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Rough Country 48030 Installation Instructions

4-Inch Lift Kit with N3 Shocks for 1983–1997 Ford Ranger 4WD

Part number: 48030

trailfortress.com/rough-country-4-inch-lift-kit-48030

Scan for fitment, price and install help



83-97 FORD RANGER, BRONCO II 4” KIT

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for all your suspension needs.

Rough Country recommends a certified technician install this system. In addition to these instructions, professional knowledge of disassemble/reassembly procedures as well as post installation checks must be known. Attempts to install this system without this knowledge and expertise may jeopardize the integrity and/or operating safety of the vehicle.

Please read instructions before beginning installation. Check the kit hardware against the parts list on this page. Be sure you have all needed parts and know where they go. Also please review tools needed list and make sure you have needed tools. Always wear safety glasses.

PRODUCT USE INFORMATION

As a general rule, the taller a vehicle is, the easier it will roll. We strongly recommend, because of rollover possibility, that the vehicle be equipped with a functional roll-bar and cage system. Seat belts and shoulder harnesses should be worn at all times. Avoid situations where a side rollover may occur.

Generally, braking performance and capability are decreased when larger/heavier tires and wheels are used. Take this into consideration while driving. Do not add, alter, or fabricate any factory or after-market parts to increase vehicle height over the intended height of the Rough Country product purchased. Mixing component brands is not recommended.

Rough Country makes no claims regarding lifting devices and excludes any and all implied claims. We will not be responsible for any product that is altered.

Due to inconsistency of vehicles when manufactures and various options available, the amount of actual lift gained by this lift kit could vary.

This suspension system was developed using a 32x11.50x15 tire with factory wheels. Aftermarket wheels will fit with 3 5/16” back spacing. Larger tire and wheel combinations may increase leverage on suspension, steering, and related components. Consider the additional stress you could be adding on the OE components, when selecting combinations larger than OE.

NOTICE TO DEALER AND VEHICLE OWNER

Any vehicle equipped with any Rough Country product should have a “Warning to Driver” decal installed on the inside of the windshield or on the vehicle’s dash. The decal should act as a constant reminder for whoever is operating the vehicle of its unique handling characteristics.

INSTALLING DEALER - it is your responsibility to install the warning decal and forward these installation instructions on to the vehicle owner for review. These instructions should be kept in the vehicle for its service.

Kit Contents

7540 Installation Kit Containing:
- 1-Driver Side Drop Bracket
- 1-Passengers Side Drop Bracket
- 1-Driver Side Radius Arm Drop Bracket
- 1-Passenger Side Radius Arm Drop Bracket
- 2-Bump Stop Drop Bracket
- **1-Kit Bag Containing:**
  - 17– 7/16”-1 1/4” bolts, & nuts
  - 27– 7/16” washers
  - 8– 7/16”
  - 2– 5/16”-1” bolts, washers and nuts
  - 4– 1/2”-1 1/4”, bolts, washers & nuts

9261 Coil Spring
6601 Pitman Arm (Power Steering)
6546 Block and U-Bolt Kit (Ranger)
7542 Block and U-Bolt Kit (Bronco II)
8120/9120 Front Shock
8111/9111 Rear Shock
1018 Sway Bar Drop (Bronco II Only)

Tools Needed

3/4” Deep Well Socket
1 1/8” Wrench
1 3/16” Wrench
3/4” Wrench
5/8” Wrench
18mm Wrench
19mm Wrench
21mm Wrench
1/2” Wrench
7/8” Socket
11/16” Socket

Torque Specs

Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
5/16”	15 ft/lbs	20 ft/lbs
3/8”	30 ft/lbs	35 ft/lbs
7/16”	45 ft/lbs	60 ft/lbs
1/2”	65 ft/lbs	90 ft/lbs
9/16”	95 ft/lbs	130 ft/lbs
5/8”	135 ft/lbs	175 ft/lbs
3/4”	185 ft/lbs	280 ft/lbs

FRONT INSTALLTION

1. Raise front of vehicle and place jack stands behind radius arm pivot points. Block rear tires. Remove wheels and tires , using a 3/4" deep well socket.
2. Using a 18mm socket remove bottom shock bolt on both sides. **Do not** remove the shock completely. Leave the shock attached at the top. **See Photo 1.**
3. Using a 18mm socket unbolt the sway bar link. Retain factory hardware. **See Photo 2.**
4. Remove spring retaining nut and washer, both sides, using a 1 1/8"wrench. **See Photo 3.**

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



5. Remove the factory coil springs.
6. Begin on passenger side by removing the axle pivot bracket for the driver side axle using a 21mm socket. Retain stock hardware for re-use. **See Photo 4.**
7. Slide the new drop bracket into the original mounting point. Use the stock hardware to bolt bracket into place. **See Photo 5.**
8. Reinstall the original pivot bolt.
9. Using a 21mm wrench, remove the nut from the drag link that attaches to the pitman arm. Separate drag link from pitman arm using a puller tool. **See Photo 6.**

Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



10. On the driver side of the truck, remove the passenger side axle pivot bolt from pivot mount. Center punch and drill the 4 rivets out that hold the cast iron bracket to the cross-member. (Some trucks may have bolts instead of rivets)
11. Hold the replacement drop bracket on the inside of the cross member, opposite the original pivot mount. Start the four 7/16" x 1 1/4" bolts, washers and locknuts at this time. **See Photo 7 & 8.**
12. The Ford pivot mount will bolt to the four remaining holes in the Rough Country bracket. The axle will now bolt up to the new bracket instead of the cross-member**.**
13. Start the lower four bolts 7/16" x 1 1/4" bolts and locknuts. Tighten bolts using a 5/8" socket..
14. Reinstall the original axle bolt. Tighten bolt.

Photo 7

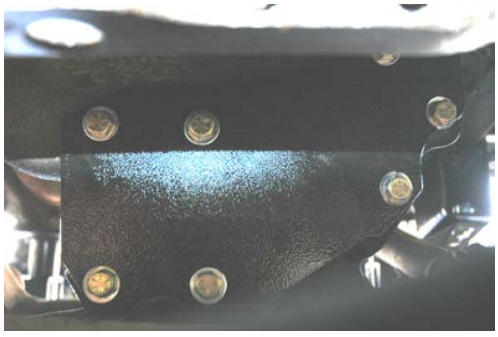


Photo 8



15. On the drivers side remove the two bolts that hold the cross member to the frame. **See Photo 9.**
16. Using a air hammer or center punch and drill the two rivets that hold the cross member to the frame. **See Photo 10.**
17. Repeat steps 15 and 16 on the passengers side.
18. Loosen the bolts that hold the cross member together. This will enable the cross member to be widened for the installation of the radius arm drop brackets. **See Photo 11.**

Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11



19. Install the radius arm drop bracket on the drivers side. Using the original hardware, bolt the top of the radius arm bracket to the top of the frame. It may be necessary to grind off the rivets that holds the radius arms to the frame. **See Photo 12.**
20. Install the upper 7/16” x 1 1/4” bolts on the top of the bracket. Tighten using a 5/8” wrench. **See Photo 13**
21. Bolt the stock radius arm bracket to the bottom of the rough country bracket using the 7/16” x 1 1/4” bolts, washers and nuts. Tighten using a 5/8” wrench. Install the two 1/2” x 1 1/2” bolt to the bottom of the stock radius arm bracket. **See Photo 14**
22. Repeat steps 21-23 on passengers side. Double check all fasteners installed to this point to ensure tightness.

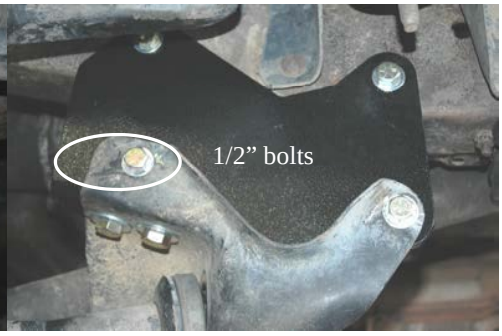
Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



24. Using a 12mm wrench, remove the stock rubber bump stop on both sides. Bolt the stock bump stop to spacers using the stock bolt, washers and nuts. Reinstall in factory location using the 5/16” x 1” bolt, washers and nuts. Tighten using a 1/2” wrench. **See Photo 15, & 16**. **This spacer must be installed to provide adequate clearance for the axle.**
25. Install new coil springs. Be sure to get coil springs in securely at the top by turning the coil as far to the right as possible. Place the coil washer and nut onto the bottom of the coil spring seats and tighten using a 1 1/8” wrench. **See Photo 17.**

Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17



27. Remove the pitman arm form the steering sector output shaft using a puller tool. Inspect the shaft splines for excessive ware, repair if needed. **See Photo 18**
28. Install new arm, lock washer and nut: torque to 170-230 ft. lbs. **See Photo 19.**
29. Reattach the drag link to the new arm using factory hardware. Tighten using a 21mm wrench.

Photo 18 **Photo 19** **Photo 20**



30. If installing this kit on a Bronco II, the front sway bar will have to be dropped using part # 1018.

REAR INSTALLATION

1. Use rear block kit part # 6546, for Ranger. Part # 7542 for Bronco II. These kits will level the vehicle.
2. Jack up the rear of the vehicle and remove the wheels and tires. Place the vehicle on jack stands. Position the jack stands directly in front of the spring hanger on the frame
3. Place a floor jack under the center of the axle and remove the stock u-bolts. Also remove the stock shock absorbers. Lower the axle away from the leaf springs to allow for installation of lift blocks
4. Install the blocks with the flat part of the block on the leaf springs and the narrow part of the block toward the center of the vehicle Do not forget to install the block pin in the block for proper positioning
5. Install the new u-bolts and tighten to 80-100 ft/lbs.
6. Install the new shock absorbers, using factory hardware
7. Reinstall tires and wheels. Jack up the rear of the vehicle and remove the jack stands.

POST INSTALLATION

1. Check all fasteners for proper torque. Test brake system.
2. Perform steering sweep. The distance between the tire sidewall and the brake hose must be checked closely. Failure to perform inspections may result in component failure.
3. Check clearance between the inner side wall of tires and links. It may be necessary to adjust steering stops.
4. Readjust headlights to proper settings.
5. Vehicle will have to have an alignment. Some vehicles may experience drive line vibrations. Angles may require tuning, shafts may need to be lengthened or trued, and u-joints may need to be replaced.
6. It is the ultimate buyers responsibility to have all bolts/nuts checked for tightness after the first 500 miles and then every 1000 miles. Wheel alignment steering system, suspension and driveline systems must be inspected by a qualified professional mechanic at least every 3000 miles.

KIT CONTENTS

