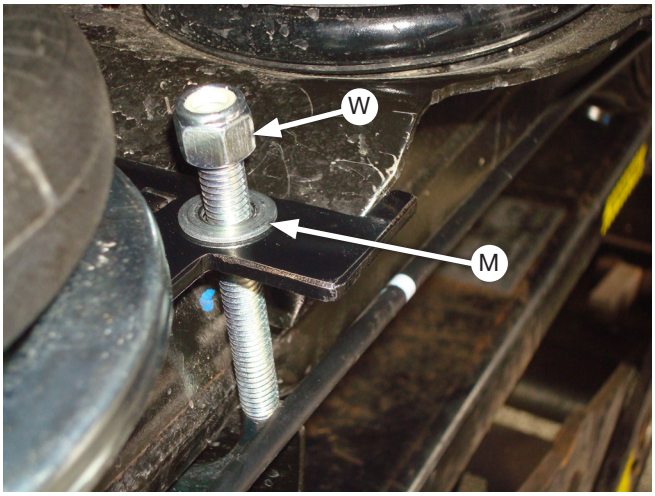


Fig. 25

3. Install the outboard U-bolts (Q) over the top of the axle and onto the “finger” of the lower bracket (Fig. 26), and cap with the axle saddle bracket (N), 3/8" flat washer (M) and nylon lock nut (W). Evenly torque both inside and outside U-bolt hardware to 16 lb.-ft. (22Nm).

4. Raise the axle all the way up and re-install the wheels per factory specifications.

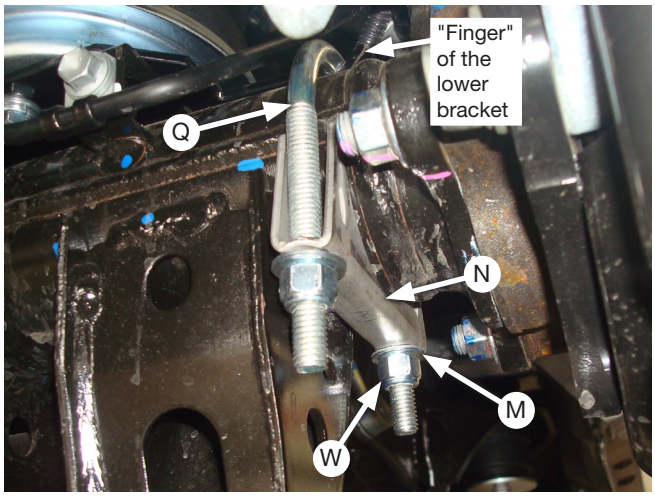
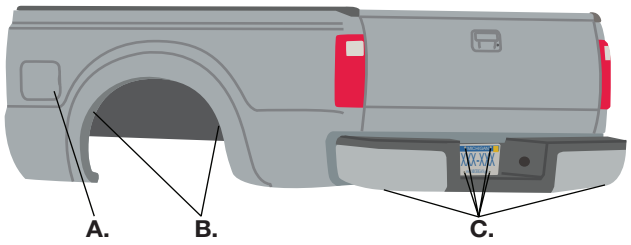


Fig. 26

Install the Air Lines

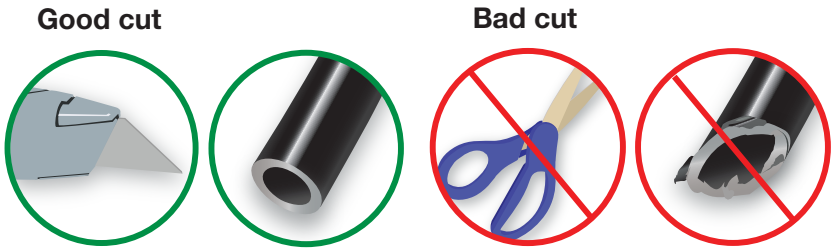
1. Choose the locations for the Schrader valves and drill a 5/16" (8mm) hole, if necessary.



A. Inside fuel tank filler door
B. Inside rear wheel wells
C. License plate or rear bumper area

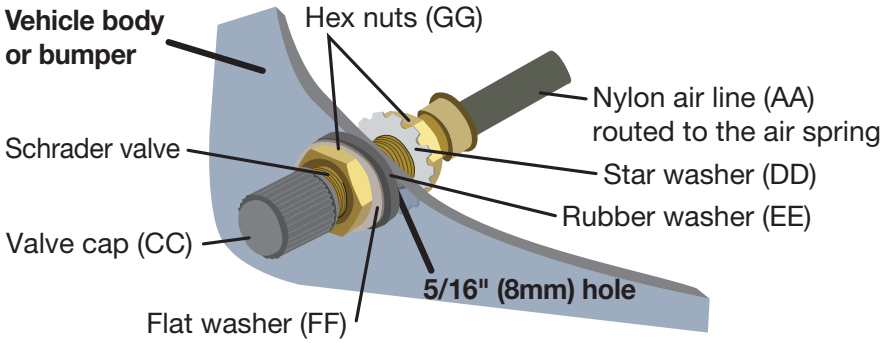
KEEP AT LEAST 6" (152MM) OF CLEARANCE BETWEEN ALL AIR LINES AND THE EXHAUST SYSTEM. AVOID SHARP BENDS AND EDGES.

2. Make clean, square cuts with a razor blade or hose cutter when cutting the air line (AA). Do not use scissors or wire cutters.



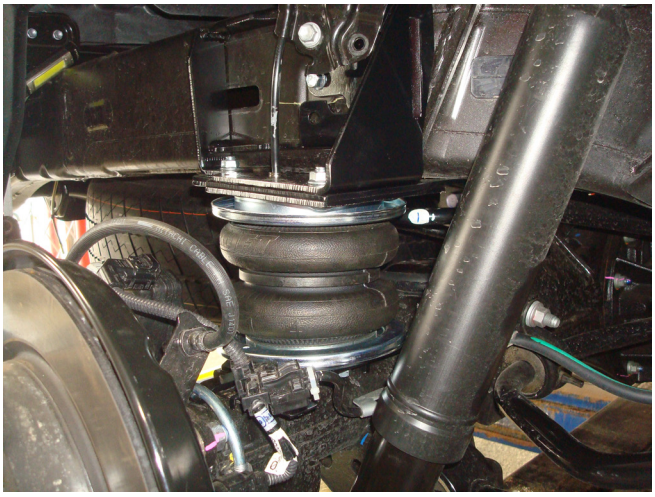
3. Use zip ties (BB) to secure the air line to fixed points along the chassis. Do not pinch or kink the air line. Leave at least 2" (51mm) of slack in the air line to allow for any movement that might pull on the air line. The minimum bend radius for the air line is 1" (25mm).

4. Install the Schrader valve in the chosen location.

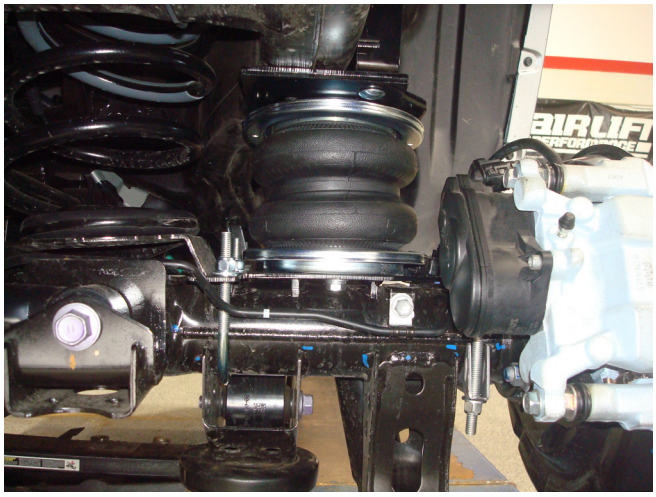


Finished Installation

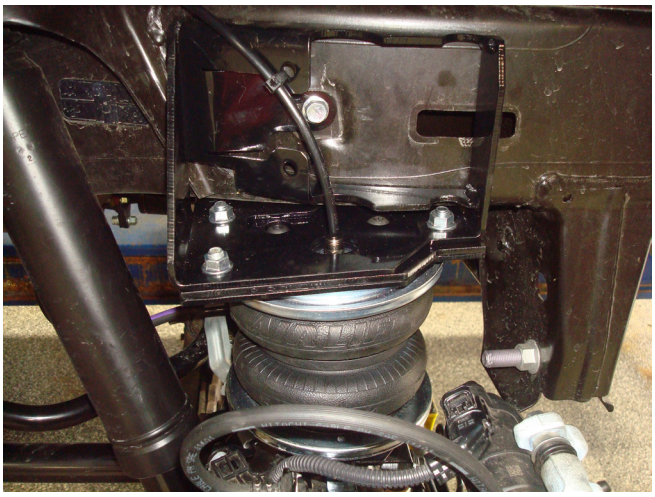
The images show the finished installation of both sides.



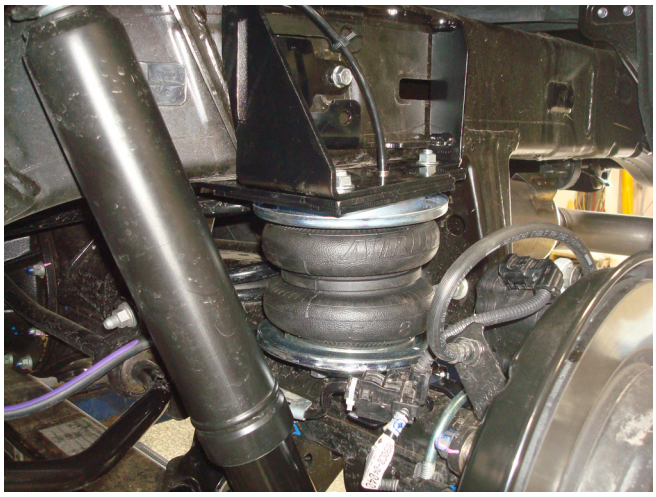
Forward view of passenger's (right) side installation.



Rear view of passenger's (right) side installation.



Side view of driver's (left) side installation.



Front view of driver's (left) side installation.

Congratulations!

You are now the proud owner of an Air Lift air suspension system. Enjoy!

Before Operating

INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Clearance test** — Inflate the air springs to 40-60 PSI (2.8-4.1BAR) and make sure there is at least 1/2" (13mm) clearance from anything that might rub against each sleeve. Be sure to check the tire, brakes, frame, shock absorbers and brake cables.
- ☐ **Leak test before road test** — Inflate the air springs to 40-60 PSI (2.8-4.1BAR) and check all connections for leaks. All leaks must be eliminated before the vehicle is road-tested.
- ☐ **Heat test** — Be sure there is sufficient clearance from heat sources, at least 6" (152mm) for air springs and air lines. If a heat shield was included in the kit, install it. If there is no heat shield, but one is required, call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892.
- ☐ **Fastener test** — After 500 miles (800km), recheck all bolts for proper torque.
- ☐ **Road test** — The vehicle should be road-tested after the initial tests. Inflate the air springs to recommended driving pressures. Drive the vehicle 10 miles (16km) and recheck for clearance, loose fasteners and air leaks.
- ☐ **Operating instructions** — If professionally installed, the installer should review the operating instructions with the owner. Be sure to provide the owner with all of the paperwork that came with the kit.

MAINTENANCE AND USE GUIDELINES

1. Check air pressure weekly.
2. Always maintain normal ride height. Never inflate beyond 100 PSI (7BAR).
3. If the system develops an air leak, use a soapy water solution to check all air line connections and the inflation valve core before deflating and removing the air spring.
4. Upon successful completion of the installation, follow these pressure requirements for the air springs.

FOR SAFETY AND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE VEHICLE, DO NOT EXCEED MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR) OR PAYLOAD RATING, AS INDICATED BY THE VEHICLE MANUFACTURER.

ALTHOUGH THE AIR SPRINGS ARE RATED AT A MAXIMUM INFLATION PRESSURE OF 100 PSI (7BAR), THE AIR PRESSURE ACTUALLY NEEDED IS DEPENDENT ON LOAD AND GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING.

Notes

Limited Warranty and Return Policy

Air Lift Company provides a Limited Lifetime Warranty* to the original purchaser of its load support products, from the date of original purchase, that the products will be free from defects in workmanship and materials when used on cars and trucks as specified by Air Lift Company and under normal operating conditions, subject to the requirements and exclusions set forth in the full Limited Warranty and Return Policy.

*Full Limited Warranty and Return Policy are available at www.airliftcompany.com/warranty and are subject to change.

WARRANTY REGISTRATION & CLAIMS

- To register your warranty, please visit https://www.airliftcompany.com/support/warranty/register/
- To submit a warranty claim, please visit https://www.airliftcompany.com/support/warranty/submit-claim/

Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Products!

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