



Kooks Custom Headers

1997-2004 C5 Corvette installation instructions

Do not attempt this installation if proper safety equipment isn't available to you. Seek the assistance of a professional installer.

Kooks C5 headers install from the top of the vehicle. Raising and securing the vehicle with jack stands is a must if a lift is not available.

To install this system you will need a general assortment of hand tools. But you will also want to have on hand the following, oil filter removal tool, and drain pan, four jack stands, one hydraulic jack, a gasket scraper, anti seize, WD-40, surgical gloves, and safety glasses.

It's a good idea to spray the WD-40 to help loosen the connections and fasteners at this time. While the lube is doing its job, we can start the installation.

#1—Disconnect the negative battery terminal.

#2—Remove the plastic engine covers and the coil pack assemblies with spark plug wires.

#3—Remove spark plugs, and the alternator.

#4—Disconnect the air filter assembly from the engine.

#5—Disconnect the steering shaft at the rack.

#6—Raise the vehicle, and secure with jack stands. The vehicle will need to be 24 inches off the ground.

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- #7—Unplug front and rear oxygen sensors, but remove only the rears at this time. Also disconnect the AIR tube connections on the exhaust manifolds.
- #8—Remove the starter, and disconnect the coolant temperature sender unit located in front of the number one exhaust port, drivers side cylinder head.
- #9—Carefully remove the oil filter from the motor and disconnect the oil sender just above oil filter.
- #10—Remove the manifolds and the complete exhaust system. *If being reused, the cat back system will need to be modified as explained below* If you are replacing the complete exhaust system, remove the two nuts that hold the connection pipes in place. They are located just forward of the flange of the connection pipes. You can then remove the two front oxygen sensors.
- #11—With care, inspect and clean the exhaust port surfaces using a gasket scraper. Use care the heads are aluminum.
- #12—Both left and right headers install from the top. The engine needs to be raised. One side at a time! Also keep the opposite side motor mount bolt loose. When raising the engine to install the header, raise the engine as high as possible. On the driver's side, remove the two ground wires from the block. Also remove the male and female rear oxygen sensor connections from one another, and pop out the retaining clip that holds the sensor to the chassis allowing the connections to hang down, not to be in the way as the header is lowered into place.
The driver's side, it may require some prying of the engine to one side in order to allow the header to slide in.

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#13—Install the passenger side header, but do not secure it to the cylinder head until you install the starter first.

#14—**Coat the threads of the oxygen sensors** with anti-seize and install them into the **Kooks** headers. Then install the headers and gaskets with high temp silicone. Install the AIR tube fittings, then tighten completely. Lower the engine back into place.

#15—Reinstall all items previously removed. The steering shaft, spark plugs and wires, air filter assembly, the engine covers, coil pack assemblies, and the reconnecting of the battery.

Please note: Take extra care with all wiring, A/C hosing, fuel and brake lines, to see that there is clearance around the headers.

If you are using your factory catalytic converters. The inlet pipes on both converters will need to be cut at the weld. New inlet pipes will need to be positioned between the headers and the cat's. Then they will need to be welded to the cat's

You have just installed the finest exhaust system you can by, enjoy it
Thank you for your purchase, we appreciate your business

Important note: All air fittings installed on C5 headers are made to be used. If fittings are no longer needed, we highly recommend the orifice be welded shut, and the fittings removed. Due to vibration we've discovered that the use of block off plates can cause welded fittings to fail. We highly discourage their use.

**If additional assistance is needed, please contact Kooks Custom Headers
Toll free at 1-866-586-KOOK or contact your dealer**

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