7100 Series - Please Read Before Installation

Congratulations on your purchase. To assure the safe and proper use of your new 7100 Series shock absorbers please read the following important information carefully, and keep it for future reference.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPAIR OR REBUILD ANY SHOCK UNLESS YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO DO SO.

Nitrogen Pressure

7100 Series are delivered with 250 psi (17 bar). The main purpose of the nitrogen pressure is to stabilize the oil and prevent cavitation. The operating range for a 7100 Series is between 180-250 psi (12.5 – 17 bar). Users can adjust the nitrogen pressure to accommodate the application on an individual basis. Nitrogen can be serviced through a fill valve located on the shock body (schrader shock) or at the end of the reservoir (reservoir shock). **Tip:** If **the suspension** begins to feel soft, you may need to increase nitrogen pressure.
A Bilstein Gas Filling Tool (part#193000) is available. Please contact your Bilstein dealer for more details. Nitrogen bottles may be purchased or rented at most welding supply dealers

Installation

Bilstein 7100 Series are designed for custom applications. This product is not intended for use on any OEM applications, and may not directly fit in standard mounting locations. **The user is responsible for determining the suitability of this product.**

Incorrect installation can lead to the failure of this product. Below are a few tips:

This shock **cannot** be used as a compression limiter. Failure of the shock and/or mounts will result.
The shock may be used as a droop limiter on low-speed applications such as trail riding and rock crawling. However, a limit strap is strongly recommended on any high-speed application where suspension oscillations to “full droop” are a common occurrence.
The shock is supplied with (4) heim spacers, which must be placed on both sides of the spherical bearing (top and bottom). The purpose of these spacers is to allow the spherical bearing to articulate as the shock cycles through its travel. It is very important that the heim spacers **do not** contact the end loop during operation. As well, it is very important that the end loops do not contact any part of the mount brackets, etc., during operation. Any interference with the free movement of the bearings may result in a bent or broken piston rod.
It is very important to cycle the suspension to full “bump” and full “droop” before operating the vehicle. Failure can occur if the shock body comes in contact with the chassis, tire and wheel, or suspension of the vehicle.

Shock Repair

The 7100 Series are fully owner-rebuildable. Any component can be purchased through your Bilstein dealer or direct from Bilstein. A rebuild sheet is available upon request. For a complete parts listing please refer to catalog **#PP2458**.

Revalving

Internal adjustments can be made to the damping forces in rebound and compression, independently.

Nickel Plated Finish

7100 Series feature an electroless nickel finish protected with a clear coat. Wash with mild soap and water only. Do not use chemical cleaners or abrasives on the finish. ***The finish is not covered under any Bilstein warranty.***