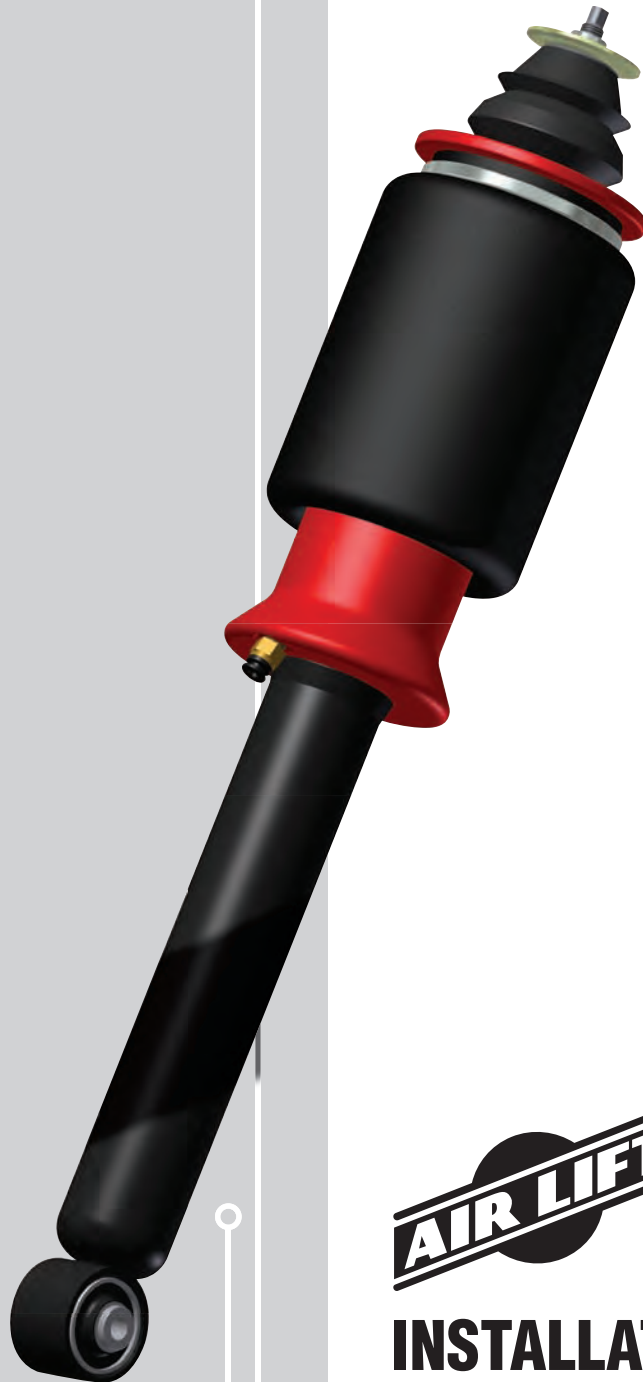


LifeSTYLE

by AIR LIFT®

Kit 75683

***MKII-III Platform
rear application***



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.

Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of this MKII-III Lifestyle 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.

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 vehicle 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.

 **CAUTION**

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

Installation Diagram

IMPORTANT: NEW UPPER MOUNTS ISOLATORS ARE RECOMMENDED.

NOTE:

- 1.) Air fitting to be installed with thread sealant and torqued 1-3/4 turns beyond finger tight.

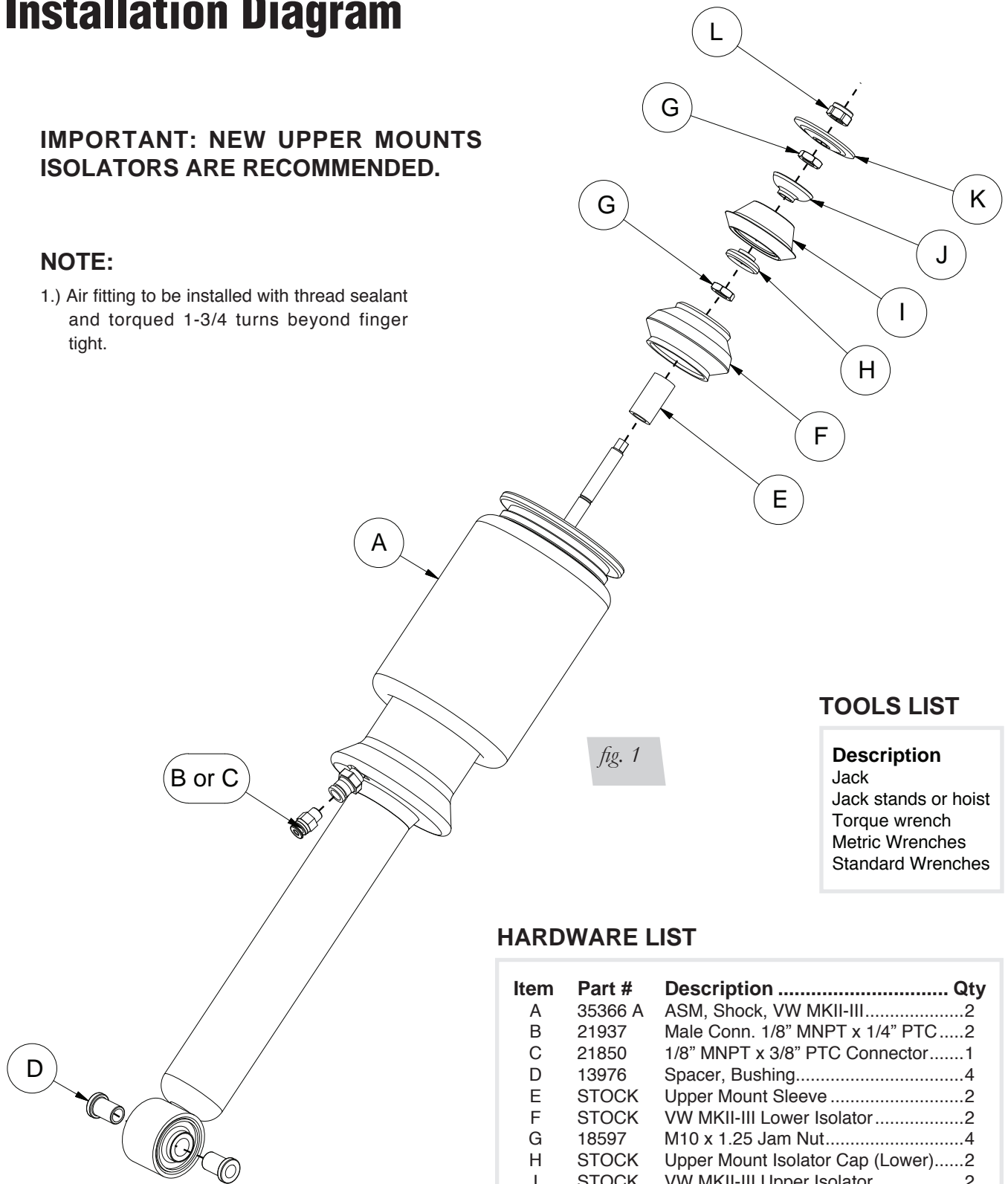


fig. 1

TOOLS LIST

Description
Jack
Jack stands or hoist
Torque wrench
Metric Wrenches
Standard Wrenches

HARDWARE LIST

Item	Part #	Description	Qty
A	35366 A	ASM, Shock, VW MKII-III.....	2
B	21937	Male Conn. 1/8" MNPT x 1/4" PTC	2
C	21850	1/8" MNPT x 3/8" PTC Connector.....	1
D	13976	Spacer, Bushing.....	4
E	STOCK	Upper Mount Sleeve	2
F	STOCK	VW MKII-III Lower Isolator	2
G	18597	M10 x 1.25 Jam Nut.....	4
H	STOCK	Upper Mount Isolator Cap (Lower).....	2
I	STOCK	VW MKII-III Upper Isolator	2
J	STOCK	Upper Mount Bushing Cup (Upper)	2
K	STOCK	Shock Rebound Washer	2
L	18500	M10 x 1.25 Nyloc Nut.....	2

Installing the Lifestyle Kit

PREPARING THE VEHICLE

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

REMOVING THE SHOCK

1. Support the hub assembly. Unbolt the lower shock mounting bolt and nut, save for later reinstallation (fig. 2).



fig. 2

2. Remove the upper shock mount nut. Remove the shock assembly from the vehicle. Take note of how the isolators are mounted within the vehicle. Remove both from the stock unit (fig. 3).



fig. 3

INSTALLING THE NEW SHOCK ASSEMBLY

1. Prior to installing the shock, apply Teflon tape or thread sealant to the threads of the air fitting and thread into the lower end cap of the airspring. Torque 1-3/4 turns beyond hand tight.
2. Insert the bushing spacers into each side of the lower shock bushing.
3. Apply the rod sleeve and lower isolator (D) to the rod extension on the new shock assembly. Apply the washer/cap followed by 1 supplied jam nut. Insert the assembly through the body and install the upper isolator followed by the upper washer/cap and jam nut. Finish by installing the rebound washer and nyloc nut (fig. 1).
4. Align shock so that the air fitting points away from the tire. Lift the hub assembly and align the attachment bracket with the shock bushing and reinstall the previously removed bolt and nut.
5. Fully compress the suspension and check for clearances. Areas to look are the shock-to-mounting bracket interface and brake line to body clearance. Modify as necessary (fig. 4).



fig. 4

6. Install wheel and torque to 110Nm (81ft-lbs).

ALIGNING THE VEHICLE

1. Using the control system set the vehicle height to the new desired ride height and align there.
2. If the 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. Once they have been loosened, re-torque to stock specifications.

Torque Specifications		
Location	Nm	ft. lbs.
Upper Mount Nut	15	11
Lower Bushing Bolt/Nut	70	52
Wheels	110	81

Table 1

NOTE

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.

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).

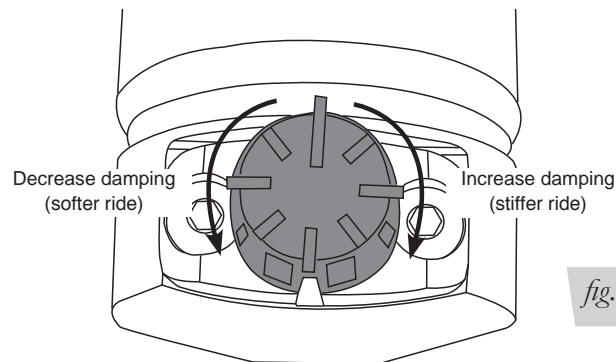


fig. 8

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.

CAUTION

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 #27741 or #27630, High Performance 4 Path Air Management System, is highly recommended for this product.
6. Please continue by reading the Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing section.

Product Use, Maintenance and Servicing

Suggested Driving Air Pressure	Maximum Air Pressure
45 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.

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.

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

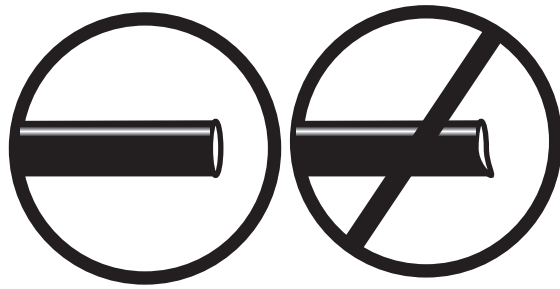
Stability translates into safety and should be the priority, meaning the driver may need to sacrifice a perfectly level and comfortable ride. Stability issues include roll control, bounce, dive during braking and sponginess. Tuning out these problems usually requires additional air pressure, strut damping, 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. 5). Reinsert the air line into the push-to-connect fitting.

*fig. 5*

- b. Check the threaded connection by tightening the swivel fitting another $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 and then use a wrench for an additional two turns.