

### INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

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## 6570 SPRING HANGER KIT 1987-1996 DODGE DAKOTA, STD CAB

Thank you for being selective enough to choose a BELLTECH PRODUCT. We have spent many hours developing our line of products so that you will receive maximum performance with minimum difficulty during installation.

Note: Confirm that all of the hardware listed in the parts list is in the kit. **Do not** begin installation if

any part is missing. Read the instructions thoroughly before beginning this installation.

**Warning**: **DO NOT** work under a vehicle supported by only a jack. Place support stands securely under

the vehicle in the manufacturer's specified locations unless otherwise instructed. **Warning: DO NOT** drive vehicle until all work has been completed and checked. Torque all hardware to

values specified.

Reminder: Proper use of safety equipment and eye/face/hand protection is absolutely necessary when

using these tools to perform procedures!

Note: It is very helpful to have an assistant available during installation.

During installation, if both leaf spring packs are unbolted from the chassis simultaneously, the rear axle leaf spring assembly can become awkward to maintain in relation to the vehicle chassis. Therefore, **WE RECOMMEND** that only one side of the vehicle, be modified at one time.

#### **RECOMMENDED TOOLS:**

- Properly rated floor jack, support stands, and wheel chocks
- Combination wrench set
- Torque wrench: 0-75 lb ft. range
- Socket wrench set
- Air Chisel / Die grinder w/cut off wheel
- Safety Glasses

#### KIT INSTALLATION

- 1. Open the hardware kit and remove all of the contents. Refer to the part list (Page 3) to verify that all parts are present.
- 2. Place the vehicle on a level surface. Installation may be eased by removal of the bed. If the bed is to be removed, be sure to plug any open fuel lines and or vents. As there may be some grinding and drilling during hanger installation, this will reduce the possibility of sparks or chips entering the fuel system. Be sure to disconnect all wiring harnesses and ground straps.
- 3. Block the front wheels and raise the rear of the vehicle using a hydraulic floor jack rated for this load under the center of the axle. (PHOTO 1)
- **4.** Install jack stands rated for this load on both sides of the vehicle so that they support the chassis just forward of leaf spring pack forward hanger. (PHOTO 2)

- **5.** Remove the rear wheels.
- 6. Raise the floor jack until it is just touching the rear axle. Raise the jack approximately another ¼" to remove as much tension as possible from the leaf spring. Remove the forward leaf spring eyebolt. (PHOTO 3) Support the end of the spring and allow it to come clear of the spring hanger. (PHOTO 4) CAUTION: Spring may still be under tension, use caution when removing spring eyebolt. In the same manner, remove the rear shackle eyebolt. (PHOTO 5) Lower the floor jack so that the shackle drops clear of the stock spring hanger. (PHOTO 6) CAUTION: Do not lower rear axle so as to overextend or damage brake lines and components.
- 7. Using a cutting wheel, cut a notch through each hanger rivet. (PHOTO 7) **CAUTION**: **DO NOT** cut through the hanger into vehicle chassis. If a cutting wheel is unavailable, drill a 1/16" pilot hole in the center of each rivet, then drill a 3/8" hole. Either method will ease rivet head removal. Chisel the heads off of each rivet. (PHOTO 8). Punch the rivets through the frame. (PHOTO 9) Some cleanup of the rivet holes may be necessary to allow the new hardware to fit without thread damage. Use a round file or die grinder with a suitable bit (PHOTO 10) for this purpose. **CAUTION**: **Always wear eye protection when using power tools**.
- **8.** Install Belltech front spring hanger using ½" hardware supplied in the kit inserted through former rivet holes. (PHOTO 11) In the same manner, install the rear Belltech hanger. (PHOTO 12) **NOTE**: The front spring hangers will fit either side. The rear spring hangers are side specific. Location can be verified by aligning the hangers with the existing rivet holes. Torque ½" hanger mounting hardware to 123-128 Ft. Lbs.
- 9. Raise the rear axle with the floor jack and re-install leaf spring into the front Belltech hanger using the new ½"-20 x 3 ¾" bolt included in the kit. (PHOTO 13) Make sure spring bolt is secure, but do not tighten completely at this time.
- 10. Re-install leaf spring and shackle into the rear Belltech hanger using the new hardware included in the kit. (PHOTO 14) Please Note: The right and left side hanger use different bolts! The LEFT side rear hanger uses the supplied ½"-13 x 4" bolt and the RIGHT side rear hanger uses the supplied ½"-20 x 3 ¾" bolt. Once again, make sure the hardware is secure, but do not tighten completely at this time.
- **11.** Remove original bump stop and attach new supplied bump stop.
- **12.** Repeat steps 6 through 10 as necessary for the remaining side of the vehicle.
- **13.** Lower the floor jack to remove tension from the leaf springs. Working with one side at a time, loosen and remove the U-bolt nuts. (PHOTO 15) Remove the U-bolt plates and U-bolts.
- **14.** Raise the floor jack to lift the axle off of the leaf spring pack to allow access to the spring center bolt. (PHOTO 16)
- **15.** Using C-Clamps, clamp together the leaf spring pack near the middle and then remove the original spring center nut. Place one of the supplied 3/8" spring center nuts onto the exposed threads of the spring center bolt and tighten with a hand wrench. (PHOTO 17) **We <u>DO NOT RECOMMEND</u> using an impact wrench.**
- **16.** Place the 2° pinion shim onto the leaf spring over the spring center bolt. The thickest portion of the shim must be to the rear of the vehicle. (PHOTO 18)
- **17.** Lower the floor jack to set the axle tube back down onto the leaf spring, making sure the end of the spring center bolt seats into the hole in the axle perch.

- 18. Re-install the U-bolts, plate and hardware. (PHOTO 19) Torque U-bolts to 65-80 Ft. Lbs.
- 19. Repeat steps 13 through 18 as necessary for the remaining side of the vehicle.
- **20.** After re-checking that all hanger-to-chassis hardware is tightened as specified, re-install rear wheels and lower vehicle onto the ground.
- 21. At this point torque all leaf spring eyebolts to 123-128 Ft. Lbs.
- **22.** After reinstallation of the bed, the project is completed.

# PART LIST FOR DODGE DAKOTA REAR SPRING HANGER KIT

PART No.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
6570-001	Front Spring Hanger	2
6570-003	Rear Spring Hanger, RH	1
6570-005	Rear Spring Hanger, LH	1
110408	½"-20 x 1-1/4" Cap Screws	16
110402	1/2"-20 Lock Nuts	16
110660	½" Flat Washers	36
110425	½"-13 x 4" Cap Screw	1
110424	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> "-20 x 3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " Cap Screw	3
4975-001	2° Pinion Shim	2
110252	3/8"-24 Spring Center Nut	2
5922-001	Bump Stop	2























