

FLOWMASTER

AMERICAN THUNDER™

SYSTEM # 17174

1955 - 57 CHEVROLET CAR

2½" DUAL EXHAUST SYSTEM

(FITS: 2 OR 4 DOOR; DOES NOT FIT CONV. OR WAGON)

1/5/07

Our 1955 through 1957 Chevy kit is a compilation of many years of development. These cars were built over 50 years ago, in six different assembly plants, and on two different chassis. We have done everything in our power to insure that this kit fits your vehicle. If you have any fitment issues please contact our tech service line at (800) 544-4761.

Removal:

- 1) Raise the vehicle and support securely with jack stands.
- 2) Remove existing system from the header collector or manifold down pipes back.
- 3) The rear seat of the vehicle will have to be removed in order to install the hangers
(Described in step 2)

Installation:

- 1) Remove the back seat and set aside. Look on the underside of the vehicle on the back side of the rear upper seat pan. On both sides you will see two ribs. For the left side place **#229HA** in the middle of the ribs and slide towards the outer rib closest to the frame of the vehicle and measure from the seam down (*see diagram 1.*). Make a mark for your first hole 2 1/4" down and then make a mark for your second hole 5" down. Re-check the marks. Center punch both marks and drill them out to a 3/8" hole. (*Note: See diagram 1 on page 3 of these instructions.*) For the right side place **#230HA** in the middle of the ribs and slide towards the outer rib closest to the frame of the vehicle, then measure and mark your holes to be drilled repeating the left side.
- 2) Install the supplied stud plate's **#244HA** and push them from the inside of the vehicle into the holes you have just drilled. Take hanger assembly **#229HA** for the left side, and hanger assembly **#230HA** for the right side, and place them over the two bolts protruding through the floor. Secure the hangers to the body using the 3/8" nuts and lock washers provided. (*Note: each hanger once mounted will face the outside of the vehicle see diagram 1.*)
- 3) Next slide the supplied rubber hangers **#HA168** onto the hanger rods installed in step 2. Place the clamp hanger **#347HA** for left side and **#346HA** for right side into the bottom hole of the rubber hangers. Both clamp hangers will face the outside of the vehicle (*see diagram 2*).

- 4) On the outside of the frame, at the rear of the vehicle, there is a hole punched in each side. Take the supplied hangers **#HA572** for the right/left side and supplied well nuts along with 5/16" x1" bolts and 5/16"lock washers and mount them with the rubber section facing down and in under the frame in those factory holes using the upper hole on the hangers. For extra support when bolting the hangers to the frame center punch the lower hole on the hanger and drill a 1/4" hole. Next place the supplied 5/16"x3/4" cut thread self tapping bolts to secure into place.*(note: use the supplied 5/16" flat washers between the frame and the rubber hanger on the lower hole for support.) See diagram 3.*
- 5) If your vehicle does not have existing holes in the rear of the frame you will need to locate and drill these holes. Drill two 1/4" holes on each side and mount the supplied frame hangers with the supplied 5/16" x 3/4" cut thread self tapping bolts. Measure from the rear of the frame rail towards the front of the vehicle 19 5/16" and make a mark, then measure 1.50" up from the bottom of the frame rail and make a mark, this is your upper hanger hole location next center punch and drill your hole then attach the **#HA572** with the rubber section facing down and in underneath the frame, then locate, center punch and drill your lower hole. Repeat for the opposite side of the vehicle. *(see diagram 3.)*
- 6) After mounting the rear hangers in place, Place the right tailpipe **#16527** over the rear axle and so that the rear of the tailpipe exits between the fuel tank and the leaf spring. Slide the tailpipe hanger through the rubber hanger attached to the frame. Do the same for the left tailpipe **#16528**.
- 7) Install the left muffler **#952546** by placing the outlet of the muffler into the clamp hanger **#347HA**; rotate the muffler to get it level and support with a stand. Tighten the clamp/hanger enough to hold the muffler in place but still allow for adjustment.
- 8) Install the right muffler **#952546** by placing the outlet of the muffler into the clamp of the hanger **#346HA**; rotate the muffler to get it level and support with a stand. Tighten the clamp/hanger enough to hold the muffler in place but still allow for adjustment.
- 9) Slide the front of the right tailpipe **#16527** through the hanger **#346HA** and into the rear of the muffler. Repeat for the left side tailpipe **#16528** and hanger **#347HA**.
- 10) Adjust the rear of the tail pipes so that they are rotated correctly and are centered between the gas tank and the leaf springs. Repeat this step for both sides of the vehicle.
- 11) Install the front H-pipe assembly **#16526** by placing the rear of the front pipe assembly into the inlets of both mufflers and centering it in the drive line cavity. Support the front of the assembly with a stand; be sure that the muffler and front pipe assembly are level. Once the mufflers and front pipe assembly are in place, check the hangers at the rear of each muffler to see if they are hanging straight down. Adjust the front pipe and the mufflers forward or back as needed to get the correct fit. Once the desired fit is achieved, place a supplied 2 ½" clamp onto the inlet of each muffler, tighten enough to hold in place but still allow for adjustment.

- 12) It will be necessary to adapt from your existing headers or manifold down pipes to the H-pipe assembly installed in step 11. Due to the many different variables in header/manifold down pipe locations the pieces required to do this will need to be fabricated using the supplied four adapter pipes #16523. Some additional misc. tubing may be required.
- 13) Remove temporary support and allow the system to suspend on the hangers.
- 14) Adjust and align all of the pipes, a minimum of ½" clearance between the exhaust system and the chassis, drive train components, and fuel lines. Also keep suspension travel in mind. Use the supplied plastic zip tie to keep the rubber brake line that runs from the frame to the rear end away from the right tailpipe.
- 15) Once all adjustments are made, tighten all connections and clamps. After the hangers are adjusted to their final position, place the provided hanger keepers onto the end of all the hanger rods above the mufflers. This will keep the hangers from slipping out of the rubber mounts. Next place the supplied stainless tips #ST396 onto the back of the tail pipes, adjust to desired fit and tighten clamped connections firmly.

NOTE: FLOWMASTER RECOMMENDS WELDING ALL SLIP FIT CONNECTIONS.

Diagram 1

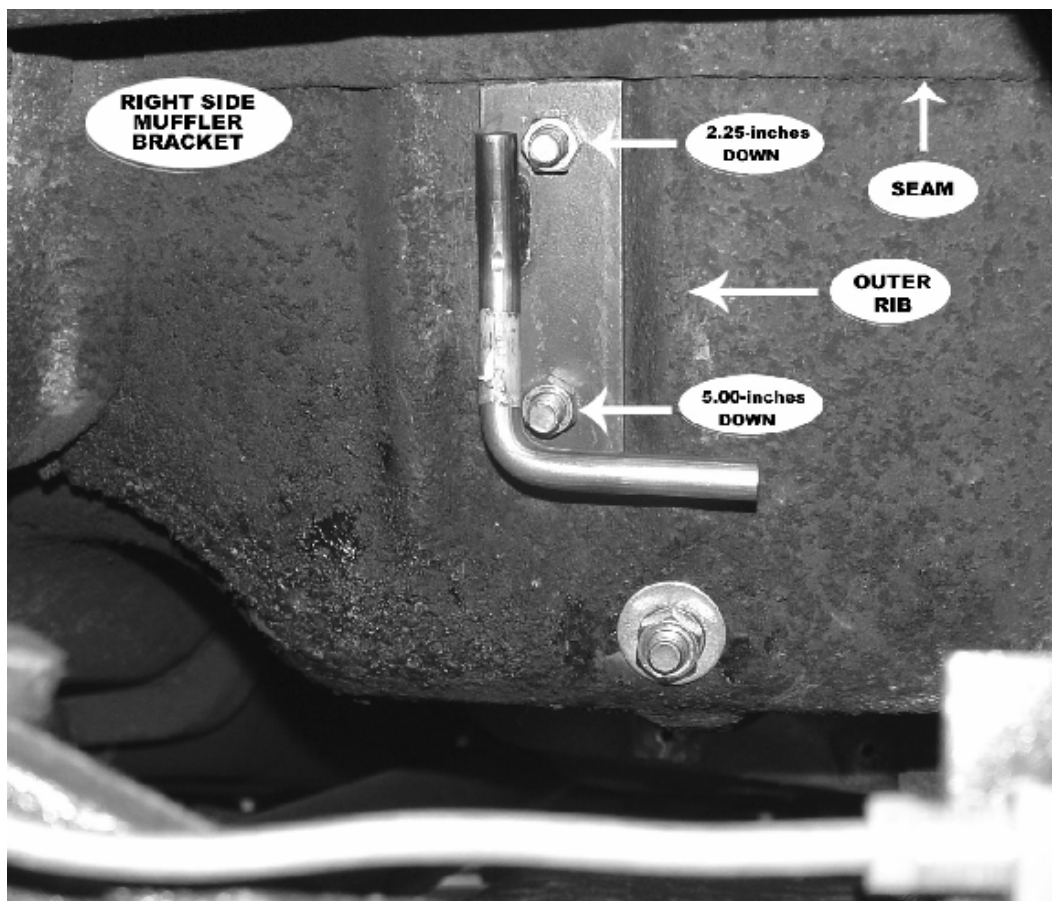


Diagram 2

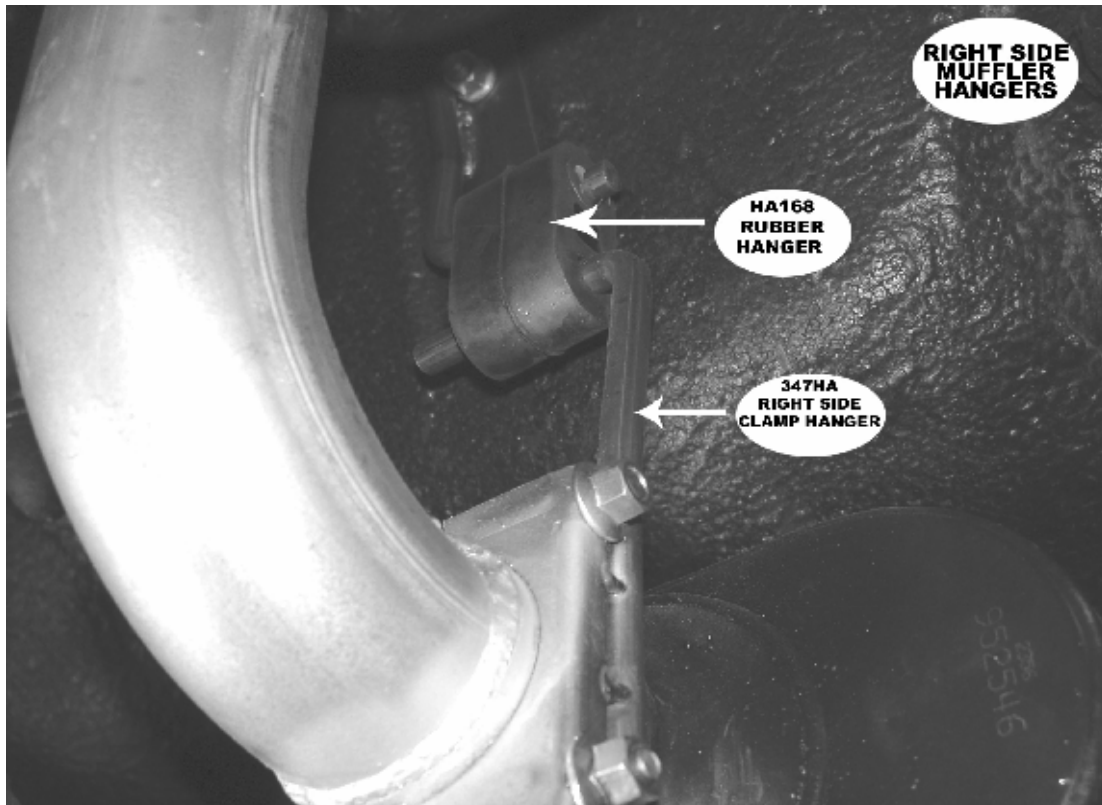
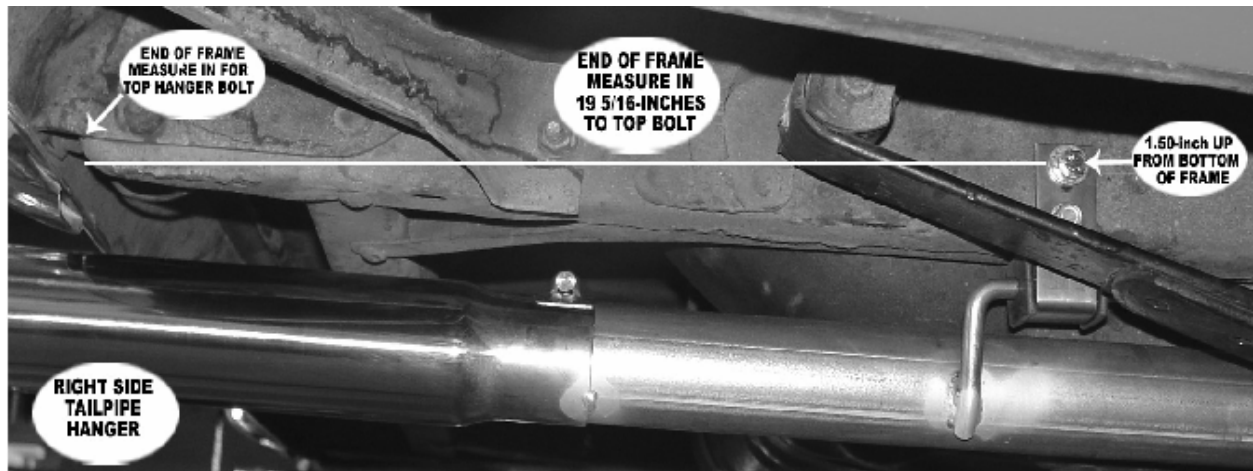


Diagram 3



PACKING LIST FOR 17174

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PART NUMBER</u>
<u>BOX 1 #5040</u>		
2	Muffler	952546
<u>BOX 2 #1056</u>		
4	Adaptor Pipe	16523
1	H-pipe Assembly	16526
1	Right Tailpipe	16527
1	Left Tailpipe	16528
2	Stainless Tip	ST396
1	Parts Kit	PK462
2	Backing Plate	244HA
1	Top Muffler Hanger Left	229HA
1	Top Muffler Hanger Right	230HA
1	Lower Right Muffler Hanger	346HA
1	Lower Left Muffler Hanger	347HA
2	Right/Left Tailpipe Hanger	HA572
1	Plastic Zip Tie	HW505
6	2 1/2" Clamp	MC250S
2	Rubber Hanger	HA168
4	7/16" Hanger Keeper	HW502
2	Wellnut	HW108
2	5/16" x 1" Bolt	HW204
4	3/8" Nut	HW103
4	3/8" Lock Washer	HW309
2	5/16" Lock Washer	HW308
2	5/16" Flat Washer	HW302
4	5/16"x 3/4" Cut Thread Bolt	HW225

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