

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS** 

SOLO WERKS S1 Coilover Suspension VAG MK4 R32 Platform Part Number: S1VW005 R2.1

#### Thank you for purchasing your new SOLO WERKS S1 Coilover suspension.

#### **IMPORTANT PLEASE READ BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION:**

Please take a moment to review this installation process and verify that your kit is complete and all components have been received. If there are any questions during the process, contact us directly.

SOLO WERKS recommends that you have this kit installed by a qualified professional. Solo Werks or its authorized agents are not responsible for damage or failure resulting from an improper or modified installation. Do not use a pneumatic impact gun to torque the upper strut nut as damage may occur.

All suspension related components must be inspected and in good working condition. You should inspect all bushings, tie rods, hubs, bearings, strut mounts, sway bar end links, wheels, tires, etc. and replace if necessary.

This suspension system was designed to work best with the factory wheel/tire combination. Any deviations from these specifications could result in significantly altered handling characteristics and/or increased interference risk to other vehicle components.

SOLO WERKS TIP: Depending on the offset & size your wheels/tires, wheel spacers may be required for proper fitment.

If suspension is lowered past the recommended measurements there can be possible interference with multiple vehicle components; (i.e. modification may be necessary to fender lips, seams etc...). This will also void your Solo Werks warranty.

After installing the suspension system, a four-wheel alignment must be performed according to manufacturer's specifications. Check and reset load- dependent brake compensator, ABS system and headlight aim according to manufacturer's specifications (If applicable).

ALL RUBBER- MOUNTED STRUT/ DAMPER ATTACH-MENTS MUST NOT BE FULLY TIGHTENED UNTIL <u>AFTER THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM IS LOADED</u> (WHEELS ON THE GROUND). OTHER MOUNTING FASTENERS (FOR EXAMPLE BRACKETS) MUST BE SECURELY TIGHTENED BEFORE LOAD IS PLACED ON THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM

Every effort has been made to avoid printing errors in our literature. However, if there are any application or specification errors or omissions we must disclaim responsibility.



# **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

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### **Original Suspension Removal- Front:**

SOLO WERKS TIP: Disconnect Headlight level sensor on control arm (if equipped) before any other steps are taken. Disregard for this step could result in damage to sensor link.

- 1. Support Lower Control Arm/Spindle with floor jack
- 2. Remove any hoses/lines from original suspension strut mounts
- 3. Disconnect Sway bar endlink from strut housing (Fig.1 #12) (OEM endlink will be reused)
- 4. Remove Lower Pinch Bolt/Nut from spindle
- 5. Using Strut Spreader Tool (VAG part # SCW3435), spread spindle mount
- 6. Lower the control arm to separate strut from spindle.
  - a. Ensure that the lower control arm is still supported
  - b. This may require work to separate as corrosion may limit movement
  - c. Using rubber mallet tap the cast spindle to free strut from spindle
- 7. Support strut from inside wheel well
- 8. Remove the upper strut mount nut and stop plate accessing it from inside engine bay
  - a. Note: retain OEM stop plate for reinstall later
- 9. Remove strut assembly
- 10. Leave the Strut Spreader in place

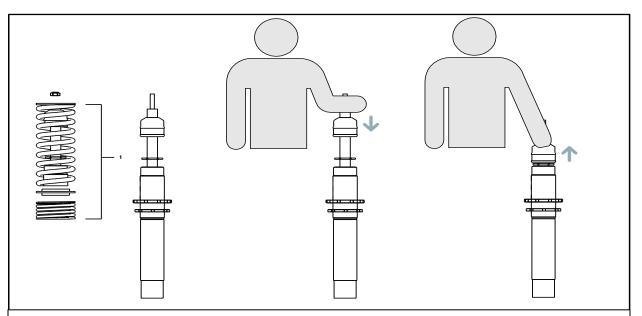
**NOTE:** If you are using your existing upper strut mount and bearing (Fig 1 #2 & 4) you must remove these items from the strut assembly. These items are under extreme pressure from the front spring and must be removed using an appropriate spring compressor to relieve the pressure. Follow the directions given by the manufacturer of the Spring Compressor to safely remove the spring and disassemble the Strut Assembly.

SOLO WERKS TIP: As the strut mounts and bearings are a consumable/wear item and are a known fail point on this chassis Solo Werks recommends replacing with new OEM mounts and new OEM Bearings and leaving your original suspension as an assembly. These parts are available from your Solo Werks Dealer or your local VW/Audi parts dealer.



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## **Solo Werks Coilover Pre Assembly – Priming the Dampers**



**SOLO WERKS TIP:** As the suspension is shipped and stored in a horizontal position, it is advisable to exercise or Prime the shock absorber before you install them to ensure that the internal contents are in the correct chambers. Therefore, we advise that before you assemble the front coilover shock absorber, take a moment to purge the shock absorber.

To do this, one side at a time remove the following from one of the front Coilover Assemblies (if equipped):

- Two Upper fasteners (lock nut and securing nut)
- Upper Spring Perch
- Main Spring
- Spring Isolator
- Helper Spring

You will then be left with the coilover strut with the bumpstop and vent disc on the shaft. Pull the bumpstop up to the top of the chrome shock shaft, just before the threaded portion.

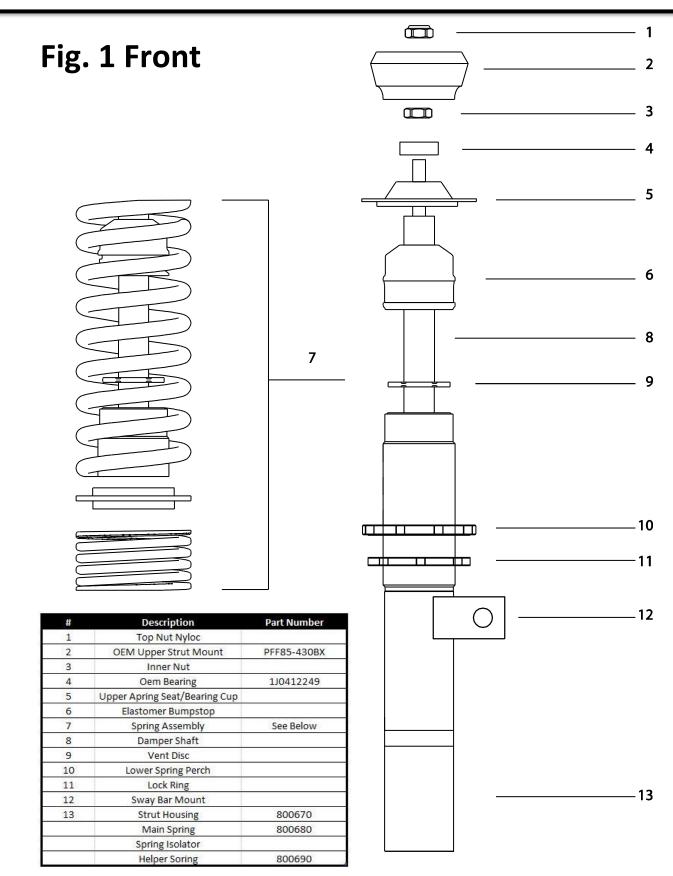
With the shock upright (as it would be installed in the vehicle) compress the shock shaft until the bump stop touches the shock housing, and then pull to extend the shock shaft back to full extension.

*Repeat 3-5 time minimums. You will notice the shock forces getting progressively harder each time. Once they feel consistent each way, you are ready to install.* 



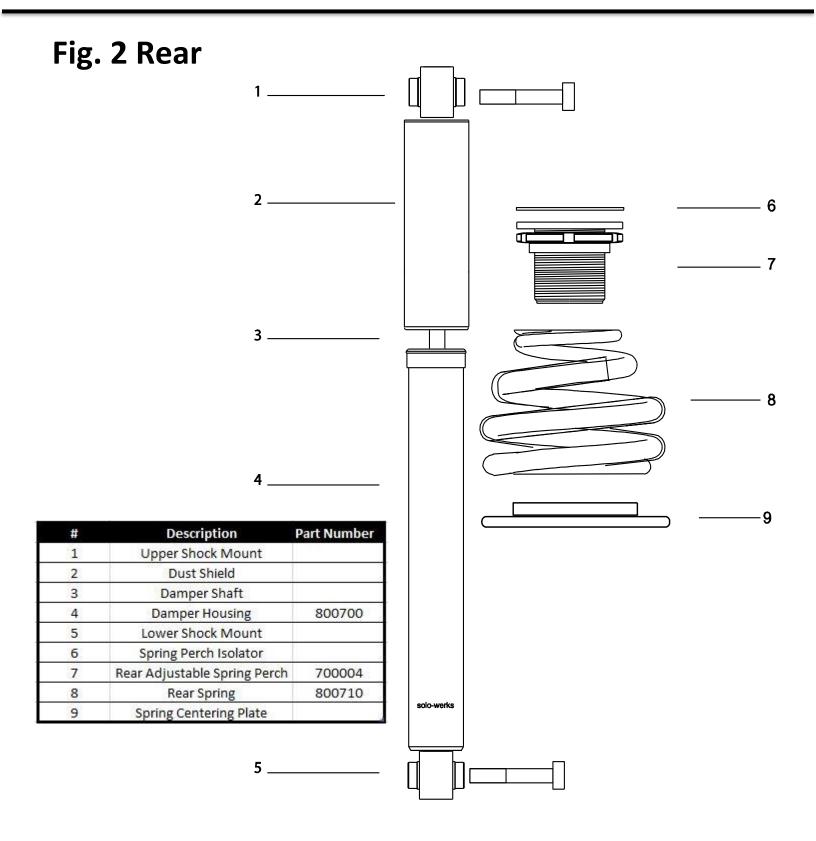
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### Solo Werks Coilover Assembly and Installation – Front:

- 1. Work in the OEM Upper Bearings Rotate the bearing a few times to break it in
  - a. We have found that brand new or even existing bearings can get stuck as they have a very limited rotation when installed
  - b. If they are stuck or too hard to move, they will not allow the assembly to rotate as it should and will create a spring bind that will produce a "boing" or "clang" sound of the springs recoiling

Assemble the coilover assembly with the OEM Strut Mount and bearing using the provided hardware as in the diagram Fig.1

- a. Top nut should be torqued to 44 ft-lbs. (Fig. 1 #1)
- b. Inner nut should be torqued to 44 ft-lbs. (Fig. 1 #3)
- c. Once assembled, we recommend starting the main perch at 25mm (1") of thread remaining below the main perch/spring seat using the included spanner wrench – actual vehicle height will be set later in the process. (Fig.1 # 10&11)

NOTE: Use of an anti-corrosion spray such as the Boeshield T-9 on the threads & main perch/spring seat at this point (Fig.1 # 10&11) can make the adjustment process much easier and will add an extra layer of protection. Boeshield T-9 is available from your Solo Werks dealer.

- 2. Insert strut assembly into vehicle
  - a. Reinstall OEM stop plate and upper strut mount nut but do not tighten at this time.

NOTE: Before proceeding with the next step, inspect the inside of the Spindle for debris (rust/dirt etc. Fig.1 #13). Also note the placement of the ridge that is built into the inner lower edge of the tube of the spindle. This is a locator for the shock tube, which must be inserted into the tube until it is stopped by this ridge. Only at this point is the shock properly seated in the Spindle.

- 3. With the Strut Spreader in place:
  - a. Insert strut assembly into Spindle housing with the metal bolt locator through the split
  - b. Slide the strut assembly down until the bottom of the strut housing has bottomed out on the internal ridge in the spindle.
- 4. Replace lower spindle bolt through spindle housing and strut locator
- 5. Fasten the self-locking nut onto the lower spindle bolt and tighten to:
  - a. 37 ft-lbs + ¼ turn (90°)
- 6. Reattach OEM endlink to strut housing.
- 7. Repeat procedure on the other side.
- 8. Once vehicle is placed back on the ground under its own weight, Torque upper strut mount nut to 44 ft-lbs.



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#### SUSPENSION SYSTEMS

### **Original Suspension Removal-** Rear:

SOLO WERKS TIP: Disconnect Headlight level sensor from lower control arm before any other steps are taken. Disregard for this step could result in damage to sensor link.

- 1. While Supporting lower control arm in the compressed position (loaded as if it is on the ground)
  - a. Remove both lower shock bolt (this will also disconnect rear endlink)
  - b. Slowly lower rear control arm to remove the pressure on the rear springs
  - c. Remove rear spring
    - i. This may require you to push down the rear control arm to allow more room to remove the springs
- 2. Remove the upper bolt from the upper shock mount & remove rear shock.
  - a. NOTE: Inner fender liner may need to be partially removed to access upper shock bolt

### Solo Werks Coilover Assembly and Installation – Rear:

The Rear of this platform is a combination of a rear lowering spring & adjustable spring perch and specially matched shock absorber. The shock absorber does not need to be adjusted in any way to change the ride height.

SOLO WORKS TIP: Just like the front struts, it is advisable to Prime the rear shocks as well. To purge the rear shocks: Refer to procedure on page 3.

In the vertical position (as it would be installed in the vehicle):

- 1. Extend the shock rod to its full extent
- 2. Compress until 1" of the chrome shock rod is visible outside of the shock housing
- 3. Repeat 3-5 times or until the strokes feel consistent.



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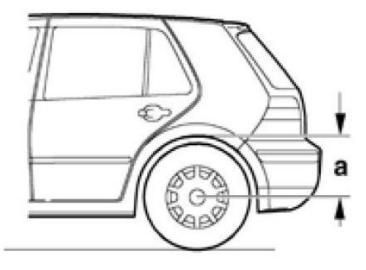
### Solo Werks Coilover Assembly and Installation – Rear con't.

- 1. Remove both upper and lower factory spring pads from the vehicle, and ensure that both areas are clean and free of any dirt or debris.
  - a. Install plastic spring centering plate onto lower control arm. Index the centering plate using the keyway in control arm.
- 2. Place the spring into the lower control arm and clock the end of the wind into the indentation on the spring centering plate.
  - a. The end with the "Flat ground" of the spring is the top of the spring.
- 3. Prepare the perch for installation
  - a. Thread the adjustable perches down close to the base.
- 4. The Solo-Werks rear spring perch will be installed on the top of spring.
  - a. With the spring perch located above the spring it makes for easier access for future adjustments.
- 5. Align the top of the spring with the adjustable spring perch.
  - a. You may need to raise the rear axle to keep the assembly in place.
- 6. Repeat on the other side.
- 7. Install new Solo-Werks shock into vehicle.
  - a. Do not torque lower shock bolts until vehicle is back on the ground and all weight is on vehicle.
  - b. Torque Upper shock bolt to 44 ft-lbs.
  - c. Torque lower shock bolt to 81 ft-lbs.
- 8. Adjust ride height



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# Solo Werks Coilover Final Details – Heights & Working Ranges



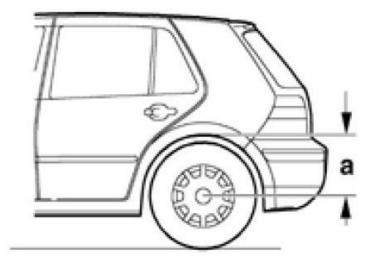
Lowering Range									
			in Mm		in Inch				
Model Year			ear	Front	Rear	Front		Rear	
VW MK4 R32 2		20	004	10-40	10-45	.5"-1.5"		.5"-1.5"	
Front Measurement									
Max low mm	Max low Inch Max		high mm	Max high Inch O		OEM mm	OEM Inch		
325	12 3/4"		355		14"		365	14 1/2"	
Rear Measurement									
Max low mm	Max low Inch		Max	high mm	n Max high Ind		OEM mm	OEM Inch	
320	12 1/2	2"		355	14"	l" 365		14 1/2"	
Lowering Range									
				in Mm		in l	nch		
Model		Ye	ear	Front	Rear		Front	Rear	
Audi TT Quattro 0		00'	-06'	25-50	25-50		1"-2"	1"-2"	
Front Measur	ement								
Max low mm Max low Inch M		Max	high mm	Max high Ir	nch	OEM mm	OEM Inch		
325	325 12 3/4"		345		13 1/2"		370	14 1/2"	
Rear Measurement									
Max low mm	Max low	Inch	Max	high mm	Max high Ir	nch	OEM mm	OEM Inch	
320	12 1/2	2"		360	14"		385	15"	
<ul> <li>These measurements are in place to allow both front and rear dampers to operate properly and allow for ample shock travel.</li> <li>All measurements will be referenced from "center of wheel hub to bottom lip of fender" (see example figure "a")</li> <li>Using this system outside of this range can cause premature failure and is cause to void your</li> </ul>									

- Using this system outside of this range can cause premature failure and is cause to void your manufacturer specified warranty.
- Helper springs are intended to keep preload on the main spring under full suspension extension, do not remove!



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# My Setup - Heights & Working Ranges



#### Use this page to record your setup heights for easy future reference

Front Measurement							
Date	Max low mm	Max low Inch	Max high mm	Max high Inch	OEM mm	OEM Inch	
Solo Spec	325	12 3/4"	355	14"	395	15 1/2"	

Rear Measurement							
Date	Max low mm	Max low Inch	Max high mm	Max high Inch	OEM mm	OEM Inch	
Solo Spec	320	12 1/2"	350	13 3/4"	390	15 1/4"	