



1987-1996 DODGE DAKOTA SHORT BED EXHAUST
SINGLE SIDE EXIT TAILPIPE BEHIND THE REAR TIRE
Dual 2.5"/ Single 3" 409SS – BH2492
Installation Instructions



Thank you for choosing to install a HOOKER™ exhaust system on your 1987-1996 short bed truck. Although these systems have been specifically developed for fitment with HOOKER™ HEMI swap components for this application, they will provide equally beneficial fitment, function and service life with non-HEMI engine equipped 87-96 short bed trucks through modification of the system inlet tubes, or construction of new ones, by a competent fabricator (use of custom double-hump crossmember may be required).

PRE-INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS:

Check that the hardware package includes the following:

BH2492 Single Exhaust	
Qty.	Description
2	3" Torca Band Clamp
2	2.5" Torca Band Clamps
1	Before Muffler Hanger
1	Tail Pipe Hanger
3	Rubber Hanger Isolators
3	M8 x 1.25 x 25 Bolts
1	M8 Flanged Nut

IMPORTANT! Position and support your vehicle on a suitable surface. **USE CAUTION AND WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE USING JACKS AND JACK STANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.** Use of a two-post under arm lift or four-post drive-on lift will considerably reduce the time and effort required to complete the installation. **MAKE SURE LIFT LOCKS ARE ENGAGED BEFORE WORKING UNDER THE VEHICLE.**

IMPORTANT! This exhaust system is designed to be used as a cat back system. This kit can also be used as custom exhaust and attached to any type of exhaust manifold by the user with custom exhaust work.

INSTALLATION:

NOTE: The following steps assume that you are installing the system using HOOKER™ HEMI swap mounting components and already in place on the vehicle. If you are performing an installation of this system without utilizing these products, install all system components from the “X” crossover rearward and align them for best fitment and clearance before fabricating custom system inlet tubes that are compatible with the geometry of your manifolds and transmission crossmember.

1. Remove all existing exhaust system components from the vehicle, including any stock or previously added hangers along the entire length of the exhaust system.
2. Lay exhaust system in the floor as it shows in the photo to get an idea of how it will go on the truck.
3. Install the before muffler hanger and tailpipe hanger using the supplied hardware (**Figures 1 & 2**).
4. Install the supplied rubber hangers onto both hangers installed in step 3.
5. Install the left and right pipes into the muffler with the supplied 2.5” clamps and lightly tighten.
6. With a helping hand, raise the muffler and front exhaust assembly up and insert the hangers into the before muffler rubber hangers and support the front section of the exhaust.
7. Looking from the rear of the truck level the muffler and install a 3” clamp over the exit of the muffler.
8. Insert the over the axle pipe into the end of the muffler and lightly tighten the 3” clamp. The pipe will stand just left of vertical when correctly installed.
9. Install the last clamp over the tailpipe and slide over the over the axle pipe, and lightly tighten.
10. Insert the tailpipe hanger into the rubber hanger and align the pipe to be level from the rear of the truck.
11. Align all the exhaust pipes for the best fit and tighten each clamp. Once the vehicles runs and the exhaust heats up and cools back down, tighten the clamps for the last time.
12. You are now ready to attach the exhaust to the engine exhaust manifolds of your choice.



Figure 1
Before muffler hanger rod attachment to frame



Figure 2
Rear tailpipe hanger to frame

13. Methodically align all system components for best fitment and fully tighten all clamps. It is recommended that the entire system be wiped down with a rag and light penetrating oil to prevent hand prints from becoming permanent stains once they are subjected to heat from the exhaust.

COMPATIBILITY INFORMATION:

These exhaust systems were designed for direct installation with compatible HOOKER™ HEMI swap headers and engine and transmission mounting components listed for this vehicle application.

As shipped, the bend geometry of this system's inlet tubes (forward of the crossover) is only directly compatible with HOOKER™ LS swap headers and transmission crossmembers for this application. As such, interference with factory GM, or aftermarket transmission crossmembers and/or poor line-up characteristics with other brands of headers should be expected. Such issues can be remedied through modification of the supplied HOOKER™ inlet tubes, or the fabrication of new inlet pipes, to provide compatibility with the components installed on your vehicle.

These Hooker exhaust systems are compatible with driveshaft's up to 4" in diameter, a stock size spare tire mounted in its original location and most aftermarket trailer hitches.

Compatibility with typical 4"/6" suspension drops for these trucks has been accounted for in the tube bend geometry of these systems; installation/use with drops of 5"/7", or greater, may require modifications to the tailpipes where they cross over the rear axle tubes.