



1997-2001 Honda CRV2WD/4WD 1" subframe kit installation guide

Professional installation is recommended

FOR OFF-ROAD USE ONLY!

IMPORTANT!

Lifting and modifying the suspension on your vehicle may result in drive line vibrations, damaged bushings, erratic handling characteristics, and shortened suspension component life. HRG Offroad recommends the following:

- Checking and/or replacing worn drive axles with new parts, not remanufactured.
- Checking and/or replacing all worn factory rubber bushings with urethane bushings, such as Prothane.
- Checking and/or replacing worn shock absorbers and bump stops.
- Performing a 4 wheel alignment after working on suspension components.

Lift kits may not be legal for use on public highways in your area. Please check local laws before installing!!

WARNING!

Lifted vehicles are more prone to rolling over.

Some HRG Offroad products are designed to improve off-road capabilities. Modifying the suspension of your vehicle may result in handling characteristics that are different from a factory equipped vehicle. Extreme care must be used to prevent a rollover or loss of control. Always operate your modified vehicle at a reduced speed to ensure your ability to maintain control under all driving conditions. Driving your vehicle in an unsafe manner may result in serious injury or death. HRG Offroad lift kits are designed and tested to work together. HRG Offroad does not recommend combining this lift kit with any other type of suspension or body lift. Always wear your seat belt.

Included in the kit:

- 4 1.25x1" M12 spacers (rear subframe)
- 4 1.25x1.5" M12 spacers (rear trailing arms)
- 5 1.25x1" M12 spacers (engine/transmission)
- 2 2.75x1" M10 spacers for rear differential (4WD kit)
- 2 1x1" M10 spacers (propeller shaft) (4WD kit)
- 2 1" "H" spacers (front torque mounts)
- 8 1.25x1" M14 spacers (main subframe)
- 2 .75x1 M8 spacers (driveshaft safety loop) (4WD kit)
- 4 M10x50mm bolts (torque mounts)
- 2 M10x50mm bolts (propeller shaft) (4WD kit)
- 4 M14x125mm bolts (main subframe)
- 4 M14x135mm bolts (main subframe)
- 4 M12x90mm bolts (trailing arms)
- 4 M12x110mm bolts (rear subframe)
- 3 M12x45mm bolts (manual transmission only)

- 2 M12x70mm bolts (auto transmission only)
- 2 M12x50mm bolts (engine)
- 2 M8x40mm bolts (driveshaft safety loops) (4WD kit)
- 2 Rear brake line relocation brackets
- 1 1 inch steering shaft extension

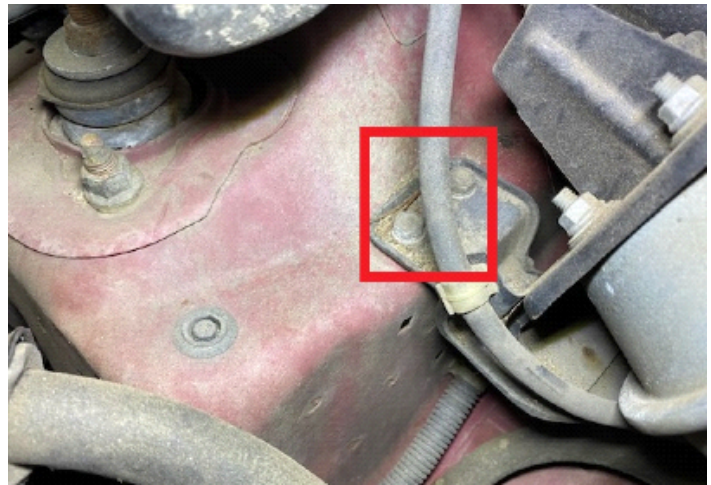
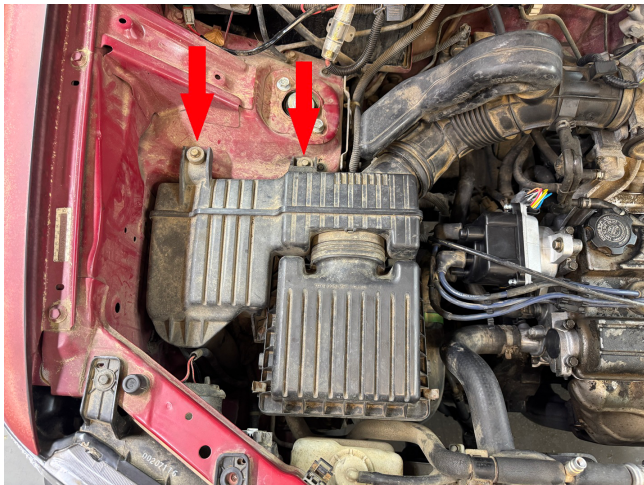
Tools required: Floor jack, lug wrench, 10mm socket, 12mm socket, 14mm socket, 17mm socket and wrench, 19mm socket, impact wrench, torque wrench and paint pen.

Installation time: 4-5 hours

Skill level: Moderate (some cutting required)

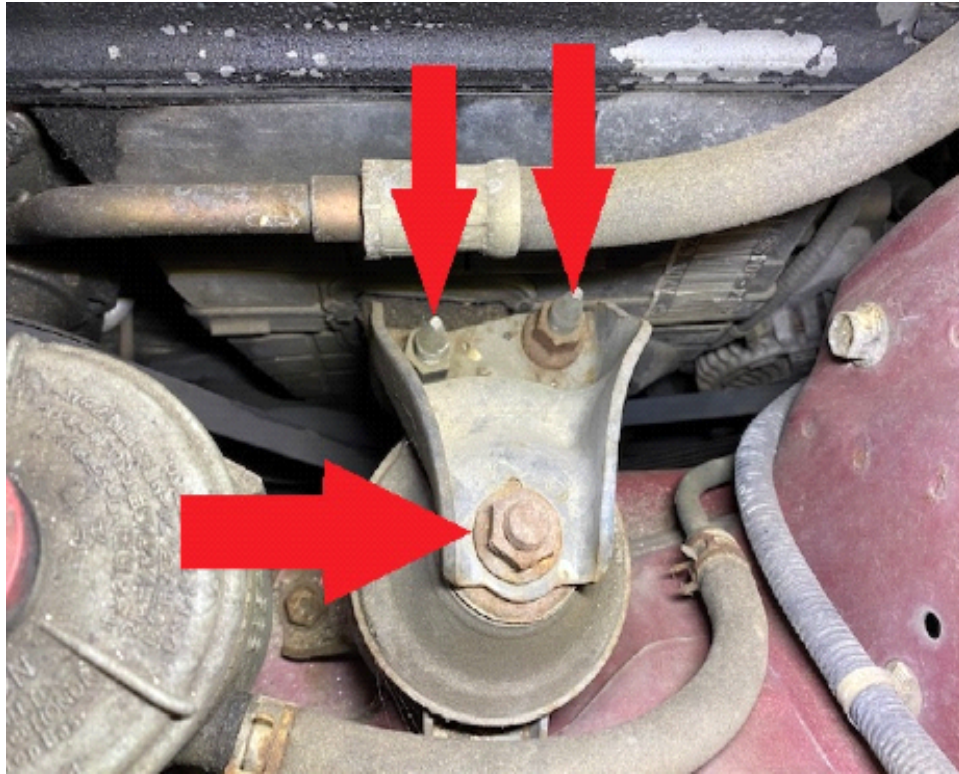
Front installation:

Step 1. Remove factory air box (if applicable) and cruise control module (if applicable)



Step 2. Support engine/transmission with a floor jack and a square of plywood.

Step 3. Remove 3 17mm nuts, remove upper engine mounting bracket.



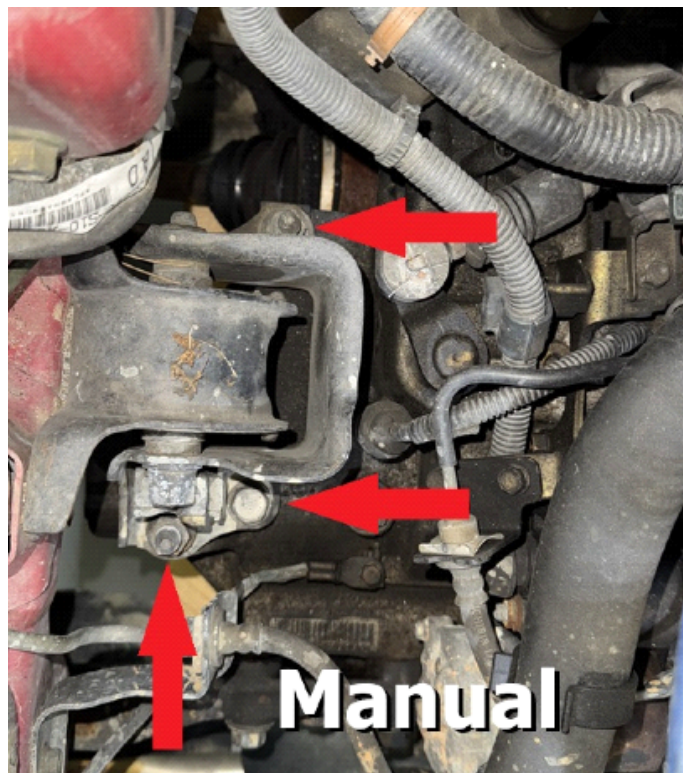
Step 4. Remove stud(s) from engine block bracket. This can be done by tightening 2 17mm nuts against each other and backing the stud out of the bracket.



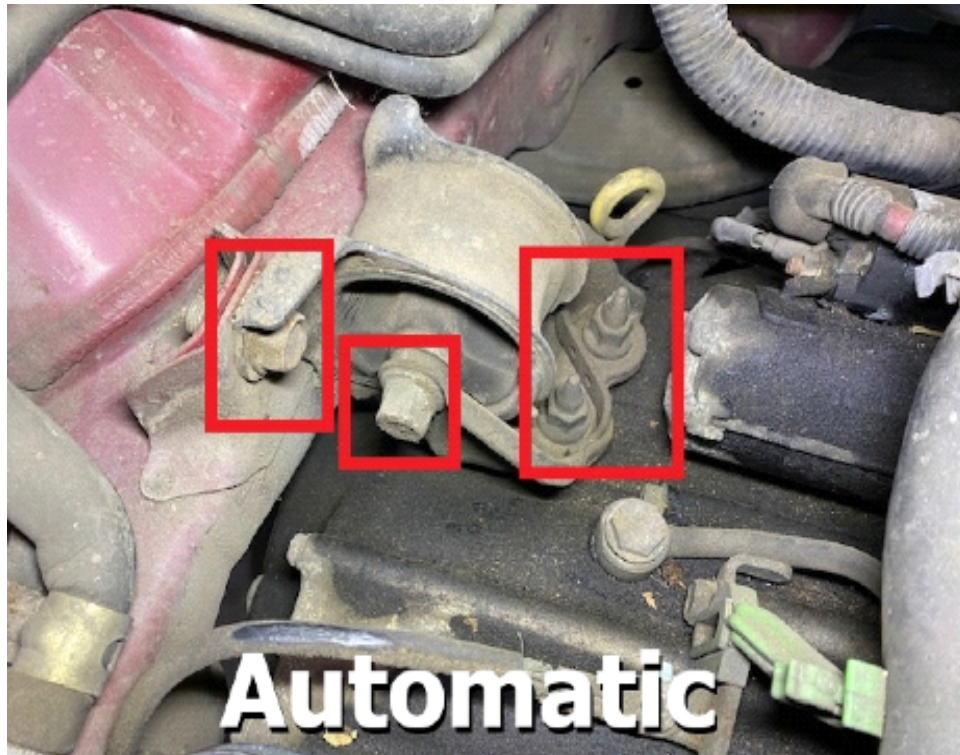
Step 5 Reinstall engine mounting bracket and temporarily install 2 M12x50 bolts in place of engine studs.



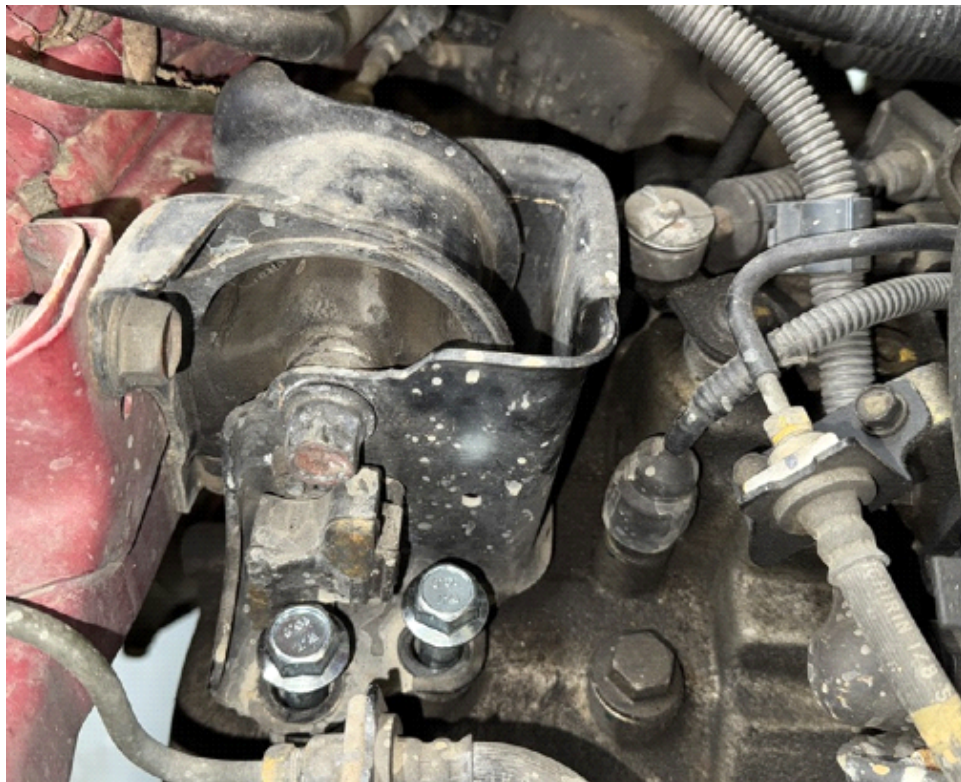
Step 6a. (Manual transmission) Remove transmission mounting bracket and remove studs from transmission case using same technique as removing engine studs. Do not remove transmission mount from frame rail.



Step 6b. (Automatic transmission) Remove transmission mounting bracket AND transmission mount from frame rail. Remove studs from transmission using same technique as removing engine studs.



Step 7a. (Manual transmission) Reinstall transmission bracket and temporarily install 3 M12x45 bolts.



Step 7b. (Automatic transmission) Reinstall transmission bracket and transmission mount. Temporarily install 2 M12x70 bolts.

Step 8. Rotate the steering wheel as needed to access bolts holding steering shaft universal joint. Remove 2 10mm bolts in steering shaft universal joint coupler. Save mounting bolts! (The steering coupler will disconnect in a later step)

Step 9. Turn the wheels straight and secure the steering wheel by passing the seat belt through it as shown.

NOTE: Failure to secure the steering wheel can result in damage to air bag ribbon cable!



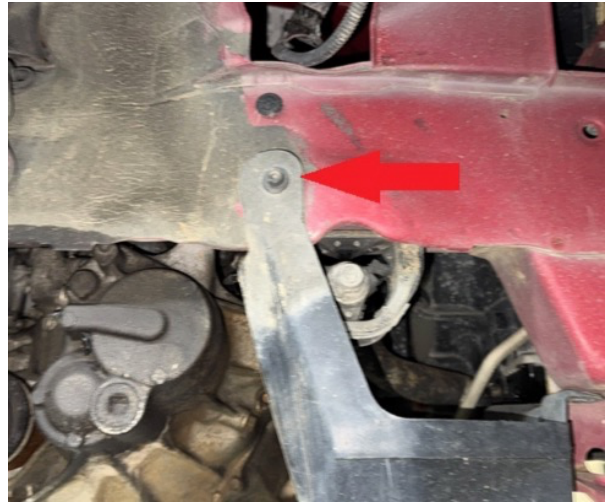
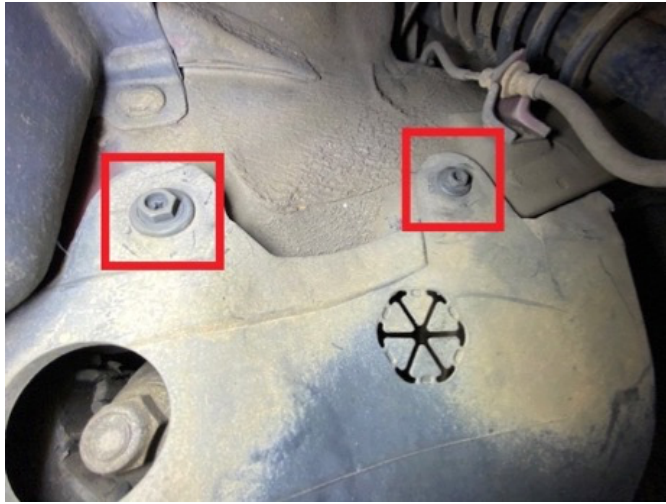
Step 10. Lower jack supporting engine until engine is supported by bolts temporarily installed in previous steps.

Step 11. Lift vehicle and support with jack stands.

Step 12. Remove wheels.

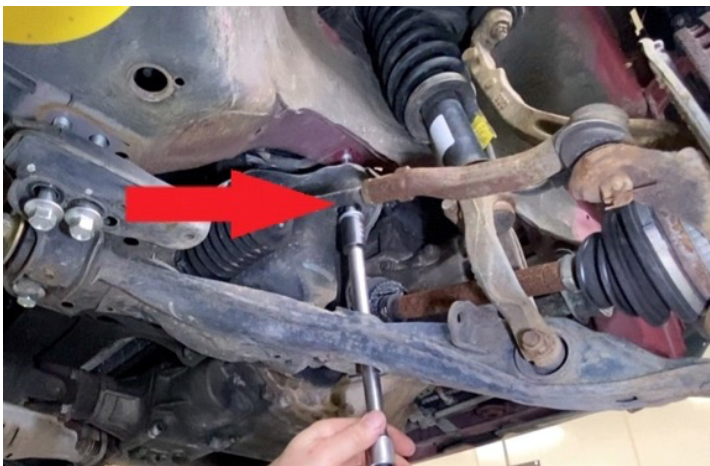
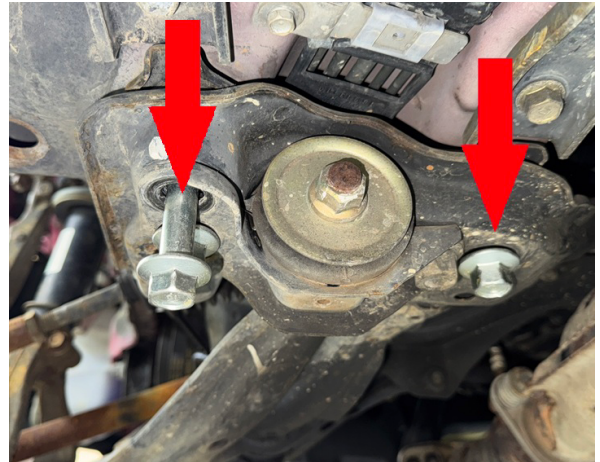
Step 13. Remove plastic splash shield and bar from under front bumper (if applicable)





Step 14. Support subframe with floor jack or safety jack. Remove main subframe bolts one at a time and replace them with the M14x125 bolts included with the kit. Thread the bolts in so that the subframe can drop approximately one inch. Do not install subframe spacers at this time.

Caution: Do not remove all of the subframe bolts at once!



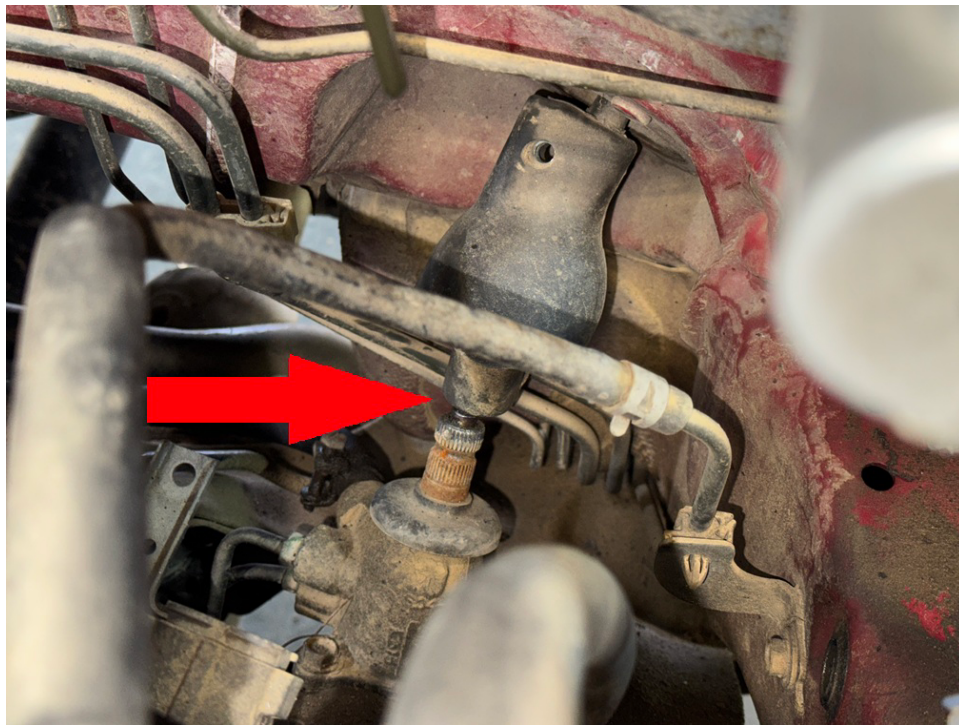
Step 15. Carefully lower subframe and engine approximately one inch.

Step 16. Remove 14mm bolts holding torque mounts.

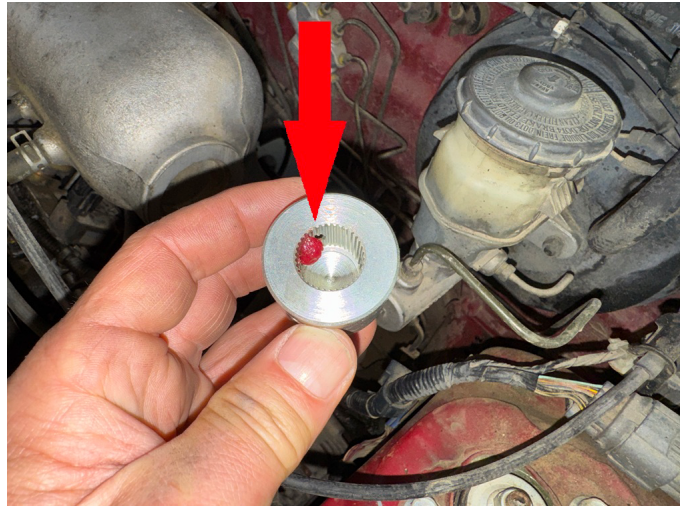
Step 17. Place 2 1" "H" spacers between torque mounts and frame rail and install 4 M10x50 bolts in torque mounts. Torque bolts to 35 ft-lb.



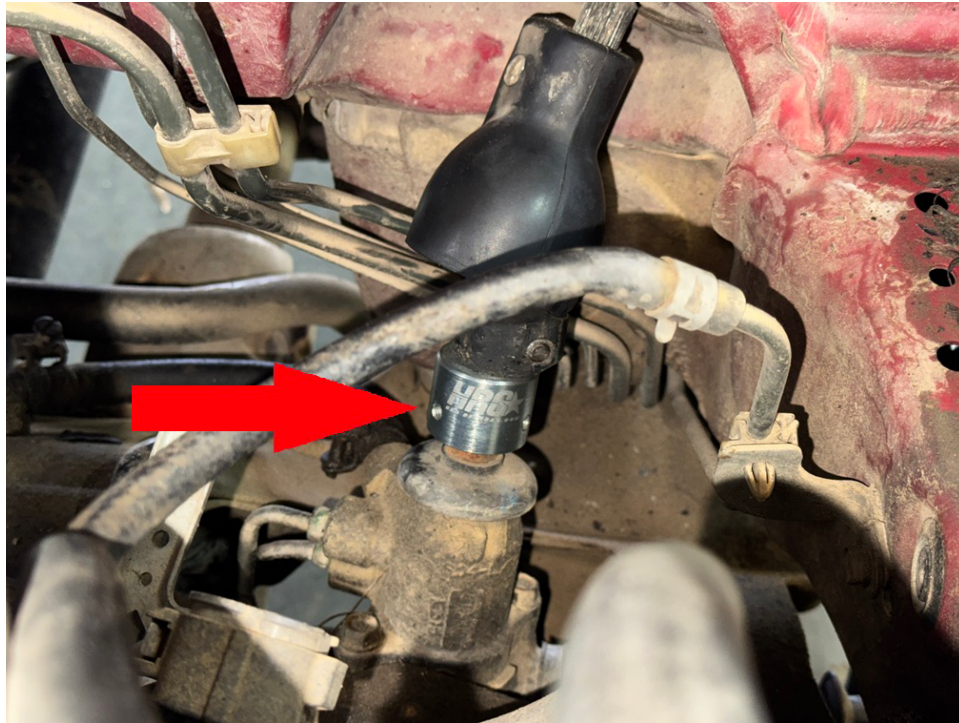
Step 18. Disconnect steering coupler from steering rack.



Step 19. Loosely install set screws into steering shaft extension using a 6mm hex key. Spread heavy grease on both male and female ends of extension.



Step 20. Install steering shaft extension onto steering shaft. Push the OEM coupler up as far as it will go to allow room to slide over the extension. You may need to lower the subframe some more to get it on.

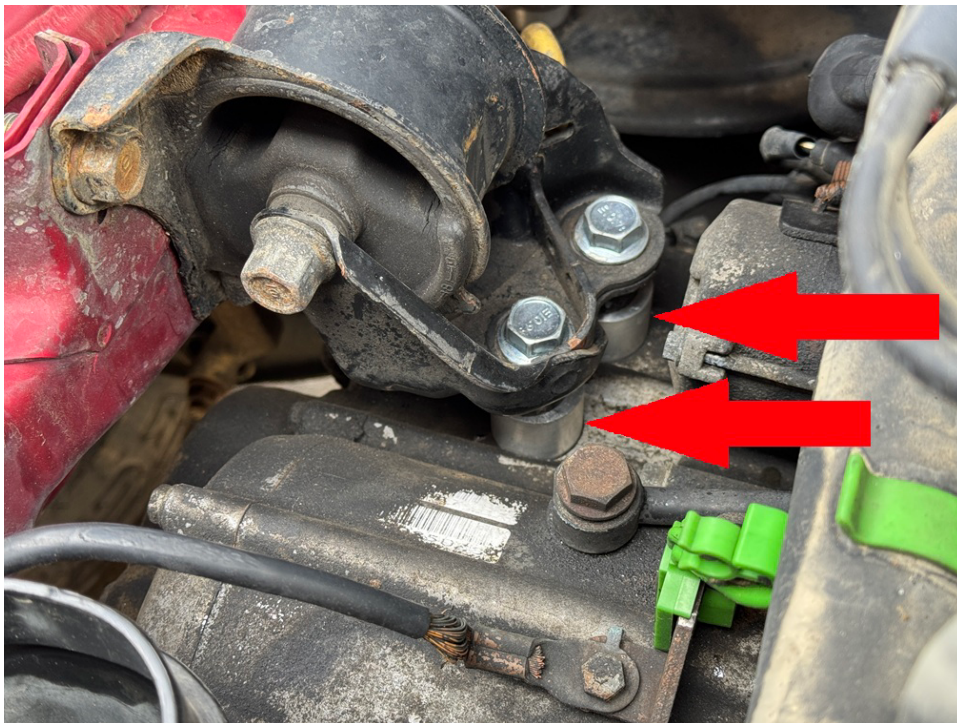


Step 21. Release seat belt holding steering wheel, and rotate wheel as needed to allow access to the lower steering coupler bolt and extension set screws. Tighten bolt and screws. **DO NOT TIGHTEN** upper bolt on the OEM steering coupler until all the subframe bolts are tightened in a later step.

Step 22. Install 2 1.25x1 M12 spacers between engine bracket and mount. Reinstall engine mount using 2 M12x50mm bolts. Torque to 60 ft-lb.

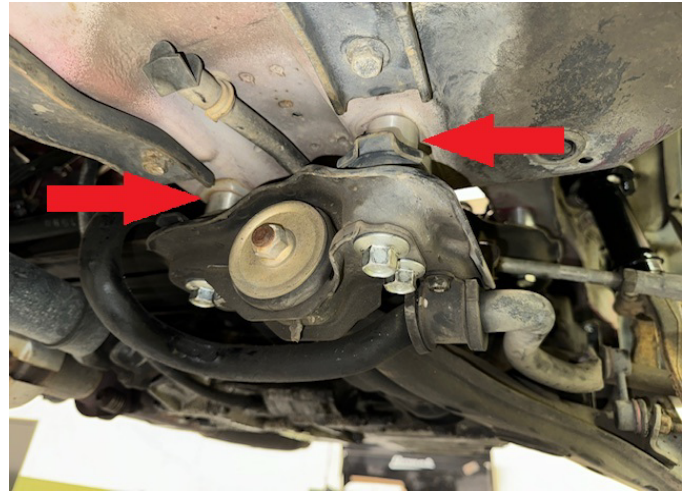
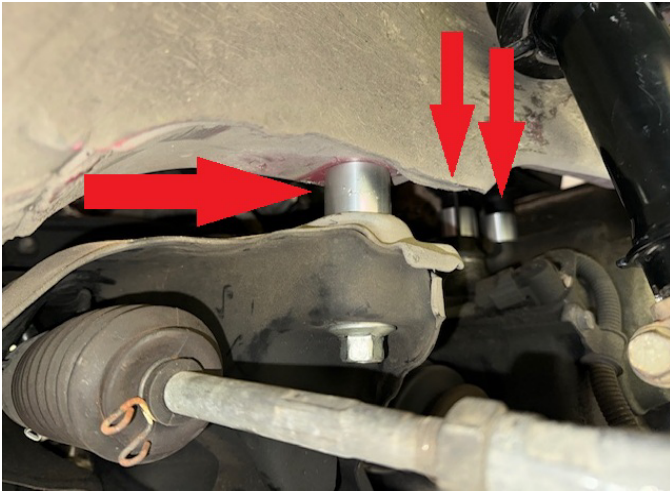


Step 23a. For **automatic** RT4WD and 2WD transmissions: install 2 1.25x1" M12 spacers between transmission bracket and transmission, permanently install 2 M12X70 bolts. Torque to 60 ft-lb.



Step 23b. For **manual** RT4WD and 2WD transmissions: Install 3 1.25x1" M12 spacers between transmission bracket and transmission, permanently install 3 M12x45 bolts. Torque to 60 ft-lb.

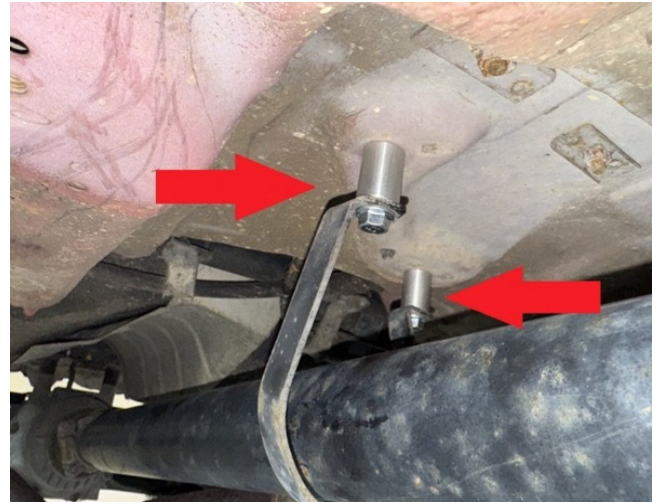
Step 24. Remove M14 bolts temporarily installed in subframe and place 1.25x1" M14 spacers between subframe and body one at a time, removing and reinstalling bolts as you go. Torque bolts to 110 ft-lb.



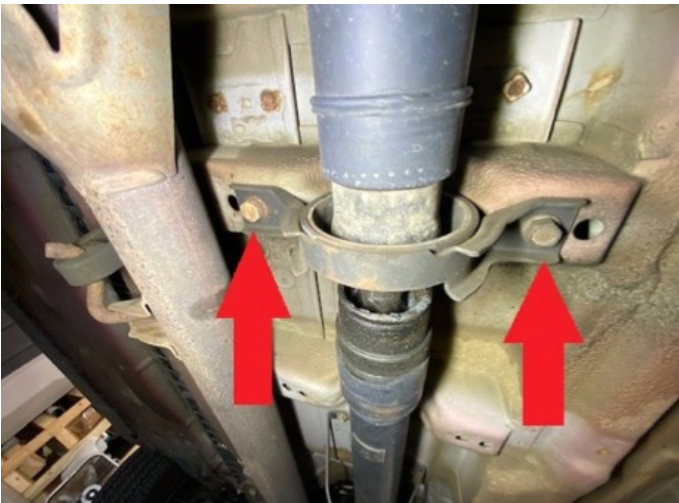
Step 25. Rotate steering wheel back and forth a few times to ensure nothing is binding. Tighten top bolt on steering universal coupler.



Step 26. Remove 4 12mm bolts holding driveshaft safety loops to body. Install 4 0.75x1" spacers and M8x40 bolts as shown.



Step 27. Support propeller shaft aka drive shaft with floor jack, carefully remove 2 bolts holding center carrier bearing on propeller shaft, install 2 1x1" spacers and 2 M10x50mm bolts.



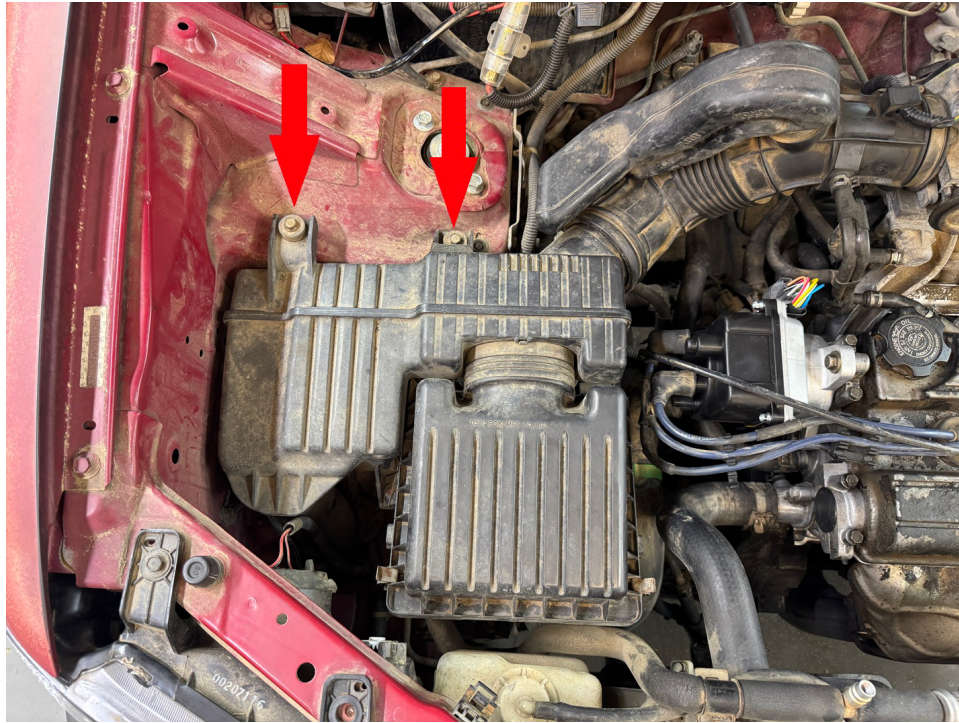
Step 28. Using a pry bar, bend loops to clear driveshaft if necessary to clear driveshaft.



Step 27. Remove rubber exhaust pipe hanger next to carrier bearing and replace with extended hanger provided in the kit.



Step 26. Reinstall air box and cruise control module.



Step 27. Modify plastic splash shield under bumper as needed to clear the lowered subframe.

Step 28. Reinstall front wheels.

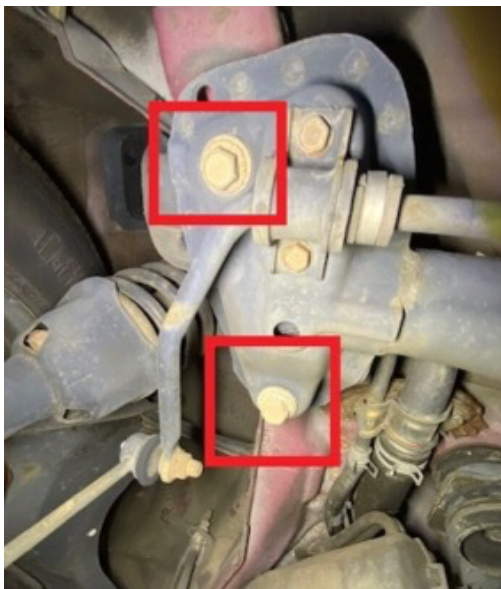
Rear installation:

Step 1. Lift vehicle and support with jack stands.

Step 2. Remove wheels.

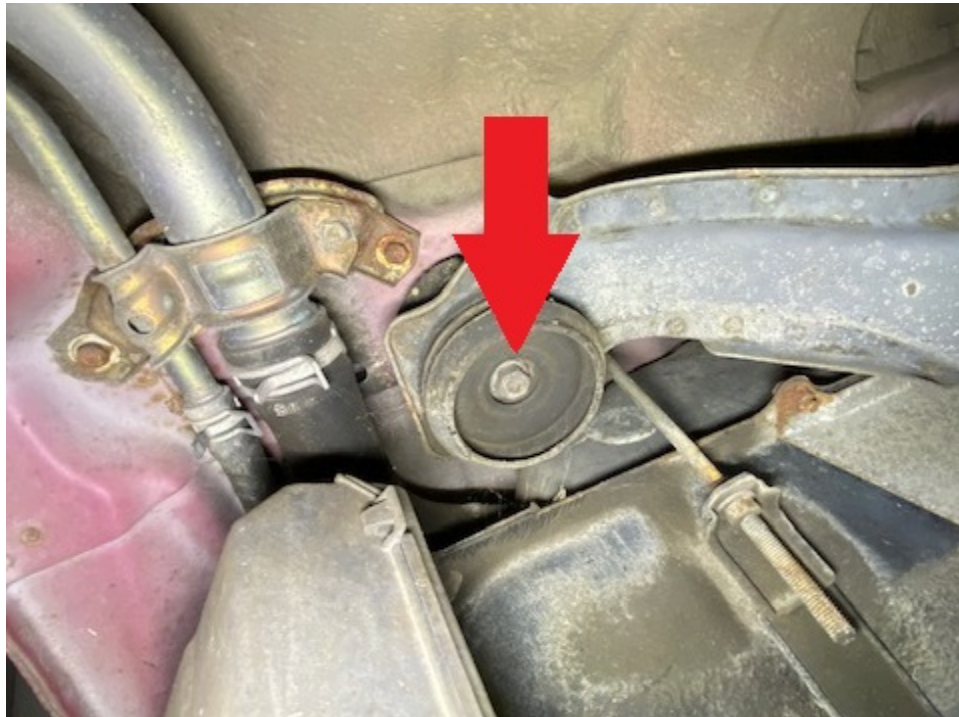
Step 3. Support rear subframe with floor jack.

Step 4. Remove 4 17mm bolts holding rear subframe to chassis one at a time and temporarily install new M12x110 bolts included in the kit, allowing the subframe to drop approximately one inch. (see photo)



Step 5. **(4WD only)** Support rear differential with floor jack.

Step 6. Remove 14mm bolts holding rear differential support bracket to body, carefully lower rear differential about one inch. Save bolts.



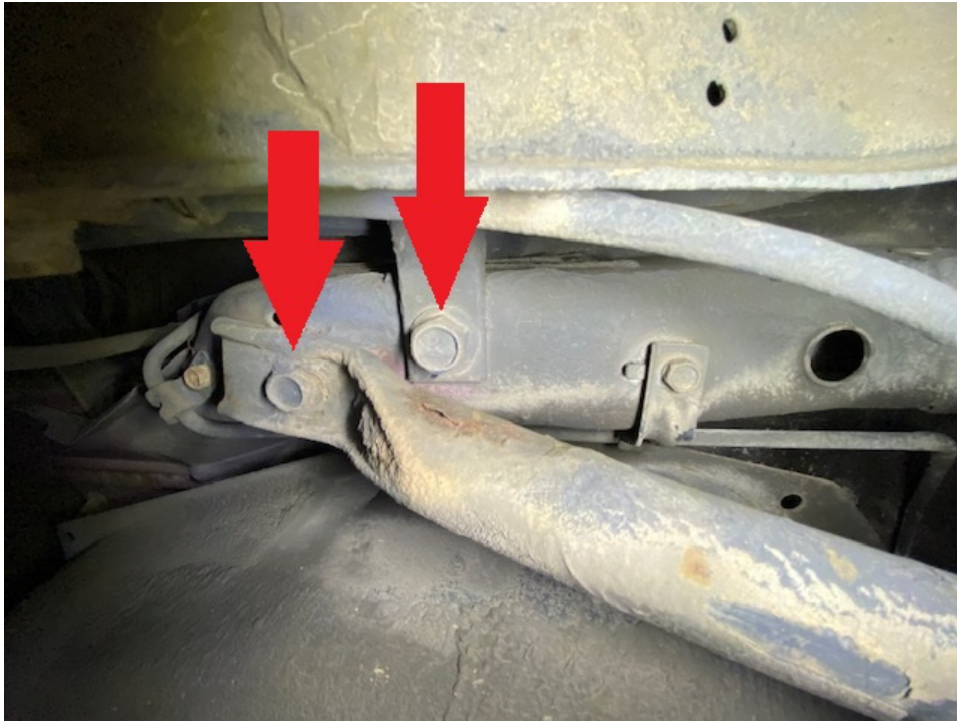
Step 7. Install 2 2.75x1" M10 spacers between rear differential support bracket and chassis. Re-install OEM bolts.



Step 8. Install 4 1.25x1" M12 spacers between rear subframe and chassis using M12x110 bolts. Install new bolts one by one to maintain alignment of subframe.

Step 9. Remove 10mm bolt in driver side chassis brace. (98-01 ONLY) (see photo below)

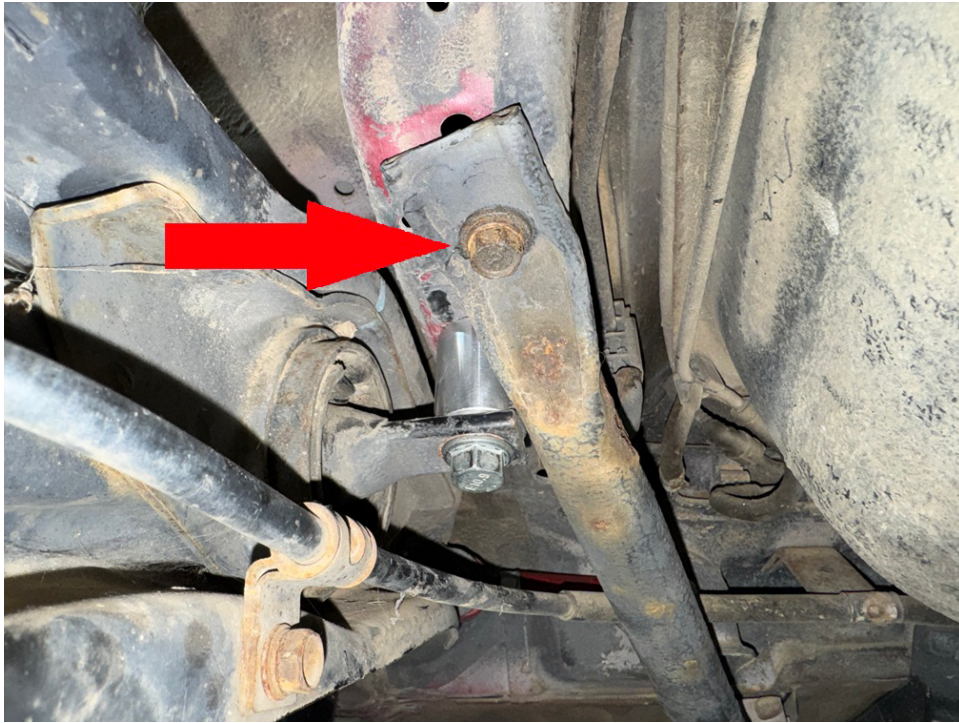
Step 10. Loosen but do not completely remove 2 17mm bolts in rear trailing arm to frame.



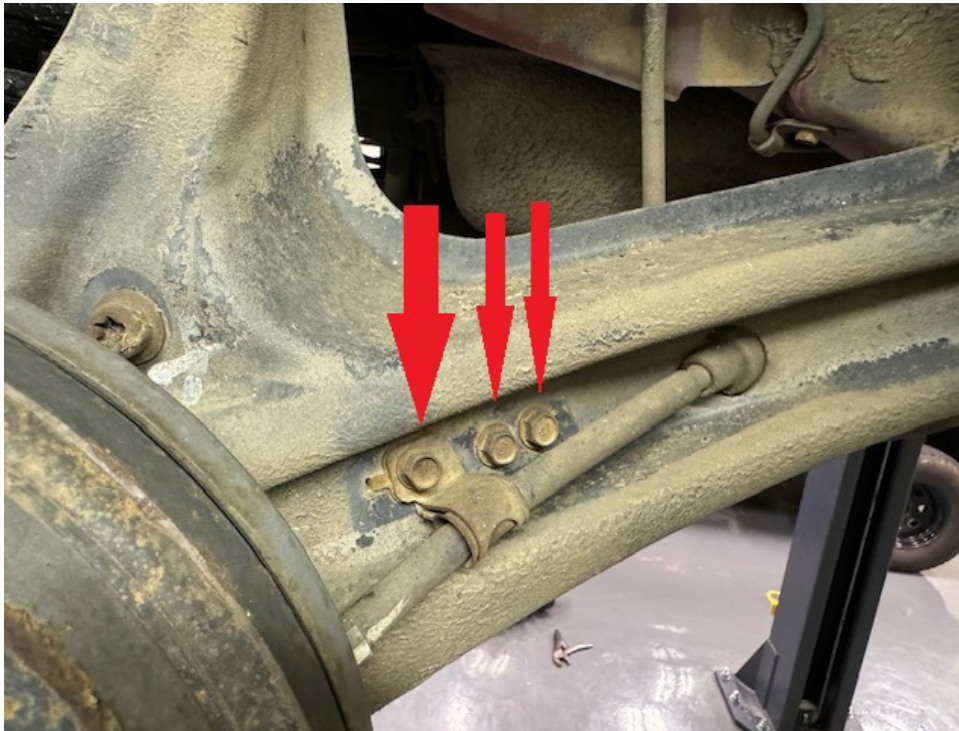
Step 11. Install 1.25x1.5" M12 spacers and M12x90mm bolts one at a time in rear trailing arm to frame.



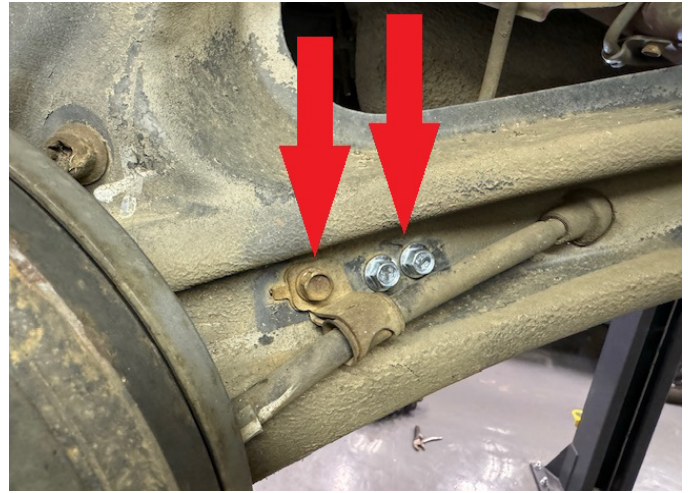
Step 12. Reinstall 10mm bolt holding chassis brace to frame.



Step 13. Remove bolts holding brake line mount and parking brake mount to trailing arm.



Step 14. Install brake line bracket as shown: (if bracket appears to be backward, flip it over)



Step 15. Repeat installation process for passenger side

Step 16. Using a torque wrench, double check all bolts and mark bolts with paint pen that have been double checked.

Step 17. Reinstall wheels.

Step 18. Get a professional alignment.

Note: Installing subframe spacers will change the suspension geometry and will require a 4 wheel alignment.

Warning: Failure to follow the procedures in these installation instructions may result in unsafe handling characteristics, damage to vehicle, or loss of control.

For tech support, please call 1-844- HRG LIFT (474-5438) from 8-4:30 PM EST Mon-Thu 8-3:30 PM Fri or email us 24/7 at support@hrgoffroad.com.

This product is intended for off-road use only!!

Copyright HRG Offroad 2026

