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A. Introduction

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The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of the Air Lift 1000 air spring kit.

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 operating tips.

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 **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 the 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.



B. Hardware and Tools Lists

HARDWARE LIST

Item	Part #	DescriptionQty
А	48171	Air spring2
В	09453	Protector2
С	09567	Protector2
D	20937	Air line assembly1
Е	10466	Zip ties 4
F	21230	Valve cap2
G	21233	5/16" Hex nut 4
Н	21234	Rubber washer2
I	18411	Star washer2
J	18501	M8 Flat washer2
К	21236	Tee1
L	21455	Valve2
Μ	10638	Uni clamps6

TOOLS LIST

Description	Qty
Hoist or floor jacks	1
Safety stands	2
Safety glasses	1
Air compressor or compressed air source	1
Spray bottle with dish soap/water solution	1

ALBILLE

C. Installing the Air Lift 1000 System

GETTING STARTED

- 1. Jack up the rear of the vehicle or raise on a hoist. Support the frame with safety stands.
- 2. Mark the location of the spring/upper spring mount with a marker so that the spring can be reinstalled and indexed properly.
- 3. Remove the shock absorbers from the lower shock mounts on the axle. Lower the axle or raise the body of the vehicle until the springs can be removed.

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/ CAUTION
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OBSERVE TENSION ON BRAKE LINE. DO NOT STRAIN. IF NECESSARY, TEMPORARILY REMOVE ANY MOUNTING BRACKETS OR CLIPS TO CREATE MORE SLACK.

- 4. Remove lower shock mounting nuts and remove bottom of shocks from the control arm. Leave shocks attached at the top on both right and left side.
- 5. Remove coil spring on left side by lowering the axle (Fig. C.1)







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

MARKING HOLE FOR AIR LINE

1. Place air cylinder into coil spring with the air stem facing down (Fig. C.2)



- 2. Place coil spring and air cylinder assembly on the control arm lower seat.
- 3. Mark the cylinder air stem location where it comes in contact with the control arm.
- 4. Remove coil spring and air spring assembly.
- 5. Center punch and drill 1/4" (6mm) diameter pilot hole then drill 3/8" (10mm) diameter final hole to allow attachment of the air line to the air cylinder (Fig. C.3).



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INSTALLING THE AIR SPRING

1. Place the air spring and the top and bottom protectors in the coil spring (Fig. C.4). The top protector is the thinner one.



2. Install coil spring and air cylinder assembly, placing it on the lower spring seat first with air line going through lower protector and control arm (Fig. C.5). Push the top of coil into upper spring seat.



- 3. Raise axle back to starting position. Re-attach the shock and torque to manufacturer's specification.
- 4. Reposition the safety stands under the axle and frame, to complete the other side, and repeat steps 1 and 2.

NOTE

Check exhaust clearance. There must be 3-4" (76-102mm)- between the air spring and the exhaust or the heat from the exhaust could damage it. If there is insufficient clearance, contact Air Lift customer service to obtain a heat shield kit.

D. Installing the Air Lines

A single-path air line installation is recommended for vehicles that typically have even weight distribution (Fig. D.1). If weight in the vehicle varies from side to side and unequal pressures are needed to level the load, use a dual-path installation. For dual-path air line installations, eliminate the tee fitting and route separate air lines for both air springs (Fig. D.2).





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TO PREVENT THE AIR LINE FROM MELTING, MAINTAIN AT LEAST 6" (152MM) FROM THE EXHAUST SYSTEM TO THE AIR LINE.

1. If installing a single-path air line, choose a location for the tee fitting on the wheel well, license plate, or rear bumper. Determine and cut adequate length of air line to reach to the tee from left and right side air springs.

LEAVE SUFFICIENT AIR LINE SLACK TO PREVENT ANY STRAIN ON THE FITTING DURING AXLE MOTIONS.

- 2. Use this procedure (Fig. D.3) for all air line connections:
 - a. Slide the air line clamp onto the air line.
 - b. Push the air line and air line clamp over the barbed stem so that the air line covers all the barbs.
 - c. Compress the ears on the air line clamp with pliers and slide it forward to fully cover the barbs.
- 3. Select a location for the Schrader valve ensuring that the valve will be protected and accessible with an air hose. Typical locations are inside the fuel tank door, inside the rear wheel wells, or the license plate or rear bumper area. Determine and cut adequate length of air line to reach from the tee to the Schrader valve or from the air springs to the valve if using a dual-path installation.





4. Drill a 5/16" (8mm) hole for the Schrader valve and mount as shown (Fig. D.4). Install the air line on the Schrader valve first. The rubber washer serves as an outside weather seal.





DO NOT INFLATE THE AIR SPRINGS BEFORE READING THE MAINTENANCE AND USE GUIDELINES IN THIS INSTALLATION GUIDE AS WELL AS THE USER GUIDE INCLUDED WITH THIS KIT.

E. Before Operating

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Consult the included User Guide for information about fixing air leaks along with more tips for maintenance and use before using the product.

INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- □ Clearance test Inflate the air springs to 25-35 PSI (1.7-2.4BAR) and make sure there is at least 1/2" (13mm) clearance from anything that might rub against each air spring.
- □ Leak test before road test Inflate the air springs to 25-35 PSI (1.7-2.4BAR) and use a soapy water solution to 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" (152mm) 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.
- □ **Road test** The vehicle should be road tested after the preceding tests. Inflate the air springs so that the vehicle is level. Drive the vehicle 10 miles (16km) and recheck for clearance, loose fasteners and air leaks.
- □ **Operating instructions** If professionally installed, the installer should review the User Guide with the owner. Be sure to provide the owner with all of the paperwork that came with the kit.

MAINTENANCE AND USE GUIDELINES

- 1. Check air pressure weekly.
- 2. Always maintain normal ride height. Never inflate beyond 35 PSI (2.4BAR).
- 3. If the system develops an air leak, use a soapy water solution to check all air line connections and the inflation valve core before deflating and removing the air spring.

Minimum Recommended Pressure	Maximum Air Pressure
5 PSI (.34BAR)	35 PSI (2.4BAR)

🛕 CAUTION

FOR SAFETY AND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE VEHICLE, DO NOT EXCEED MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR) OR PAYLOAD RATING, AS INDICATED BY THE VEHICLE MANUFACTURER.

A CAUTION

ALTHOUGH THE AIR SPRINGS ARE RATED AT A MAXIMUM INFLATION PRESSURE OF 35 PSI (2.4BAR), THE AIR PRESSURE ACTUALLY NEEDED IS DEPENDENT ON LOAD AND GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING.



LIMITED WARRANTY AND RETURN POLICY

Air Lift Company provides a limited lifetime warranty to the original purchaser of its load support products, that the products will be free from defects in workmanship and materials when used on cars and trucks as specified by Air Lift Company and under normal operating conditions, subject to the requirements and exclusions set forth in the full Limited Warranty and Return Policy that is available at **www.airliftcompany.com/warranty**.

For additional warranty information contact Air Lift Company customer service.

Need Help?

Contact Air Lift Company customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, dial (517) 322-2144.



Thank you for purchasing Air Lift products – the professional installer's choice!

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