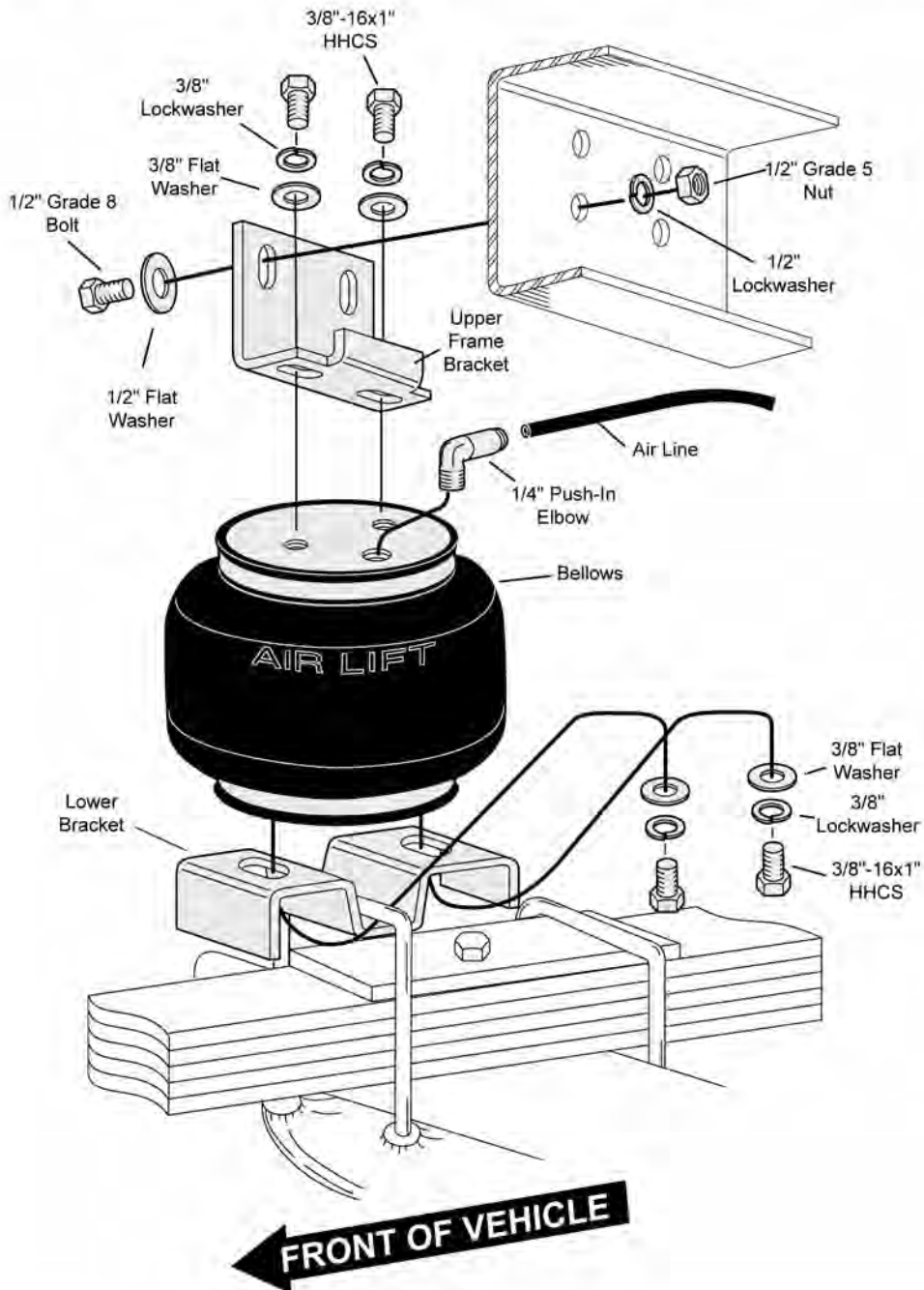


# LoadLIFTER5000

P/N 57106

MN-176  
(12804)  
ECN 2459

This kit is designed to fit the front of the 73-82 Dodge M Series and 87-92 John Deere/Oshkosh Class A motor home chassis



## WARNING

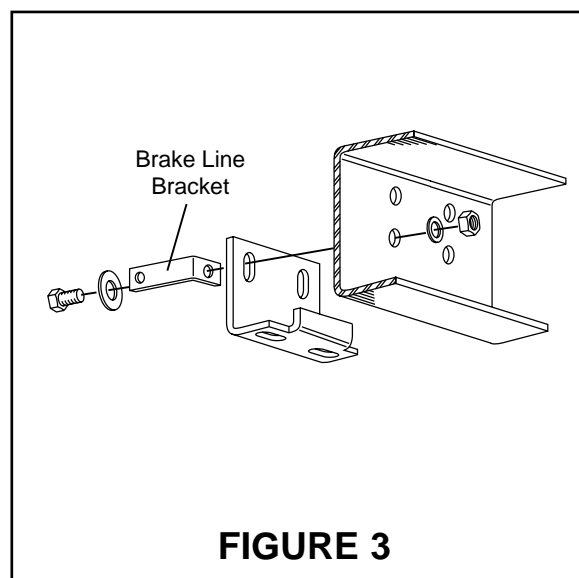
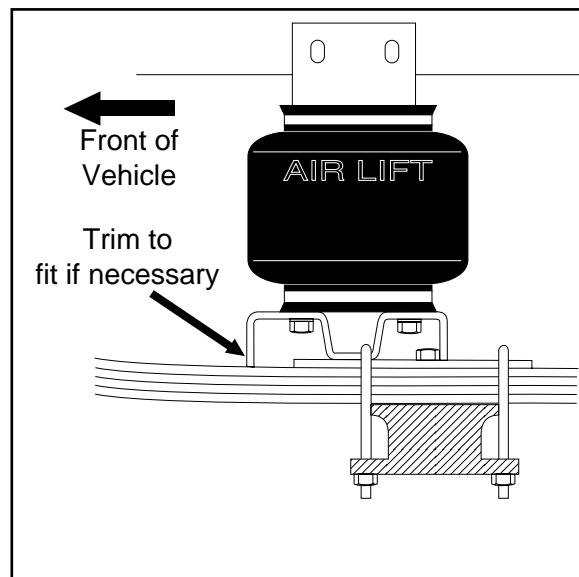
DO NOT INFLATE BELLOWS WHEN IT IS UNRESTRICTED OR NOT INSTALLED. BELLOWS MUST BE CONTAINED BY SUSPENSION OR OTHER ADEQUATE STRUCTURE. DO NOT INFLATE BEYOND 100 P.S.I. IMPROPER USE OR OVER INFLATION MAY CAUSE ASSEMBLY TO BURST CAUSING PROPERTY DAMAGE OR SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY.

**NORMAL RIDE HEIGHT:** Normal ride height (no load) - This is defined as the distance between the bottom edge of the fenderwell to the center point of the wheel with the vehicle in an “as delivered condition” (without a load, i.e. tool box, camper, etc.) measurements should be taken before beginning the installation. The distance from the bottom edge of the fenderwell to the center point of the wheel should be recorded. All of our kits are designed to be installed and operated at normal ride height.

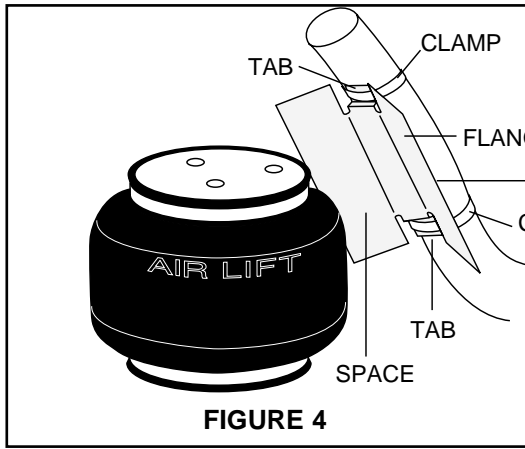
Measure and record the Normal Ride Height for later reference.

1. Jack up front of vehicle or raise on hoist.
2. Lower axle or raise frame an additional 2 or 3 inches to provide clearance when positioning air spring assembly.
3. Install the air fitting into the air port. Tighten finger tight plus two turns. **Use a 9/16” open end wrench being careful to tighten on the metal hex nut only. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.** This fitting is precoated with thread sealant. Insure that the elbow is pointing towards the front of the vehicle.
4. Position the bellows with the air port up. Attach the upper bracket loosely with two 3/8-16x1” bolts, lockwashers, and flat washers.
5. Remove the **FRONT** leaf spring retainer U-bolt. Set lower bracket on leaf spring with long leg towards the front of the vehicle. Trim the long leg of the lower bracket by cutting or grinding, if necessary, so that the bracket will set level on the leaf spring (Figure 2).
6. Insert the leaf spring retainer U-bolt through the lower bracket. Attach the bracket loosely to the bellows with two 3/8-16x1” bolts, lock washers and flat washers.
7. Set assembly on leaf spring. Line up the front hole in the upper bracket with either an existing bolt or hole in the side of the frame depending on the chassis. If there is a bolt, remove it and place a large flat washer on the bolt. Mount the upper bracket by reattaching the bolt through the front hole in the upper bracket. If there is not a bolt, use the 1/2-3x1.5 “ bolt, large flat washer, lock washer and hex nut provided in kit. There may be a brake line bracket at this location, depending on the model. If so, you must unbolt the bracket, bend the locator tab upward, and re-install with the Air Lift upper bracket (Figure 3).

**CAUTION: DO NOT DRILL HOLES INTO THE FRAME UNTIL HYDRAULIC LINES, GAS LINE AND ELECTRICAL WIRES HAVE BEEN MOVED ASIDE ON BOTH SIDES OF FRAME RAIL.**



**FIGURE 3**



**FIGURE 4**

8. Align the bellows so that it sets square vertically and horizontally. The bellows mounting holes in the upper and lower brackets are slotted to allow some shifting for alignment. When aligned, tighten all bellows mounting bolts securely (do not exceed 20 ft-lbs of torque). Reattach retainer U-bolt around leaf spring and tighten securely (Torque to 220 ft. lbs.).

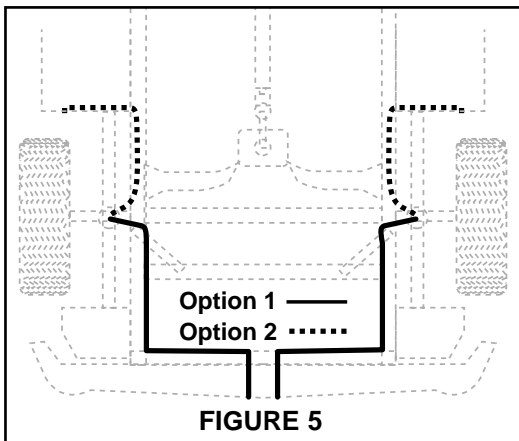
9. Install exhaust pipe heat shield (Figure 4). The shield is attached to the exhaust pipe with the flanges bent toward the air bellows. Shield may be trimmed or bent to prevent contact with the bellows or hardware during suspension travel. Bend tabs to provide 1/2" dead air space between exhaust pipes and heat shield and maximum clearance with bellows.

10. Install the kit on the other side of the vehicle.

11. Proceed with air line installation instructions.

### AIR LINE INSTALLATION

A. Select locations on the vehicle for the air inflation valves (Figure 5). The location can be on the bumper or on the body of the vehicle, but be sure that it is protected so that the valve will not be damaged and will still be accessible for the air chuck. Drill a 5/16" hole.



**FIGURE 5**

B. Use a standard tube cutter, a razor blade, or very sharp knife to cut the air line assembly into two equal parts. A clean square cut will ensure against leaks. Install the inflation valve in desired location as shown in Figure 6. Run the air line from the inflation valve to bellows. Be sure to route air line so that it will be protected from the direct heat from exhaust and keep away from sharp edges. The air line should not be bent or curve sharply.

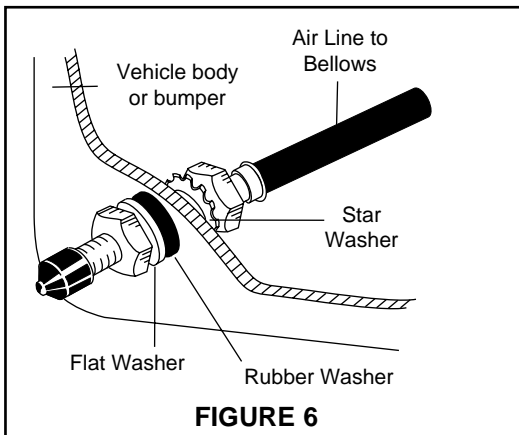
C. Push and slightly turn air line into air fitting in bellow as far as it will go approximately 9/16". This is a self locking fitting and the air line is now installed. Secure the air line in place with the nylon ties provided.

D. Inflate the bellows and check all fittings and connectors for air leaks with a solution of soap and water.

E. This now completes the installation. Before proceeding, check once again to be sure you have sufficient clearance around the bellows.

F. Lower vehicle to the ground. Inflate the air springs until Normal Ride Height measurement is restored. Regardless of load, the air pressure should always be adjusted so that the Normal Ride Height is maintained at all times.

A 5-7 psi loss after initial installation is normal. If pressure has dropped more than 7 lbs. re-test for leaks with soapy water solution.



**FIGURE 6**

## RECOMMENDED PRESSURES

MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
20 P.S.I.	100 P.S.I.

**FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM PRESSURE, BOTTOMING OUT, OR OVER EXTENSION WILL VOID THE WARRANTY**

**REGARDLESS OF LOAD, THE AIR PRESSURE MUST ALWAYS BE ADJUSTED SO THAT THE NORMAL RIDE HEIGHT IS MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES.**

### NOTE

- IMPORTANT:** For your safety and to prevent possible damage to your vehicle, do not exceed maximum load recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. Although your air springs are rated at maximum inflation pressure of 100 p.s.i., this pressure may represent too great of load on some vehicles. Check your vehicle owner's manual and do not exceed maximum loads listed for your vehicle.  
When inflating your Air Lift sleeves, add pressure in small quantities, checking pressure frequently during inflation. The sleeves require much less air volume than a tire and therefore inflate much quicker.
- Should it become necessary to raise the vehicle by the frame, make sure the system is at the minimum (20psi) to reduce the tension on suspension/brake components. **Use of on board hydraulic leveling systems or routine tire changes DOES NOT require deflation or disconnection.**



*Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Products*

**AIR LIFT COMPANY**  
P.O. BOX 80167  
Lansing, MI 48908-0167

**FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALL 1-800-248-0892**

**Caution: DO NOT EXCEED THE VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING.**

Printed in the USA



# Product Use Information

## 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. Is it necessary to keep air in the air springs at all time and how much pressure will they need?**

The minimum air pressure should be maintained at all times. The minimum air pressure keeps the air spring in shape, ensuring that it will move throughout its travel without rubbing or wearing on itself.

**Q. Is it necessary to add a compressor system to the air springs?**

No. Air pressure can be adjusted with any type of compressor as long as it can produce sufficient pressure to service the springs. Even a bicycle tire pump can be used, but it's a lot of work.

**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 (fig. 1). Raise the air pressure to correct either of these problems and level the vehicle.

**2. Ride comfort**

If the vehicle has a rough and harsh ride it may be due to either too much pressure or not enough (fig. 2). 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 (fig. 3). Tuning out these problems usually requires an increase in pressure.



Bad headlight aim



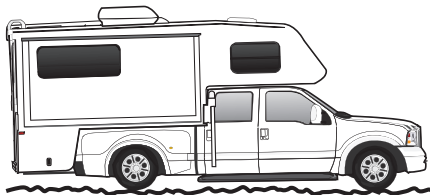
Sway and body roll



Rough ride

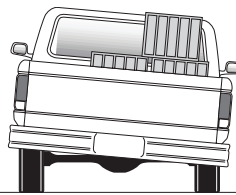
**Guidelines for adding air:**

1. Start with the vehicle level or slightly above.
2. When in doubt, always add air.
3. For motorhomes, start with 50-100 PSI in the rear because it can be safely assumed that it is heavily loaded.
4. If the front of the vehicle dives while braking, increase the pressure in the front air bags, if equipped.
5. If it is ever suspected that the air bags have bottomed out, increase the pressure (fig. 4).
6. Adjust the pressure up and down to find the best ride.
7. If the vehicle rocks and rolls, adjust the air pressure to reduce movement.
8. It may be necessary to maintain different pressures on each side of the vehicle. Loads such as water, fuel, and appliances will cause the vehicle to be heavier on one side (fig. 5). As much as a 50 PSI difference is not uncommon.

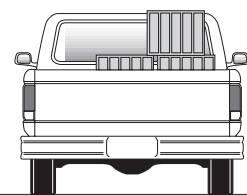


Bottoming out

fig. 4



Unlevel



Level

fig. 5

## 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.

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 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 1000..... Lifetime Limited**  
**RideControl..... Lifetime Limited**  
**SlamAir..... Lifetime Limited**  
**LoadLifter 5000\*..... Lifetime Limited**  
**EasyStreet Systems..... 1 Year Limited**

**Load Controller (I)..... 2 Year Limited**  
**Load Controller (II)..... 2 Year Limited**  
**SmartAir..... 2 Year Limited**  
**Wireless AIR..... 2 Year Limited**  
**Other Accessories..... 2 Year Limited**

*\*formerly SuperDuty*