# XJ Cherokee Steering Box Brace (1984-2001)

Part Number: (18021.05)



## **Parts List:**

- (1) Steering box brace
- (2) 3/8" x 1" bolt (grade 5)
- (2) 3/8" Nylock Nut
- (2) Lower steering shaft straps
- (1) 7/16" x 1" tabbed bolt (grade 5)
- (1) 7/16" flat washer
- (1) 7/16" Nylock nut
- (2) 5/16" x 1" bolt (grade 5)
- (2) 5/16" flat washer
- (2) 5/16" Nylock nut

Steering Box mounting point



Frame rail mounting point



#### Step 1.

Make sure that vehicle has been properly secured. Apply parking brake, and position suitable wheel blocks to keep vehicle from rolling.

#### Step 2.

If vehicle is equipped with optional mud flap and front skid plate these items will need to be removed for brace to be installed. (See Fig.4)

#### **Step 3.**

# <u>Due to the number of years produced and production variations of the Jeep® XJ</u> <u>Cherokee, some modifications to the vehicles sub frame may be needed for proper installation.</u>

Place the steering brace mounting plate to the passenger side of the sub frame. (fig.5) Mounting brace will align with one existing side hole. This first hole will need to be drilled out to a 5/16". After you have enlarged the hole temporarily mount brace with the one bolt and mark the frame in the proper location for the second mounting hole. Remove brace and drill the second 5/16" mounting hole. After all holes have been drilled loosely attach the two 5/16" side bolts, and the 7/16" front tabbed bolt. Please be aware that some early XJ, and MJ Comanche models did not have this front mounting hole and a 7/16" hole may need to be drilled for installation. If required follow same steps as second side frame mounting hole.





Fig.5



### Step 4.

With the mounting brace side installed, and loosely tightened, place the lower steering shaft straps around the steering box above pitman arm. (See Fig. 6)

# Make sure the tube mounting point is positioned between the shaft straps, and placed so that they do not interfere with pitman arm movement.

With all hardware in place torque the 5/16" side bolts to 25-ft.lb., the 3/8" strap bolts to 30-ft.lb., and the front mounting plate tap bolt to 50-ft.lb.





## <u>Step. 5</u>

After proper torque has been applied to mounting bolts carefully turn wheels to verify that there is no interference or binding with the steering system.

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