



HORSEPOWER FOR YOUR SUSPENSION

2406 SPORT LEAF SPRINGS 2WD EXT/QUAD CAB
97-UP DODGE DAKOTA



**Thank you for your purchase from our line of Dodge Dakota & Durango suspension parts.
Please call us at (877) 4NO-ROLL if you have any questions regarding your Hotchkis
Performance products.**

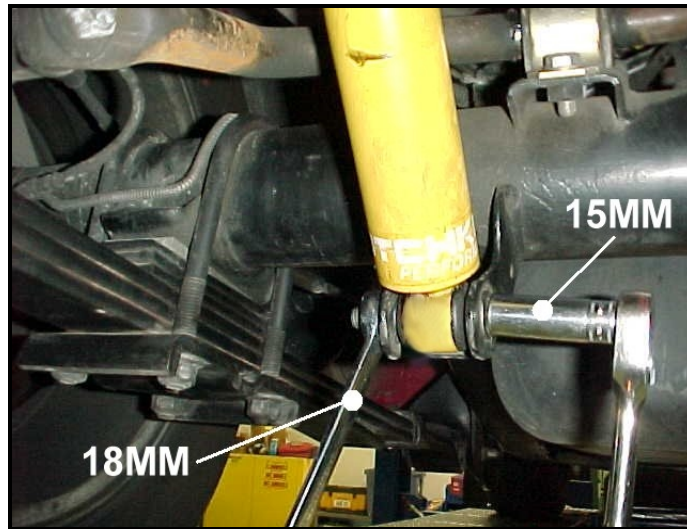
**Hotchkis recommends that springs be installed by a professional using the
proper tools for safety reasons.**

This installation will require:

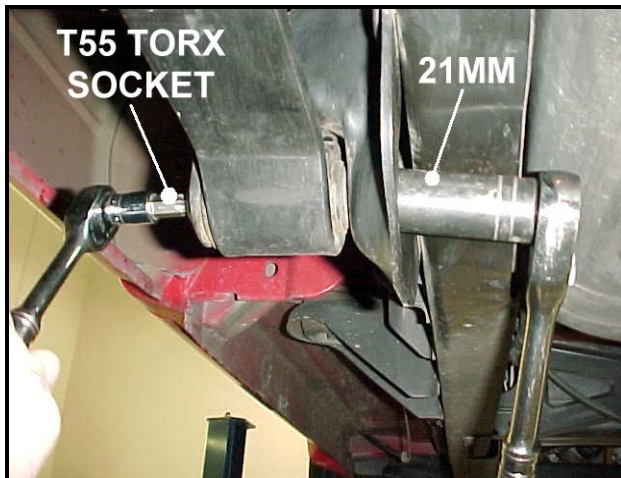
- Hydraulic Jack, jack stands
 - Optional equipment: Hacksaw, Hammer, tube of Thread Locker, 2' long breaker bar
- The following wrenches or sockets: 14mm, 15mm, 18mm, 21mm

INSTALLATION OF HOTCHKIS PERFORMANCE SPORT LEAF SPRINGS

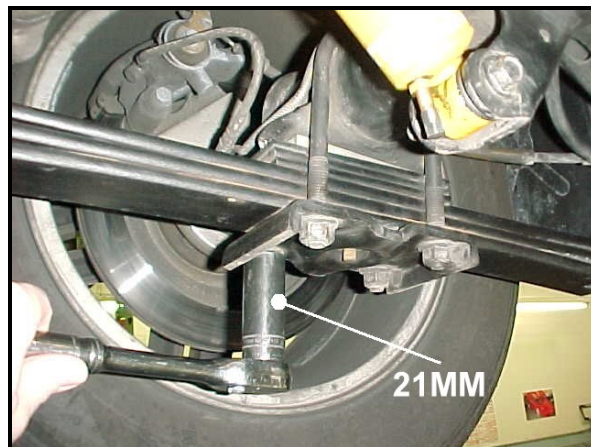
- 1) Begin by securing the front wheels of the vehicle using blocks. Use a hydraulic jack to lift the rear of the vehicle and support with jack stands. You will not be required to remove the wheels for this install.
- 2) Use a 18mm and 15mm wrench or socket to loosen and remove the nut and bolt holding the lower end of the shocks to the axle. Retain the hardware for re-installation later.



- 3) Use a T55 (Torx) socket and 21mm socket or wrench to loosen the bolts at both ends of the stock leaf springs. Do not remove the bolts at this step, as this will be done later.



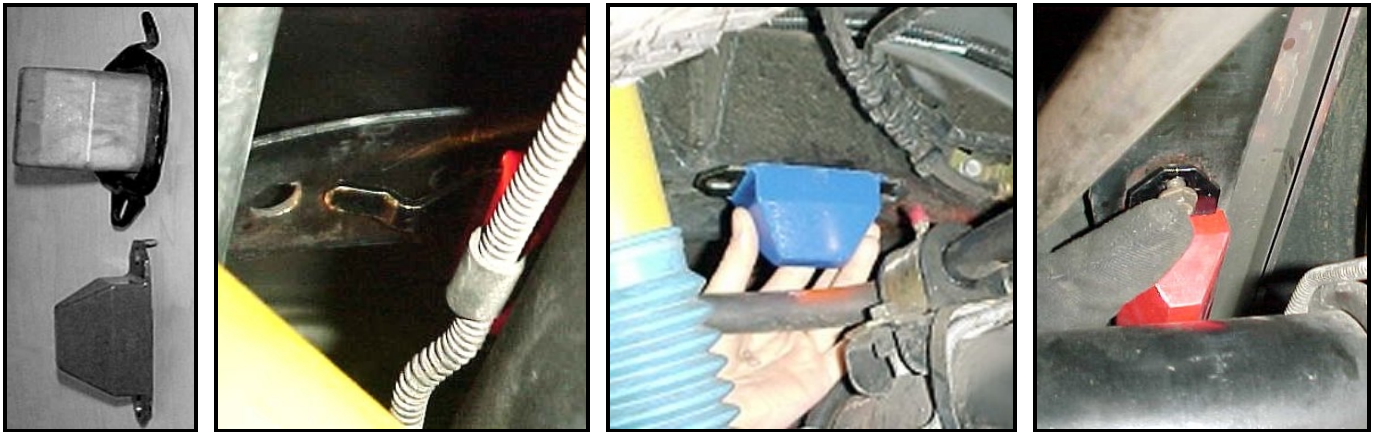
- 4) Use a 21mm socket or wrench to loosen and remove the nuts and plate that retain the leaf spring u-bolts. Retain the u-bolts, plate and nuts for re-installation later.



- 5) With the u-bolts removed, lift the axle off of the spring perches. *You may need to use a jack under the rear end to lift the axle.* You may now remove the bolts holding the leaf springs at either end, and then remove the stock leaf springs. Retain the hardware for later re-installation. **You do not need to remove the shackles from the vehicle for this installation.**



- 6) Use a 15mm wrench or socket to remove the factory bump stop and replace it with the new shorter bump stops provided in this kit. The shorter bump stop is critical for gaining rear suspension travel to help avoid bottoming out. Slide the tab into the forward hole in the frame in the same manner as the stock bump stop was installed. Use the stock hardware to mount the new bump stops and torque the hardware to 30 ft/lbs.



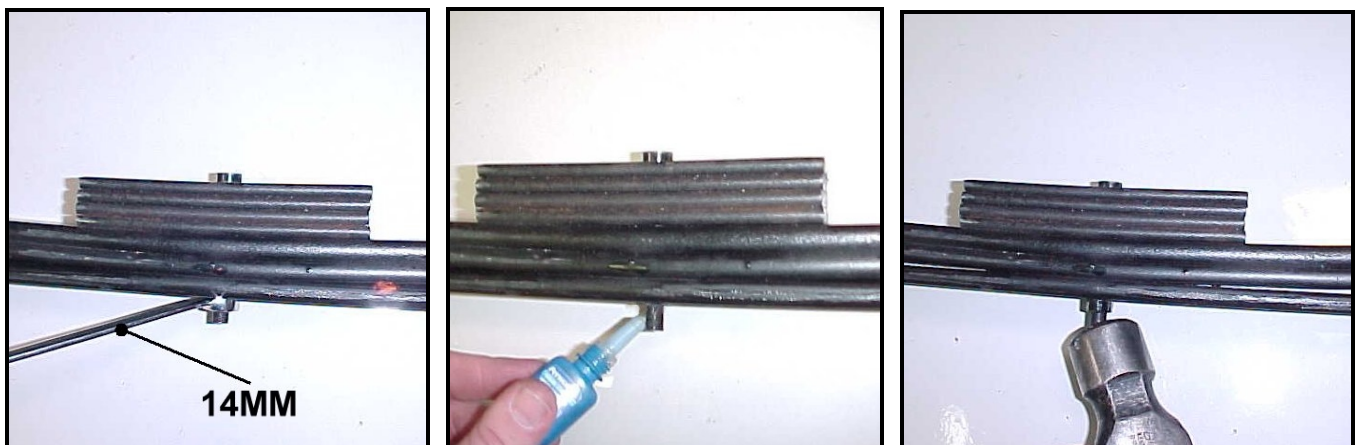
- 7) Observe the Hotchkis leaf springs.

Hotchkis springs are pre-assembled to give your truck the lowest ride height available with our springs. The ride height of your truck is a matter of personal taste, so we have engineered in the ability to choose how much drop the rear of your truck has. *This flexibility allows a range of rear drop on Dakotas from 2½"-3½" (1¼"-2¼" for R/T).*

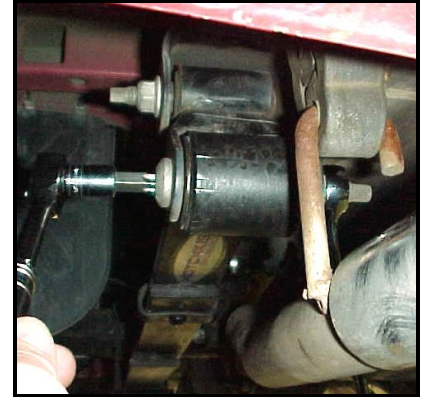
This feature may be useful if your vehicle is equipped with aftermarket items, such as a fiberglass cap or topper or if you plan on light duty towing. Where the leaf spring mounts to the axle, you'll notice two 1/2" spacer pads or four 1/4" pads. For each pad you remove, you gain an additional amount of ride height equal to the thickness of that pad. **Quad cab trucks MUST remove 1/2" worth of pads for proper operation!**

To remove the pads use a 14mm wrench or socket to remove the retaining nut on the pin that runs through the center of the leaf spring.

Once you have settled on the desired ride height, re-assemble the leaf spring. Place a drop of thread locker onto the threaded part of the pin where the nut will stop to help secure it. Cut off the excess pin length and use a hammer to "mushroom" the end of the pin. **You cannot change the height of the springs after "mushrooming" the end of the pin!**



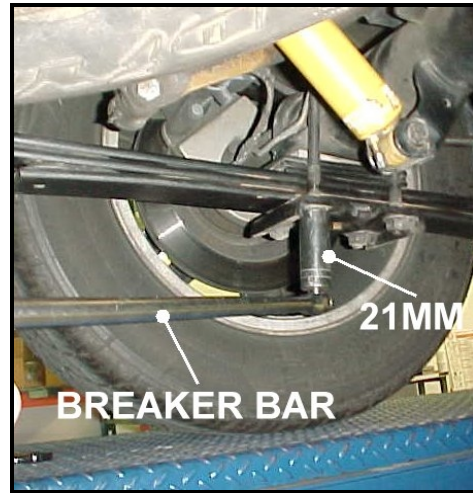
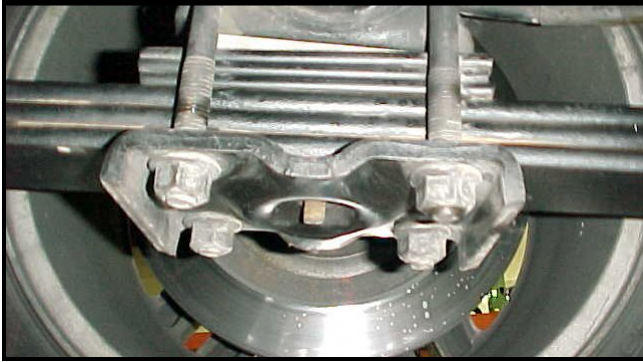
- 8) Lift the Hotchkis springs into the vehicle. The springs should be stamped to indicate the front and rear ends of the springs. The end towards the front curls upward to capture the bushing and the rear end of the spring is curled downward. Use the stock hardware to mount the springs. Leave the hardware loose for easier assembly and do not tighten until instructed to do so.



- 9) Line up the axle so that the spring perch is resting on the pin in the topside of the leaf spring. Slide the stock u-bolts over the top of the axle. Replace the retainer plate under the springs and start the nuts onto the ends of the u-bolts. Use a 21mm socket or wrench to tighten the nuts.

Tighten the nuts evenly! *If you tighten one side more than the other the u-bolt will sit unevenly and leave you with less thread for the opposite nut.*

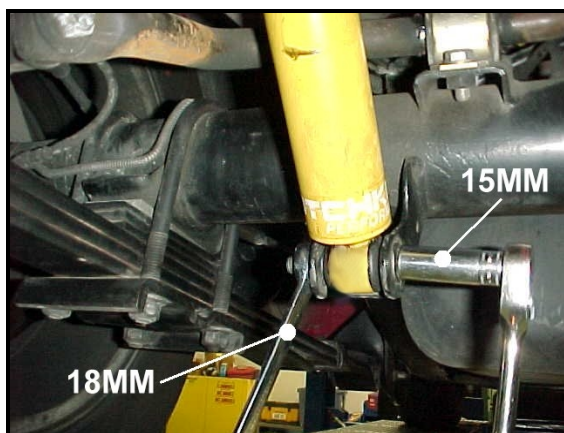
SPRING PACKS AT THE LOWEST VEHICLE RIDE HEIGHT SPACING (FOUR SPACER PADS) WILL REQUIRE THAT THE NUTS BE TIGHTENED UNTIL 1-2 THREADS SHOW PAST THE NUT



Hotchkis springs are designed to fit using the stock u-bolts. You will not need to purchase or fabricate new u-bolts to install the springs. *If using all four spacer pads, it may be necessary to use a breaker bar to tighten the nuts.* The u-bolts are tough enough to sustain the extra torque required to install the nuts.



- 10) Re-attach the bottom of each shock to the axle using the stock hardware. Use a 15mm and 18mm wrench or socket to torque the hardware to 50ft/lbs.



- 11) Use the jack to remove the jack stands and lower the vehicle to the ground. With the vehicle on the ground you can now tighten the leaf spring mounting bolts. Torque the hardware to 100ft/lbs.
- 12) Check all hardware for tightness and you're finished with the installation. Re-check the hardware after the first 5 miles.



HORSEPOWER FOR YOUR SUSPENSION

97-UP Dakota Sport Leaf Springs 2WD EXT/Quad Cab, Parts Lists P/N 2406

	Hotchkis P/N	Item Description	Quantity Per Kit
1	24910076	Leaf Spring, 97+ Dakota 2WD EXT/Quad Cab	2
2	T2223	Bump Stop, 97+ Dakota/Durango	2
Items Not Shown			
3	n/a	Instruction Set	1







HOTCHKIS PERFORMANCE WARRANTY POLICY

Effective January 1, 2000. Supersedes all previous policy statements. Policies are subject to change without notice. Hotchkis Performance is not responsible for printing errors.

If you purchased your Hotchkis Performance product from an authorized dealer, you are covered by the terms of this policy. All claims however, must be submitted **THROUGH YOUR DEALER** not to **Hotchkis Performance** directly.

Return Policy:

We want you to be completely satisfied with your Hotchkis Performance product. In case you're not, you can exchange or return it within 30 days of the purchase date. To obtain a full refund, excluding freight, please contact our Customer Service Department at (562) 907-7757. You will be assigned a Returned Goods Authorization Number (RGA). The package you return must show the RGA on the outside of the package, include the original invoice and be shipped prepaid to our facility. The part has to be in its original packaging materials and be in a sellable condition. For parts presenting signs of use, only warranty claims will be accepted. Exchanges or refunds can be made after 30 days with a 20% restocking charge.

Warranty Claim:

Hotchkis Performance warrants its products against materials and workmanship failure for the term of 36 months (3 year) from the date of purchase and only up to the amount paid. If the product is determined to be defective, Hotchkis Performance will repair, replace or refund its value at Hotchkis Performance's discretion. Any repaired or replaced product will be returned to the sender freight prepaid.

How to File a Warranty Claim:

The answer to **ALL** the following questions should be **YES** before contacting our Customer Service Department.

- Is the part appropriate to your application?
- Did you carefully and thoroughly read the instructions provided along with the part?
- Do you have the proof of purchase?
- Are you the original purchaser?
- Is the part unmodified and clean?
- Is the return date within 36 months from the purchase date?
- Is the reason for return a legitimate product defect?

If the answer to all these questions is YES, please contact our Customer Service Department at (562) 907-7757. You will be given a Returned Goods Authorization Number (RGA) valid for 60 days. You will also be asked to ship the part prepaid to our facility. All shipments MUST be prepaid, include the original invoice and show the RGA on the outside of the package, otherwise it will be refused. Please include a brief explanation letter in order to expedite the warranty analysis process.

What doesn't this Warranty Cover?

The costs not covered by this warranty include but are not limited to:

- Removal, installation, shipment and insurance costs.
- Improper installation or maintenance.
- Misuse or abuse, negligence, off-road and/or racing applications.
- Damage to related components.
- Normal wear and tear.
- Costs incurred due to down time of vehicle.
- Alterations on the original design or unauthorized repairs.

Items offered but not manufactured by Hotchkis Performance are warranted according to the manufacturers terms and are not the responsibility of Hotchkis Performance.

All warranties implied by law are limited in duration of this warranty. You have specific rights that may vary from state to state.

12035 BURKE ST. SUITE 13 SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670

PHONE: (562) 907-7757 FAX: (562) 907-7765



HORSEPOWER FOR YOUR SUSPENSION

RETURN THIS FORM FOR A FREE 9" DIE CUT STICKER!

Thank you for purchasing our products.

Our goal is to supply you with the highest quality, and the most thoroughly tested performance products available.
To assist us in continuing to do this, please take a moment to fill out and return this questionnaire.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Year, make and model, car/truck: _____

What parts did you purchase? _____

Where did you purchase them? _____

Were you satisfied with this transaction? Y N

(If not, why?) _____

• **WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE FOLLOWING?**

Fabrication and finish: _____

Instructions and ease of installation: _____

Performance improvement: _____

(If not, why?) _____

What other products would you like to see us make? _____

Have you read about our products on the Internet? Y N

(If so, where?) _____

Where have you seen our products?

(i.e. magazines/shows/catalogs) _____

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