LAKEWOOD TRACTION BARS
#21905
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Fits 1983-2000 Ford Ranger and
1993-2000 Mazda B2300-B4000 Pick-up Trucks with 2 Wheel Drive

WORK SAFELY! *Installation of these traction bars requires working underneath vehicle and should be performed one side at a time. USE EXTREME CARE AND CAUTION WHEN WORKING UNDERNEATH VEHICLE. Never get near or under vehicle until you are confident that it is safely supported and will not move or fall from its raised position.*
DO NOT USE A BUMPER JACK.

PREPARATION FOR INSTALLATION

1. Place vehicle on a solid level surface to ensure safe installation

2. Place wheel blocks in front of and behind both front wheels to prevent movement in either direction.

3. Raise rear of vehicle and support axle housing using approved automotive support stands having adequate load capacity. Place support stands under axle tubes in an area to allow adequate clearance for installation of traction bars. DO NOT place support stand directly under spring. DO NOT allow axle housing to hang freely. **Note**: Depending on ground clearance under vehicle, it may be possible that installation can be done without raising vehicle.

CAUTION: *DO NOT BEGIN THIS INSTALLATION UNTIL YOU ARE CONFIDENT THAT VEHICLE IS SECURE AND SAFELY SUPPORTED.*

TRACTION BAR INSTALLATION

1. Attach snubber to front hole of each traction bar using Ny-lok nut supplied and tighten securely.

2. Place traction bar under spring and position bar so that rear mount bracket is in back of axle housing and front mount bracket is in front of axle housing with snubber located under front spring eye.

3. Attach the traction bar to the spring with the mounting clamp plates and hardware provided (mounting clamp plates go on top of spring). Do not tighten completely.

4. Adjust front to rear location of bar as necessary to allow adequate clearance and no interference around the traction bar (U-bolts, parking brake cable, shock mounts, brake lines etc.).

5. Tighten mounting clamp bolts just enough to eliminate any clearance between traction bar brackets and leaf spring. **Do not tighten completely.**

6. Measure distance between top of snubber and front spring eye. We recommend an 1/8" clearance gap as a good starting point. The gap can be adjusted to suit your driving requirements with the various shims that are included in the hardware kit. Add shims under the spring at the rear mounting bracket to decrease the gap, or add shims under the spring at the front mounting bracket to increase the gap (see recommended adjustments).

7. Tighten front and rear clamps to 45-50 lbs. ft. torque.

8. Repeat the above procedure (steps 1 thru 7) on other side of vehicle.

9. Lower vehicle onto a solid level surface. Measure distance (clearance gap) between top of snubber and spring. On competition vehicles it is recommended to eliminate the gap. On street/strip vehicles, a 1/2" gap on the right side bar and a 3/8" gap on the left side bar will allow for a much better ride. Use shims provided to adjust the clearance gap as necessary.

NOTE: *When properly installed and vehicle on level surface, snubber end of traction bar must angle up or be parallel with chassis. Under no circumstances should vehicle be operated with snubber end angled down.*

Important: *Do not attempt to level the vehicle with the snubbers as this will cause radical preloading and torque steer problems.*

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS

Your rear suspension can be fine tuned for street or strip by adjusting the traction bars. For a better ride, the

snubber clearance gap should be increased. For a firm competition ride, the snubber clearance gap can be decreased. If vehicle torque steers (pulls to right or left) under acceleration due to traction bars, the snubber clearance gap can be adjusted to eliminate this problem.

To correct unequal traction, try the following:

a) Be sure that both tire pressures are equal.
b) If vehicle torque steers to the right under acceleration, decrease the gap on the right side bar.
c) If vehicle torque steers to the left under acceleration, decrease the gap on the left side bar.

REPLACEMENT PARTS

Urethane Snubbers (2/set) . . . . . .#20700
Rubber Snubbers (2/set) . . . . . .#20530

TECHNICAL SERVICE

A highly trained technical service department is maintained by Lakewood Industries to answer your technical questions, provide additional product information and offer various recommendations. See your local retailer of Lakewood products for specific prices. Technical service calls, correspondence and warranty questions should be directed to the following address:

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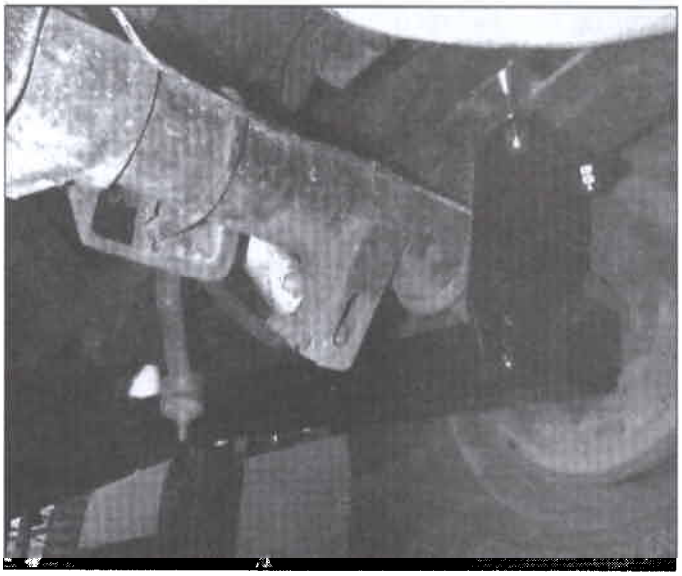
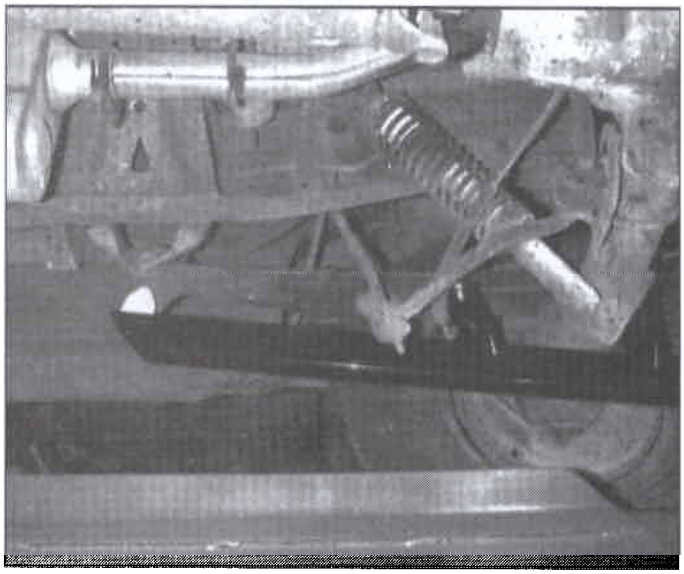
RETAIN THIS INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.



Rear bracket with mounting clamp on top of spring.



Position bar to allow adequate clearance around brake lines, parking brake cable, etc.

Locate snubber under front spring eye.