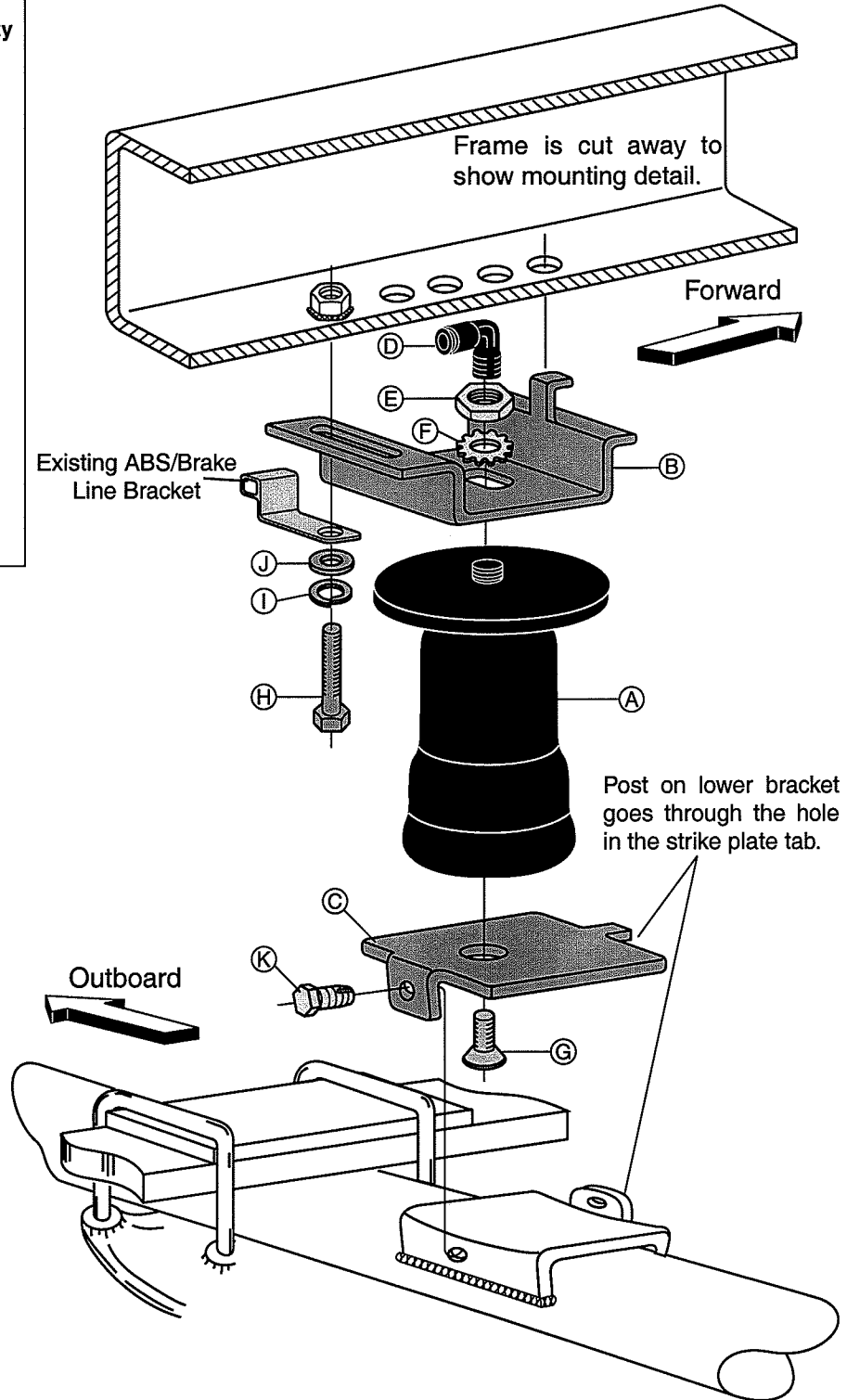


Please read these instructions completely before proceeding with installation

## Air Spring Kit Parts List

Item	Description	Quantity
A	Air Sleeve	2
B	Upper Bracket	2
C	Lower Bracket	2
D	Elbow Fitting	2
E	Nylon Nut	2
F	Star Washer	2
G	1/2" Flat Head Screw	2
H	8mm - 1.25 x 25mm Bolt	2
I	8mm Lock Washer	2
J	8mm Flat Washer	2
K	5/16" Self Tapper	2
AA	Air Line Assembly	16'
BB	Tie Strap	6
CC	Valve Cap	2
DD	5/16" Flat Washer	2
EE	Rubber Washer	2
FF	Small Star Washer	2
GG	5/16" Hex Nut	4



## Tools Needed

1/2", 9/16" open-end or box wrenches  
Crescent Wrench  
Ratchet with 9/16" and 1/2" deep well sockets  
5/16" drill bits (very sharp)  
Heavy Duty Drill  
Torque Wrench  
Hose Cutter, Razor Blade, or Sharp Knife

Hoist or Floor Jacks  
Safety Stands  
Safety Glasses  
Air Compressor, or Compressed Air Source  
Spray Bottle with Dish Soap/Water Solution

**IMPORTANT:** Your vehicle may be equipped with a rear brake proportioning valve. Any type of load assist product could affect brake performance. We recommend that you check with your dealer before installing this type of product. If your vehicle DOES NOT have a rear brake proportioning valve or is equipped with an anti-lock type brake system, installation of a load assist product will have NO EFFECT ON BRAKE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE.

**IMPORTANT:** Failure to maintain correct minimum pressure (or pressure proportional to load), bottoming out, overextension, or rubbing against another component will void the warranty.

**DANGER:** Compressed air can cause injury and damage to the vehicle and parts if it is not handled properly. For your safety, do not try to inflate the air springs until they have been properly secured to the vehicle.

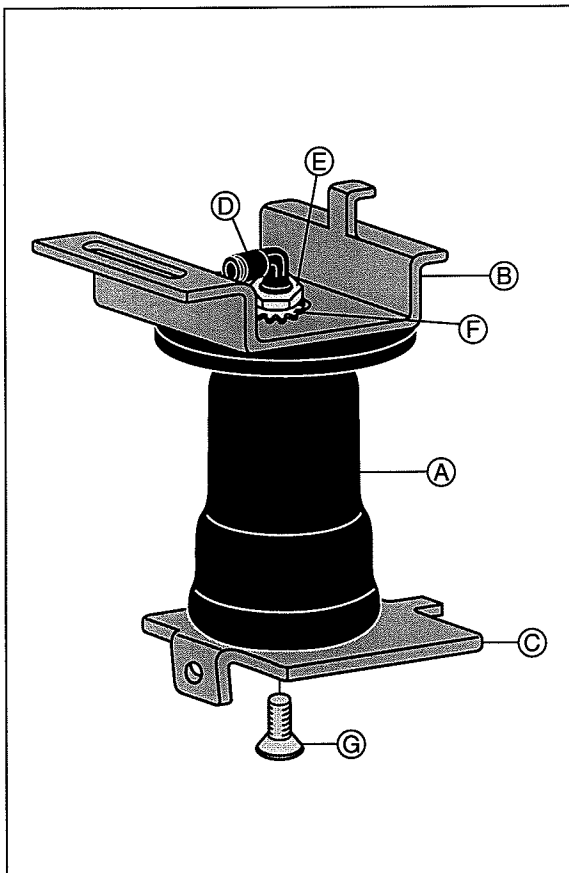


Figure 2

## I. Getting Started

1. Jack up the vehicle and support the axle with jack stands.
2. Remove the jounce bumper. Remove the bolt before the ABS/ brake bracket. Move bracket aside.

## II. Assembling the Air Springs

1. Install the elbow fitting (D) to the top of the air spring (A) finger tight plus 1 1/2 turns. Be careful to only tighten on the metal hex nut only (Figure 2).
2. Set the upper bracket (B) over the elbow fitting on the air spring and onto the threaded post.
3. Install 3/4" star washer (F) and nylon nut (E) onto the threaded post (Figure 2). Tighten finger tight only.
4. Attach the lower bracket (C) to the assembly using the flat head screw (G). Refer to Figure 2. Tighten to 15 ft-lbs.

**NOTE:** The tab on the lower bracket and the leg on the upper bracket should face forward as shown in Figure 1.

### III. Installing the Assembly

1. Insert the finger on the top of the upper bracket into the pre-existing jounce bumper hole (Figures 1 and 3).
2. Insert the 8mm bolt (H), lock washer (I), and flat washer (J) through the ABS/brake bracket and upper bracket (Figures 1 and 4).
3. Thread the bolt into the frame using the stationary nut that held the ABS/brake bracket in place. Leave loose at this time.
4. Insert the post on the lower bracket into the hole on the tab that is located on the axle crossmember assembly (Figures 1 and 5).
5. Push the bracket forward so that the bent tab on the lower bracket rests tightly against the jounce bumper strike plate.

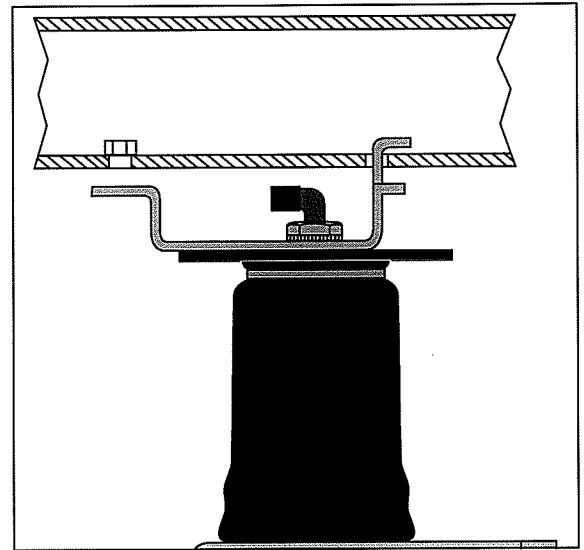


Figure 3

### IV. Installing the Air Lines

1. Choose a convenient location for mounting the inflation valves. Popular locations for the inflation valve are: the wheel well flanges, license plate recess in bumper, under the gas cap access door, or through license plate itself.

*NOTE: Whatever the chosen location is, make sure there is enough clearance around the inflation valves for an air chuck.*

2. Drill a  $\frac{5}{16}$ " hole to install the inflation valves.
3. Cut the air line assembly (AA) in two equal lengths.

*CAUTION: When cutting or trimming the air line, use a hose cutter (Air Lift P/N 10530), a razor blade or a sharp knife. A clean, square cut will ensure against leaks. Do not use wire cutters or scissors to cut the air line. These tools may flatten or crimp the air line, causing it to leak around the O-ring seal inside the elbow fitting.*

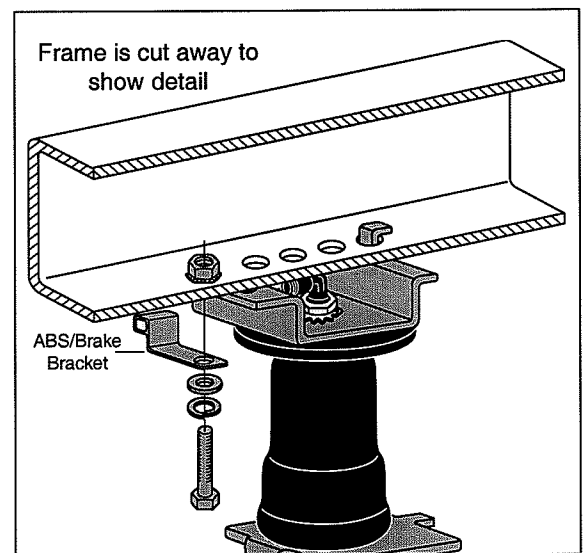


Figure 4

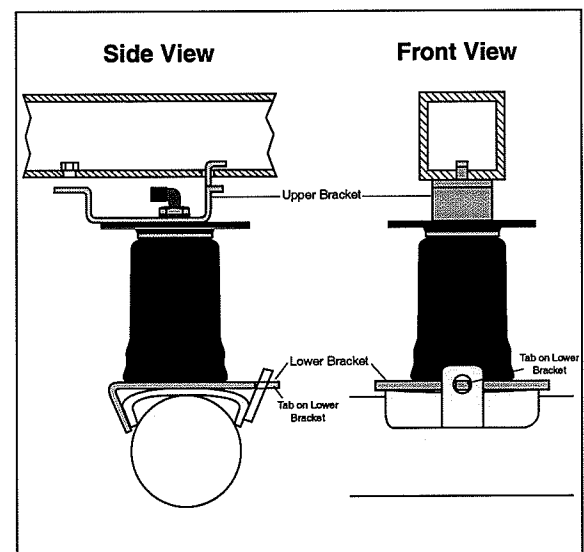


Figure 5

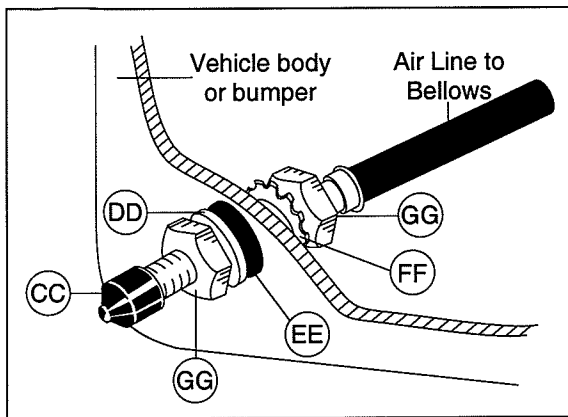


Figure 6

4. Place a  $\frac{5}{16}$ " nut (GG) and a star washer (FF) on the air valve. Leave enough of the inflation valve in front of the nut to extend through the hole and have room for the rubber washer (EE), flat washer (DD), and  $\frac{5}{16}$ " nut (GG) and cap (CC). There should be enough valve exposed after installation - approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$ " - to easily apply a pressure gauge or an air chuck (Figure 6).
5. Push the inflation valve through the hole and use the rubber washer (EE), flat washer (DD), and another  $\frac{5}{16}$ " nut (GG) to secure it in place. Tighten the nuts to secure the assembly in place (Figure 6).
6. Route the air line along the frame to the air fitting on the air spring. Keep at least 6" of clearance between the air line and heat sources, such as the exhaust pipes, muffler, or catalytic converter. Avoid sharp bends and edges. Use the plastic tie straps (BB) to secure the air line to fixed, non-moving points along the chassis. Be sure that the tie straps are tight, but do not pinch the air line. Leave at least 2" of slack to allow for any movement that might pull on the air line.

7. Cut off air line leaving approximately 12" of extra air line. A clean square cut will ensure against leaks. Insert the air line into the air fitting. This is a push to connect fitting. Simply push the air line into the 90° swivel fitting until it bottoms out ( $\frac{9}{16}$ " of air line should be in the fitting).

## V. Aligning and Tightening the Assembly

1. Center punch and drill a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole in the lower jounce bumper strike plate where the tab on the lower bracket rests (Figure 1).
2. In the previously drilled hole, insert a  $\frac{5}{16}$ " self tapping bolt (K) to secure the lower bracket to the jounce bumper strike plate (Figure 1). Do not over tighten.
3. With the hose installed, inflate the assembly to 10 ft-lbs.
4. Align assembly by using the slot in both the frame mount and the air spring mount. The sleeve should be vertical and perpendicular to both of the brackets.
5. Tighten the frame bolt to 16 ft-lbs first, and then tighten the nylon nut on the sleeve to 4 ft-lbs.

## VI. Checking for Leaks

1. Inflate the air spring to 30 p.s.i.
2. Spray all connections and the inflation valves with a solution of  $\frac{1}{5}$  liquid dish soap and  $\frac{4}{5}$  water to check for leaks. You should be able to spot leaks easily by looking for bubbles in the soapy water.
3. After the test, deflate the springs to the minimum pressure required to restore the Normal Ride Height, but not less than 10 p.s.i.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Check the air pressure again after 24 hours. A 2 to 4 p.s.i. loss after initial installation is normal. Retest for leaks if the loss is more than 5 lbs.

## VII. Fixing Leaks

1. If there is a problem with the swivel fitting, then:
  - a. Check the air line connection by deflating the spring and removing the line by pulling the collar against the fitting and pulling firmly on the air line. Trim 1" off the end of the air line. Be sure the cut is clean and square. Reinsert the air line into the push-to-connect fitting.
  - b. Check the threaded connection by tightening the swivel fitting another 1/2 turn. If it still leaks, deflate the air spring, remove the fitting, and re-coat the threads with thread sealant. Reinstall by hand tightening as much as possible, then use a wrench for an additional two turns.
2. If there is a problem with the inflation valve, then:
  - a. Check the valve core by tightening the it with a valve core tool.
  - b. Check the air line connection by removing the air line from the barbed type fitting. *CAUTION: Do not cut it off. As this will usually nick the barb and render the fitting useless.* Cut air line off a few inches in front of the fitting and use a pair of pliers or vise-grips to pull/twist the air line off the fitting.
3. If the preceding steps have not resolved the problem, call Air Lift Technical Service at 1-800-248-0892 for assistance.

## VIII. Troubleshooting Guide

*Problems maintaining air pressure, without on-board compressor.*

1. Leak test the air line connections and threaded connection of the elbow into the air spring. See Section VII to repair.
2. Leak test the inflation valve for leaks at the air line connection or dirt or debris in the valve core. See Section VII to repair.
3. Inspect air lines to be sure it is not pinched. Tie straps may be too tight. Loosen or replace strap. Replace leaking components.
4. Inspect air line for holes and cracks. Replace as needed.
5. A kink or fold in the air line. Reroute as needed.

*You have now tested for all of the most probable leak conditions that can be easily fixed. At this point the problem is most likely a failed air spring - either a factory defect or an operating problem. Please call Air Lift at 1-800-248-0892 for assistance or a replacement air spring.*

## IX. Checklist

You can protect your warranty on this product and prevent unnecessary wear by ensuring the following checks have been made:

### Section I – Installation (To be completed by the installer):

- 1. Clearance Test - Inflate the air springs to 60 p.s.i. and ensure there is at least 1/2 " clearance around each sleeve from anything that might rub against them. Be sure to check the tire, brake drum, frame, shock absorbers and brake cables.
- 2. Leak Test Before Road Test – Inflate the air springs to 30 p.s.i., check all connections for leaks with a soapy water solution. See pages 4 and 5 of the manual for tips on how to spot leaks. All leaks must be eliminated before the vehicle is road tested.
- 3. Heat Test – Be sure there is sufficient clearance from heat sources - at least 6" 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 1-800-248-0892.
- 4. Fastener Test – Recheck all bolts for proper torque.  

Torque Guide:

Nylon Nut	4 ft–lbs
Frame Bolts	16 ft–lbs
- 5. Road Test – The vehicle should be road tested after the preceding tests. Inflate the springs to 25 p.s.i. (50 p.s.i. if vehicle is loaded). Drive the vehicle 10 miles and recheck for clearance, loose fasteners and/or air leaks.
- 6. Operating Instructions – If professionally installed, the installer should review the operating instructions on page 7 with the owner. Be sure to provide the owner with all of the paperwork that came with the kit.

### Section II - Post Installation Checklist (To be completed by the owner):

- 1. Overnight Leakdown Test – Recheck air pressure after vehicle has been used for 24 hours. If pressure has dropped more than 5 p.s.i. then, you have a leak that must be fixed. Either fix the leak yourself (see pages 4 and 5) or return to the installer for service.
- 2. Air Pressure Requirements – I understand that the air pressure requirements of my air spring system are as follows:

Minimum \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum \_\_\_\_\_

I also understand that I must inflate the air springs until the Ride Height measurement that was recorded on page 3 has been restored. Regardless of load, the air pressure should always be adjusted so that the Ride Height is maintained at all times.

- 3. Thirty Day or 500 Mile Test. I understand that I must recheck the air spring system after 30 days or 500 miles, whichever comes first. If any part shows signs of rubbing or abrasion, the source should be identified and moved, if possible. If it is not possible to relocate the cause of the abrasion, the air spring may need to be remounted. If professionally installed, the installer should be consulted. Check all fasteners for tightness.

## X. Maintenance and Operations

Minimum Air Pressure	Maximum Air Pressure
10 p.s.i.	100 p.s.i.
<i>Failure to maintain correct minimum pressure (or pressure proportional to load), bottoming out, over-extension, or rubbing against another component will void the warranty.</i>	

By following these steps, vehicle owners will obtain the longest life and best results from their air springs.

1. Check the air pressure weekly.
2. Always maintain Normal Ride Height. Never inflate beyond 100 p.s.i.
3. If you develop an air leak in the system, use a soapy water solution to check all air line connections and the inflation valve core before deflating and removing the air spring. (See page 8.)
4. When increasing load, always adjust the air pressure to maintain the Normal Ride Height. Increase or decrease pressure from the system as necessary to attain Normal Ride Height for optimal ride and handling. Remember that loads carried behind the axle (including tongue loads) require more leveling force (pressure) than those carried directly over the axle.
5. **IMPORTANT:** For your safety and to prevent possible damage to your vehicle, *do not exceed maximum Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), as indicated by the vehicle manufacturer.* Although your air springs are rated at a maximum inflation pressure of 100 p.s.i. The air pressure actually needed is dependant on your load and GVWR, which may be less than 100 p.s.i. Check your vehicle owners manual and do not exceed the maximum load listed for your vehicle.
6. Always add air to springs in small quantities, checking the pressure frequently. Sleeves require less air volume than a tire and inflate quickly.
7. *Should it become necessary to raise the vehicle by the frame, make sure the system is at minimum pressure (10 p.s.i.) to reduce the tension on the suspension/brake components. Use of on-board leveling systems do not require deflation or disconnection.*



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