



Part # 11370110 - 1988-1998 C1500 4"/6" Drop Kit with HQ Series Shocks

Front Components

- 11379300 11372310
- 22149847
- Rear Components
 - 11379511 11379611 11379510
- Drop Spindles Front CoilSpring Kit Front HQ Series Shocks
- Rear Flip Kit C-Notch Kit Rear HQ Series Shocks

Recommended Tools





1988-1998 GM C1500 4"/6" Drop Kit Installation Instructions

Table of contents

- Page 2..... Major Component List
- Page 3..... Drop Spindles
- Page 4..... Front CoilSprings
- Page 5-6..... Front Shocks
- Page 7-11..... C-Notch
- Page 12-16..... Rear Flip Kit
- Page 17-19..... HQ Series Shock Kit
- Page 20..... Shock Adjustment











Major ComponentsIn the box

Part #	Description	QTY
56140880	Front CoilSprings	2
11379300	Drop Spindles	1
90003079	Driver C-Notch	1
90003080	Passenger C-Notch	1
90003081	Brake Line Bracket	1
99566005	U-Bolt - 9/16"-18 - 3 1/2" x 71/2"	4
	Front & Rear Shocks	
22849999	4.75" Stroke Stud Top Shock - Front	2
22969999	7.55" Stroke Eyelet Top Shock - Rear	2
70011138	3/4" ID Shock Bushing (Installed in Rear Eye)	2
70011139	5/8" ID Shock Bushing (Installed in Body Front & Rear)	4
90002102	1/2" ID Shock Sleeve (Installed in Rear Eye)	2
90002068	Wide Trunnion (Installed in Front Shock Body)	2
90003083	Rear Upper Shock Brackets	2
90003085	Rear Lower Shock Bracket Spacers	2
70011140	Stud Top Bushing - Front	4
70011141	Stud Top Bushing Washer - Rear	4

Hardware Kit#99010081

The Drop Kit is supplied with a hardware kit. This hardware kit contains individual bags for the different kits within the main kit. The bags are labeled to help determine the correct hardware for the installation of the specific kits. The instructions will aid you in selecting the correct hardware for each component. The bags included in this kit are:

C-Notch Brake Line Bracket Flip Kit Rear Lower Shock Mounting Rear Upper Shock Mounting

Front Suspension

The front components that will need to be installed are: Drop Spindles, Shocks, and CoilSprings.

If you have never done this type of work before, we recommend getting a Factory Service Manual for proper procedures of disassembly and reassembly of the components for your truck.

Rear Suspension

The rear components that will be installed are rear C-Notches, Flip Kit, and rear HQ Series Shocks. www.ridetech.com 2



Installation



Part # 11379300 - 1988-1998 C1500 Drop Spindles



Recommended Tools





1988-1998 C1500 Drop Spindles Installation Instructions

Installation

Refer to the instructions included with the spindles.

THESE SPINDLES ARE DESIGNED FOR THE HEAVY DUTY BRAKES







Part # 11372310 - 1988-1998 C1500 Front CoilSpring



1988-1998 C1500 Front CoilSprings Installation Instructions

CoilSpring # 56140880 Installation

If installing Drop Spindles, attached the upper ball joint to the spindle in preparation of installing these CoilSprings.

The Front Suspension should be assembled with the Lower Ball joint disconnected from the Spindle.

1. Compress the CoilSpring with an Internal Spring Compressor.

2. With the OEM Spring Removed, insert the CoilSpring into the Pocket. SPECIAL ATTENTION NEEDS TO BE PLACED ON THE LOCATION OF THE ENDS OF THE SPRINGS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE CLOCKED CORRECTLY. The end of the CoilSpring will nest into the receiver area of the Control Arm. If you line up the bottom, the top will be correct.

3. While holding the Spring in place, Slowly Jack the Lower Control Arm up until the Lower Ball joint can be Engaged into the Spindle. Install the Castle Nut and Torque to 65 ftlbs then tighten as needed to align cotter pin hole. Install Cotter Pin. Once the Ball joint is tight, remove the Spring Compressor.







Part # 22149847 - 4.75" Stroke HQ Series Shocks



Recommended Tools





Stud/Trunnion HQ Series Installation Instructions

Table of contents

Page 6..... Components & Shock Installation

Due to manufacturing tolerances it may be necessary to clearance the Control Arm to get the Shock through the Control Arm opening.

Before installing the Shocks, the Spindles and CoilSprings should be installed.



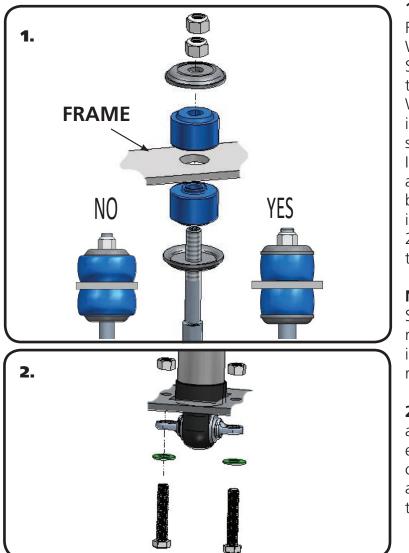




4.75" HQ Series Smooth Body Shocks

Major ComponentsIn the box

Part #	Description	QTY
22849599	4.75" Stroke Shock	2
70011139	5/8" ID Shock Bushing (Installed in Shock)	2
90002068	Wide Trunnion (Installed in Shock)	2
70011141	Bushing Support Washer	4
70011140	Stem Bushing	4
99372006	3/8"-24 Thin Jam Nut	4



1. With the OEM shock removed, install the Ridetech shock. Install a Bushing Support Washer on to the shock shaft followed by a Shock Stem Bushing. Insert the assembly through the factory shock hole in the frame. With the shock stud sticking through the frame, install a Shock Stem Bushing on to the shock stud followed with a Bushing Support Washer. Install a 3/8"-24 Thin Jam nut onto the threads and tighten to 35 inlbs. The Bushing should be tight, but not to the point that the bushing is bulging past the Support Washer. Install the 2nd 3/8-24 Thin Jam nut and tighten it against the first nut. Reinstall Adjuster Knob.

NOTE: It may be necessary to remove the OEM Speed Nuts from the Control Arm to allow room for the Shock to slide through the opening in the Control Arm. The Speed Nuts can be reinstalled after the Shock is in position.

2. Attach the Trunnion to the OEM Control arm using the OEM hardware. It may be necessary to rotate the Trunnion to get it in the correct position. This can be done by sticking a screwdriver in one of the slots and spinning the trunnion in the shock bushing.

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Part # 11379611 - 1988-1998 C1500 C-Notch Kit









1988-1998 C1500 C-Notch Kit Installation Instructions

Table of contents

Page 8..... Included Components Page 9-11..... C-Notch Installation







Major ComponentsIn the box

Item #	Part #	Description	QTY
1	90003079	Driver C-Notch	1
2	90003080	Passenger C-Notch	1
3	90003081	Brake Line Bracket	1

Hardware Bag - C-Notch Installation

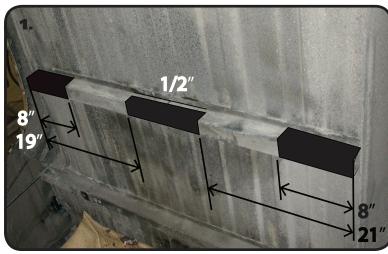
Part #	Description	Usage	QTY
99501002	1/2"-13 x 1 1/2" Bolt	C-Notch to Frame	26
99503001	1/2" SAE Flat Washer	C-Notch to Frame	52
99502001	1/2"-13 Nylok Nut	C-Notch to Frame	26

Hardware Bag - Brake Line Mount Installation

Part #	Description	Usage	QTY
99311011	5/16"-18 x 1 1/4" Bolt	Brake Line Mount	3
99313001	5/16" SAE Flat Washer	Brake Line Mount	6
99312007	5/16"-18 Nylok Nut	Brake Line Mount	3

Getting Started.....

These C-Notch can be installed with the bed on or removed. If installing them with the bed on the bed brace will have to cut different to allow for installation. IF you are installing the C-notch with the bed on, refer to Step 1. If you are removing the bed, refer to Step 10.



CUTTING THE BED BRACE WITH THE BED INSTALLED. IF REMOVING THE BED, REFER TO STEP 10.

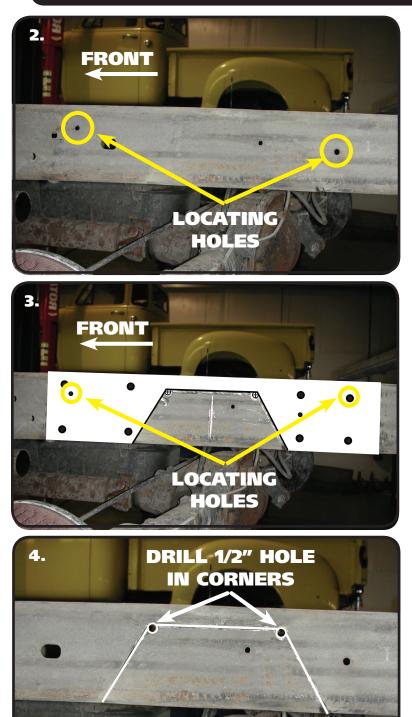
1. Image 1 has the bed removed to clearly illustrate the cutting required of the bed brace. The first 8" of both side will need to be totally removed to slip the c-notch in. When cutting the center cut, leave 1/2".

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"C" Notch Installation



2. To allow maximum drop on this truck, the frame must be notched. The template for the notch will locate off of the 2 existing holes. **Image 2** illustrates the holes used. Use the supplied "C" Notch template to mark out the frame for cutting. Before cutting out the frame, support the frame in front of and behind the "C" Notch area. We suggest doing one side at a time.

3. Use the supplied Template to mark the cut lines on the frame. Center Punch the "+" in the corners of the cut area.

4. Drill out the two corners with a ¹/₂" drill bit. This will give the cut a round edge and eliminate the possibility for stress fractures. Then cut the notch with a saw-z-all, cutoff wheel, or plasma cutter. Grind all edges smooth. Check the inside of the frame for wires or lines before drilling or cutting.

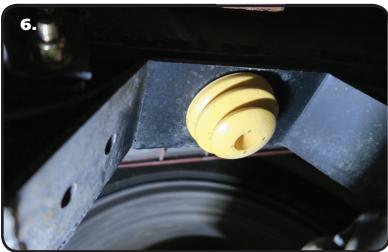




"C" Notch Installation



5. Slip the C-Notch over the frame rail. Use the C-Notch as a template to drill the (10) holes in the side and (3) in the bottom. Use a 1/2" drill bit to drill the holes. Install a 1/2" Flat Washer on each of (10) 1/2"-13 x 1 1/2" Bolts. Insert a bolt/washer in each hole. Install a 1/2" Flat Washer and 1/2"-13 Nylok Nut on the threads of each bolt/washer and tighten. Torque the hardware to 75 ftlbs.



6. Bolt the Bumpstop into the C-notch using the hardware included on the bumpstop.

REPEAT STEPS 1-5 for the 2nd C-Notch.



STEPS 7-9 ARE DRIVER SIDE ONLY!

7. Drill out the small rear locating hole to 5/16". Also, remove the nut from the 1/2" Bolt above the small hole. Install a 5/16" Flat Washer on (1) $5/16"-18 \times 1 1/4"$ bolt and insert into the drilled hole.

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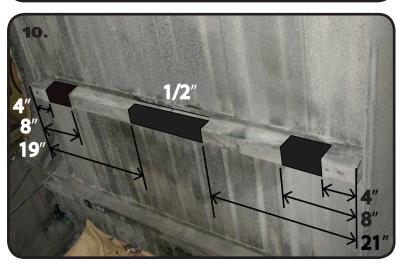




"C" Notch Installation







8. Slip the Brake Line Bracket over the 1/2" and 5/16" Bolts sticking through the back side of the frame. Install a Flat Washer & Nut on each and tighten.

9. Install a 5/16" Flat Washer on each of (2) 5/16" x 1 1/4" Bolts. Install them in the Brake Line Bracket and slip the OEM brake line bracket over the (2) bolts. Install a 5/16" Flat washer & 5/16" Nylok Nut on each bolt and tighten.

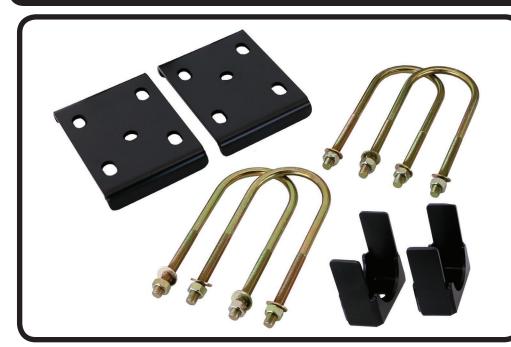
Repeat Steps 6-13 on the other side.

10. The bed brace between the wheel wells will need to be trimmed to clear the C-Notches and center section of the axle housing. Use **Image 10** as a reference for cutting. The outer cuts require removing the entire section of the brace. Leave a 1/2" of the brace in the center cut. Reinstall the bed using the OEM hardware.





Part # 11379511 - 1988-1998 C1500 Axle Flip Kit



Recommended Tools





1988-1998 C1500 Axle Flip Kit Installation Instructions

Table of contents

- Page 13..... Included Components & Getting Started
- Page 14..... Part Orientation
- Page 15-16..... Flip Bracket Installation









Major ComponentsIn the box

Item #	Part #	Description	QTY
1	90003082	Axle Flip Bracket with offset hole	2
2	90003084	Leaf Spring Plate	2
3	99566005	9/16"-18 x 7 1/2" U-bolt	4

Hardware Bag - Flip Kit

Part #	Description	Usage	QTY
99566003	9/16" Flat Washer	U-bolts	8
99562010	9/16"-18 High Nuts	U-bolts	8

Getting Started.....

1. Raise the vehicle to a safe and comfortable working height and support it by the frame. You will need to be able to move the rear differential up and down. Use a jack under the rear axle so it can be raised and lowered as needed during the install.

2. Jack up the rear end slightly to remove the tension from the rear shocks. Remove the shock absorbers. For proper function, they should be replaced with the Ridetech HQ Series shock kit, 11379510.

3. Let the tension of the rear springs, but keep the jack touching the rear axle.

4. Remove the u-bolts and axle clamps to disengage the axle from the leaf springs.

5. Lower the axle to get clearance on the leaf springs, but DO NOT strain the brake line.

6. The easiest way to install the flip brackets is to drop the leaf springs. The leaf spring packs are heavy, we recommend a helper to remove them.

7. Support the front of the leaf spring and remove the front leaf spring bolt and swing the leaf spring down to touch the axle.

8. Support the rear of the leaf spring and remove the frame shackle bolt. With assistance, remove the leaf spring pack and set it to the side for the moment.

Repeat Steps 6 - 8 on the 2nd leaf spring.

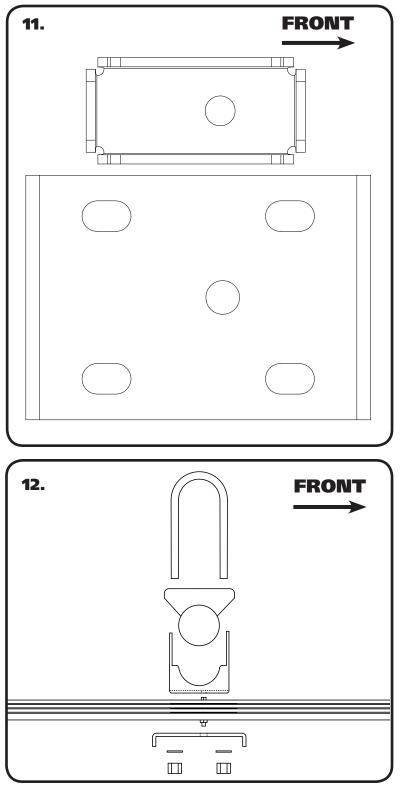
9. Jack up the axle enough to be able to reinstall the leaf springs under the axle.

10. Reinstall the leaf spring packs, but DO NOT tighten the attaching hardware at this time.





Part Orientation



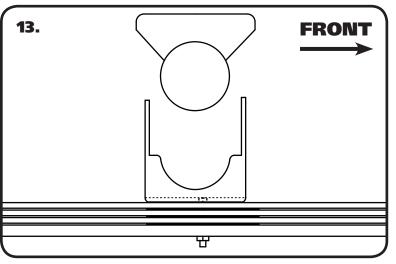
11. The Flip Kit has an offset locating holes to center the wheel in the wheel opening. Image11 illustrates a top view of the Flip Bracket and the Leaf Spring Plate. Notice the CENTER Hole is offset to the FRONT of the truck. This kit will move the axle rearward.

12. Image 12 illustrates the included parts exploded to assist you in the location and orientation of the parts included.





Flip Bracket Installation



14. FRONT

15. FRONT

13. Set the Flip Bracket onto the leaf spring with the CENTER HOLE OFFSET TO THE FRONT OF THE TRUCK.

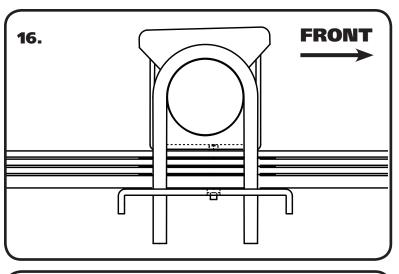
14. Slowly lower the axle into the Flip Bracket making sure the tabs go up into the leaf spring saddle.

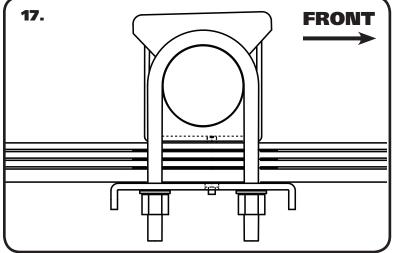
15. Slip the U-Bolts over the axle tube with the threads pointing down.





Flip Bracket Installation





- 18. Install the Ridetech HQ Series Shock Kit.
- **19.** Reinstall the bed if you removed it.
- **20.** Set the truck on the ground. Torque the leaf spring and shackle hardware to 80 ftlbs.

16. Slip the Leaf Spring Bracket up onto the U-Bolts WITH THE OFFSET HOLE FORWARD.

17. Hold the Leaf Spring Bracket in place and install (4) 9/16" Flat Washer & (4) 9/16" Hugh Nuts on the threads of the u-bolts. Snug the nuts down evenly and tighten them in a crisscross fashion to 90 ftlbs.





Part # 11379510 - 88-98 C1500 Rear Shock Kit for Flip Kit



Recommended Tools





HQ Series Shock Kit Installation Instructions

Table of contents

Page 18..... Components

Page 19..... Getting Started and Lower Mount Installation

Page 20..... Shock Adjustment

THE FLIP KIT NEEDS TO BE INSTALLED BEFORE INSTALLING THE SHOCK KIT







7.55" HQ Series Smooth Body Shocks

Major ComponentsIn the box

	Part #		Description		QTY	
	22989599		7.55" Stroke Shock		2	
	70011138		3/4" ID Shock Bushing (Insta	lled in Shock Eyelet)	2	
	90002102		1/2" ID Shock Sleeve (Installe	ed in Shock Eyelet)	2	
	70011139		5/8" ID Shock Bushing (Installed in Shock Body)		2	
	90002068		Wide Trunnion (Installed in S	hock Body)	2	
	90003083		Lower Shock Relocation Brac	ket	2	
	90003085		Lower Shock Relocation Brac	ket Spacer - 1" OD x 9/16" ID x 1.660 Long	2	
Н	HARDWARE					
	Part #	De	escription	Usage	QTY	
	99561010	9/1	16"-18 x 3 1/2" Hex Bolt	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	2	
	99563002	9/1	16" SAE Flat Washer	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	4	
	99562006	9/1	16″-18 Nylok Nut	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	2	
	99371005	3/8	3″-16 x 1 1/4″ Hex Bolt	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	2	
	99373002	3/8	3″ Flat Washer	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	4	
	99372001	3/8	3″-16 Nylok Nut	Lower Shock Bracket to OEM Mount	2	
	99501064	1/2	2"-13 x 2 3/4" Hex Bolt	Shock to Lower Shock Mount	2	
	99503014	1/2	2″ Flat Washer	Shock to Lower Shock Mount	4	
	99502009	1/2	2″-13 Nylok Nut	Shock to Lower Shock Mount	2	
	99311011	5/1	16"-18 x 1 1/4" Hex Bolt	Upper Shock Mounting	4	
	99313001	5/1	16" SAE Flat Washer	Upper Shock Mounting	8	
	99312007	5/1	16″-18 Nylok Nut	Upper Shock Mounting	4	

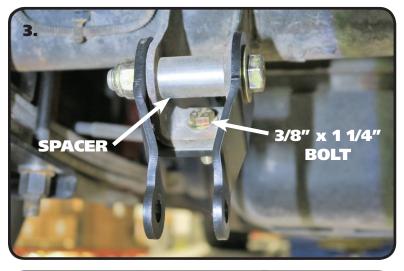
The Rear Shocks will be installed after the Flip Kit is installed.

- 1. Install the Rear Flip Kit.
- 2. If you haven't already, remove the rear shocks from the truck.





Getting Started.....







3. This kit includes new Lower Shock Mounts to correct the angle of the shocks. They attach to the OEM shock mounts. Slip the Lower Mount over the OEM shock mount lining up the 2 side holes with the OEM shock hole. Use the bracket as a template to drill a 3/8" hole in the OEM mount. Install a 3/8" Flat Washer on a 3/8"-16 x 1 1/4" Bolt and insert in through the small hole with the bolt head on the INSIDE of the OEM shock mount. Install a 3/8" Flat Washer followed by a 3/8"-16 Nylok Nut on the threads of the bolt sticking through the bracket. Do not tighten at this time. Insert the Spacer (1.660" Long) into the OEM shock mount in place of the OEM shock aligning the center hole with the OEM shock holes. Install a 9/16" Flat Washer on a 9/16"-18 x 3 1/2" Bolt, insert the bolt/washer through the Lower Mount, OEM Mount, and Spacer. Install a 9/16" Washer and 9/16"-18 Nylok Nut on the threads sticking through the mounts/spacer. Tighten the 3/8" Hardware to 55 ftlbs. Tighten the 9/16" Hardware to 100 ftlbs. Repeat for the other shock bracket.

2. Install a 5/16" Flat Washer on each of (2) 5/16"-18 x 1 1/4" Bolts. Install the bolts/washers in from the top with the threads pointing down. Line up the bolt holes in the Shock Trunnion with the bolts sticking through the frame and insert the shock in place. While holding the shock in place, install a 5/16" Flat Washer and 5/16"-18 Nylok Nut on the threads sticking through the trunnion. Torque the hardware to 25 ftlbs. Repeat for the other shock.

3. Install a 1/2" flat Washer on a 1/2"-13 x 2 3/4" Bolt. Line the center of the inner sleeve of the shock with the mounting holes in the lower shock bracket. Insert the bolt/washer through the lined up holes. Install a 1/2" Flat Washer and 1/2"-13 Nylok Nut on the threads sticking through. Torque to 50 ftlbs.





Shock Adjustment

Shock adjustment 101- Single Adjustable

Rebound Adjustment:

How to adjust your new shocks

The rebound adjustment knob is located on the top of the shock absorber protruding from the eyelet or stud top. You must first begin at the ZERO setting, then set the shock to a street setting of 12 or handling setting of 8.



Take the vehicle for a test drive.



-Begin with the shocks adjusted to the ZERO rebound position (full stiff). Do this by rotating the rebound adjuster knob clockwise until it stops.

-Now turn the rebound adjuster knob counter clockwise 12 clicks. This sets the shock at 12 for a street setting. If you are after a handling setting only go 8 clicks.

-if you are satisfied with the ride quality, do not do anything, you are set!

-if the vehicle is too soft increase the damping effect by rotating the rebound knob clockwise 3 additional clicks.

-If the vehicle is too stiff rotate the rebound adjustment knob counter clock wise 2 clicks and you are set!

Take the vehicle for another test drive and repeat the above steps until the ride quality is satisfactory.

Note:

One end of the vehicle will likely reach the desired setting before the other end. If this happens stop adjusting the satisfied end and keep adjusting the unsatisfied end until the overall ride quality is satisfactory.