





# **AIR SUSPENSION KIT**

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 3500XD/4500 (2WD/4WD) DRW\*

Will not fit E-Sprinter models or vehicles equipped with ride height sensors

Use the most advanced air springs on the market to eliminate your vehicle's sag, sway and bottoming out. This heavy duty air suspension kit levels your truck's stance while providing added support for an overall smooth and safe ride.

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.

## **IMPORTANT**

This 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 exceed a maximum of 100PSI in the air springs. Staying under the pressure limit will ensure maximum air spring life. Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and/or a void warranty.

## **SAFETY WARNINGS!**

Please read and abide 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.



## **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.

## **BEFORE STARTING THE INSTALLATION**

- Ensure the application information is correct for the make, model and year of the vehicle you are installing the kit on.
- 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.
- It is recommended to use a good quality anti-seize on all fasteners. This will reduce the chance of corrosion on the fasteners
  and will help facilitate removal, if required at a later date.
  - 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 <u>must</u> be cut off squarely with the hose cutter provided in this kit, or a sharp utility knife. Failure to do so may void the warranty.



**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 CONTENTS**

Please confirm the items below are provided in your kit before starting the installation.

HEAVY DUTY KITS		QTY	PART#
A*	Double Convoluted Spring	2	HP10000
<b>B</b> **	Roll Plate	4	HP10054

HEAVY DUTY JOUNCE BUMPER KITS			PART#
<b>A</b> *	Double Convoluted Spring w/ Jounce Bumper	2	HP10000J
B**	Roll Plate	4	HP10054

XTREME DUTY KITS		QTY	PART#
<b>A</b> *	Double Convoluted Spring	2	HP10438
B**	Roll Plate	4	HP10069
X+	Fitting, 3/8" NPT - 1/4" NPT	2	HP1388

XTREME DUTY JOUNCE BUMPER KITS			PART#
<b>A</b> *	Double Convoluted Spring w/ Jounce Bumper	2	HP10438J
<b>B</b> **	Roll Plate	4	HP10069
X+	Fitting, 3/8" NPT - 1/4" NPT	2	HP1388

ΚI	CONTENTS	QTY	PART#
С	90° Swivel Fitting, ¼" NPT	2	HP1100
D	Bracket, Upper Driver	1	HP1715
Е	Bracket, Upper Passenger	1	HP1716
F	Bracket, Upper Brace	2	HP1699
G	Bracket, Lower	2	HP1700
Н	Plate, Jounce Outer Lock	2	HP1693
	Plate, Jounce Inner Lock	2	HP1694
J	Axle Strap	2	HP1383
K	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 1" Countersunk	6	HP1704
L	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 1" Square Neck Plow	4	HP1734
M	Bolt, 3/8" - 24 x 7/8" Hex Head	8	HP1002
N	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 7" Carriage	4	HP1409
0	Washer, 3/8" Flat	12	C653
P	Washer, 3/8" Wide Flat	4	C18006
Q	Washer, 3/8" Split Lock	8	C18007
R	Nut, 3/8" Serrated Flange	8	HP1338
S	Nut, 3/8" Nylon Lock	4	HP1000
T	Heat Shield	2	HP0012
U	Worm Gear Ring Clamp	4	HP1001
V	Airline Hose Assembly	1	HP1344
W	Tie Straps	6	C11618









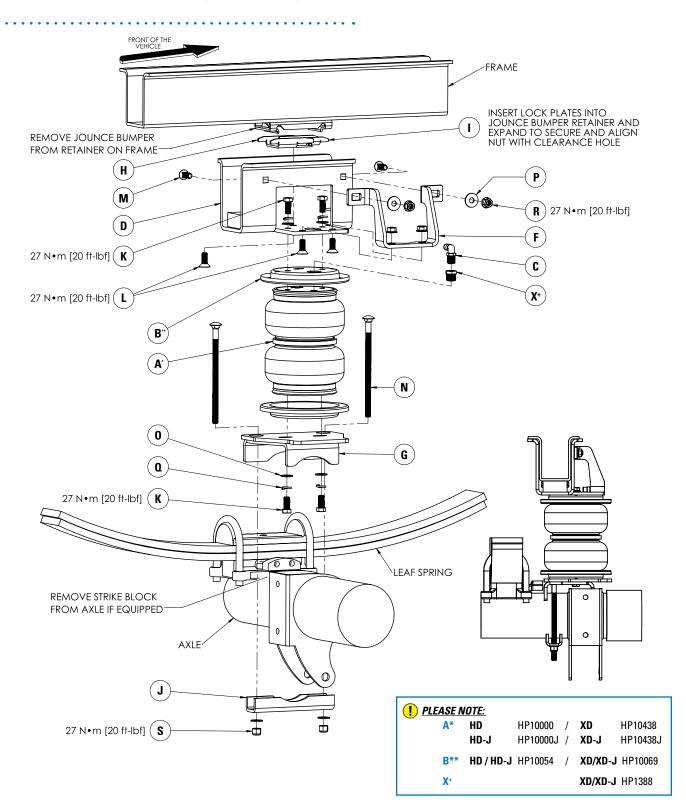


# **REQUIRED TOOLS**

- Hoist or Floor Jack
- Safety Stands
- Safety Glasses
- Torque Wrench
- Pipe Thread Sealant
- Ratchet
- Standard Combination Wrenches
- 7/32" Hex Allen Wrench
- Metric & Standard Sockets
- · Hose Cutter (included) or Sharp Utility Knife
- Spray Bottle with Dish Soap/Water
- Air Compressor/Compressed Air Source (to test/fill air springs)
- Heavy Duty Drill
- 3/8 & 5/16 drill bits (very sharp)
- 3/8 Nut Driver

## 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.

Check the clearance between the outside of the frame and the inside of the rear tires (as shown in red in Figure 1B), a minimum of 5" is required for adequate air spring clearance.



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).

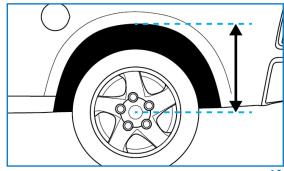
Lower the vehicle until the axle is supported by the jack stands.

Remove rear wheels.

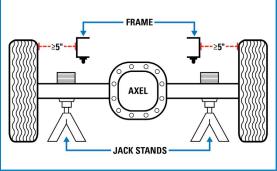
## 3 REMOVE JOUNCE BUMPER

Using a long flat head screwdriver or pry bar, remove the frame mounted rubber jounce bumper (shown in Figure 3A).

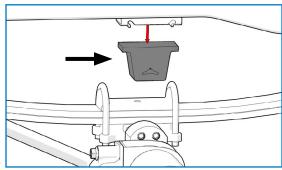
Use a Torx drive socket (T50 or T55 based on model year) to remove the two bolts attaching the strike block to the axle. (See Figure 3B for reference)



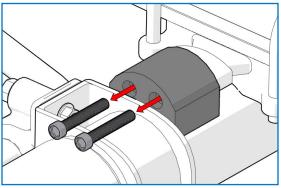
**1A** 



1B



**3A** 

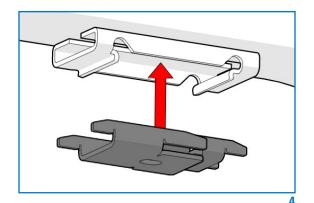


3B

## **4 INSERT JOUNCE BUMPER CLAMPS**

Slide inner and outer jounce bumper clamps together and insert jounce bumper clamps into the jounce bumper retainer on the frame (as shown in Figure 4).

Expand the clamps and ensure their edges rest on the jounce bumper retainer.



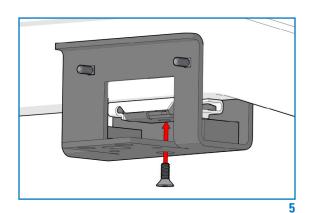
5 INSTALL UPPER BRACKET TO FRAME

Insert two  $3/8"-16 \times 1"$  square neck plow bolts through the square holes in the upper frame bracket (as shown in Figure 5).

Place the upper frame bracket on the frame and secure with a 3/8"-16 x 1" countersink bolt as shown.

! A wiring harness may need to be unclipped from the frame on the driver's side to allow for installation.

Torque bolt to 20 N•m (20 ft-lbs).



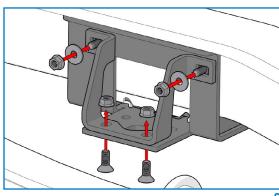
## **6 INSTALL UPPER BRACE BRACKET**

Place the upper brace bracket on the upper frame bracket (as shown in Figure 6).

Secure the lower portion of the bracket using two  $3/8"-16 \times 1"$  countersunk bolts and two 3/8" serrated nuts.

Secure the upper portion of the bracket using the previously installed plow bolts with two 3/8" wide flat washers and two 3/8" serrated nuts

Torque all hardware to 20 N•m (20 ft-lbs).



t

## 7 ASSEMBLE AIR SPRINGS AND LOWER BRACKETS

Place a roll plate on the upper surface of the air bag (as shown in Figure 7A).

**7500lb (XD) kits:** Install swivel air fitting into bushing and then thread assembly into air springs finger tight plus an additional 1.5 turns.

**5000lb (HD) kits:** Thread air fitting directly into air springs finger tight plus an additional 1.5 turns.

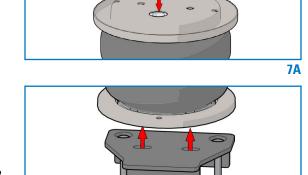
• The use of thread sealant or Teflon tape is recommended.

Insert two  $3/8''-16 \times 7''$  carriage bolts through the lower brackets (as shown in Figure 7B).

Carriage bolts must be inserted before attaching the air bag as the roll plate will block the holes.

Place a roll plate on the lower surface of the air bag and secure the lower bracket to the bag using two 3/8"-16 x 7/8" hex bolts, two 3/8" lock washers and two 3/8" flat washers.

Torque bolts to 20 Nem (20 ft-lbs).



**7B** 

#### 8 INSTALL SPRING ASSEMBLY

Place the air spring assembly in the vehicle (as shown in Figure 8).

Secure the air bag to the upper frame bracket using two 3/8"- $16 \times 7/8$ " hex bolts, two 3/8" lock washers and two 3/8" flat washers.

Torque bolts to 20 Nem (20 ft-lbs).



Position the lower bracket on the axle to achieve the best vertical spring alignment (as shown in Figure 9).

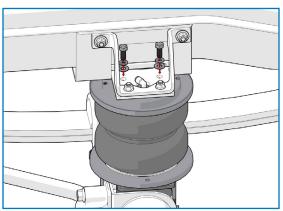
Secure the spring assembly to the axle using ax axle strap, two 3/8" flat washers and two 3/8" nylon lock nuts.



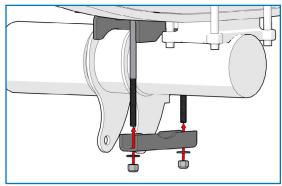
Two heat shields have been provided to provide increased protection due to the geometry and close proximity of the exhaust pipe.

Bend tabs on the heat shield so the required ½" of dead space exists between the heat shield and exhaust when attached.

Attached the heat shield to the exhaust pipe on passenger side using two ring clamps. Each hose clamp holds a tab against exhaust pipe.



8



9

## **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 <u>must</u> 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 ½" – 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**

Inflate both air springs to 90 psi (60 psi for in-coil bags), 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).

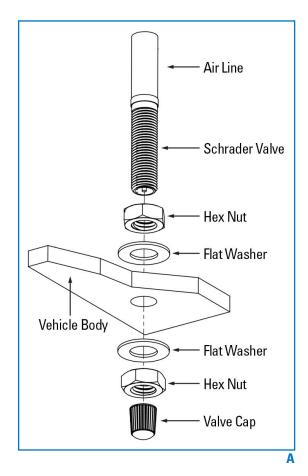
#### Repair as necessary and retest.

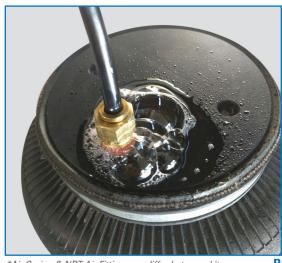
Inflate air springs to a predetermined value and on following day recheck pressure. If one or both of air springs have lost pressure, an air leak is present.

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

**CONGRATULATIONS! You have completed the install** 

After Installation continues on the following page.





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

E

## 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 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.
- If removed, re-install the wheels and torque fasteners to the manufacturer's specifications. Re-torque all fasteners after the
  first 500 miles of driving.

## **OPERATING YOUR VEHICLE WITH AIR SUSPENSION**

Air springs have minimum and maximum recommended pressure requirements:

PART#	SPRING STYLE	SPRING TYPE	MIN PSI	MAX PSI
HP10189	In-Coil	STANDARD DUTY	E por	70 PSI
HP10560	III-COII	STANDARD DUTY	5 PSI	
HP10001		STANDARD DUTY		100 PSI
HP10173	Sleeve Style	STANDARD DUTY	10 PSI	
HP10199		STANDARD DUTY		
HP10083	Single Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10083J	Sillyle Collvoluteu	<b>HEAVY DUTY</b> with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI* / 5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10000	Double Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10000J	Double Convoluted	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	Double Collyolatea	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

For safe and proper operation, never operate the vehicle over the maximum listed PSI in the air springs. Staying under the pressure limit will ensure maximum air spring life. Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and/or a void warranty.

! It is recommended to check the air pressure in your air springs daily for first couple of 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

When lifting the vehicle with a floor jack or hoist on the frame, never allow the air spring to limit the travel of the axle. Try to always jack the vehicle on the axle. Suspending the axle with the air spring limiting the axle travel will damage the air spring and void the air spring warranty.

## **WARRANTY**

See additional warranty included with this kit for details.