



EZ - Ride Suspension

Installation manual

Rear traction bars

Ram 2500 2003 - 2013

Ram 3500 2003 - 2012

Part # 30991

Part # 30991

2003 - 2013 Ram 2500, 2003-2012 Ram 3500

Rear traction bars

| <u>Part #</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Qty.</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 30991-01 | Front driver side bracket | 1 |
| 30991-02 | Front passenger side bracket | 1 |
| 30991-03 | Rear traction bars | 2 |
| 30991-04 | Rear DS & PS bracket | 2 |
| 30991NB | Hardware bag | 1 |
| 30991INST | Instruction manual | 2 |
| MIRRORHANGER | Rear view mirror hanger | 1 |
| WARNINGDECAL | Warning decal | 1 |

Congratulations on your selection to purchase a Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension System. We at Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension are proud to offer a high quality product at the industries most competitive pricing. Thank you for your confidence in us and our product.

The Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product safety label that is included in your kit box must be installed inside the cab in plain view of all occupants.

Please see the end of the installation manual for a picture of the hard parts that are included in this suspension system.

Important customer information:

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that a qualified or a certified mechanic performs this installation.

It is the responsibility of the customer/installer to wear safety glasses at all times when performing this installation.

This vehicles reaction and handling characteristics may differ from standard cars and/or trucks. Modifications to improve and/or enhance off road performance may raise the intended center of gravity. Extreme caution must be utilized when encountering driving conditions which may cause vehicle imbalance or loss of control. DRIVE SAFELY! Avoid abrupt maneuvers: such as sudden sharp turns which could cause a roll over, resulting in serious injury or death.

It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use.

After the original installation, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension also recommends having the alignment checked every 6 months to ensure proper tracking, proper wear on tires and front end components. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension takes no responsibility for abuse, improper installation or improper suspension maintenance.

Recommended tools selection:

**Torque wrench
Standard socket set
Standard wrench set
Metric socket set
Metric wrench set
Tape measure
Hydraulic floor jacks**

Limited lifetime warranty

Notice to all Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension customers: It is your responsibility to keep your original sales receipt! If failure should occur on any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension component, your original sales receipt must accompany the warranted unit to receive warranty. Warranty will be void if the customer can not provide the original sales receipt. Do not install a body lift in conjunction with a suspension system. If a body lift is used in conjunction with any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product, your Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension WARRANTY WILL BE VOID. Tuff Country Inc. ("Tuff Country") suspension products are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for life if purchased, installed and maintained on a non-commercial vehicle; otherwise, for a period of twelve (12) months, from the date of purchase and installation on a commercial vehicle, or twelve thousand (12,000) miles (which ever occurs first). Tuff Country does not warrant or make any representations concerning Tuff Country Products when not installed and used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for such installation and operation and accordance with good installation and maintenance practices of the automotive industry. This warranty does not apply to the cosmetic finish of Tuff Country products nor to Tuff Country products which have been altered, improperly installed, maintained, used or repaired, or damaged by accident, negligence, misuse or racing. ("Racing is used in its broadest sense, and, for example, without regards to formalities in relation to prizes, competition, etc.) This warranty is void if the product is removed from the original vehicle and re-installed on that or any other vehicle. This warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of any implied warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or other warranty of quality, whether express or implied, except the warranty of title. All implied warranties are limited to the duration of this warranty. The remedies set forth in this warranty are exclusive. This warranty excludes all labor charges or other incidental of consequential damages. Any part or product returned for warranty claim must be returned through the dealer of the distributor from whom it was purchased. Tuff Country reserves the right to examine all parts returned to it for warranty claim to determine whether or not any such part has failed because of defect in material or workmanship. The obligation of Tuff Country under this warranty shall be limited to repairing, replacing or crediting, at its option, any part or product found to be so defective. Regardless of whether any part is repaired, replaced or credited under this warranty, shipping and/or transportation charges on the return of such product must be prepaid by the customer under this warranty.

Important information that needs to be read before installation begins:

This kit will only work on vehicles that are equipped with 4" rear axle tube. If the vehicle that you are working on does not have a 4" rear axle tube, please do not contact Tuff Country but please contact the company that you purchased the kit from to return it.

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension packages (2) sets of instruction sheets with this box kit. (1) is for the installer and (1) is for the customer. The (1) for the customer has some post installation procedure literature and it is the installers responsibility to make sure that the customer receives a copy of the installation manual along with the literature.

Before installation begins, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that the installer performs a test drive on the vehicle. During the test drive, check to see if there are any uncommon sounds or vibrations. If uncommon sounds or vibrations occur on the test drive, uncommon sounds or vibrations will be enhanced once the suspension system has been installed. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends notifying the customer prior to installation to inform the customer of these issues if they exist.

Make sure to use loctite on all new and stock hardware associated with the installation of this suspension system.

Hardware bag 30991NB includes:

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Quantity</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| HIEM-02 (hiem joint) | 2 |
| S10059 (.875" x .563" x 2.370") | 2 |
| MO2617 (poly bushing) | 4 |
| 381B (3/8" x 1" bolt) | 6 |
| 38UN (3/8" unitorque nut) | 6 |
| 516WA (5/16" USS flat washer) | 12 |
| 9164B (9/16" x 4" bolt) | 4 |
| 916UN (9/16" unitorque nut) | 4 |
| 12WA (1/2" USS flat washer) | 8 |
| LUBE (Poly lube packs) | 2 |

All the pictures in this installation are on the driver side!

Please follow instructions carefully:

1. To begin installation, block the front tires of the vehicle so that the vehicle is stable and can't roll forward. Safely lift the rear of the vehicle and support the vehicle with a pair of jack stands. Place a jack stand on both the driver and the passenger side.

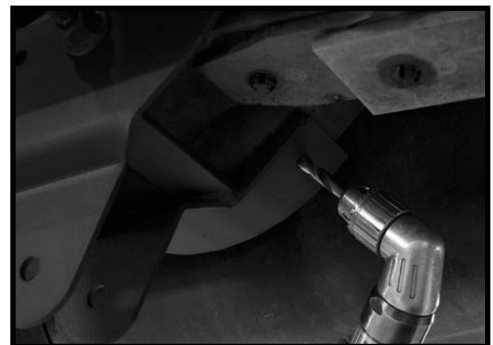
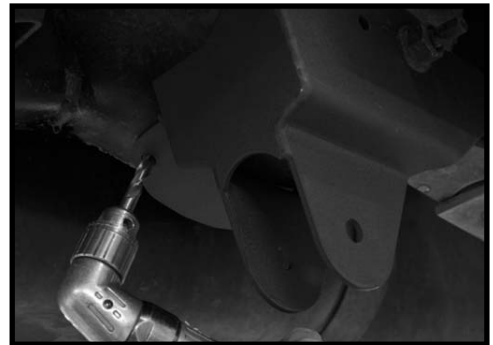
2. Working on the driver side, remove and save the nut from the bolt that connects the spring into the spring hanger. Repeat procedure on passenger side.



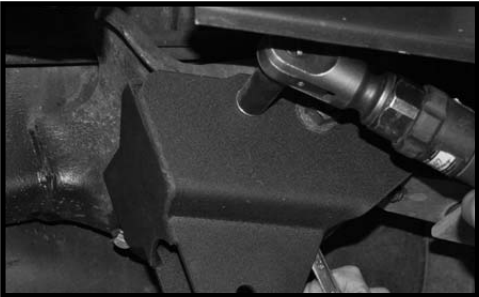
3. Locate the new driver and passenger side front traction bar bracket. Working on the driver side, install the new front bracket over the OE spring hanger and secure using the OE nut. **Make sure to use loctite and torque to 110 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.



4. Working on the driver side and using the newly installed front traction bar bracket as a guide, carefully drill 3 holes into the OE hanger. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.



5. Locate (6) 3/8" x 1" bolts, (6) 3/8" unitorque nuts and (12) 5/16" USS flat washers from hardware bag 30991NB. Working on the driver side, install the new 3/8" hardware to the previously drilled holes. **Make sure to use loctite and torque to 28 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

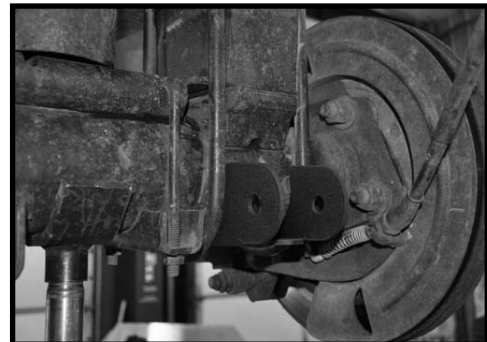


6. Place a hydraulic floor jack under the rear axle. Place one on the driver and passenger side. Carefully raise up on both hydraulic floor jacks until they make contact with the rear axle.

7. Working on the driver side, loosen but do not remove the rear u-bolts. Loosen just enough for the new rear traction bar bracket to be installed between the u-bolts and axle. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.



8. Locate the new rear traction bar brackets. Working on the driver side, install the new bracket between the u-bolts and the axle. Torque the u-bolts to 125 ft lbs. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.



9. Remove the hydraulic floor jacks from under the vehicle. Also, carefully lower the vehicle to the ground.

10. With the vehicle on the ground and working on the driver side, measure from the new front traction bar bracket to the rear axle traction bar bracket to get the length of what the new rear traction bar needs to be set at. Record measurement here.

Driver side _____
Passenger side: _____

11. Locate the new bushings, sleeves and poly lube packs from hardware bag 30991NB. Install the new bushings and sleeves into the new rear traction bars. **Special note: Make sure to use a lithium or moly base grease prior to inserting the bushings and sleeves into the new rear traction bars. This will help increase the life of the bushings as well as prevent squeaking.**

12. Locate the new hiem joints and install them into the new rear traction bars. Refer back to the measurements from step # 10 and set each traction bar to the proper length.

13. Locate (4) 9/16" x 4" bolts, (4) 9/16" unitorque nuts and (8) 1/2" USS flat washers from hardware bag 30991NB. Working on the driver side, install the new traction bar to the newly installed traction bar mounts using the new 9/16" hardware. **Make sure to use loctite and torque to 80 ft lbs. Special note: the hiem joint end of the traction bar will be installed to the front bracket. Also, make sure to install it with the sert fitting facing downward.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

14. Working on the driver side, tighten the hiem joint jam nut. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.



15. Check and double check to make sure that all steps were performed properly and check again.



Congratulations, installation complete!

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension recommends that a complete re-torque is done on all bolts associated with this suspension system. It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use. Neglect of following these steps could cause brackets to come loose and cause serious damage to the suspension system and to the vehicle.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tuff Country or your local Tuff Country dealer.