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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.

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Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of this MKV Performance kit.

It is important to read and understand the entire installation guide before beginning installation or performing any maintenance, service or repair. The information includes a hardware list, tool list, step-by-step installation information, maintenance tips, safety information and a troubleshooting guide.

Air Lift Company reserves the right to make changes and improvements to its products and publications at any time. For the latest version of this manual, contact Air Lift Company at (800) 248-0892 or visit our website at www.airliftcompany.com.

NOTATION EXPLANATION

Hazard notations appear in various locations in this publication. Information which is 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 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 MACHINE OR MINOR PERSONAL INJURY.

NOTE

Indicates a procedure, practice or hint which is important to highlight.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICES

The installation of this kit does not alter the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) or payload of the vehicle. Check your vehicle's owner's manual and do not exceed the maximum load listed for your vehicle.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating: The maximum allowable weight of the fully loaded vehicle (including passengers and cargo). This number — along with other weight limits, as well as tire, rim size and inflation pressure data — is shown on the vehicle's Safety Compliance Certification Label.

Payload: The combined, maximum allowable weight of cargo and passengers that the truck is designed to carry. Payload is GVWR minus the Base Curb Weight.

WARNING DO NOT INFLATE AIR SPRINGS WHILE OFF OF THE VEHICLE. DAMAGE TO ASSEMBLY MAY RESULT AND VOID WARRANTY.

A CAUTION

DO NOT WELD TO, OR MODIFY LIFESTYLE STRUTS/SHOCKS IN ANY WAY. DAMAGE TO UNIT MAY OCCUR AND WILL VOID WARRANTY.



Installation Diagram

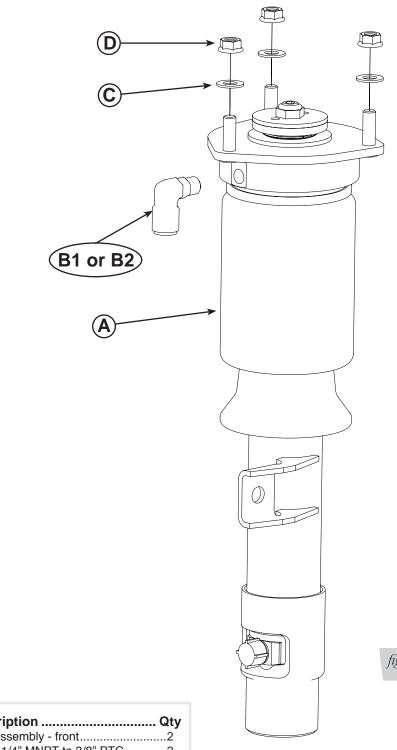


fig. 1

TOOLS LIST

Description Jack Jack stands or hoist Torque wrench Metric wrenches Standard wrenches VW Spreader 3424

HARDWARE LIST

ltem	Part #	Description	Qty
Α	35251	Strut assembly - front	.2
B1	21851	Elbow 1/4" MNPT to 3/8" PTC	.2
B2	221779	Elbow 1/4" MNPT x 1/4" PTC	.2
С	18444	3/8" Flat washer	.6
D	18435	3/8" Nyloc Nut	.6



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



Installing the Air Suspension

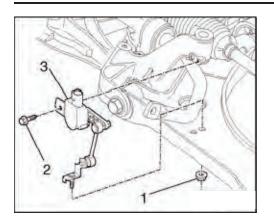
PREPARING THE VEHICLE

- 1. Elevate the vehicle and support the body with a hoist or jack stands.
- 2. Remove the front wheels.

NOTE

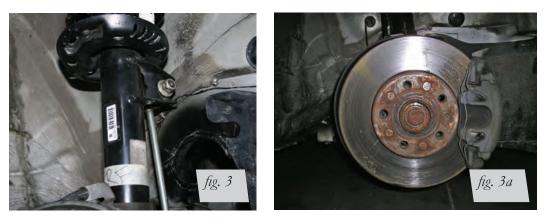
If the vehicle is equipped with Automatic Headlight Vertical Aim Control, detach the unit from the lower control arm (fig. 2 - part 1 pictured) to prevent overextension.

fig. 2



REMOVING THE STRUT

- 1. Unbolt the sway bar from the tab (fig. 3).
- 2. Unthread and remove the axle bolt from the hub assembly (fig. 3a).



3. Remove the three lower nuts from the lower ball joint and control arm (fig. 4). Detach the ball joint and hub assembly from the control arm.



fig. 4



4. Pull drive axle out of the hub assembly and secure the axle to the body with wire. TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE INNER AXLE JOINT, DO NOT ALLOW THE AXLE TO HANG FREE.

- 5. Reattach the lower ball joint to the lower control arm.
- 6. Support the hub assembly.
- 7. Remove the bolt at the back of the hub assembly to the strut.
- 8. Spread the hub assembly slot and push down on the hub to release the strut from its' lower mount (fig. 5). (Volkswagen specific tool is spreader 3424).



- 9. Pull weather-stripping away from the plenum chamber cover within the engine bay and pull cover up. Removing the wiper arms and completely removing the cover will gain more access.
- 10. Remove the three bolts from the upper strut mount (fig. 6) and remove the strut assembly from the vehicle.

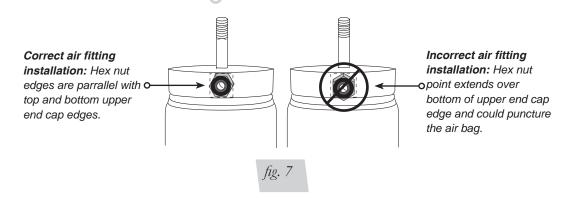


fig. 6

INSTALLING THE NEW STRUT ASSEMBLY

1. Prior to installing the strut, attach the air fitting provided to the threaded port at the top of the air spring (fig. 7). Seal with Teflon tape or thread sealant.

Air Lift Performance



- 2. Insert strut into the hub assembly with the sway bar tab towards the engine compartment. Reinstall the lower mounting bolt and torque to 70 Nm (52 ft/lbs).
- 3. Lift assembly into strut pocket and align upper mounting bolts with three holes. Using the supplied nuts, tighten the upper mount to 37 Nm (27 ft/lbs).
- 4. Remove the lower ball joint bolts again and separate the control arm from the joint. Reinsert the axle.
- 5. Reinstall the ball joint nuts and torque to 60 Nm (44 ft/lbs).
- Torque the hex head drive axle to 200 NM (148 ft/lbs). If the bolt is a 12 point, torque to 70 NM (52 ft/lbs).
- 7. Reattach the sway bar and torque to 65 NM (48 ft/lbs).
- 8. Reinstall the plenum chamber cover and wiper arms if previously removed.

ALIGNING THE VEHICLE

- 1. Using the control system, set the vehicle height to the new custom ride height.
- 2. If the custom ride height is lower than stock, we recommend loosening all pivot points (bolts, nuts) on any control arm, strut arm or radius rod that contains radial bushings. Once they have been loosened, re-torque to stock specifications.

It may be necessary to cycle the suspension to loosen the bushing up from its mount. This will help unload the bushing to make it last longer at its new position based on the custom ride height.

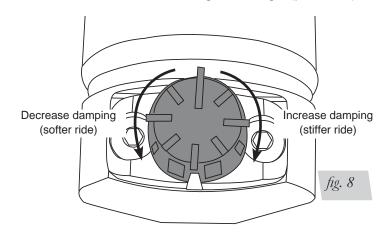
NOTE

CAUTION



Before Operating

- 1. Some struts for this vehicle come with a nine-position damping dial for added adjustability (fig. 8). If not, proceed to 2.
- Before driving your vehicle, set the new struts to their highest setting by turning the black dial on the shaft of the strut as far as it will go to the right (position 9).



2. Next, completely deflate and reinflate the air bags 2-3 times. This procedure will purge any trapped air in the dampers and allow for maximum performance. For ride performance and the most versatility, Lifestyle recommends setting the strut dial (if equipped) to position 6 or higher.

MAKE SURE THE FRONT WHEELS ARE STRAIGHT WHEN DEFLATING AND REINFLATING AIR BAGS.

- 3. Inflate and deflate the system (do not exceed 125 PSI) to check for clearance or binding issues. With the air springs deflated, check clearances on everything so as not to pinch brake lines, vent tubes, etc. Clear lines if necessary.
- 4. Inflate the air springs to 75PSI 90PSI and check all connections for leaks.
- 5. Air Lift part #27669 or #27671, AutoPilot V2 Air Management System, is highly recommended for this product.
- 6. Please continue by reading the Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing section.



INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- □ Clearance test Inflate the air springs to 75-90 PSI and make sure there is at least ½" clearance from anything that might rub against each sleeve. Be sure to check the tire, brake drum, frame, shock absorbers and brake cables.
- □ Leak test before road test Inflate the air springs to 75PSI 90PSI 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" 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 Recheck all bolts for proper torque.
- Road test The vehicle should be road tested after the preceding tests. Inflate the springs to recommended driving pressures. Drive the vehicle 10 miles 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.

Technician's	Signature	

Date_____

POST-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- Overnight leak down test Recheck air pressure after the vehicle has been used for 24 hours. If the pressure has dropped more than 5 PSI, then there is a leak that must be fixed. Either fix the leak yourself or return to the installer for service.
- ❑ Air pressure requirements I understand the air pressure requirements of my air spring system. Regardless of load, the air pressure should always be adjusted to maintain adequate ride height at all times while driving.
- □ 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.

Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing

Suggested Driving Air Pressure

Maximum Air Pressure

75 PSI

PSI

125 PSI

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MINIMUM PRESSURE (OR PRESSURE PROPORTIONAL TO LOAD) WILL RESULT IN BOTTOMING OUT, OVER-EXTENSION OR RUBBING AGAINST ANOTHER COMPONENT AND WILL **VOID THE WARRANTY**.

MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

NOTE

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

- 1. Check the air pressure before driving.
- 2. Never inflate beyond 125 PSI.
- 3. If you develop an air leak in the system, use a soapy water solution to check all air line connections, before deflating and removing the spring.
- 4. When increasing load, always adjust the air pressure to maintain 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.

A CAUTION

FOR YOUR SAFETY AND TO PREVENT 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 125 PSI, THE AIR PRESSURE ACTUALLY NEEDED IS DEPENDENT ON YOUR LOAD.

- 5. Always add air to the springs in small quantities, checking the pressure frequently. Sleeves require less air volume than a tire and inflate quickly.
- 6. Should it become necessary to raise the vehicle by the frame, make sure the control system is turned off before lifting.

Troubleshooting Guide

- 1. Leak test the air line connections, threaded connection of the elbow into the air spring, and the inflation valves.
- 2. Inspect the air lines to be sure none are pinched. Tie straps may be too tight. Loosen or replace the strap and replace leaking components.
- 3. Inspect the air line for holes and cracks. Replace as needed.
- 4. Look for a kink or fold in the air line. Reroute as needed.

If the preceding steps do not solve the problem, it is most likely caused by a failed air spring - either a factory defect or an operating problem. Please call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 for assistance or a replacement air spring.





Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Will installing air springs increase the weight ratings of a vehicle?

No. Adding air springs will not change the weight ratings (GAWR, GCWR and/or GVWR) of a vehicle. Exceeding the GVWR is dangerous and voids the Air Lift warranty.

Q. How long should air springs last?

If the air springs are properly installed and maintained they can last indefinitely.

Q. Will raising the vehicle on a hoist for service work damage the air springs?

No. The vehicle can be lifted on a hoist for short-term service work such as tire rotation or oil changes. However, if the vehicle will be on the hoist for a prolonged period of time, support the axle with jack stands in order to take the tension off of the air springs.

Tuning the Air Pressure

Pressure determination comes down to three things - level vehicle, ride comfort, and stability.

1. Level vehicle

If the vehicle's headlights are shining into the trees or the vehicle is leaning to one side, then it is not level. Raise the air pressure to correct either of these problems and level the vehicle.

2. Ride comfort

If the vehicle has a rough or harsh ride it may be due to either too much pressure or not enough. Try different pressures to determine the best ride comfort. See Air Lift suggested driving air pressure.

3. Stability

Stability translates into safety and should be the priority, meaning the driver may need to sacrifice a perfectly level and comfortable ride. Stability issues include roll control, bounce, dive during braking and sponginess. Tuning out these problems usually requires additional air pressure, strut damping, or both.

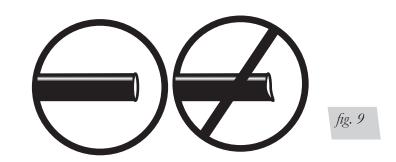
Checking for leaks

- 1. Inflate the air spring to 80 PSI.
- 2. Spray all connections and the inflation valves with a solution of 1/5 liquid dish soap and 4/5 water. 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 system to normal ride height.
- 4. Check the air pressure again after 24 hours. A 2 4 PSI loss after initial installation is normal. Retest for leaks if the loss is more than 5 lbs.

Fixing Leaks

- 1. If there is a problem with a swivel fitting:
 - 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 (see fig. 9). Reinsert the air line into the push-to-connect fitting.





- b. Check the threaded connection by tightening the swivel fitting another ½ 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 and then use a wrench for an additional two turns.
- If the preceding steps have not resolved the problem, call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892.

Warranty and Returns Policy

Air Lift Company warrants the Performance line of products to the original purchaser against manufacturing defects one year from the date of purchase when used on cars and trucks as specified under normal operating conditions. The warranty does not apply to products that have been improperly applied, improperly installed, or which have not been maintained in accordance with installation instructions furnished with all products. The consumer will be responsible for removing (labor charges) the defective product from the vehicle and returning it, transportation costs prepaid, to the dealer from which it was purchased or to Air Lift Company for verification.

Air Lift will repair or replace, at its option, defective products or components. A minimum \$10.00 shipping and handling charge will apply to all warranty claims. Before returning any defective product, you must call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 in the U.S. and Canada (elsewhere, (517) 322-2144) for a Returned Materials Authorization (RMA) number. Returns to Air Lift can be sent to: Air Lift Company • 2727 Snow Road • Lansing, MI • 48917.

Product failures resulting from abnormal use or misuse are excluded from this warranty. The loss of use of the product, loss of time, inconvenience, commercial loss or consequential damages is not covered. The consumer is responsible for installation/reinstallation (labor charges) of the product. Air Lift Company reserves the right to change the design of any product without assuming any obligation to modify any product previously manufactured.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that may vary from state-to-state. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages. The above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. There are no warranties, expressed or implied including any implied warranties of merchantability and fitness, which extend beyond this warranty period. There are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face hereof. Seller disclaims the implied warranty of merchantability. (Dated proof of purchase required.)



Replacement Information

If you need replacement parts, contact the local dealer or call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892. Most parts are immediately available and can be shipped the same day.

Contact Air Lift Company customer service at (800) 248-0892 first if:

- · Parts are missing from the kit.
- · Need technical assistance on installation or operation.
- · Broken or defective parts in the kit.
- Wrong parts in the kit.
- · Have a warranty claim or question.

Contact the retailer where the kit was purchased:

- If it is necessary to return or exchange the kit for any reason.
- · If there is a problem with shipping if shipped from the retailer.
- If there is a problem with the price.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, comments or need technical assistance contact our customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, our local number is (517) 322-2144.

For inquiries by mail, our address is PO Box 80167, Lansing, MI 48908-0167. Our shipping address for returns is 2727 Snow Road, Lansing, MI 48917.

You may also contact us anytime by e-mail at sales@airliftcompany.com or on the web at www.airliftcompany.com.

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Register your warranty online at www.airliftcompany.com/warranty



Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Performance products!

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Printed in the USA





Independent Rear Application



INSTALLATION GUIDE

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Introduction

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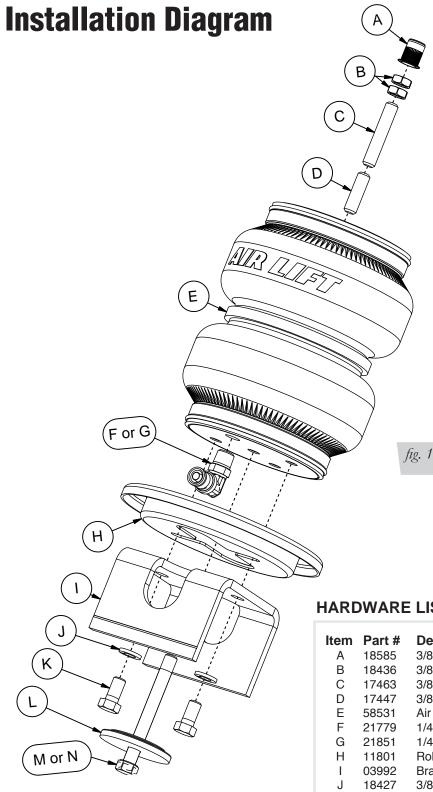
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HARDWARE LIST

ltem	Part #	Description	Qty
Α	18585	3/8-16, Nutsert	2
В	18436	3/8-16, Nut	4
С	17463	3/8-16 x 2.0, Threaded Rod	2
D	17447	3/8-16 x 1.25, Threaded Rod	2
Е	58531	Air Spring, 2B6 Reg, Recess Mount	2
F	21779	1/4 MNPT x 1/4 PTC Elbow DOT	2
G	21851	1/4 MNPT x 3/8 PTC - 90 Degree DOT	2
Н	11801	Roll Plate	2
I	03992	Bracket, Lower, MKV Rear	2
J	18427	3/8 Lock Washer	4
K	17101	3/8-16 x 3/4 Hex Bolt	4
L	13980	SPC, Spring Seat Centering	2
Μ	17109	3/8-16 x 3.5, HCS CZ	2
Ν	17442	3/8-16 x 3.0, HCS CZ	



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



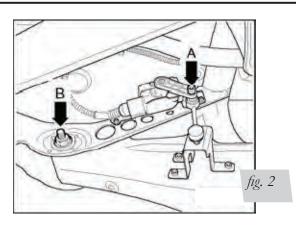
Installing the Air Suspension

PREPARING THE STOCK VEHICLE

- 1. Elevate the vehicle and support the body with a hoist or jack stands.
- 2. Remove the rear wheels.

NOTE

If the vehicle is equipped with automatic vertical headlight control, disconnect the coupling rod from the lower transverse link (fig. 2).



3. To remove the coil spring, it is recommended that you use a spring compressor.

🛕 CAUTION

COIL SPRING UNDER COMPRESSION: THE COIL SPRING CAN BE REMOVED BY SECURELY SUPPORTING THE LOWER TRANSVERSE LINK WITH A JACK AND REMOVING THE LOWER MOUNTING BOLT FROM THE WHEEL BEARING HOUSING. SLOWLY LOWER THE TRANSVERSE LINK UNTIL THE SPRING IS LOOSE AND FREE FROM TENSION.

- 4. Remove the rubber isolator in the lower transverse link.
- 5. Disconnect the lower transverse link from the hub.

INSTALLING THE AIR SPRING

1. Use a 17/32" drill bit to enlarge the hole in the upper coil spring perch. If the upper coil spring perch has been removed, drill in the center of where the perch used to be.

The hole must be 17/32" for the nutsert to be effective (figs 3-6).

fig. 3



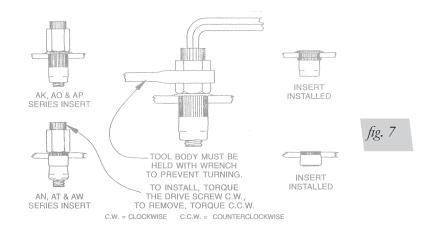
Factory / OEM Upper Spring Perch



Previously Cut Spring Perch with Aftermarket Shock



2. Assemble the nutsert and nutsert tool together and insert into the 17/32" hole. Review diagram below on how to attach the nutsert to the vehicle. (fig. 7).

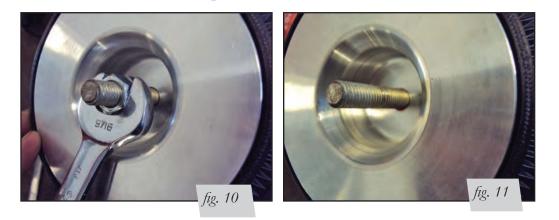


3. Two lengths of threaded studs are included with the kit (C or D, fig. 1). The shorter stud is for vehicles that retain the coil spring perch bump. The longer threaded stud is for vehicles without the spring perch bump. Apply Loctite to the threads of the upper end cap and thread in the appropriate stud. Take the supplied nuts and thread both onto one stud (fig. 8, 9). Using the nuts jammed together, tighten the stud into the end cap until it bottoms (fig. 10). Remove both nuts (fig. 11).



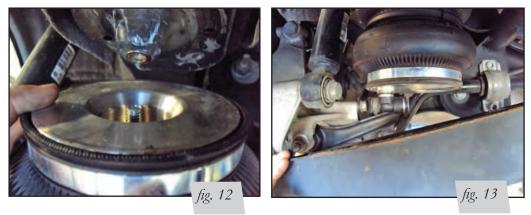
Air Lift Performance





- 4. Wrap the threads of the fitting with Teflon tape or thread sealant. Tighten the fitting 1 ³/₄ turns beyond hand tight.
- 5. Thread the air spring into the nutsert. Tighten by hand (figs. 12, 13 for a factory shock, figs. 14, 15 for an aftermarket shock).

Installation With Factory Shock



Previously Cut Spring Perch with Aftermarket Shock







- 6. Orient the air fitting inline with lower transverse link toward the center of the vehicle.
- 7. The lower bracket in this kit has a scribe line. This indicates the height the bracket should be if using Air Lift rear shocks or shocks that allow for more drop than the factory shock absorbers with half cut jounce bumpers.

A CAUTION

IF RUNNING A SHORTER-THAN-FACTORY SHOCK, THE BRACKET MUST BE TRIMMED DOWN TO PREVENT THE AIR SPRING FROM BEING OVER COMPRESSED AND POTENTIALLY CAUSING A RUPTURE.

Attach the lower bracket and roll plate with the lock washer and bolts provided. The roll plate is used with the full length lower bracket. Roll plates are not used with a cut bracket. (See figs. 16-18 for installation with a factory shock, figs. 19-22 for aftermarket shock.)

Installation with factory shock, roll plate and un-cut lower bracket



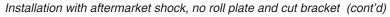


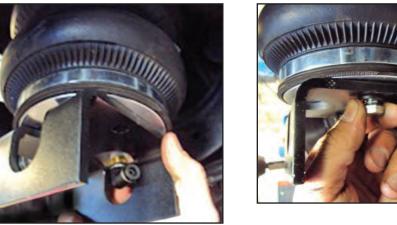
Installation with aftermarket shock, no roll plate and cut bracket





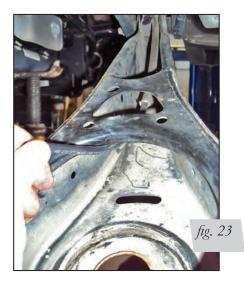
fig. 22







8. Route the air line from the center of the cross-member, through the lower transverse link and attach insert into the air fitting (fig. 23).



9. Reattach the lower transverse link to the hub. Do not torque at this time (fig. 24).





If the lower bracket has been cut, the shorter length bolt should be used to secure the assembly to the lower transverse link with the centering washer and lock washer. Uncut brackets use the longer bolt (*C* or *D*, fig. 1) (fig. 25).



10. With the suspension fully compressed, take a measurement from the fender to some reference point, typically the center of the axle. Record this as Max Compression (MC). Cycle the suspension to Max Extension (ME) and record the measurement from the same reference points. Take the difference between the two numbers and divide by two. Add that value to the Max Compression number and then set the suspension to that point (fig. 26). This position gives 50% stroke in either direction and is a great starting point for ride height. At this position torque the lower clevis bolt, upper and lower control arm bolts to manufacturer's specifications (Table 1).

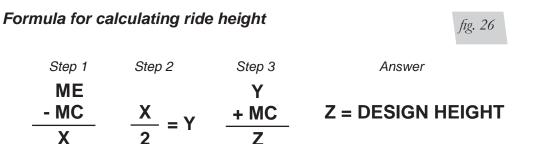


		Table 1
Torque Specifications		
Location	Nm	ft. Ibs.
Upper bracket to chassis	64	47
Upper shock mount cap	25	18
Axle carrier to shock eye	70	52
Axle carrier to upper control arm ball joint	70	52
Camber adjustment bolt	50	37°
Upper control arm to subframe	90	67
Rear suspension arm to subframe	90	67
Headlight alignment link	5.4	48 in/lbs
Wheels	103	76

.....



11. Reinstall wheels and retake the Max Compression and Extension measurements from the fender to lower wheel lip. Recalculate the ride height at 50% stroke and set the vehicle to that height. Enjoy the new look and handling! Now go get an alignment at the preferred drive height.

ALIGNING THE VEHICLE

- 1. Using the control system, set the vehicle height to the new custom ride height.
- If the custom ride height is lower than stock, we recommend loosening all pivot points (bolts, nuts) on any control arm, strut arm or radius rod that contains bushings (figs. 4 & 5). Once they have been loosened, re-torque to stock specifications (Table 1).

NOTE It may be necessary to cycle the suspension to loosen the bushing up from its mount. This will help re-orient the bushing at its new position based on the custom ride height.



Before Operating

A CAUTION

MAKE SURE THE FRONT WHEELS ARE STRAIGHT WHEN DEFLATING AND REINFLATING AIR BAGS.

- 1. Inflate and deflate the system (do not exceed 125 PSI) to check for clearance or binding issues. With the air springs deflated, check clearances on everything so as not to pinch brake lines, vent tubes, etc. Clear lines if necessary.
- 2. Inflate the air springs to 75 PSI 90 PSI and check all connections for leaks.
- 3. Air Lift part #27669 or #27671, AutoPilot V2 Air Management System, is highly recommended for this product.
- 4. Please continue by reading the Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing section.

INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- □ Clearance test Inflate the air springs to 75-90 PSI and make sure there is at least ½" clearance from anything that might rub against each sleeve. Be sure to check the tire, brake drum, frame, shock absorbers and brake cables.
- □ Leak test before road test Inflate the air springs to 75 PSI 90 PSI 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" 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 Recheck all bolts for proper torque.
- Road test The vehicle should be road tested after the preceding tests. Inflate the springs to recommended driving pressures. Drive the vehicle 10 miles 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.

Technician's Signature_____

Date_

POST-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- Overnight leak down test Recheck air pressure after the vehicle has been used for 24 hours. If the pressure has dropped more than 5 PSI, then there is a leak that must be fixed. Either fix the leak yourself or return to the installer for service.
- □ Air pressure requirements Regardless of load, the air pressure should always be adjusted to maintain adequate ride height at all times while driving.
- □ Thirty day or 500 mile test 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.



NOTE

Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing

Suggested Driving Air Pressure

Maximum Air Pressure

40-70 PSI

125 PSI

FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MINIMUM PRESSURE (OR PRESSURE PROPORTIONAL TO LOAD) WILL RESULT IN BOTTOMING OUT, OVER-EXTENSION OR RUBBING AGAINST ANOTHER COMPONENT AND WILL **VOID THE WARRANTY**.

MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

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

- 1. Check the air pressure before driving.
- 2. Never inflate beyond 125 PSI.
- 3. If you develop an air leak in the system, use a soapy water solution to check all air line connections, before deflating and removing the spring.
- 4. When increasing load, always adjust the air pressure to maintain 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.

A CAUTION

FOR YOUR SAFETY AND TO PREVENT 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 125 PSI, THE AIR PRESSURE ACTUALLY NEEDED IS DEPENDENT ON YOUR LOAD.

- 5. Always add air to the springs in small quantities, checking the pressure frequently. Sleeves require less air volume than a tire and inflate quickly.
- 6. Should it become necessary to raise the vehicle by the frame, make sure the control system is turned off before lifting.

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

- 1. Leak test the air line connections, the threaded connection into the air spring, and all fittings in the control system.
- 2. Inspect the air lines to be sure none are pinched. Tie straps may be too tight. Loosen or replace the strap and replace leaking components.
- 3. Inspect the air line for holes and cracks. Replace as needed.
- 4. Look for a kink or fold in the air line. Reroute as needed. If the preceding steps do not solve the problem, it is possibly caused by a failed air spring either a factory defect or an operating problem. Please call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 for assistance.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Will installing air springs increase the weight ratings of a vehicle?

No. Adding air springs will not change the weight ratings (GAWR, GCWR and/or GVWR) of a vehicle. Exceeding the GVWR is dangerous and voids the Air Lift warranty.

Q. How long should air springs last?

If the air springs are properly installed and maintained they can last indefinitely.



Q. Will raising the vehicle on a hoist for service work damage the air springs?

No. The vehicle can be lifted on a hoist for short-term service work such as tire rotation or oil changes. However, if the vehicle will be on the hoist for a prolonged period of time, support the axle with jack stands in order to take the tension off of the air springs.

TUNING THE AIR PRESSURE

Pressure determination comes down to three things - level vehicle, ride comfort, and stability.

1. Level vehicle

If the vehicle's headlights are shining into the trees or the vehicle is leaning to one side, then it is not level. Raise the air pressure to correct either of these problems and level the vehicle.

2. Ride comfort

If the vehicle has a rough or harsh ride it may be due to either too much pressure or not enough. Try different pressures to determine the best ride comfort. See Air Lift suggested driving air pressure.

3. Stability

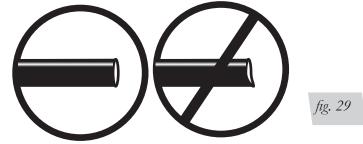
Stability translates into safety and should be the priority, meaning the driver may need to sacrifice a perfectly level and comfortable ride. Stability issues include roll control, bounce, dive during braking and sponginess. Tuning out these problems usually requires additional air pressure, strut damping, or both.

CHECKING FOR LEAKS

- 1. Inflate the air spring to 80 PSI.
- 2. Spray all connections and the inflation valves with a solution of 1/5 liquid dish soap and 4/5 water. 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 system to normal ride height.
- 4. Check the air pressure again after 24 hours. A 2 4 PSI loss after initial installation is normal. Retest for leaks if the loss is more than 5 lbs.

FIXING LEAKS

- 1. If there is a problem with a swivel fitting:
 - 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 (see fig. 29). Reinsert the air line into the push-to-connect fitting.
 - b. Check the threaded connection by tightening the swivel fitting another ½ 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 and then use a wrench for an additional two turns.
- If the preceding steps have not resolved the problem, call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892.





Warranty and Returns Policy

Air Lift Company warrants its performance products for one year to the original purchaser against manufacturing defects one year from the date of purchase when used on cars and trucks as specified under normal operating conditions. The warranty does not apply to products that have been improperly applied, improperly installed, or which have not been maintained in accordance with installation instructions furnished with all products. The consumer will be responsible for removing (labor charges) the defective product from the vehicle and returning it, transportation costs prepaid, to the dealer from which it was purchased or to Air Lift Company for verification.

Air Lift will repair or replace, at its option, defective products or components. A minimum \$10.00 shipping and handling charge will apply to all warranty claims. Before returning any defective product, you must call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 in the U.S. and Canada (elsewhere, (517) 322-2144) for a Returned Materials Authorization (RMA) number. Returns to Air Lift can be sent to: Air Lift Company • 2727 Snow Road • Lansing, MI • 48917.

Product failures resulting from abnormal use or misuse are excluded from this warranty. The loss of use of the product, loss of time, inconvenience, commercial loss or consequential damages is not covered. The consumer is responsible for installation/reinstallation (labor charges) of the product. Air Lift Company reserves the right to change the design of any product without assuming any obligation to modify any product previously manufactured.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that may vary from state-to-state. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages. The above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. There are no warranties, expressed or implied including any implied warranties of merchantability and fitness, which extend beyond this warranty period. There are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face hereof. Seller disclaims the implied warranty of merchantability. (Dated proof of purchase required.)

Replacement Information

If you need replacement parts, contact the local dealer or call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892. Most parts are immediately available and can be shipped the same day.

Contact Air Lift Company customer service at (800) 248-0892 first if:

- Parts are missing from the kit.
- Need technical assistance on installation or operation.

Contact the retailer where the kit was purchased:

- · If it is necessary to return or exchange the kit for any reason.
- · If there is a problem with shipping if shipped from the retailer.
- If there is a problem with the price.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, comments or need technical assistance contact our customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, our local number is (517) 322-2144. You may also contact customer service anytime by e-mail at techsupport@airliftperformance.com.

For inquiries by mail, our address is PO Box 80167, Lansing, MI 48908-0167. Our shipping address for returns is 2727 Snow Road, Lansing, MI 48917.

You may also contact our sales team anytime by e-mail at sales@airliftperformance.com or on the web at www.airliftperformance.com.

- Broken or defective parts in the kit.
- · Wrong parts in the kit.
- Have a warranty claim or question.

Notes





Notes

Notes



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Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Performance products!

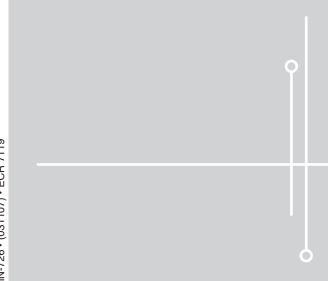
Air Lift Company • 2727 Snow Road • Lansing, MI 48917 or PO Box 80167 • Lansing, MI 48908-0167 Toll Free (800) 248-0892 • Local (517) 322-2144 • Fax (517) 322-0240 • www.airliftperformance.com

Printed in the USA











INSTALLATION GUIDE

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.

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Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of the Air Management System.

It is important to read and understand the entire installation guide before beginning installation or performing any maintenance, service or repair. The information here includes a hardware list, tool list, step-by-step installation information, maintenance guidelines and troubleshooting guide.

Air Lift Company reserves the right to make changes and improvements to its products and publications at any time. For the latest version of this manual, contact Air Lift Company at (800) 248-0892 or visit our website at www.airliftcompany.com.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

The installation of this kit does not alter the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) or payload of the vehicle. Check your vehicle's owner's manual and do not exceed the maximum load listed for your vehicle.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating: The maximum allowable weight of the fully loaded vehicle (including passengers and cargo). This number — along with other weight limits, as well as tire, rim size and inflation pressure data — is shown on the vehicle's Safety Compliance Certification Label.

Payload: The combined, maximum allowable weight of cargo and passengers that the vehicle is designed to carry. Payload is GVWR minus the Base Curb Weight.

NOTATION EXPLANATION

Hazard notations appear in various locations in this publication. Information which is 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 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.

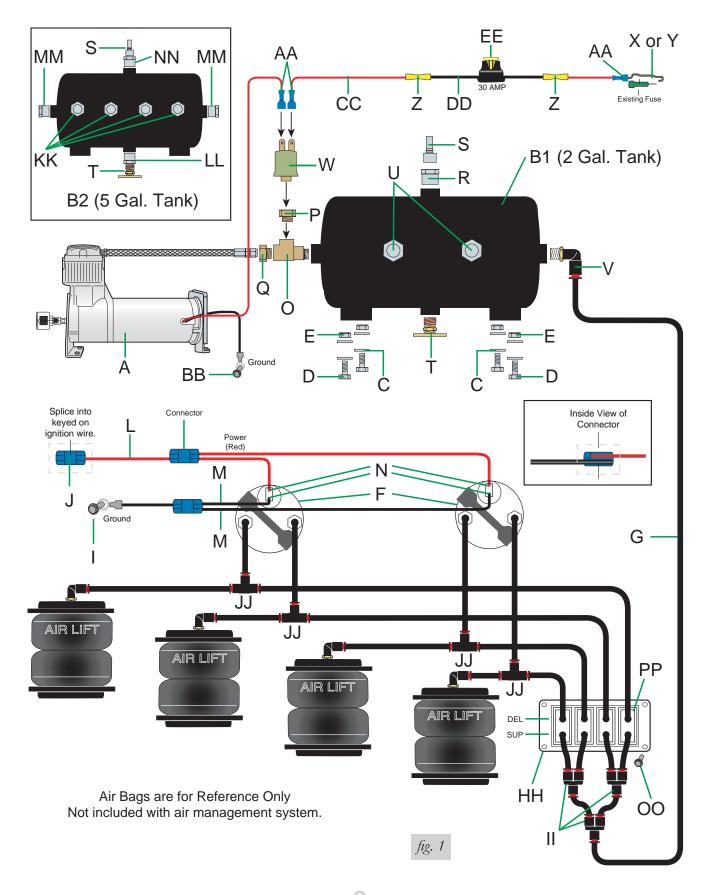
CAUTION INDICATES HAZARDS OR UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE MACHINE OR MINOR PERSONAL INJURY.

NOTE

Indicates a procedure, practice or hint which is important to highlight.



Installation Diagram





Hardware List

Item	Part No.	Description	Quantity	Item	Part No.	Description	Quantity
Α	16380	Viair Compressor	1	U	21731	Plug	2
B1	10980	2 Gallon Air Tank	1	V	21846	3/8" x 1/4" PTC Elbow	1
B2	10991	5 Gallon Tank	1	W	24575	145-175 PSI Pressure Switch	1
С	18444	3/8" Flat Washer	8	Х	24542	Fuse Tap	1
D	17188	3/8"-16 x 1.25 Bolt	4	Y	24561	Mini Fuse Adapter	1
E	18435	3/8" Nyloc Nut	4	Z	24649	12 Gauge Butt Connector	2
F	26228	Dual Needle Gauge	2	AA	24595	12 Gauge Female Terminal	2
G	20946	1/4" Air Line	80 ft.	BB	17263	1/4" x 1" Self-Tapping Screw	1
Н	17132	1/2" Self-Tapping Screw	3	CC	24647	12 Gauge Red Wire	20 ft.
1	24568	18 Gauge Ring Terminal	1	DD	24539	Fuse Holder	1
J	24537	Quick Splice	3	EE	24547	30 AMP Fuse Spade	1
K	24532	Butt Connector	2	FF	23586	Thread Sealant	1
L	24643	16 Gauge Red Wire	8 ft.	GG	10530	Air Line Cutter	1
Μ	24644	16 Gauge Black Wire	8 ft.	HH	11031	Panel	1
N	24594	16 Gauge Female Terminal	4	11	21842	"Y" Fitting	3
0	21507	3/8" Street Tee	1	JJ	21838	Tee	4
Р	21735	1/8" FNPT x 3/8" MNPT Bushing	1	KK	21190	1/2" Plug	4
Q	21738	1/4" FNPT x 1/8" FNPT Bushing	1	LL	21247	1/4" x 1/2" Bushing	1
R	21610	1/4" MNPT x 1/8" FNPT Bushing	1	MM	21732	3/8" 1/2" Bushing	2
S	21366	Inflation Valve 1/8" MNPT	1	NN	21251	1/8" x 1/2" Bushing	1
Т	21754	1/4" MNPT Drain Cock	1	00	17434	#8 X 3/4" Stainless Steel Screws	s 4
				PP	21703	Paddle Switch	4



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

Installing the Air Management System

The following instructions correspond to Figure 1 on the previous page of this instruction manual.

ASSEMBLING THE AIR TANK

NOTE	All fittings must be pre-coated with thread sealant.				
	 Install a 1/8" bushing (P) to the top port of the street tee (O) and a 1/4" bushing (Q) to the other port. 				
	 Attach the pressure switch (W) to the 1/8" bushing previously installed onto the street tee. Attach the street tee assembly to the end port of the air tank (B). 				
	4. Install a drain cock (T) to the port that is at the base of the tank.				
NOTE	If the tank is mounted with the feet up, the drain cock must be installed on the other side of the tank. The drain must always be installed in the port that is facing downward.				
	 Install a 1/4" x 1/8" bushing (R) to the port that is facing upwards on the air tank. Attach an inflation valve (S) to the bushing. 				
	6. Install an air fitting (V) to the remaining end port of the air tank.				
	7. Install plugs (U) to the two ports on the front of the air tank.				
	8 Find a suitable mounting location for the air tank and mount using the provided bolts (D), flat washers (C), and nyloc nuts (E).				



RECOMMENDED COMPRESSOR LOCATIONS

Important

LOCATE COMPRESSOR IN DRY, PROTECTED AREA ON VEHICLE. DIRECT SPLASH OR EXCESSIVE MOISTURE CAN DAMAGE THE COMPRESSOR AND CAUSE SYSTEM FAILURE.

Disclaimer: If you choose to mount the compressor outside the vehicle please keep in mind the compressor body must be shielded from direct splash and the intake should be snorkeled inside the vehicle. If the compressor does not include a remote mount air filter or if mounting the compressor outside the vehicle, make sure to orient the compressor intake filter so that all moisture can easily drain.

Please also remember...

- To avoid high heat environments
- To avoid mounting the compressor under the hood.
- To check to be sure the compressor harness #2 will reach the compressor and connect to harness #1.
- The compressor can be mounted in any position vertical, upside down, sideways, etc. (please refer to the instruction manual).

ATTACHING THE COMPRESSOR

- 1. Find a suitable mounting location for the compressor and mount using the hardware included with the compressor.
- 2. Attach the leader hose from the compressor (A) to the 1/4" x 1/8" bushing previously attached to the street tee.

WIRING THE SYSTEM

- 1. Attach the red power wire from the compressor to the pressure switch using the attached female terminal.
- 2. Attach the black ground wire to a suitable location on the frame of the vehicle using a self-tapping screw (BB).
- Cut a length of red wire (L) long enough to go from the gauges to a keyed on ignition wire. Attach a female terminal (N) to one end of the wire. Attach this end to the gauge panel. Quick splice the two gauge bulbs together.
- 4. Splice the remaining end of the red power wire to a keyed on ignition wire using the provided quick splice (J).
- 5. Ground the gauges by attaching the black ground wire to a suitable location using the remaining self-tapping screw (H).
- Cut a length of red wire (CC) to go between the pressure switch on the air tank to a fuse holder (DD). Attach the two together using a butt connector (Z).
- 7. Install a 30 AMP fuse into the fuse holder.
- 8. Cut another length of red wire (CC) long enough to go between the fuse holder and the fuse box. Attach a female terminal (AA) to one end of the wire and attach the remaining end to the fuse holder using a butt connector (Z). Choose a key-on circuit.



9. Attach the female terminal to either the fuse tap (X) or mini fuse adapter (Y). Attach this to the fuse panel.

ATTACHING THE AIR LINES

🛕 CAUTION

WHEN CUTTING OR TRIMMING THE AIR LINE, USE A HOSE CUTTER (GG), 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 (SEE FIG. 2).

- 1. Run a length of air line (G) from the air fitting on the compressor to the end of the switch cluster.
- 2. Run a length of air line from the remaining air fittings on the switch to its respective air spring.
- 3. Repeat step 2 for the remaining air fitting and air spring.
- 4. Use a tee and connect into each one of the air spring lines to connect to it's respective gauge port.
- 5. Test and make sure that the switches operate the appropriate air springs.

ASSEMBLING THE PNEUMATIC PADDLE SWITCHES

- 1. Snap all 4 switches into the panel so that from the back they are all oriented the same way (You may select a different location for switches. They do not need to be used with supplied panel).
- 2. Cut 6 pieces of hose the same length (approximately 3"6).
- 3. Push 4 of these hoses onto the "SUP" port. Attach the "Y" Fittings as shown in fig. 1.

Troubleshooting Guide

- 1. Leak test the air line connections, the threaded connection into the air spring, and all fittings in the control system.
- 2. Inspect the air lines to be sure none are pinched. Tie straps may be too tight. Loosen or replace the strap and replace leaking components.
- 3. Inspect the air line for holes and cracks. Replace as needed.
- 4. Look for a kink or fold in the air line. Reroute as needed.

If the preceding steps do not solve the problem, it is possibly caused by a failed air spring — either a factory defect or an operating problem. Please call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 for assistance.

Tuning the Air Pressure

Pressure determination comes down to three things - level vehicle, ride comfort, and stability.

1. Level vehicle

If the vehicle's headlights are shining into the trees or the vehicle is leaning to one side, then it is not level. Raise the air pressure to correct either of these problems and level



the vehicle.

2. Ride comfort

If the vehicle has a rough or harsh ride it may be due to either too much pressure or not enough. Try different pressures to determine the best ride comfort.

3. Stability

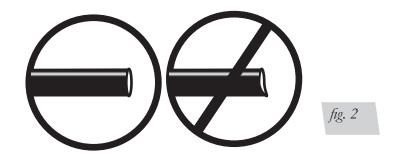
Stability translates into safety and should be the priority, meaning the driver may need to sacrifice a perfectly level and comfortable ride. Stability issues include roll control, bounce, dive during braking and sponginess. Tuning out these problems usually requires an increase in pressure.

Checking for leaks

- 1. Inflate the air spring to suggested driving pressure as listed in the "Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing" section of your air springs installation manual.
- 2. Spray all connections and the inflation valves with a solution of 1/5 liquid dish soap and 4/5 water. 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 system to normal ride height. Do not deflate to lower than 5 PSI.
- 4. Check the air pressure again after 24 hours. A 2 4 PSI loss after initial installation is

Fixing Leaks

- 1. If there is a problem with a swivel fitting:
 - 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 (see fig. 2). Reinsert the air line into the push-to-connect fitting.
 - b. Check the threaded connection by tightening the swivel fitting another ½ 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 and then use a wrench for an additional two turns.



2. If the preceding steps have not resolved the problem, call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892.



Warranty and Returns Policy

Air Lift Company warrants its products, for the time periods listed below, to the original retail purchaser against manufacturing defects when used on catalog-listed applications on cars, vans, light trucks and motorhomes under normal operating conditions for as long as Air Lift manufactures the product. The warranty does not apply to products that have been improperly applied, improperly installed, used in racing or off-road applications, used for commercial purposes, or which have not been maintained in accordance with installation instructions furnished with all products. The consumer will be responsible for removing (labor charges) the defective product from the vehicle and returning it, transportation costs prepaid, to the dealer from which it was purchased or to Air Lift Company for verification.

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This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that vary from state-to-state. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages. The above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. There are no warranties, expressed or implied including any implied warranties of merchantability and fitness, which extend beyond this warranty period. There are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face hereof. Seller disclaims the implied warranty of merchantability. (Dated proof of purchase required.)

Air Lift 1000Lifetime Limited	LoadController/Dual 2 Year Limited
RideControlLifetime Limited	Load Controller (I) 2 Year Limited
LoadLifter 5000*Lifetime Limited	Load Controller (II) 2 Year Limited
SlamAir Lifetime Limited	SmartAir 2 Year Limited
AirCellLifetime Limited	Wireless AIR2 Year Limited
Air Lift Performance**1 Year Limited	WirelessONE 2 Year Limited
LoadController/Single 2 Year Limited	Other Accessories2 Year Limited

*formerly SuperDuty **formerly LifeStyle & Performance

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