



Installation Instructions for:
SYSTEM #17178
1998-2001 DODGE RAM 1500/2500 SERIES TRUCK
5.9L ENGINE • ALL WHEELBASES

Removal:

- 1) Disconnect the negative side of the battery cable. Raise the vehicle up on a hoist or rack to working height. If you do not have access to a hoist or rack raise the vehicle and support securely with jack stands.
- 2) Using a hacksaw or sawsall, cut the stock tailpipe off where it exits the muffler. (This step is not mandatory, but makes removal a little easier.)
- 3) Separate the two rubber hangers on the tailpipe from their rubber mounts on the vehicle. Unbolt the hanger at the rear of the tailpipe, remove the tailpipe and set aside. (Remove the lower bolt that connects the tailpipe to the rubber mounting bracket.)
- 4) Support the muffler with a stand; remove the clamp in front of the muffler. Once the clamp is removed it may be necessary to heat this connection for ease of removal. Please use extreme caution. Remove the muffler and set aside.

Installation:

- 1) Identify your wheelbase length to determine extension pipe requirement. For 119" WB, the 86093 pipe will not be used. For 135" WB, trim 20" off the end of the 86093. For 139" WB, trim 16" off the end of the 86093. For 155" WB, use the 86093 as provided.
- 2) Place the extension pipe **#86093** (if required) in position on the pipe from the catalytic converter. Install a clamp but do not tighten at this time. Then place the **#465HA** hanger assembly over the back of the pipe and connect to the rubber mounts on the vehicle.
- 3) Place a provided clamp onto the smaller (2½") end of adapter pipe **#TB230** and then place onto the back of the catalytic converter or the extension pipe installed in step 2. Tighten the clamp enough to hold but still allow for adjustment.
- 4) Connect the inlet of the muffler **#53070** to the inlet pipe. Use a stand to support the muffler and install a 3" clamp, but do not tighten.
- 5) Place the over-axle pipe **#26084** into position over the rear axle and connect it to the muffler outlet. Connect the wire hangers to their rubber mounts and install a 3" clamp, but do not tighten.
- 6) Connect the exit pipe **#26085** to the rear of the over-axle pipe and connect wire hanger to the rubber mount. Install a 3" clamp, but do not tighten yet.
- 7) Adjust the position of all pipes and muffler and tailpipe to provide a satisfactory fit. Maintain a minimum of 3/4" clearance around all parts of the system; while keeping suspension travel and

vibration in mind.

8) Tighten down all clamped connections securely. Slide the 7/16" hanger keepers onto the end of the two hangers behind the muffler and also onto all round hanger mounts. These will prevent the rubber hangers from sliding off.

9) For a cleaner appearance and more secure installation, we highly recommend welding all slip-fit connections. If you live in a geographical area that has harsh winters or sees a great deal of precipitation, the use of temperature paint over the welded areas can help to prevent surface rust and premature corrosion.

PACKING LIST

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Part#</u>
1	Extension Pipe	86093
1	Adapter pipe	TB230S
1	Muffler	53070
1	Over-axle Pipe	26084
1	Exit Pipe	26085
1	Parts kit	PK305
1	Front Hanger Assy.	465HA
2	2 1/2" clamp	MC250S
3	3" clamp	MC300G
5	7/16" Hanger Keeper	HW502
1	1/2" Hanger Keeper	HW503



Installation diagram for:
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FORCE II™

