Rough Country 538.20 Installation Instructions

6-Inch Lift Kit with N3 Shocks for Ford Super Duty 4WD (2008-2010), Part 538.20

Part number: 538.20

trailfortress.com/rough-country-6-inch-lift-kit-538-20

Scan for fitment, price and install help



92153800

08-10 F250 6” RADIUS ARM KIT

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for your suspension needs.

⚠WARNING Rough Country recommends a certified technician installs 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 all the instructions before beginning the installation. Check the kit hardware against the parts list. Be sure you have all the needed parts and understand where they go. Also please review the tools needed list and make sure you have needed tools.

PRODUCT USE INFORMATION

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

⚠WARNING Braking performance and capabilities are decreased when significantly larger/heaver tires and wheels are used. Take this into consideration while driving. Also, speedometer recalibration is necessary when larger tires are installed.

⚠WARNING Do no add, alter, or fabricate any factory or after-market parts which increase vehicle height over the intended height of the Rough Country product purchased. Mixing component brands, lifts, and/or combining body lift with suspension lifts voids all warranties. 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.

This kit is packaged as a leveling kitð raising the front 6ò and the back 5ò If you desire a different look or if the vehicle has a tool box or added weight in the rear, please consult with your sales representative about block / u-bolt options.

NOTICE This 6ò suspension system was developed for **37x12.50x17** tire on an after market wheel w/ 4.5ò back spacing. **If equipped with factory rear contact overload springs, pleaser note that they will need to be removed with the addition of the block /add-a-leaf combination on this kit.**

NOTICE DEALER AND VECHICLE OWNER

Any vehicle equipped with any Rough country product must have the ñWarning to Driverò decal installed on the sun visor or dash. The decal is to act as a constant reminder for whoever is operating the vehicle of its unique handling characteristics. **INSTALLING DEALER**ð It is your responsibility to install the warning decal and to forward these installation instructions on too the vehicle owner for review and to be kept in the vehicle for its service life.

Kit Contents:

9295	Diesel Coil Springs
OR	
9296	Gas Coil Springs
1538Box1	Track Bar Bracket
	Sway Bar links
	Pass Sway Bar Bracket
	Driver Shim Plate
	Carrier Drop Bracket
	Pitman Arm
	Bumpstop spacer
	Dr & Pass Brake Lines
1536Box1	Radius Arm
1580Box4	Shock Box
6111	Add-a-leaf
6578	3ò Block and U-Bolt Kit

Tools Needed:

8mm Wrench	1 1/8ò Wrench
10mm Wrench	1 13/16ò Wrench
12mm Wrench	Jack Stands
15mm Wrench	Jack
17mm Wrench	Drill
17mm Socket	Drill Bits-13/16-7/8
18mm Wrench	
18mm Socket	
19mm Wrench	
21mm Wrench	
24mm Socket	
30mm Socket	

Torque Specs:

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

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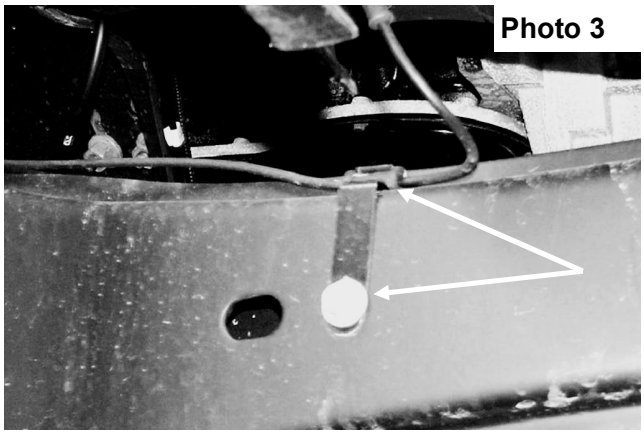
FRONT INSTALLTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Block the rear wheels of the vehicle. Raise the front of the vehicle and support the frame with jack stands. Remove the front wheels and tires and set aside. Position a hydraulic jack under the front axle and raise the jack until the front suspension begins to compress.
2. Disconnect the track bar from the driver side frame bracket, using a 30mm wrench.
3. Disconnect the sway bar end links from the axle and the sway bar using a 18mm wrench. Remove end links and retain the hardware for reuse. **See Photo 1**.
4. Remove the bump stop from the cup shaped bracket. Remove the bracket from the frame rail. **See Photo 2**.


Photo 1


Photo 2

5. Disconnect the ABS sensor wire from the lower spring seat and the radius arm, using a 8mm wrench. **See Photo 3.**
6. Unbolt the brake line brackets from the spring seat, using a 10mm wrench. Remove the center disconnect vacuum lines from the clamp on the axle.(If equipped with automatic hubs). **See Photo 4.**
7. Remove the stock brake line from the stock steel line on the frame. **See Photo 5**.
8. Remove the stock line from the caliper and install the supplied braided brake lines in the factory location with the factory hardware. To ease the removal of the coil springs, do not install the brake line bracket to the spring seat. **Please note there is a driver and passenger side brake hose** .
9. Using a 19mm wrench, remove the nut, retaining washer and rubber bushing from the both upper shock mounts. Using a 18mm wrench remove the lower shock bolts. Retain hardware for re-use.
10. Carefully lower the jack until the coil springs are free. Remove the coil springs from the vehicle. Note: use of a coil spring compressor may be required for spring removal.


Photo 3

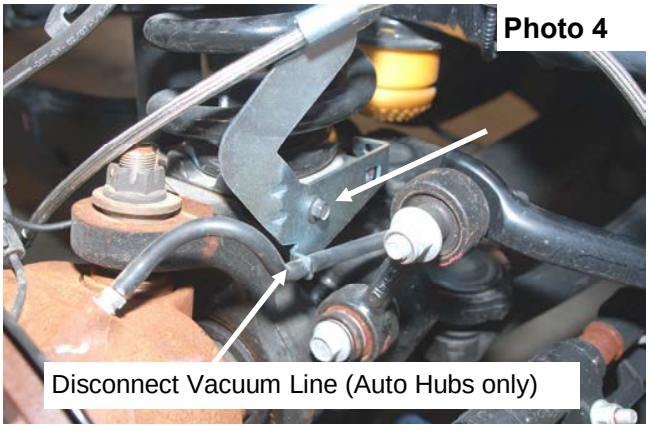
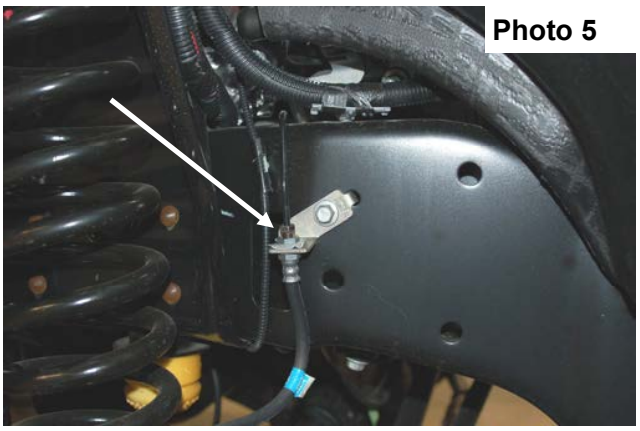
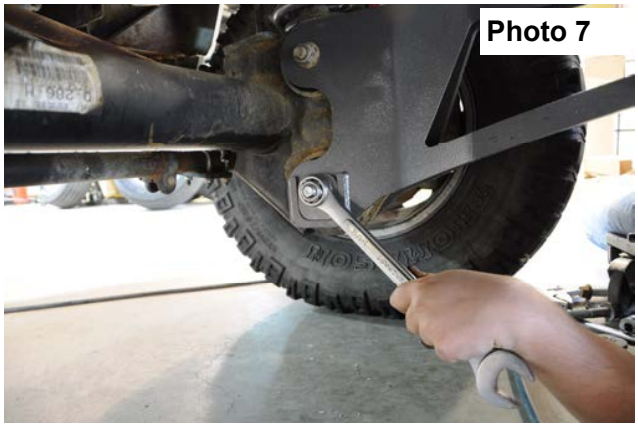


Photo 4

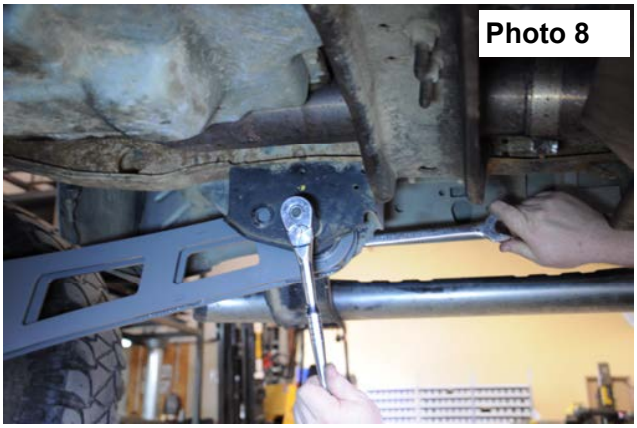

Photo 5

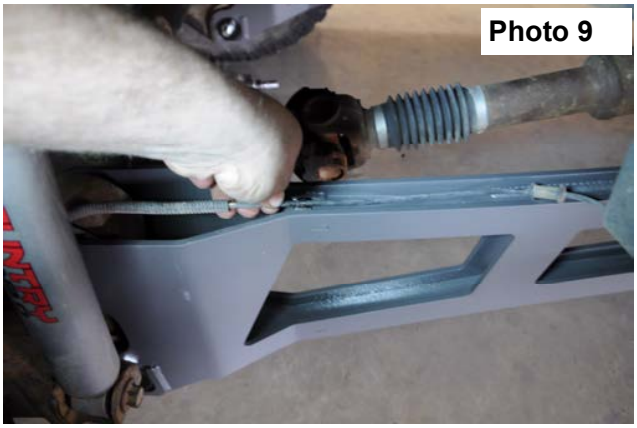
11. Support the radius arms with jack stands. Using a 1 1/8òwrench, and socket remove the bolt holding the upper control arm to the frame. Using a 24mm wrench, and socket remove the bolt holding the upper control arm to the axle. Retain stock hardware for reuse. **See Photo 6.**
12. Insert the new supplied radius arm into the stock axle location. Use the stock bolt for the upper mount and the supplied 18mm x 130mm bolt, nut, and cam washers for the lower mount. **See Photo 7.**


Photo 6


Photo 7

13. Install the radius arm in the factory frame bracket with stock hardware. **See Photo 8**. Do not tighten at this time.
14. Reattach the ABS wire to the radius arm. **See Photo 9.**


Photo 8


Photo 9

15. Using a 21mm wrench and 19mm wrench socket remove the factory track bar bracket. Retain stock hardware for reuse.
16. Position the Rough Country track bar bracket on the frame in the same position as the original and secure using the factory hardware. Tighten hardware. **See Photo 10.**
17. Using the nylon bump stop extension provided, place the extension between the frame and the bump stop cup. Bolt back into the original location using the 8mmx95mm bolt supplied. Torque to 15 ft. lbs.


Photo 10

18. Lower the front axle enough to install the new coil springs. Position the coil springs in the lower coil buckets on the axle and rotate as necessary to be sure that the pigtail of the coil in indexed properly in the bucket. Position the factory rubber isolator on top of each coil, then raise the axle enough to seat the coil springs in the upper spring buckets.
19. Install the bushings and sleeves on the front gas shock absorbers part # 658459.
20. Compress the front springs enough to install the front shocks. Bolt the lower end of the shock to the axle using the stock hardware using a 18mm wrench. Attach the upper end of the shock with the stock hardware, using a 19mm wrench. Tighten only enough to bulge the bushing.
21. Remove the factory steering stabilizer from the factory frame mount using a 19mm wrench. Remove the passenger side sway bar bracket from the frame using a 15mm wrench.
22. On the passenger side, install the new stabilizer bracket in between the frame and the factory sway bar mount with the factory hardware and install the stabilizer on the mount with factory hardware. Tighten using a 19mm wrench. **See Photo 11**.
23. On the driver side, remove the sway bar bracket from the frame using a 15mm wrench and install the supplied spacer as shown in **Photo 12** with factory hardware.

Photo 11

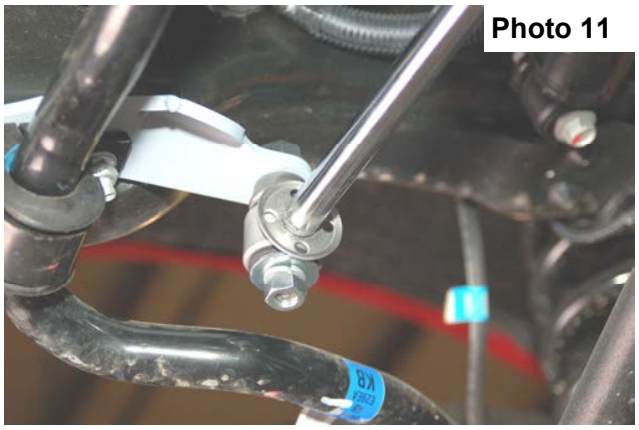


Photo 12



24. Install tires and wheels and lower the vehicle to the ground.
25. Line up the track bar with the hole in the new track bar bracket. You may have to start the truck and turn the wheels in the direction the track bar needs to go to help align the track bar with the hole. Install using the stock track bar bolt. Tighten bolt.
26. Install the new sway bar links in the factory location with the factory hardware and using a 18mm wrench. **See Photo 13.**

Photo 13

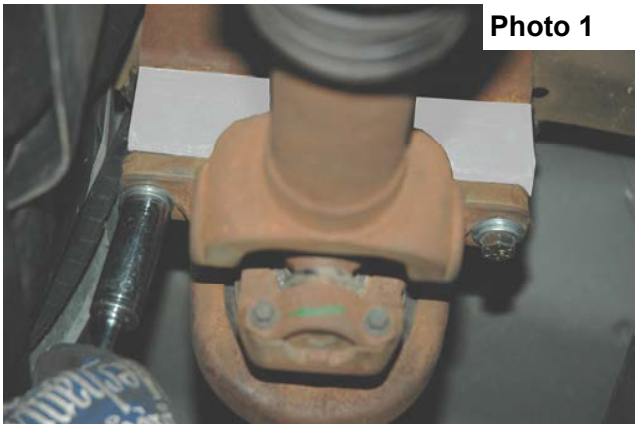


27. Remove the cotter pin and nut using a 21mm wrench, from the drag link end where it attaches to the pitman arm. Dislodge link with a tie rod end puller, or a pickle fork. Note: replace the link if any stud looseness is detected, or if you can twist the studs in its socket with your fingers. Using a 34mm socket, remove the nut from the steering sector and remove the pitman arm with a puller tool. Inspect the splines on the shaft for excessive wear, repair if needed.
28. Install new arm, lock washer, and nut. Using a 34mm socket, tighten bolt.
29. Attach the drag link stud to the pitman arm. Torque nut to factory specs, and install cotter pin. Check for adequate linkage clearances while turning steering wheel full lock in both positions.
30. Install the brake line bracket to the spring seat with factory hardware and using a 10mm wrench.
31. Install the wheels/tires.
32. Jack up the vehicle and remove the jack stands.
33. Lower the vehicle to the ground and tighten the radius arm bolts.

CARRIER BEARING INSTRUCTIONS

1. For vehicles with 2 piece drive shafts, support the driveshaft, using a 17mm socket remove the bolts from the carrier bearing bracket. Insert the carrier bearing spacer between the bearing bracket and body mount. Reattach the carrier bearing using the supplied 7/16ò x 3 1/4ò bolts and washers. Torque to 60 ft/lbs. **See Photo 1. Install bracket with flat part on the stock mount thicker part of the bracket toward the rear and the taper towards the front.**

Photo 1



REAR INSTALLATION

1. Chock front wheels and jack up the rear of the vehicle. Secure with jack stands on the frame rail.
2. Place a floor jack under the rear differential on the rear axle. Using a 18mm wrench for the upper, and 19mm and 15mm wrench for the lower, remove the stock shock absorbers, retain the stock hardware for reuse.
3. Using a 24mm socket, remove the stock u-bolts. Use the floor jack to lower the axle assembly to allow for lifted block installation. Retain the factory axle block if equipped.
4. Remove the spring eye bolts and nuts and remove the spring. If equipped with factory overloads, the top mounted spacer block and top mounted overload spring must be removed. The top spring plate may need to be drilled out to accept the nut for the new spring center pin. Make sure before starting that you have access to a drill and a 13/16ò to 7/8ò drill bit. Have c-clamps in place on either side of each strap before center bolt is removed
5. Unbolt center pin and remove. Un-clamp leaf spring. **CAUTION** -Take care when releasing the c-clamps since the springs are under load and will ñspringò apart when released.
6. Position add-a-leaf under the next longest leaf of the spring pack. Replace the shorter spring leafs under the helper leaf and clamp together, being careful to align the center pin holes in the spring leafs. If less lift is desired the leaf under the new add-a-leaf can be removed
7. Insert the new center pin supplied with the kit through the spring assembly with the head of the center pin in the same location as the stock pin. Re-compress the pack with the c-clamps, not center pin, to avoid stripping of nut/ bolt threads. Bolt together, being sure to align leafs. Cut off excess threads on the center pin with a hack saw. If applicable, re-form straps or install new bend straps. If heat is used on the straps, allow them to cool naturally and thoroughly before removing the c-clamps.
8. Replace spring on vehicle. Torque to 86-110 ft./lbs.
9. Install the Rough Country block in between the factory block /leaf spring and the axle. Jack up the axle and align the pins in the blocks and axle seat. Secure with new u-bolts and torque evenly to 85 ft/lbs. On Driver side disconnect the parking brake cable bracket from the spring plate and retain hardware **See Photo 1**. Take care not to over extend the brake lines.
10. Reattach parking brake cable bracket to the spring plate. If more slack is needed remove the cable from the rearmost cable ring on the frame rail **See Photo 2.**

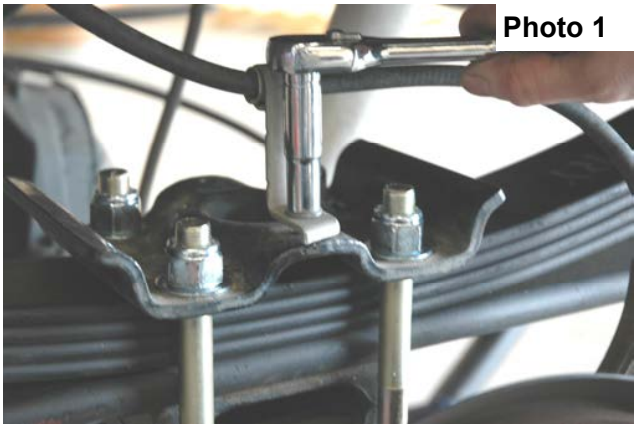


Photo 1

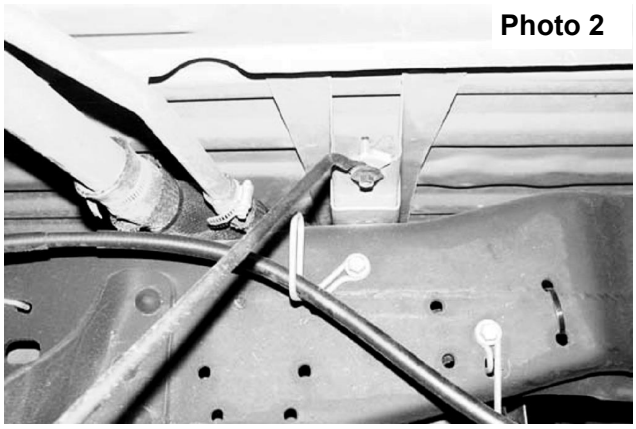


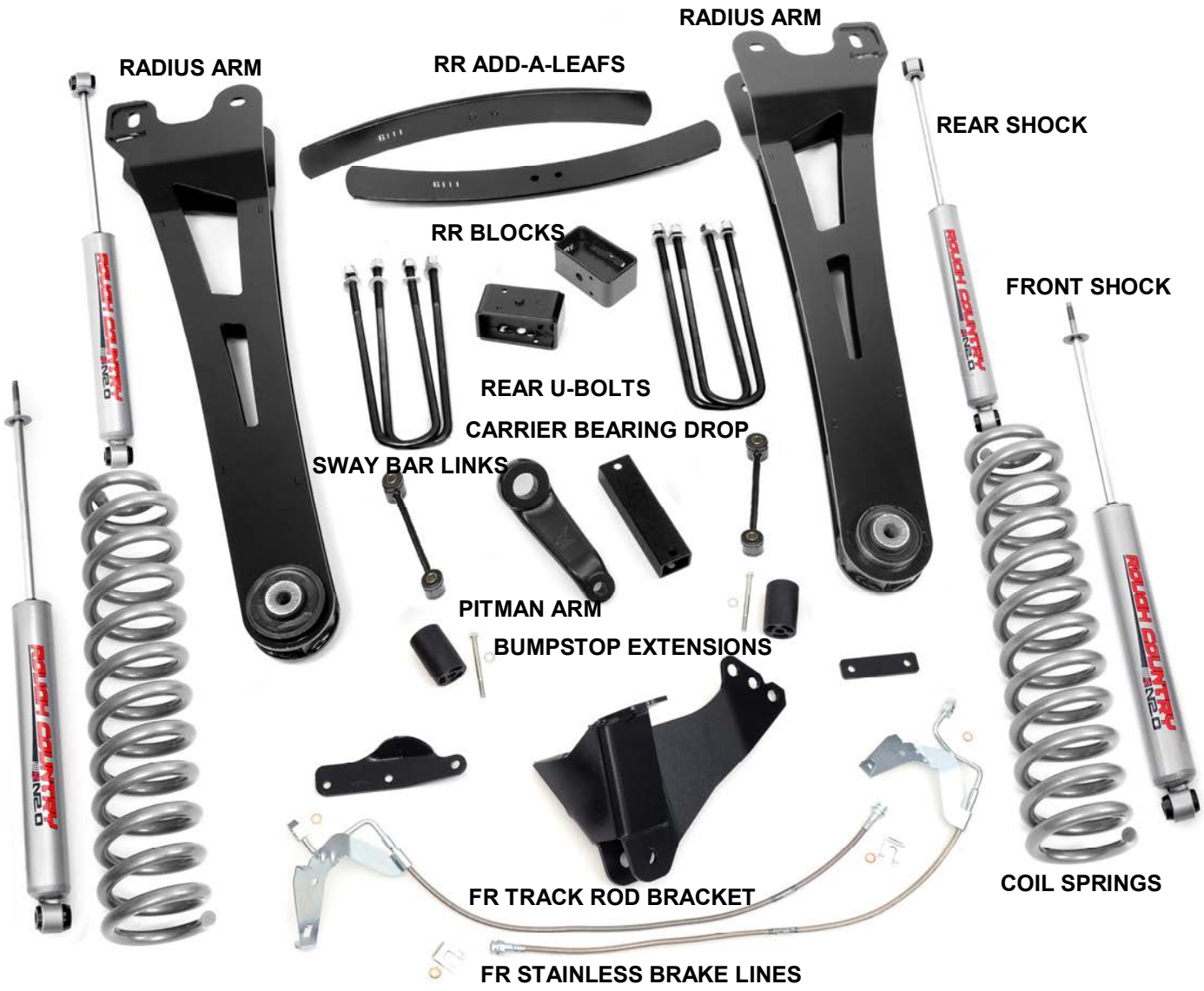
Photo 2

11. Locate shock part number 658601 gas shock and assemble poly bushings and sleeve in shock. Using a 18mm wrench, for the upper, and a 19mm and 15mm wrench for the lower. Install using factory hardware on upper and lower shock mount
12. Install the tires and wheels.
13. Jack up the rear of the vehicle and remove the jack stands. Lower the vehicle to the floor.
14. With the weight of the vehicle on the axle, torque the u-bolts to 130-150 ft-lbs.
15. On the leaf spring to front spring hanger torque bolts to 222 ft.lbs. and on rear leaf spring to shackle and shackle to frame mount torque bolts to 185 ft.lbs.
16. Check all hardware for proper torque.

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SUSPENSION SYSTEMS

POST INSTALLTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Adjust steering wheel to re-center prior to driving.
2. Check all fasteners for proper torque. Check to ensure for adequate clearance between all rotating, mobile, fixed, and heated members. Verify clearance between exhaust and brake lines, fuel lines, fuel tank, floor boards and wiring harness. Check steering gear for clearance. Test and inspect brake system.
3. Perform steering sweep to ensure front brake hoses have adequate slack and do not contact any rotating, mobile or heated members. Inspect rear brake hoses at full extension for adequate slack. Failure to perform hose check/ replacement may result in component failure. Longer replacement hoses, if needed can be purchased from a local parts supplier.
4. Have a qualified alignment center realign front end to
   Caster miniï 4.0 degree
   Camber ï 0.6ð .09 degree
   Toe ï .10ï .15 degree
5. Install Warning to Driver decal on sun visor.
6. Re-torque all nuts, bolts, and especially u-bolts after the first 100 miles, again after another 100 miles and then check periodically thereafter.
7. All components must be retightened after 500 miles, and every three thousand miles after installation
8. Adjust headlights to proper settings.



Thank you for choosing Rough Country for your suspension needs.

Available from Rough Country

Part #87491.20



Don’t forget your RCX Dual Stabilizer Kit !



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SUSPENSION SYSTEMS