TRAIL FORTRESS

BUILT FOR THE TRAIL. CHECKED FOR YOUR TRUCK.

Rough Country 51027 Installation Instructions

3.5-Inch Lift Kit for 2021–2025 Ford Bronco 4WD

Part number: 51027

trailfortress.com/rough-country-3-5-inch-lift-kit-51027

Scan for fitment, price and install help

ROUGH COUNTRY
SUSPENSION SYSTEMS®

FORD 2021 Bronco 3.5” Lift Kit

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for all your vehicle 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. 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.
If question exist, please call us @1-800-222-7023. We will be happy to answer any questions concerning this product.
Check all fasteners for proper torque. Check to ensure for adequate clearance between all components.
Periodically check all hardware for tightness.

PRODUCT USE INFORMATION

⚠WARNING The taller a vehicle is, the easier it will roll. We strongly recommend, because of rollover possibility that seat belts and shoulder harnesses should be worn at all times. Avoid situations where a side rollover may occur.

⚠WARNING 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. If questions exist we will be happy to answer them concerning the design, function, and correct use of our products.

The suspension system was developed using a 35 x 12.5 tires with 17 x 8.5 wheel with 0mm offset. The lifts were designed to lift the front to level the vehicle. Due to manufacturing, dimension variances, and inflation all tire and wheel combinations should be tested prior to installation on all oversized / wider then stock tires.

⚠NOTICE **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.

Torque Specs:

Size	Grade 5	Grade 8	Size	Class 8.8	Class 10.9
5/16”	15 ft/lbs	20ft/lbs	6MM	5ft/lbs	9ft/lbs
3/8”	30 ft/lbs	35ft/lbs	8MM	18ft/lbs	23ft/lbs
7/16”	45 ft/lbs	60ft/lbs	10MM	32ft/lbs	45ft/lbs
1/2”	65 ft/lbs	90ft/lbs	12MM	55ft/lbs	75ft/lbs
9/16”	95 ft/lbs	130ft/lbs	14MM	85ft/lbs	120ft/lbs
5/8”	135ft/lbs	175ft/lbs	16MM	130ft/lbs	165ft/lbs
3/4”	185ft/lbs	280ft/lbs	18MM	170ft/lbs	240ft/lbs

Alignment Specs

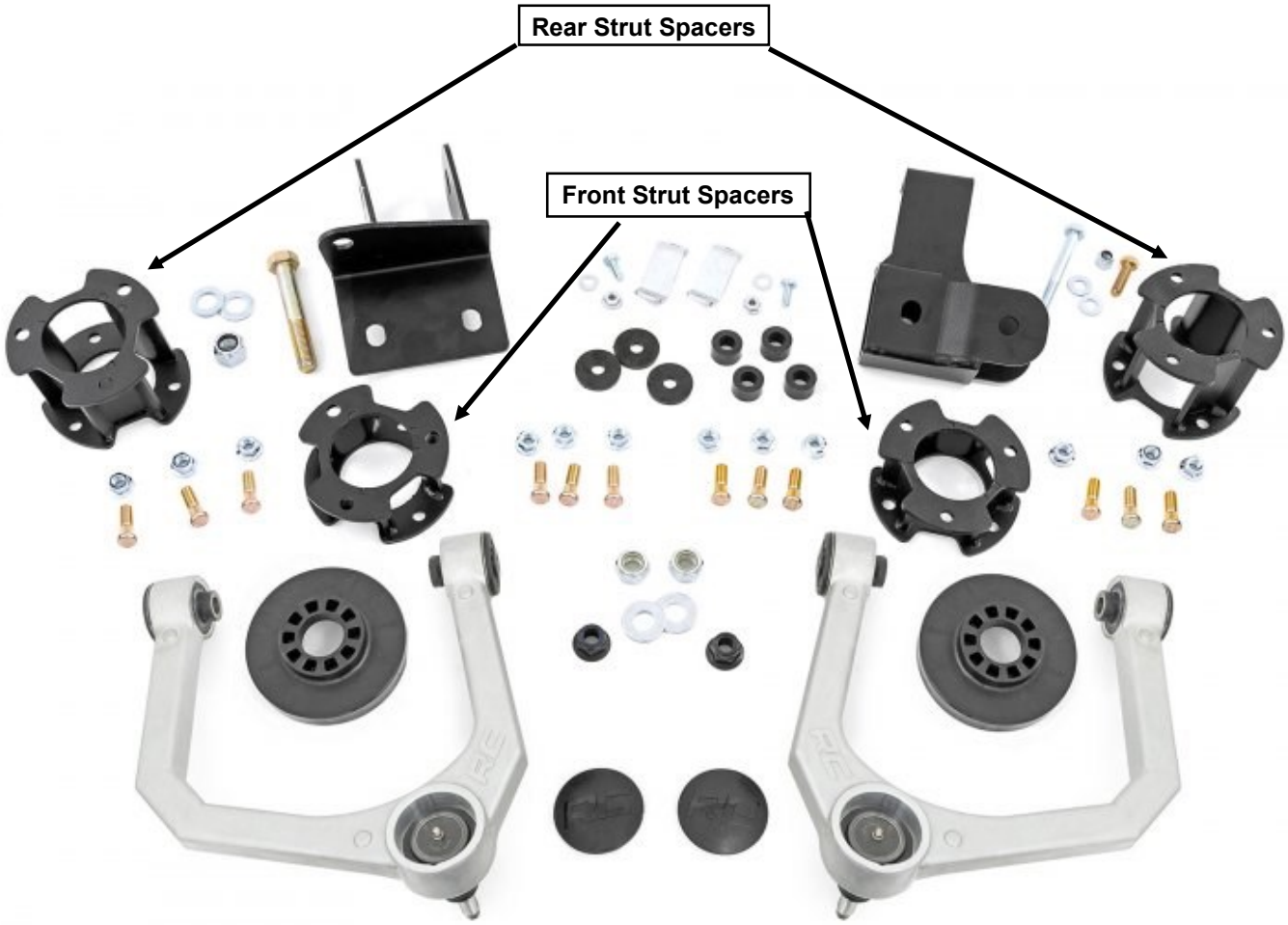
Front

Caster	3.18° ± 0.60°
Camber	0.12° ± 0.50°
Toe	0.1° ± 0.15°

Kit Contents:
Dr Side Control Arm x1
Pass Side Control Arm x1
Bushing Spacers x4
Front Strut Spacers **(Shorter)** x2
Rear Strut Spacers **(Taller)** x2
Rear Track Bar Bracket x1
Preload Spacers x2
Dr Side Diff Drop x1
Pass Side Diff Drop x3
Rear Brake Line Brackets x2
Ball Joint Cap x2

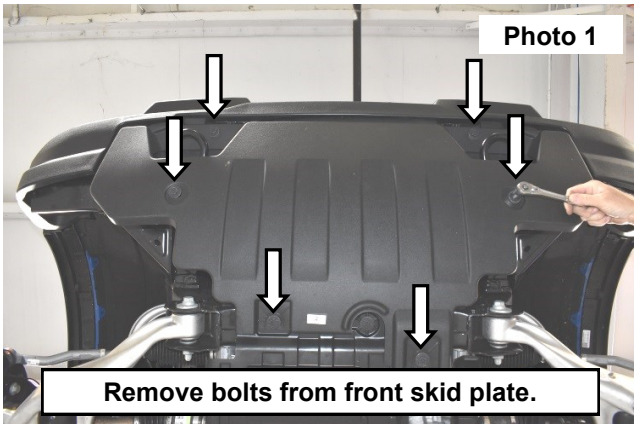
Tools Needed:
8mm Socket/Wrench
10mm Socket/Wrench
13mm Socket/Wrench
15mm Socket/Wrench
17mm Socket/Wrench
18mm Socket/Wrench
21mm Socket/Wrench
24mm Socket/Wrench
36mm Socket/Wrench
9/16" Socket/Wrench
15/16" Socket/Wrench
1-1/16" Socket/Wrench
Screw Driver
Drill
13/32" Drill Bit
Coil Compressor
Sawzall

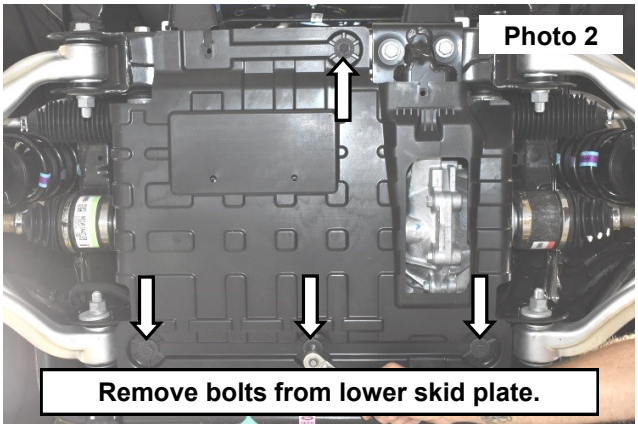
Hardware Included:
10mm Stud Bag x2
5/8" x 4" Bolt x1
5/8" Flat Washers x2
5/8" Nut x1
3/8" x 1-1/4" Bolt x1
3/8" Flat Washers x2
3/8" Lock Nut x1
5/16" x 3/4" Bolts x2
5/16" Flat Washers x2
5/16" Flange Nut x2
10mm x 85mm x1
16MM Lock Nut x2
16MM Flat Washers x2
Ball Joint Hardware Bag x2



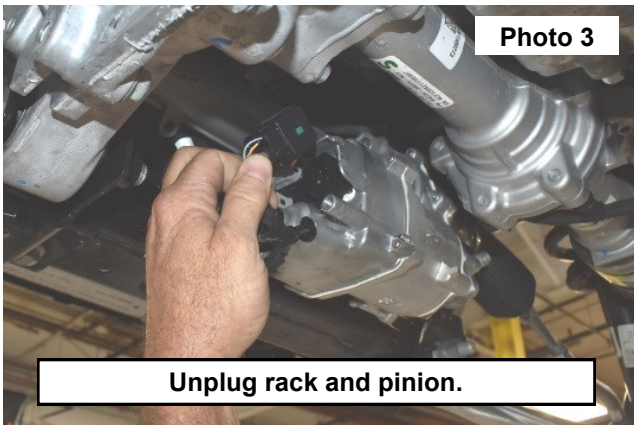
FRONT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

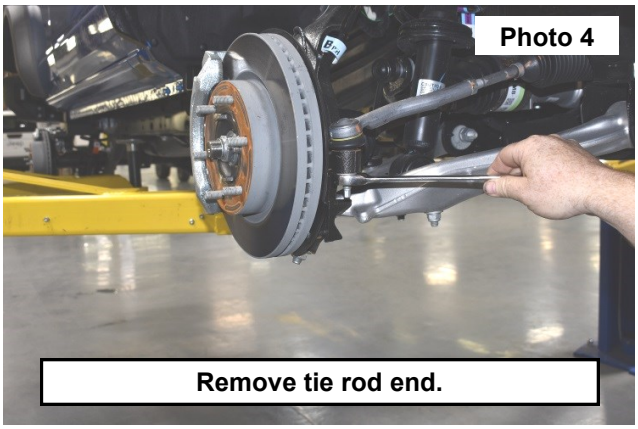
1. Jack up the front of the vehicle and place on jack stands. Remove the front wheels.
2. Remove the skid plates using a 15mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 1** and **Photo 2**.



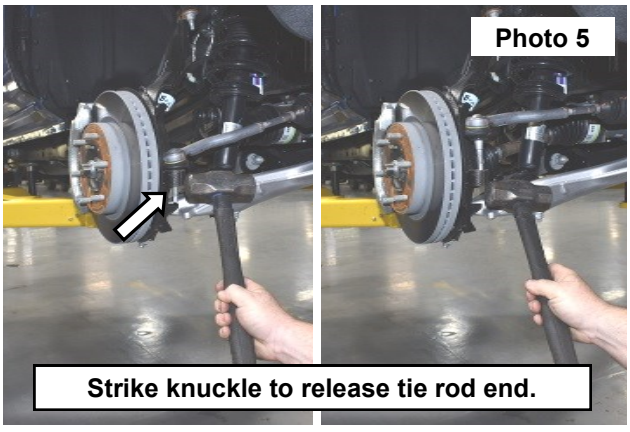


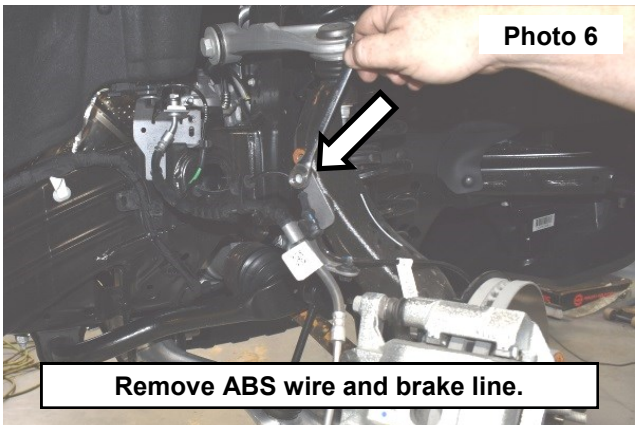
3. Unplug the rack and pinion. **See Photo 3**.
4. Remove the tie rod end using a 21mm socket/wrench. Strike the knuckle with a hammer if needed to remove the tie rod end. **See Photo 4** and **Photo 5**.



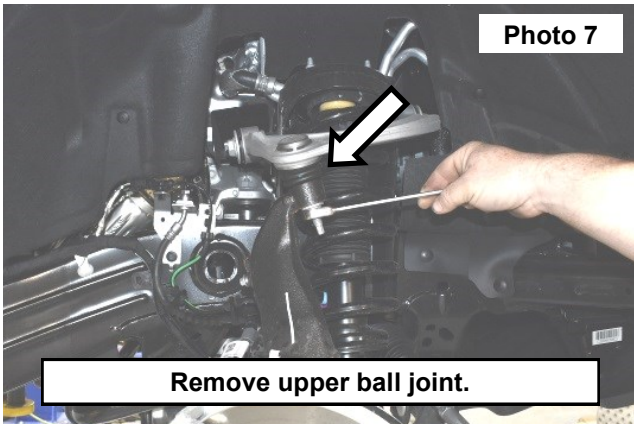


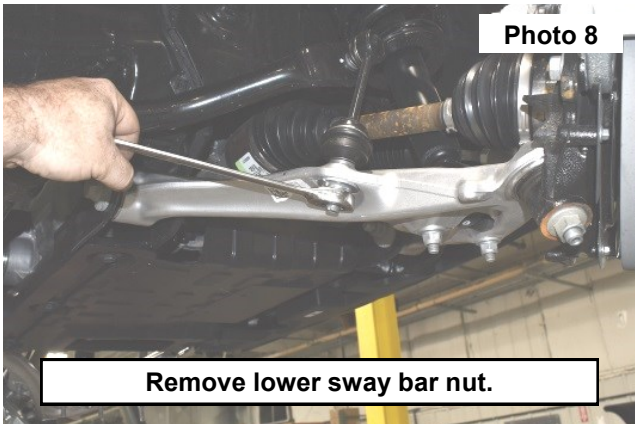
5. Remove the ABS wire and brake line from the knuckle using a 10mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 6**.



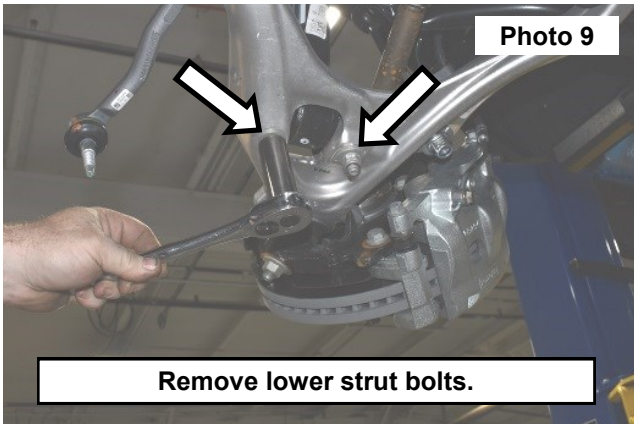


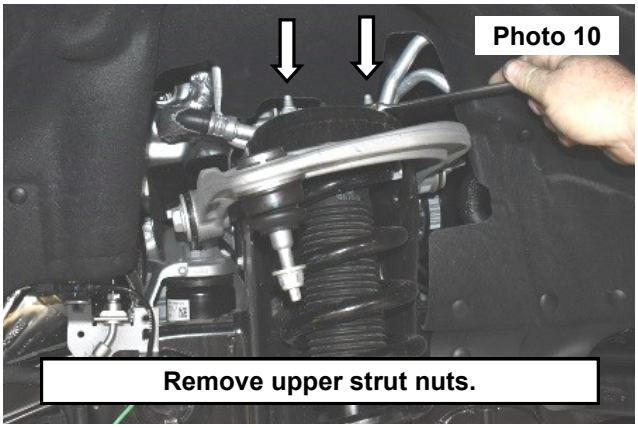
6. Remove upper ball joint just using an 18mm socket/wrench. Strike knuckle with a hammer if needed. **See Photo 7**.
7. Remove the lower sway bar nut using a 21mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 8**.



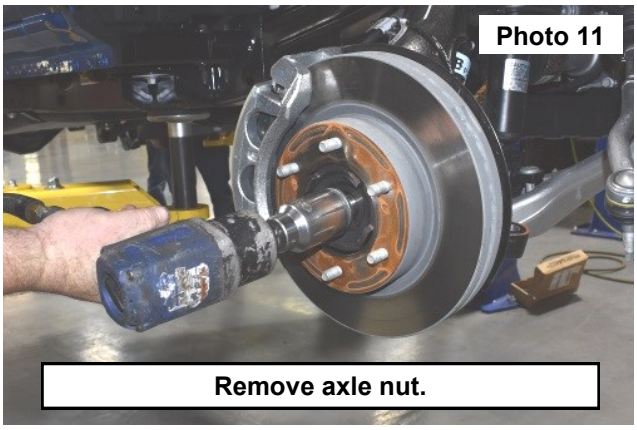


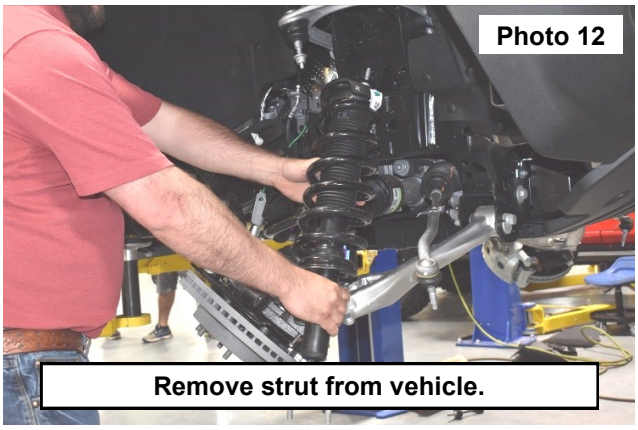
8. Remove the lower strut bolts using an 18mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 9**.
9. Remove the upper strut nuts using a 15mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 10**.



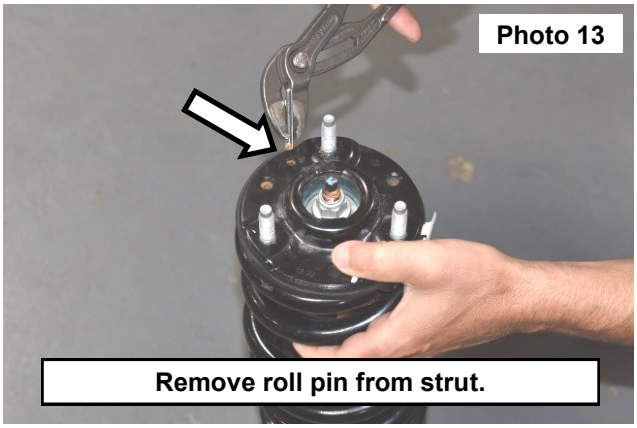


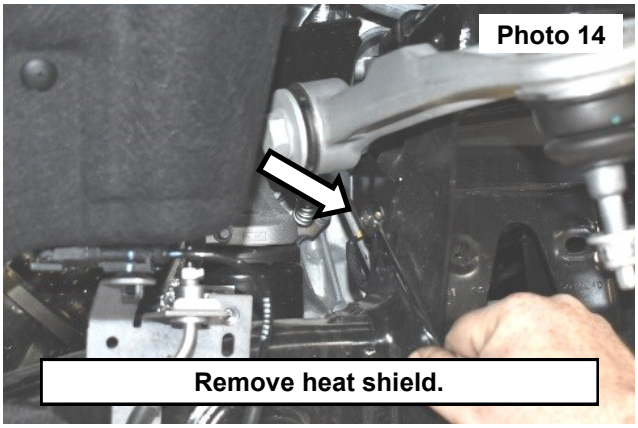
10. Remove the axle nut using a 36mm socket/wrench. Strike with hammer to loosen if needed. **See Photo 11**.
11. Remove the strut from the vehicle. **See Photo 12**.



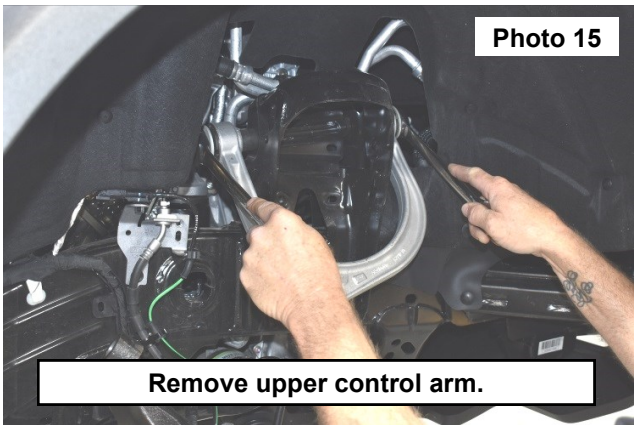


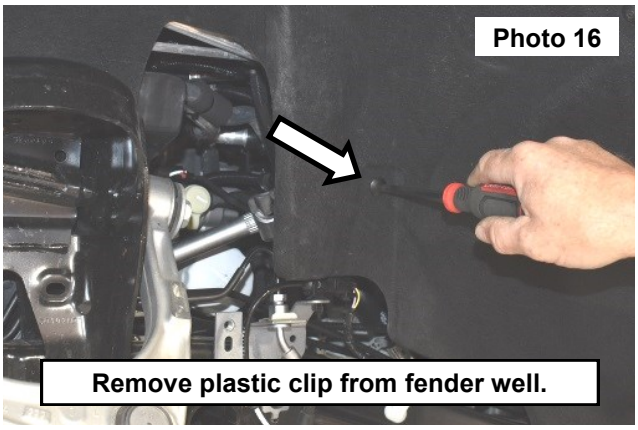
12. Remove the roll pin from strut. **See Photo 13**.
13. On the Passenger side, remove the heat shield using an 8mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 14**.



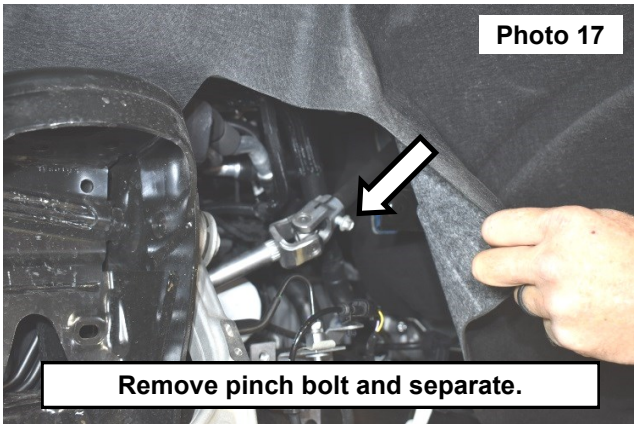


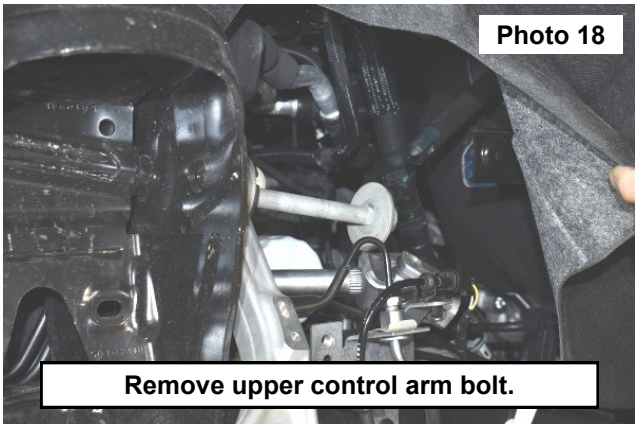
14. On the Passenger side, remove the upper control arm using a 21mm and 24mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 15**.
15. On the driver side, the steering shaft will have to be disconnected to be able to remove the bolt. Remove the plastic clip from fender well using a screw driver. Lock the steering wheel but make sure the bolt is accessible. Using a 10mm socket remove the pinch bolt from shaft and separate. **See Photo 16** and **Photo 17**.



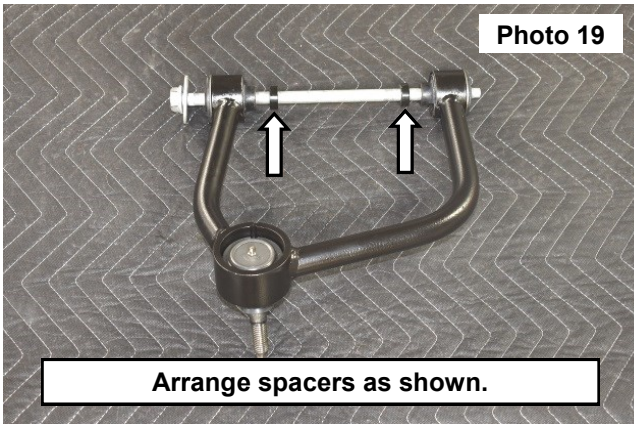


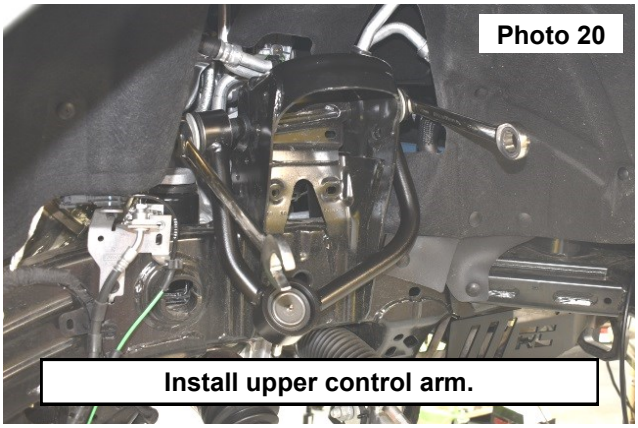
16. Remove the driver side upper control arm using a 21mm and 24mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 18**.



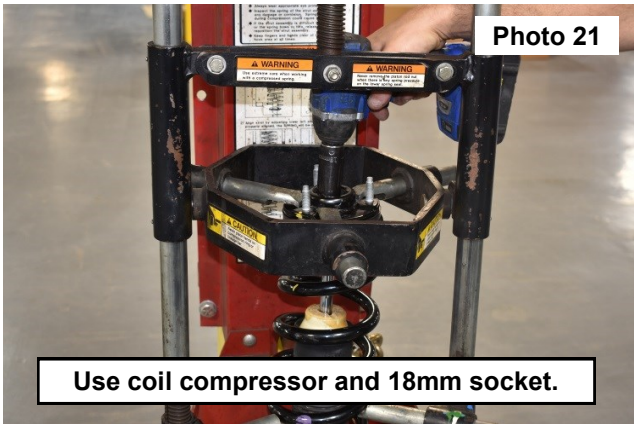


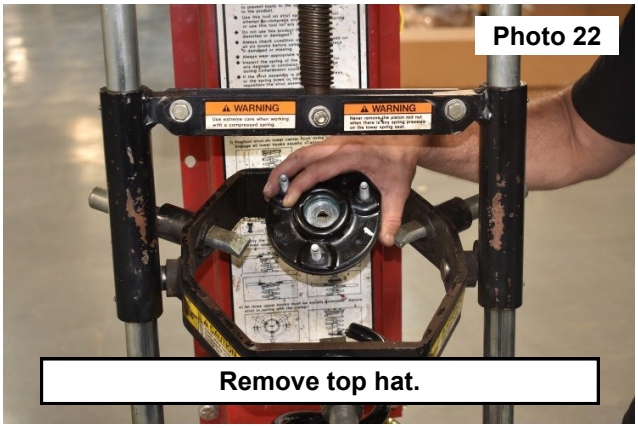
17. Install the new upper control arm and spacers using the stock bolt and reinstall the heat shield. **See Photo 19** and **Photo 20**.



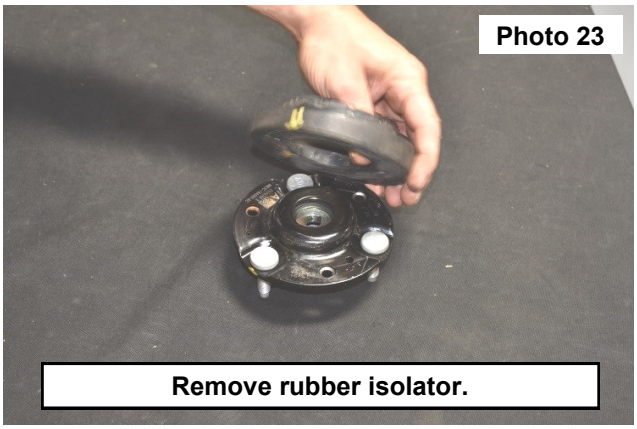


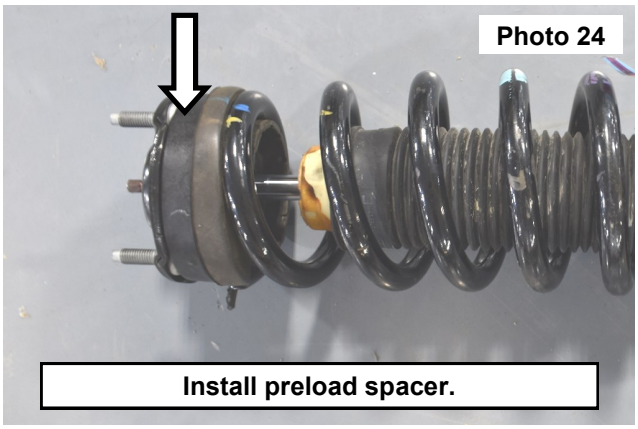
18. Use a coil compressor and an 18mm socket/wrench to remove the top hat. **See Photo 21** and **Photo 22**. **NOTE: Mark the top of the strut and rubber isolator for realignment before removing**.



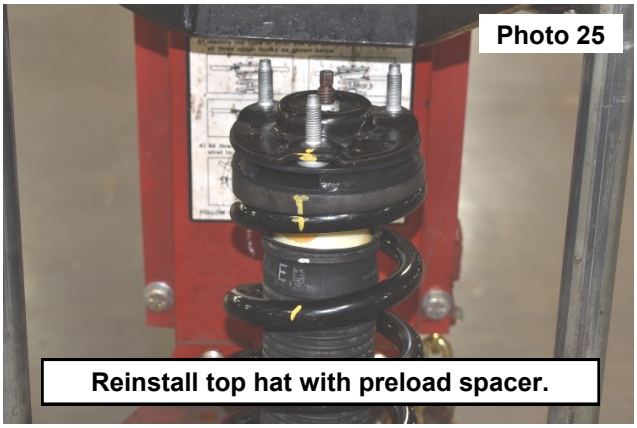


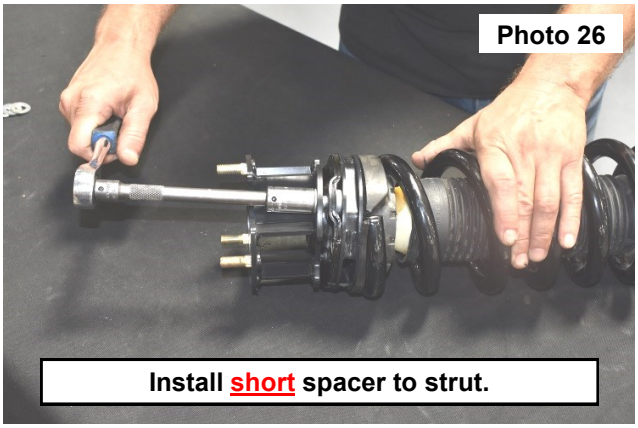
19. Remove the rubber isolator from the top hat and install the preload spacer. **See Photo 23** and **Photo 24**.



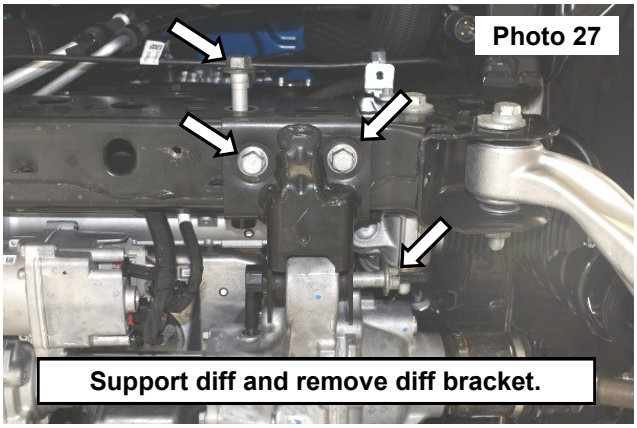


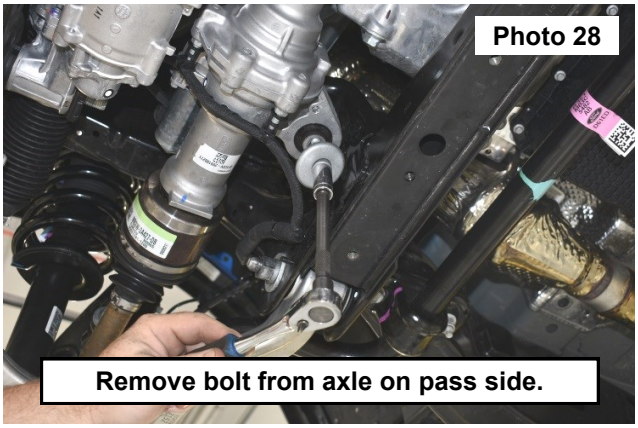
20. Reinstall the top hat with the preload spacer to the strut. **See Photo 25**.
21. Install the 10mm studs in the spacer using the supplied hex nut, jam nut and 17mm socket/wrench and install the strut spacer **(shorter spacer for the front)** to the strut using the stock hardware. **NOTE: Spacer needs to be angled with the short side towards the engine**. **See Photo 26**.



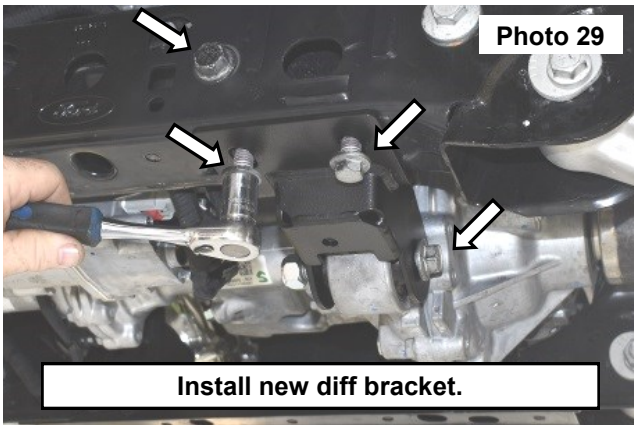


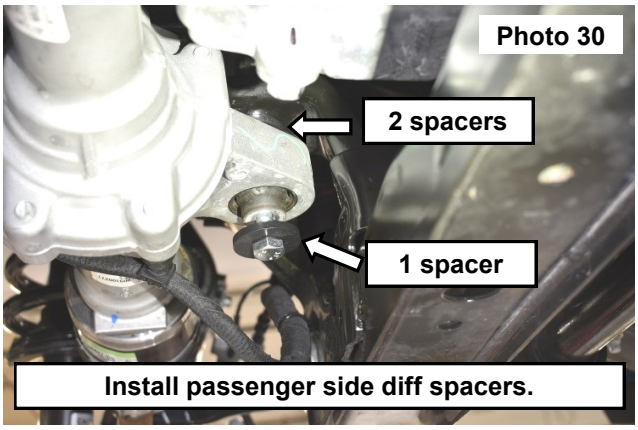
22. Support the front differential and remove the diff bracket using an 18mm and 21mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 27**.
23. Remove bolt from pass side supporting the axle. **See Photo 28**.



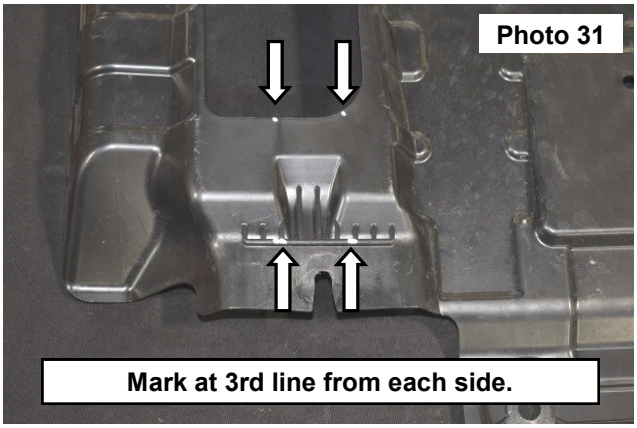


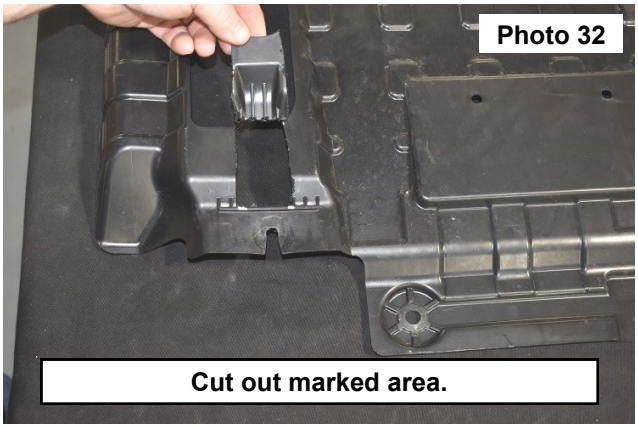
24. Install the new diff bracket using the stock hardware. **See Photo 29**.
25. Install 2 passenger side spacers between the diff and upper diff mount and 1 passenger side spacer between the diff bushing and the diff mount use the supplied 10mm x 85mm bolt. Use a 17mm socket to tighten. **See Photo 30**.





26. Mark the skid plate and cut for clearance of the new diff brackets using a Sawzall. **See Photo 31** and **Photo 32**.

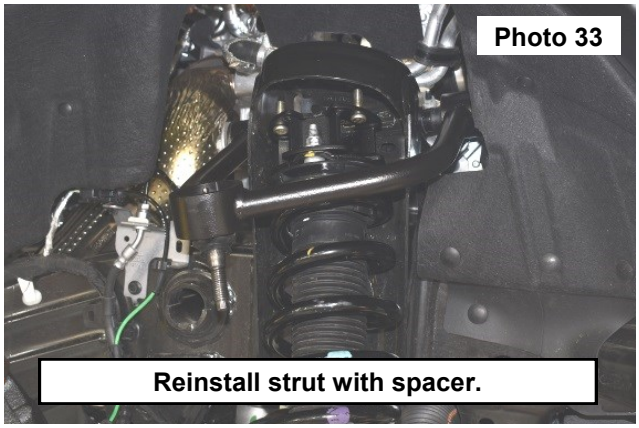




27. Reinstall the strut with the spacer using the 10mm hardware and 17mm wrench. **See Photo 33**.
28. Reassemble the front suspension in reverse order of the disassembly.

⚠ NOTICE **Ball joints must be greased before use.**

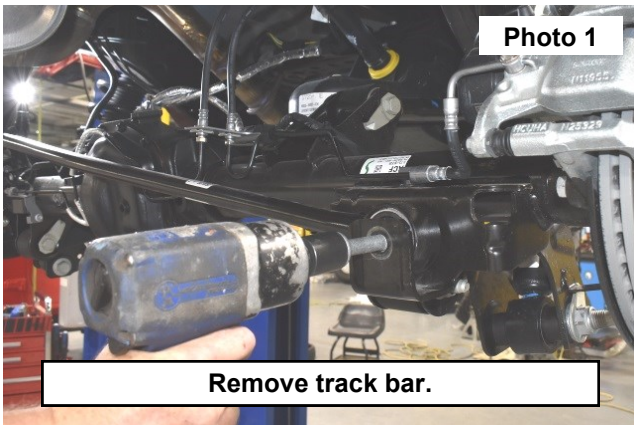
29. Put on wheels and lower.

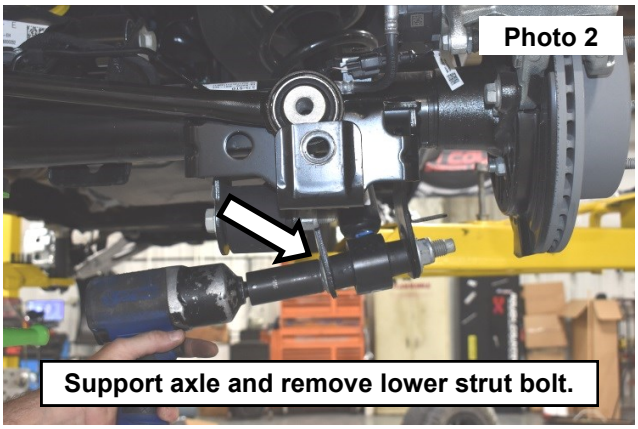




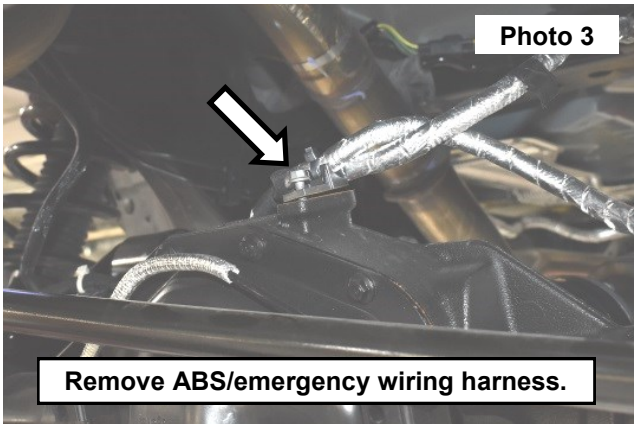
REAR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

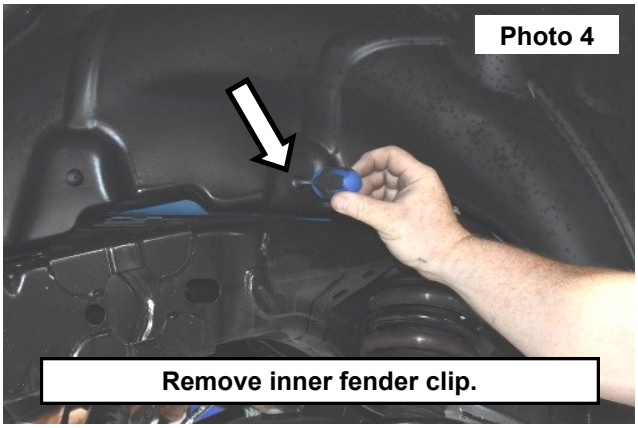
1. Jack up the rear of the vehicle and place on jack stands. Remove the rear wheels.
2. Remove the track bar using a 24mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 1**.
3. Support the axle and remove the lower strut bolt using a 1-1/16” socket/wrench. **See Photo 2**.



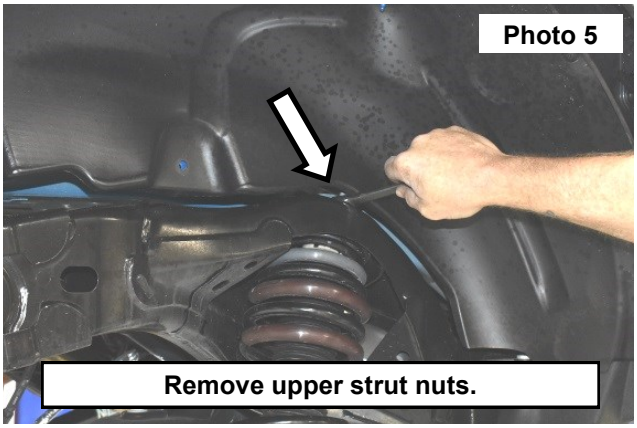


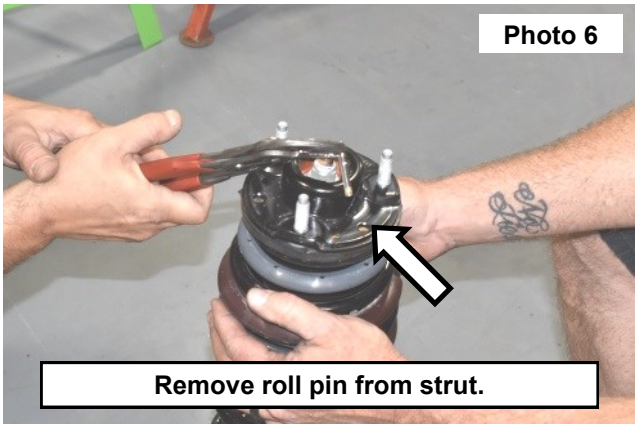
4. Remove the ABS/emergency wiring harness from the differential using an 8mm socket/wrench. **See Photo 3**.
5. Remove the clip holding the inner fender using a screw driver. **See Photo 4**.



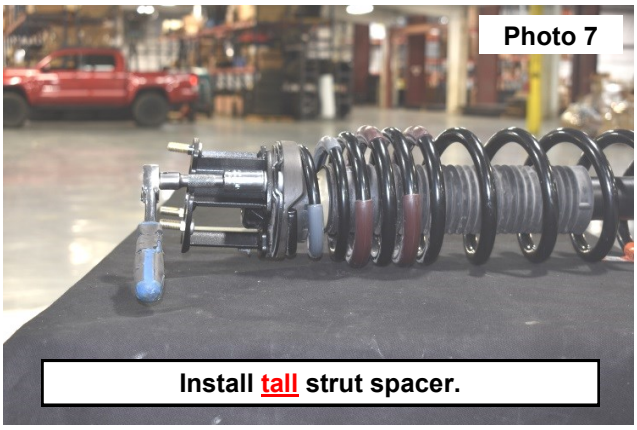


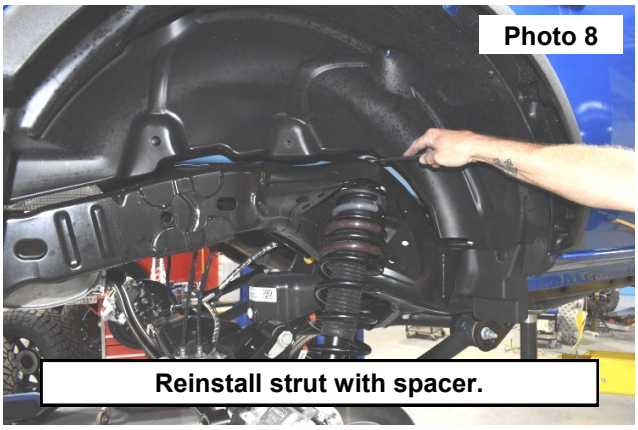
6. Remove the upper strut nuts using a 15mm wrench and remove strut from vehicle. **See Photo 5**.
7. Remove the roll pin from the strut. **See Photo 6**.



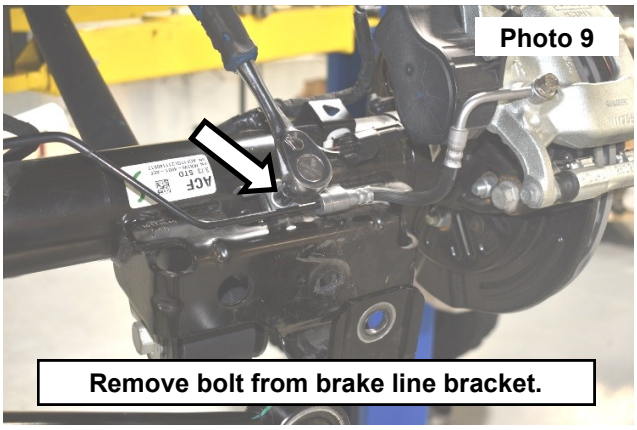


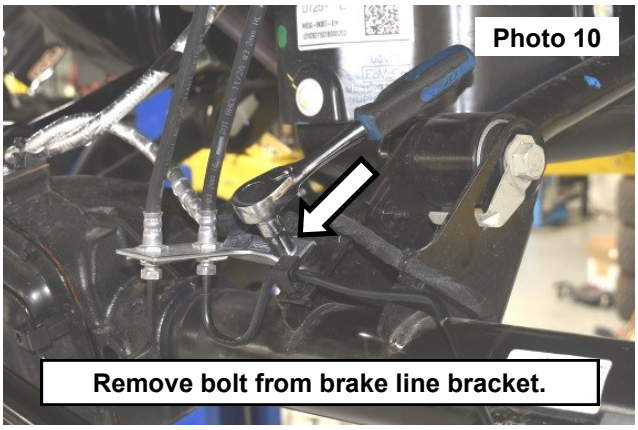
8. Install the 10mm studs in the upper strut spacer and install spacer **(taller spacer for the rear)** on the strut using stock hardware. **NOTE: Spacer needs to be angled with the tall side towards the rear. See Photo 7**.
9. Reinstall the strut with the spacer using the 10mm hardware and 17mm wrench. **See Photo 8**.



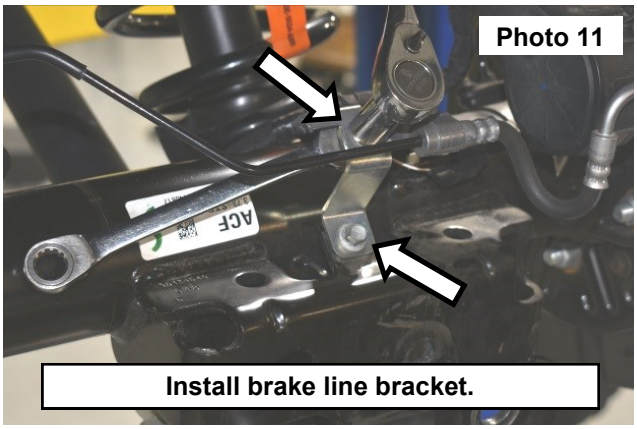


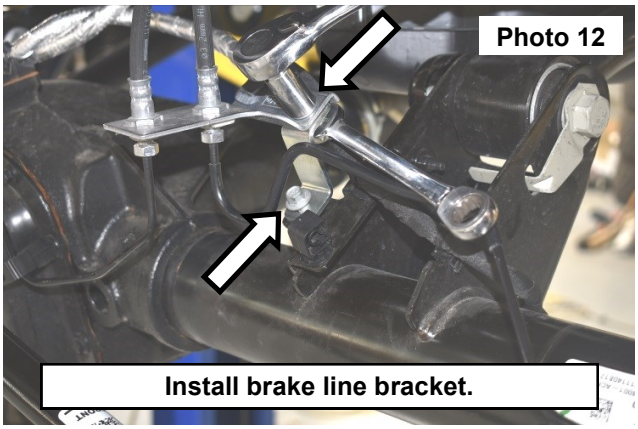
10. Remove the bolt from the brake line bracket behind track bar mount using a 10mm socket. **See Photo 9**.
11. Remove the bolt from the brake line bracket that is mounted near the rear diff using a 10mm socket. Remove brake line from clip. **See Photo 10**.



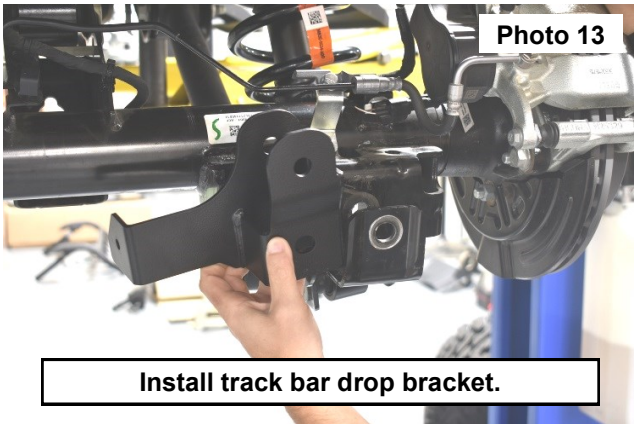


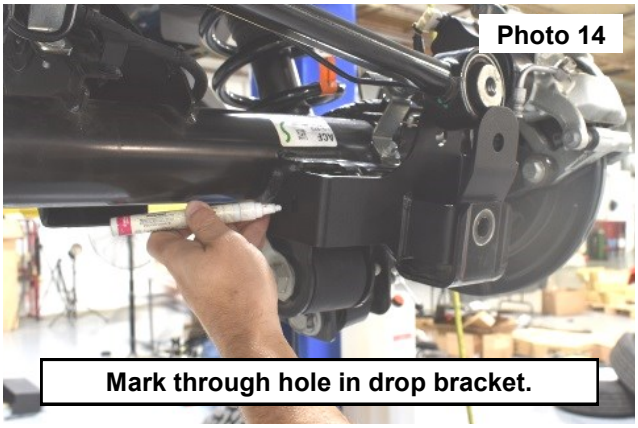
12. Install the brake line brackets using the stock bolts to mount to the axle and the supplied bolts, nuts, and washers to mount the brackets to the brake line. **See Photo 11** and **Photo 12**.



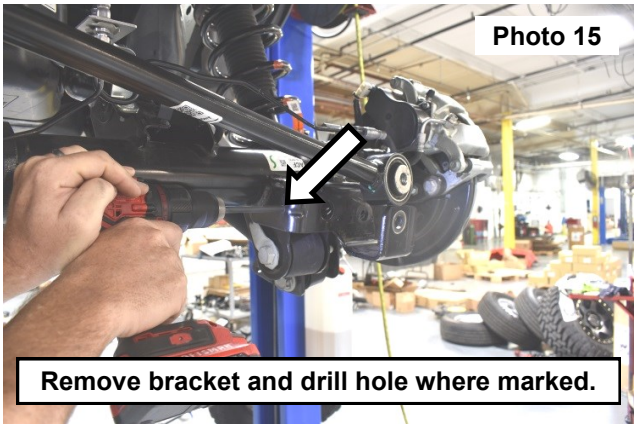


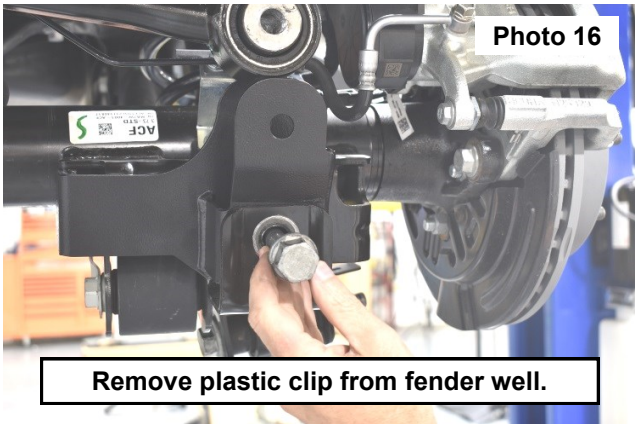
13. Install the track bar drop bracket. **See Photo 13**.
14. Mark the axel through the hole in the drop bracket. **See Photo 14**.



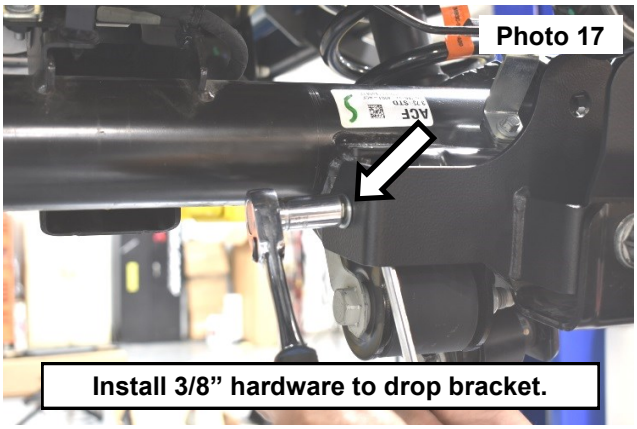


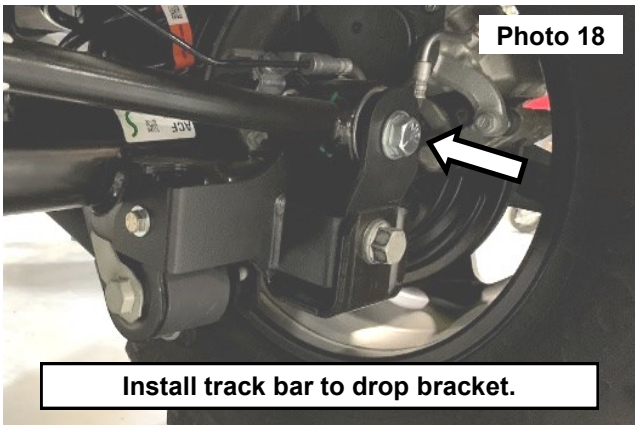
15. Remove bracket and drill a hole where marked using a 13/32” drill bit. **See Photo 15**.
16. Reinstall the track bar drop bracket using the stock bolt. **See Photo 16**.





17. Install the 3/8” hardware in drilled hole to the drop bracket using two 9/16” socket/wrenches. **See Photo 17**.
18. Install the track bar to the drop bracket using the 5/8” hardware and 15/16” socket/wrench. **See Photo 18**.





19. Reassemble the rear suspension in reverse order of the disassembly.
20. Put on wheels and lower.





By purchasing any item sold by Rough Country, LLC, the buyer expressly warrants that he/she is in compliance with all applicable, State, and Local laws and regulations regarding the purchase, ownership, and use of the item. It shall be the buyers responsibility to comply with all Federal, State and Local laws governing the sales of any items listed, illustrated or sold. The buyer expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Rough Country, LLC for all claims resulting directly or indirectly from the purchase, ownership, or use of the items.