

FLOWMASTER™

AMERICAN THUNDER™

SYSTEM #17287

1996-99 CHEVROLET/GMC, C/K 1500 TRUCKS 5.7L ENGINE
141" W.B. EXTENDED CAB, SHORT BED

Removal:

07/09/04

1. Raise the vehicle and support with stands.
2. Using a hacksaw or sawsall, cut the stock tailpipe off where it exits the muffler. **(This step is not mandatory, but it makes removal a little easier.)**
3. Separate the two wire hangers on the tailpipe from the rubber mounts on the vehicle. Remove the tailpipe and set aside.
4. Support the muffler with a stand, then separate the wire hanger from the rubber mount in front of the muffler.
5. Remove the Oxygen sensor from the front pipe by first unplugging the wire at the clip connection on the cross member then unscrewing the sensor from the fitting on the pipe using a 7/8" wrench.
6. Remove the three nuts at the muffler to cat flange connection. Remove the muffler and set aside.

Installation:

1. Place inlet pipe assembly #26046 in position behind the flange that is welded to the back of the catalytic converters. **(Be sure to install new gasket #GA105 between the two flanges.)** Connect the wire hanger to its rubber mount, and re-install the factory nuts on the flange connection. Also reconnect the Oxygen sensor to the fitting on pipe #26046 and the wire connection on the cross member.
2. Connect the inlet of muffler #53072 to the inlet pipe. Use a stand to support the muffler, and install a 3" clamp, but do not tighten yet. **(Outlet of the muffler goes toward center of the vehicle.)**
3. Install hanger assembly (#286HA) into the rubber mount just behind the muffler outlet. Insert from the right to the left.
4. Place the over axle pipe (#26063) into position, through the hanger assembly and into the muffler outlet. Install a 3" clamp at the outlet connection and tighten just enough to hold in position.

5. Connect the exit pipe (#26011) to the rear of "over axle" pipe, and connect wire hanger to the rubber mount. Install a 3" clamp, and tighten just enough to hold in position.
6. Adjust the position of all pipes and muffler to provide a satisfactory fit. Maintain at least 3/4" clearance around the system, and also keep suspension travel in mind.
7. Attach the heat shield to the top of the muffler by wrapping and firmly tightening the four band clamps around the muffler body using a 8mm socket or standard screwdriver.
8. Tighten down all clamped connections securely. Note: for a cleaner fit, the slip fit connections can be welded, and the clamps removed. After the system is secure, slide the 7/16" hanger keepers onto the end of the hangers that are welded to the inlet pipe assembly, over axle and exit pipes. This will prevent the hangers from slipping out of the rubber mounts.

PACKING LIST FOR AMERICAN THUNDER KIT #17287

Qty.	Description	Part #
1	Inlet Pipe Assem.	26046
1	Muffler	53072
1	Over-Axle pipe	26063
1	Exit Pipe	26011
1	Heatshield Kit	51022
1	Dual Hole Gasket	GA105
1	Parts Kit	PK414
1	Hanger assembly	286HA
3	3" clamp	MC300G
3	1/2" Hanger Keeper	HW503

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