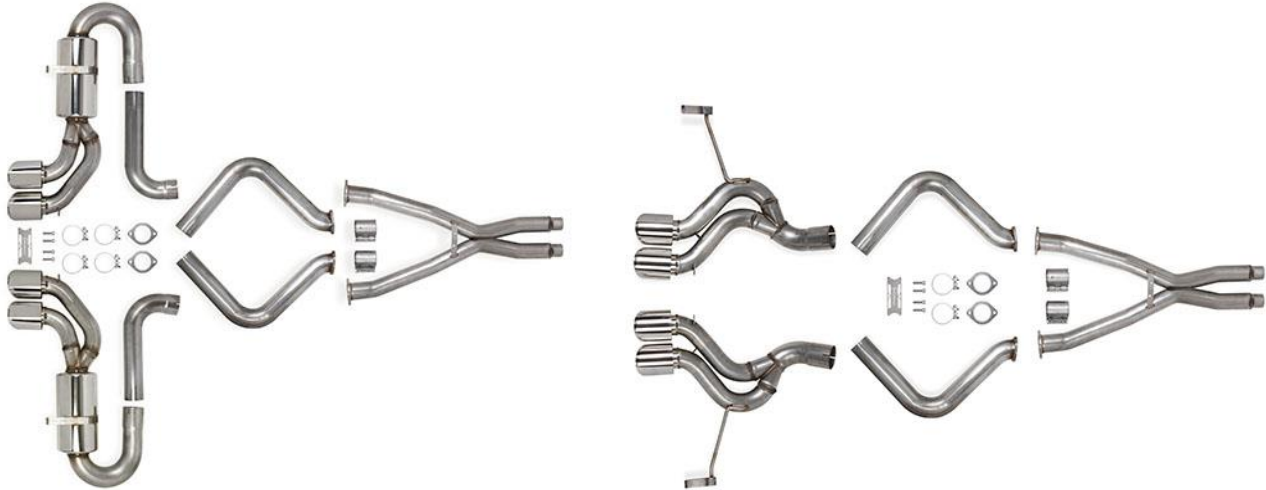




## 1997-04 C5 Corvette 3" 304SS Cat-Back Exhaust System

**705013144RHKR (w/ X-pipe and mufflers)**  
**705013145RHKR (w/ X-pipe and no mufflers)**



### Installation Instructions

Thank you for making HOOKER HEADERS your choice in a high-performance exhaust system. Extensive dyno/track testing has enabled HOOKER to offer the most advanced design in exhaust systems. The installation, while not complex, will take a certain amount of time. However, the additional horsepower and improved performance will more than justify your efforts. Proper installation and maintenance will ensure long life and maximum performance from your HOOKER BLACKHEART exhaust system.

#### **BEFORE STARTING:**

Your vehicle must be raised a minimum of 18 inches. A floor hoist is ideal. If no hoist is available, we strongly urge the use of axle stands as a safety measure. **Please read and understand these instructions and disclaimer in their entirety before attempting installation.**

**CAUTION! WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE. USE JACKS /JACK STANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.**

#### **INCLUDED HARDWARE:**

Accessory Pack Contents:		
P/N	Qty.	Description
199R11314	1	Instruction Sheet
517R71	1	Hooker Logo Plate
505R57	4	5mm x 14mm Bolts
546R12	4	5mm Lock Washer
539R23	4	5mm Nut
505R88	4	M10 Allen Bolt
539R25	4	M10 Serrated Hex Nut
556R26	2	2.5" TORCA Coupler
556R23	4	3" Band Clamp
508R31	2	Gasket
599R94	2	Blackheart Decal

Parts List:	
Qty.	Description
1	Left Over-Axle Pipe
1	Right Over-Axle Pipe
1	Left Muffler Or Muffler Delete Assy
1	Right Muffler Or Muffler Delete Assy
1	X-Pipe Assembly
*	<b>705013144 RHKR ONLY</b>
1	* Left Link Pipe
1	* Right Link Pipe

Tools Needed:
Spray Lube (WD 40®)
3/8 Drive Metric Socket Set
12" 3/8 Drive Extension
15mm Deep Socket
15mm Wrench
18mm Socket
3/8 Drive Universal
8mm Box Wrench
8mm Allen Wrench
Reciprocating Saw
Tape measure
Rotary file
24" Straight Edge
Marker

## INSTALLATION:

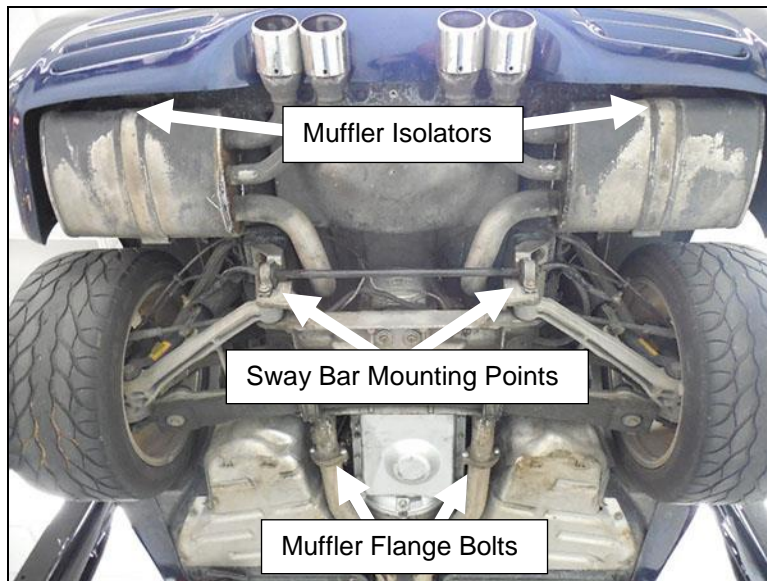
**IMPORTANT: Inspect your accessory pack: BEFORE YOU START!**

1. Place the vehicle on a flat surface, set the parking brake, and block the front wheels.
2. **Disconnect the negative terminal of the battery.**
3. Lift the vehicle and support with jack stands.

**WARNING! Never support a vehicle with a floor or bumper jack.**

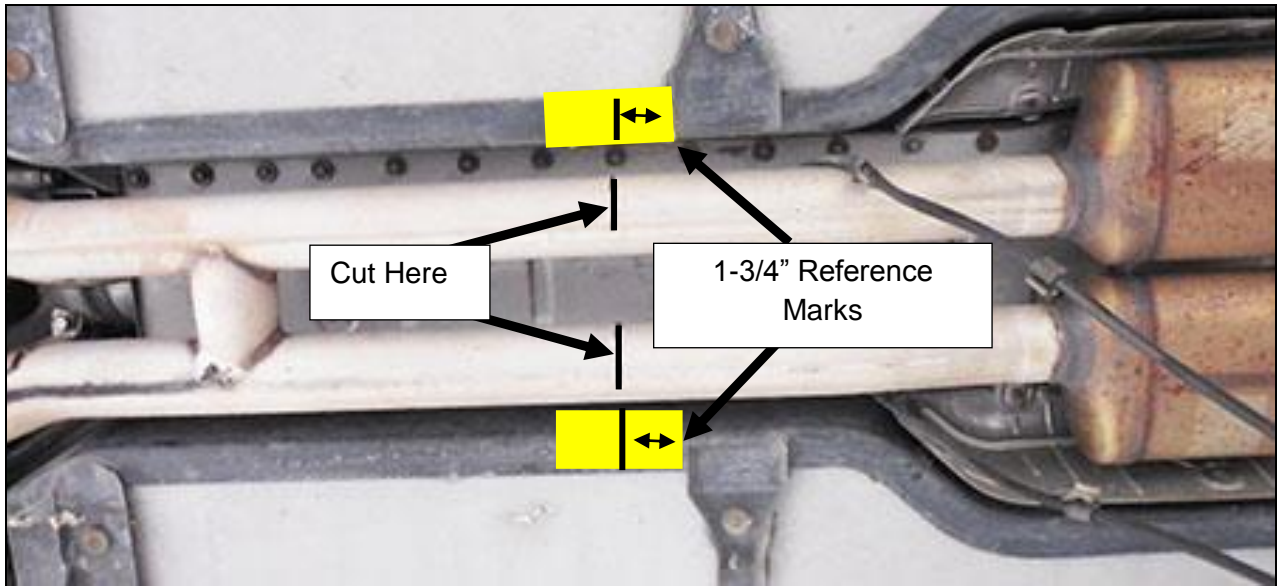
## REMOVING THE OEM EXHAUST:

1. Spray the muffler isolators and muffler Flange bolts, with WD-40® or equivalent.
2. Remove the (x2) nuts and (x2) bolts from the rear sway bar center mounting bushings. Do not remove the lower control arm bolt. Allow the sway bar assembly to swing down and away from the exhaust pipes. (Figure1)



**Figure 1**

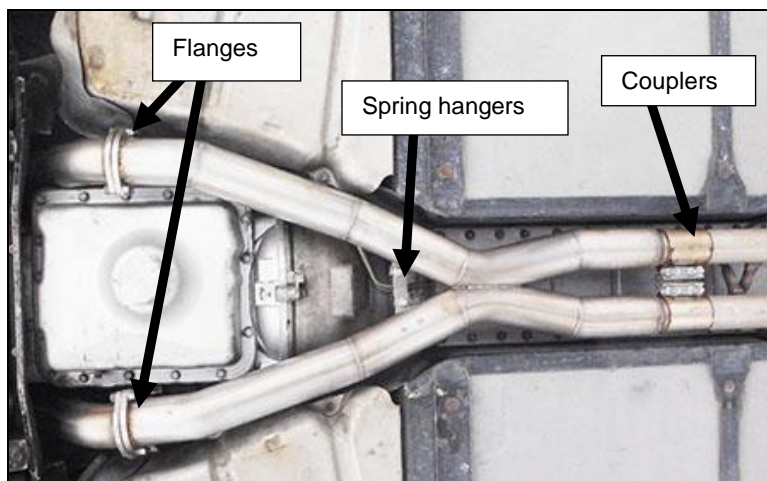
3. Remove the x4 Muffler flange bolts (**Figure 1**).
4. Support each Muffler assembly, Remove the x2 13mm nuts at each muffler isolator (**Figure 1**).
5. Remove the OEM muffler assemblies.
6. Place a 3" long piece of masking tape at the left and right rearward edge of the floor brace back towards the rear of the vehicle. (**Figure 2**). Measure from the rearward edge of each brace back towards the rear of the vehicle 1 3/4" and make a reference mark on the masking tape.
7. Place the straight edge across the exhaust pipes and align with the reference marks on each side. Mark the exhaust pipes at the straight edge (**Figure 2**).
8. Remove the (x3) 15 mm nuts at each flange at the front of the H-pipe. Unplug the O2 sensors and remove the harnesses from the clips along the edge of the tunnel. Remove the (x2) 13mm bolts from the spring hangers at the back of the H-pipe. Remove the H-pipe from the vehicle.
9. Cut the H-pipe tubes at the location marked previously with the reciprocating saw, take care to cut the tubes straight and square, Deburr the cut tubes inside and out.
10. Re- install the H-pipe to the manifolds and re-connect the O2 sensors.



**Figure 2**

**INSTALLATION OF YOUR HOOKER BLACKHEART AXLE-BACK EXHAUST:**

1. Inspect the exhaust hanger isolators and any OEM hardware to be reused. Replace, if necessary.
2. Install the sway bar.
3. Install the supplied 2.5" couplers on to the remaining section of exhaust pipe from the catalytic converters. Align the clamps with the bolts to the inside and the nuts facing down (**Figure 3**).
4. Install the Blackheart X-Pipe assembly into the vehicle with the spring hanger bracket facing up and the flanges toward the rear of the car. Support the X-pipe assembly and install the (x2) 13mm spring hanger bolts. Slide the couplers over the X-pipes 2.5" inlet adapters. Align the couplers for a 50 -50 split between the X-pipe and the exhaust pipe on the catalytic converters. Align the couplers and tighten the bolts to allow for adjustment (**Figure 3**).
5. Install the left and right over-axle pipes from the front side of the rear sub-frame over the axle and towards the rear of the car.
6. Install the supplied gasket between the flanges of the over-axle pipe and the Blackheart X-pipe. Install the supplied 10mm Allen bolts and 10mm flange nuts. Tighten the bolts using an 8mm Allen wrench.



**Figure 3**

**NOTE:** Installation Step 7 applies to P/N 705013144RHKR Only - P/N 705013145RHKR skip to step #8

7. Install a supplied 3" band clamp over the expanded end of the left and right link pipes (marked L – R). Install the link pipes on to the over axel pipes and tighten the clamp to allow for adjustment (**Figure 2**).

8. Install a supplied 3" band clamp over the expanded end of each muffler or muffler delete pipe. Install the Muffler isolator on to the hanger bracket and install the muffler or Muffler delete assemblies. Install the (x2) 13mm nuts at the isolators and tighten. Tighten the band clamps to allow for adjustment.
9. Install the Hooker logo bracket between the tailpipes and install the 5mm hardware and tighten to allow for adjustments. Make the necessary adjustments to align the tips and muffler assemblies. Tighten the logo plate hardware followed by the band clamps (**Figures 4 & 5**).
10. Recheck all hardware and clearance around exhaust pipes. Make any adjustments as necessary.
11. Remove the jack stands and lower the car. Connect the battery and remove the wheel blocks.
12. Start the vehicle and check for leaks and loose hardware.
13. Check all hardware again after the first 150 miles of driving.

**Enjoy your Blackheart Exhaust!**



**Figure 4 – 705013144-RHKR**



**Figure 5 – 705013145-RHKR**