



# ***COLD AIR SYSTEM***

Installation Instructions for:  
Part Number 21-506  
2002-2005 Acura RSX Type-S

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Instructions Part Number: 10-7042  
2002-2003 Acura RSX Type-S K20A2 C.A.R.B. E.O. #D-392-20  
2004-2005 Acura RSX Type-S K20A2 C.A.R.B. E.O. #Pending  
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**Congratulations!** You have just purchased the finest Air Induction & Filtration system for your car at any price!

The **AEM** Cold Air System is the result of extensive development on a wide variety of cars. Each system is engineered for the particular application. The **AEM** Cold Air System differs from all others in several ways. We take the inlet air from outside of the engine compartment where the inlet air is considerably cooler than the hot underhood air. The cooler inlet air temperature translates to more power during the combustion process because cool air is denser than warm air. **AEM** has conducted extensive inlet air temperature studies and we have seen temperature reductions of up to 50 degrees by pulling air from outside of the engine compartment. The air mass flow to the engine is increased because of the increased airflow *and* reduced inlet temperature, which translates to more power. The **AEM** Cold Air Systems are **50 states Street Legal** (some model and years still pending) and come with complete instructions for ease of installation.

Our system is constructed of lightweight aluminum and then painted with a zirconia based powder coat for superior heat insulating characteristics. The aluminum will not crack in extended use like plastic and it is actually lighter than plastic. The tube diameter and length are matched for each engine to give power over a broad rpm range. Unlike the plastic systems that use a continually diverging cross section, we take advantage of the acoustical energy in the duct to promote cylinder filling during the intake valve-opening event.

Our Dyno testing as well as **independent dyno tests** (see 7/97 Sport Compact Car Magazine) prove that the **AEM** Cold Air System produces as much as twice the power gain than any other system on the market.

For technical inquiries please e-mail us at [tech@aempower.com](mailto:tech@aempower.com)

**Bill of Materials for: 21-506                      2002 Acura RSX Type-S**

Quantity	Part Number	Description
2	103-BLO-4820	HOSE CLAMP,3.00"
1	5-302	HOSE,SILICONE 3.00X2" AEM BLK
1	2-571	INLET PIPE,RSX TYPE-S
12"	65128	HOSE 3/8ID
2	4093-5	HOSE CLAMP,3/4"
2	4093-6	HOSE CLAMP, 1 1/16" NARROW
30"	65002	HOSE,3/4ID
1	784639	GROMMET,13/32"
1	1228560	MOUNT,RUBBER 1" X 8MM
1	559960	WASHER,8MM SOFT MOUNT
1	444.460.08	NUT,NYLOK 8MM
1	1-113	ZIP TIE,6 LONG
1	1-115	ZIP TIE,11.25 LONG
1	10-922EV	EMBLEM,CAS/SRS VINYL
1	21-203	AIR FILTER ASMBLY 3.00 5" SHORT
1	9-506	AEM RSX RPLCMNT WSHR BTL
2	10-922S	DECAL,AEM LARGE SILVER
1	10-400W	LIC PLATE FRAME,WHITE
1	10-7042	INSTRUCTIONS RSX TYPE S

Read and understand these instructions **BEFORE** attempting to install this product.

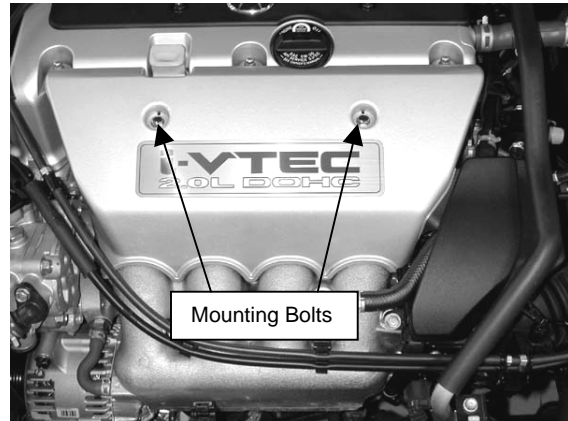
### 1) Getting Started

- a) Make sure vehicle is parked on a level surface.
- b) Set parking brake.
- c) Jack the front of the vehicle and support using properly rated jack stands.
- d) Remove the front left wheel.
- e) Remove the left fender well lining. Remove the lower splashguard. Set aside as they will be re-installed on the vehicle.
- f) Disconnect negative battery terminal.
- g) If engine has run within the past two hours let it cool down.

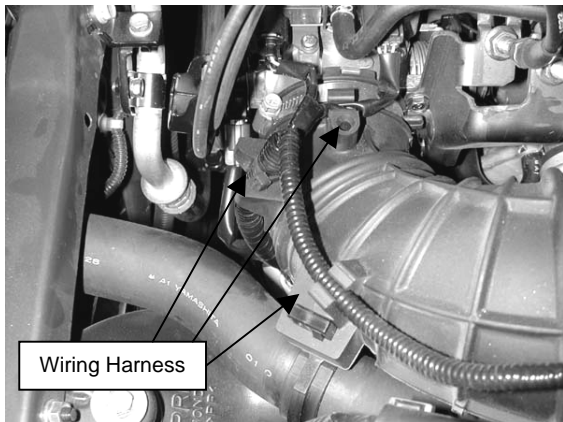
### 2) Removal of the stock intake system.



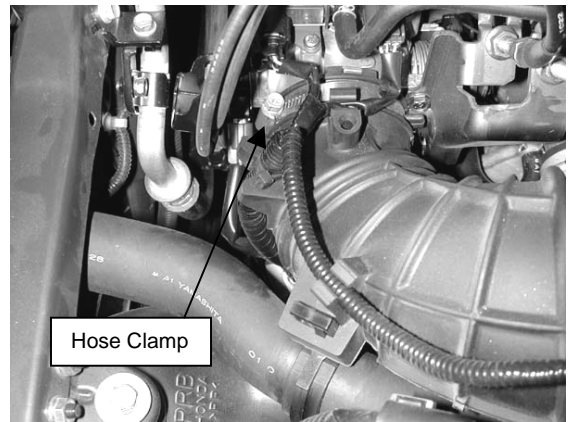
a. Stock system installed in vehicle.



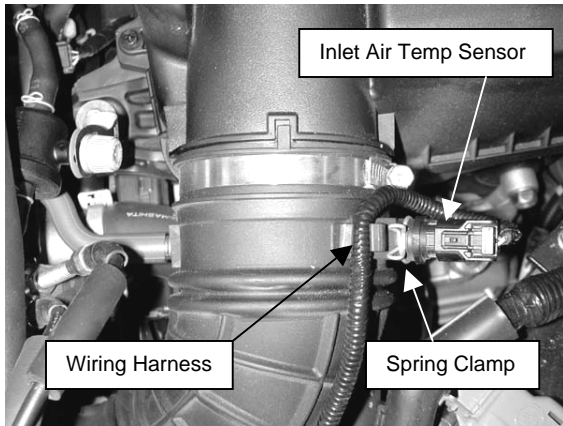
b. Remove the two mounting bolts securing the upper engine cover. Remove the engine cover.



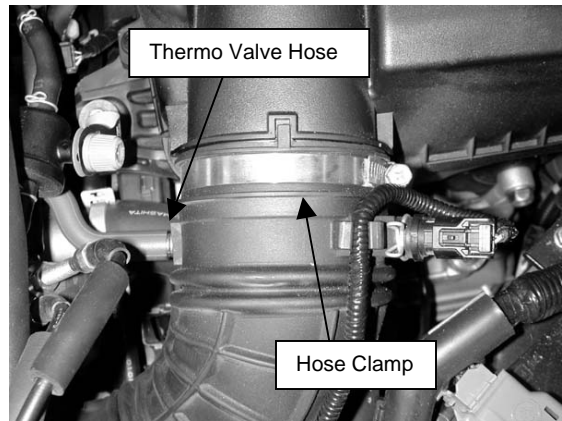
c. Remove the wiring harness from the rubber holds in the stock upper intake tube.



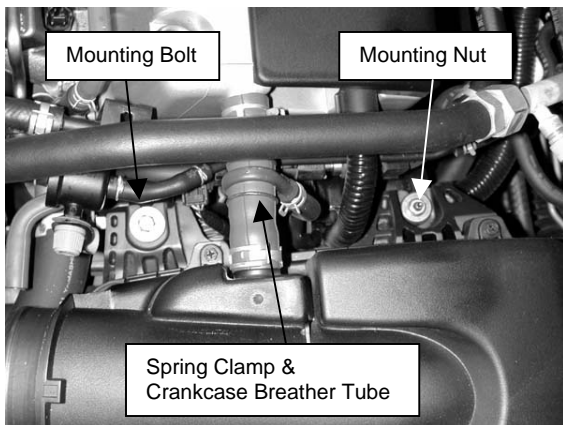
d. Remove the hose clamp securing the stock upper intake tube to the throttle body.



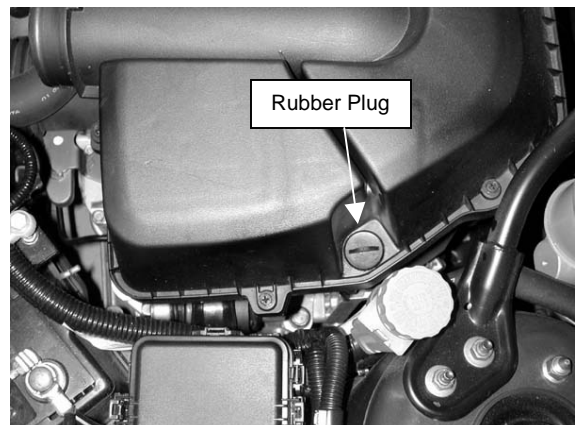
e. Remove the wiring harness from the rubber holds in the stock upper intake tube. Disconnect the inlet air temp sensor wiring harness. Loosen the spring clamp securing the inlet air temp sensor and remove. Set the inlet air temp sensor aside as it will be reinstalled on the **AEM** intake system.



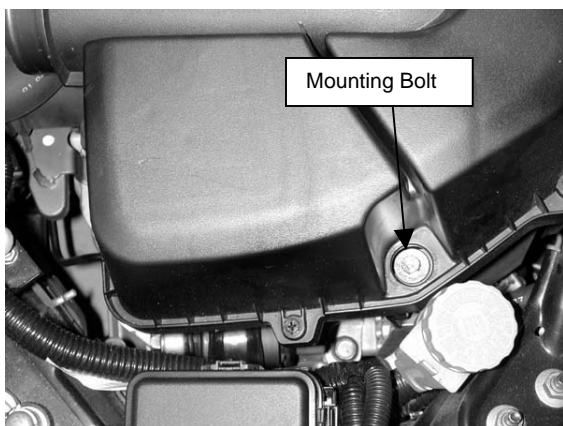
f. Remove the hose clamp securing the stock upper intake tube to the filter box. Remove the thermo valve hose. Remove the stock upper intake tube from the vehicle.



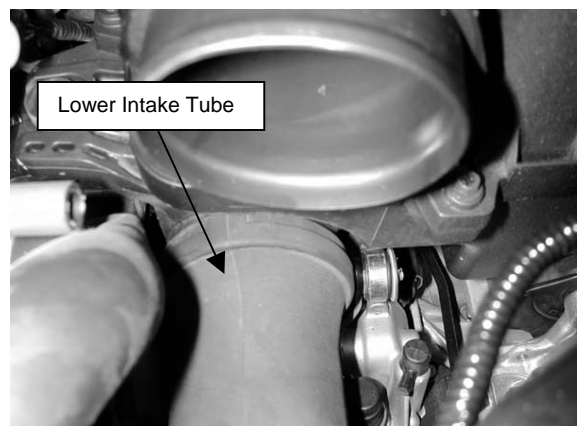
g. Loosen the spring clamp securing the crank case breather. Remove the mounting bolt and nut that secure the filter box.



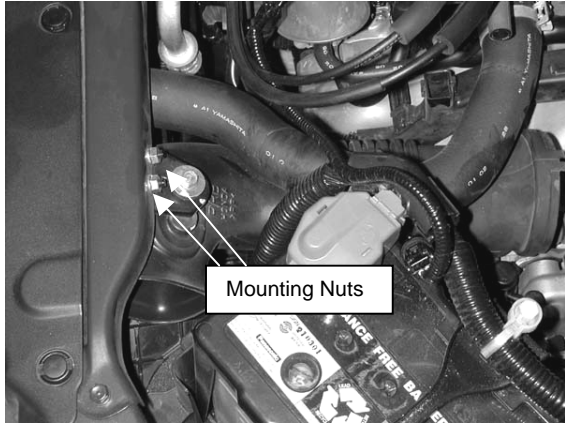
h. Remove the rubber plug from the filter box.



i. Remove the mounting bolt securing the filter box.



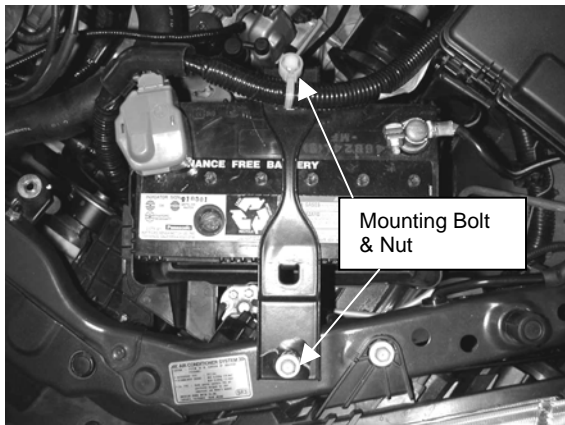
j. Disconnect the lower intake tube from the air filter box. Remove the air filter box.



k. Remove the two mounting nuts securing the lower intake tube to the chassis. Remove the lower intake tube.



l. Stock intake removed from vehicle.

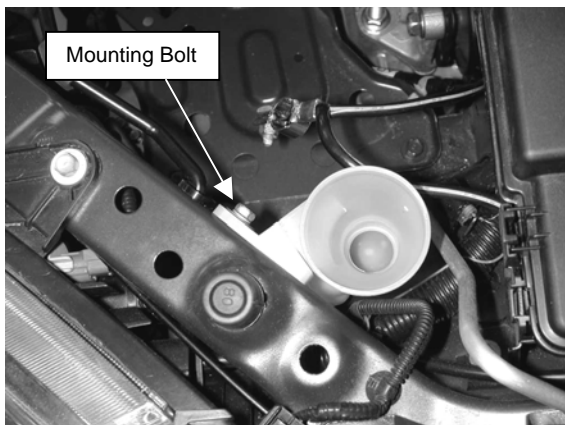


m. Remove the positive and negative cables from the battery. Remove the bolt and nut securing the battery in place. Remove the battery and trays.

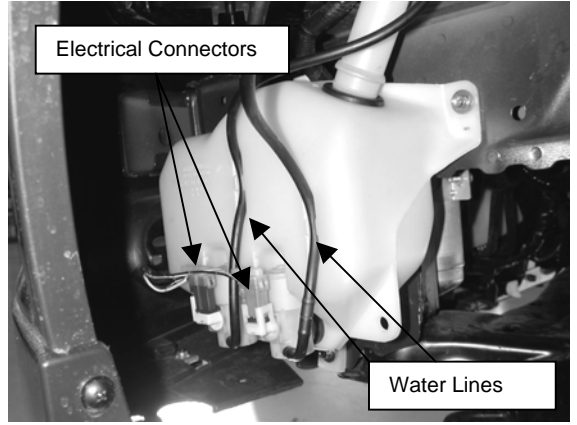


n. Remove the three bolts that secure the air box support bracket and save them for later use.

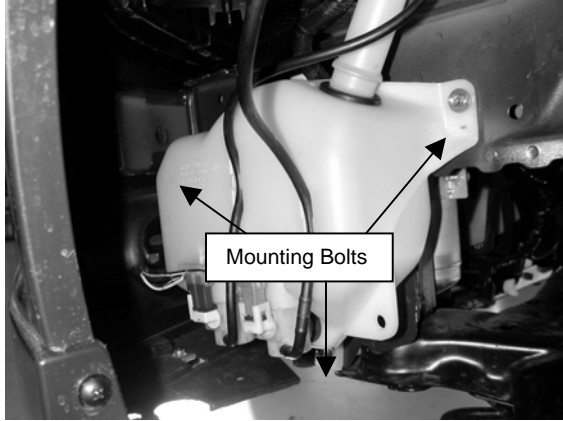
### 3) Removal and replacement of the stock windshield washer bottle.



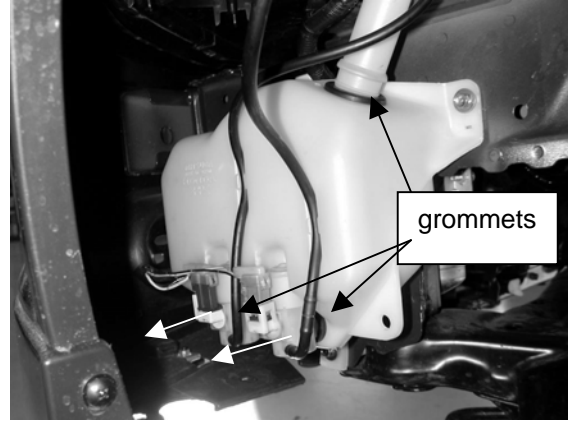
a. Remove the bolt securing the washer bottle filler neck. Remove the washer bottle filler neck.



b. Remove the electrical connectors and water lines from the windshield wiper motors. Drain washer bottle fluid into a suitable container.



c. Remove the three bolts securing the washer bottle in place. Pull the filler tube out of the bottle.



d. Remove the two pumps by pulling them from the rubber grommets. Remove the two grommets from the washer bottle along with the grommet for the filler tube.



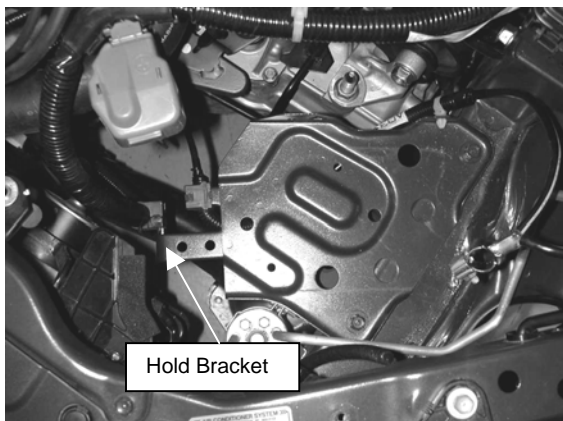
e. Reinstall the two pump grommets and the fill tube grommet on the replacement washer bottle. Wet the grommets with soapy water and insert the two washer pumps and fill tube.



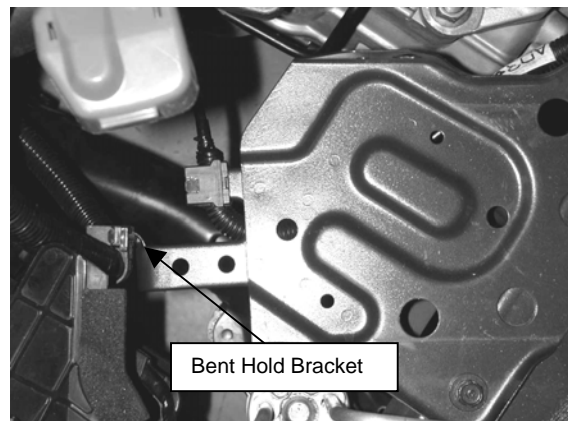
f. Secure the new washer bottle with the three air box bracket bolts removed in step 2n. Reconnect the two feeder lines and the two electrical connectors to the pumps.

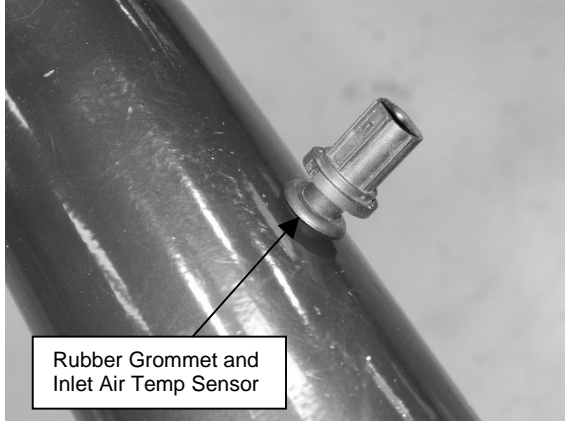
#### 4) Installation of the AEM Cold Air Intake System.

a) When installing the Cold Air Intake System, DO NOT completely tighten the hose clamps or mounting tab hardware until instructed to do so later in these instructions.



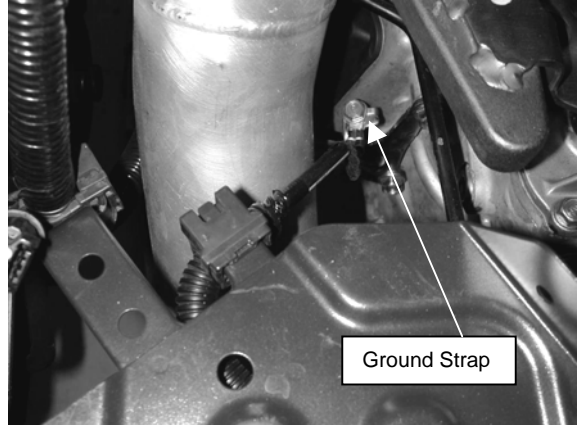
b. With a pair of pliers bend the positive battery cable hold tab 90 degrees.





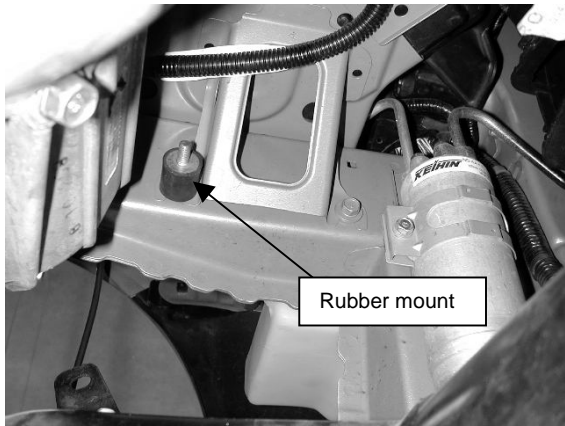
Rubber Grommet and Inlet Air Temp Sensor

c. Install the supplied rubber grommet in the intake pipe. Install the inlet air temp sensor. A small amount of lubricant can be used on the I.D. of the grommet to make installation easier.



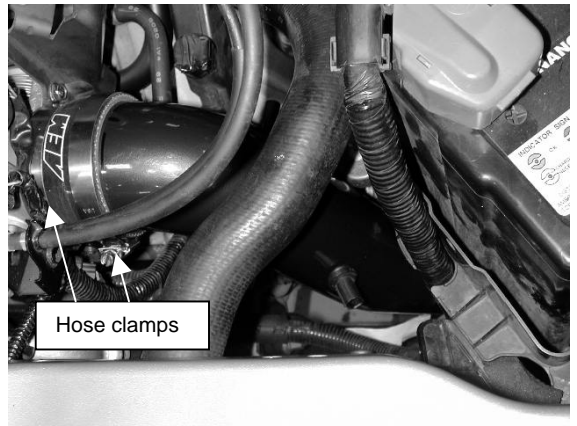
Ground Strap

d. Loosen the bolt securing the ground strap to the transmission bracket and rotate so that it is installed in this manner.



Rubber mount

e. Remove the bolt under the battery tray and replace it with the supplied rubber mount. **Failure to install the rubber mount will void all warranties of the Cold Air System.**

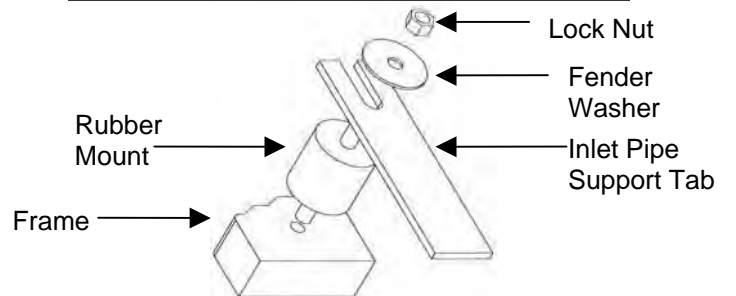


Hose clamps

f. Install the supplied connector hose onto the throttle body and the intake pipe end furthest from the mounting bracket. Install the two supplied hose clamps on the connector hose.



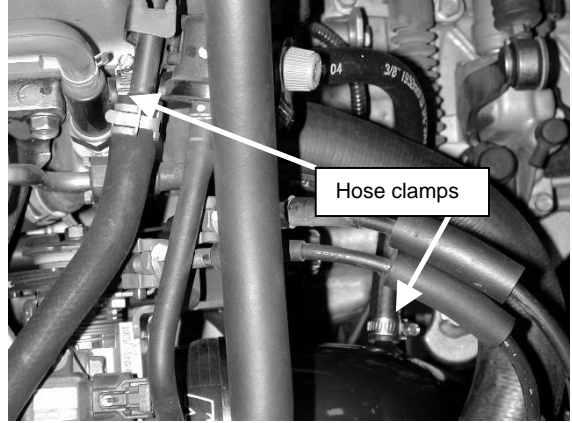
g. Secure the mounting bracket to the rubber mount with the supplied washer and nyloc nut.



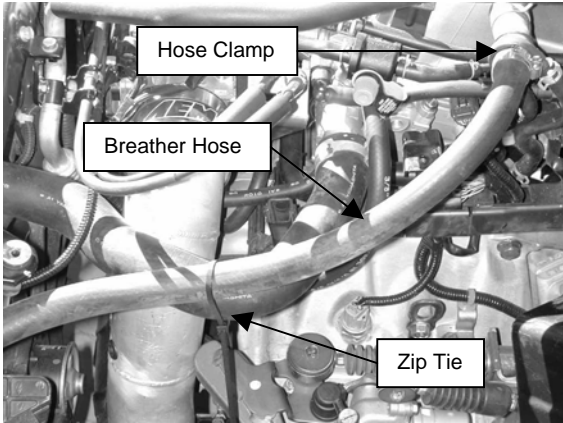
h) Proper rubber mount installation.



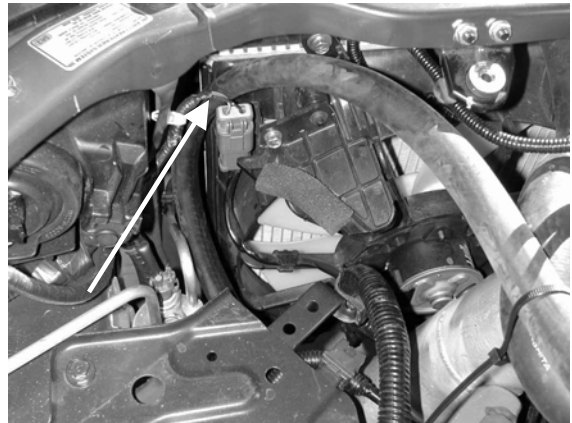
i. Install the AEM air filter onto the lower end of the inlet pipe.



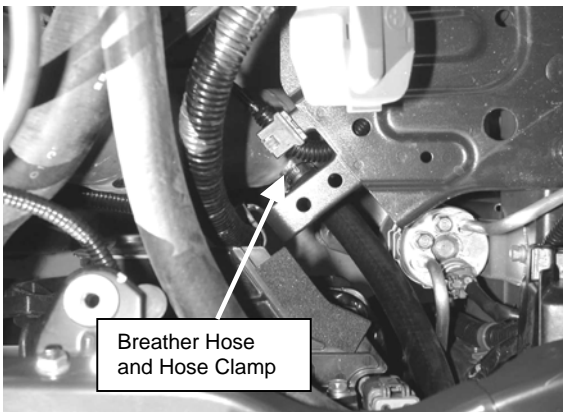
j. Install the supplied 3/8" breather hose between the thermo valve and inlet pipe. Secure it with the included hose clamps.



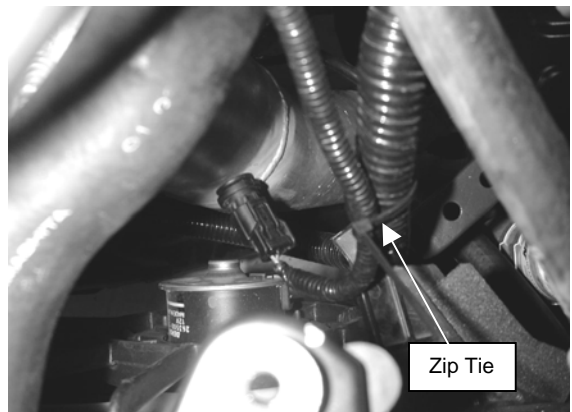
k. Install the 3/4" breather hose and hose clamp. Secure in place with the supplied 11" zip tie.



l. Route the breather tube behind the fan wiring harness



m. Install the breather hose on the exposed nipple and secure using the supplied clamp.

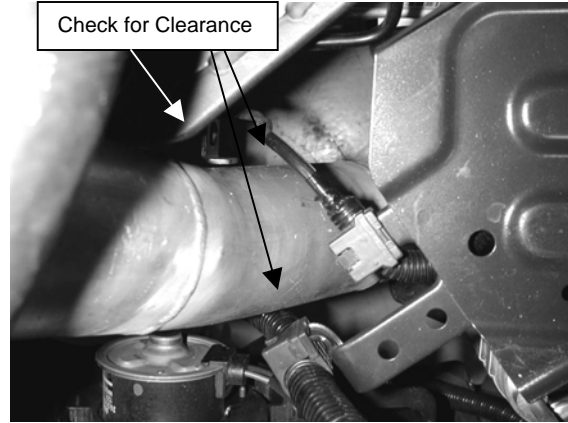


n. Connect the wiring harness of the air temp sensor. Use the supplied 6" zip tie to hold in place.





o. Check for clearance between the intake pipe and the shift arm. **Watch the arm as it is shifted through its full range of motion.**



p. Check for clearance between the cables and surrounding brackets.



q. The fender liner *must* be trimmed for the intake system to fit properly. **Trim and reinstall the fender liner. Failure to do so will void the warranty.**



r. AEM Cold Air Intake System installed.

## 5) Re-assemble the vehicle

- a) Position the inlet pipe for best fitment. Be sure that the pipe or any other components do not contact any part of the vehicle.
- b) Tighten all hose clamps.
- c) Tighten the nut on the mounting tab.
- d) Reinstall left front wheel. Torque lug nuts to 85 lb-ft.
- e) Re-install the battery tray, battery and battery hold down bracket. Note: When the battery has been disconnected and reconnected, some abnormal drive symptoms may occur while the vehicle relearns its idle characteristics. The vehicle may need to be driven 10 miles or more to relearn the idle curve
- f) Inspect the engine bay for any loose tools and check that all fasteners that were moved or removed are tight.
- g) Start engine and perform a final inspection before driving the vehicle.