TRAIL FORTRESS

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Rough Country RC0501 Installation Instructions

Rear Lowering Shackles for Classic Ford and GM Trucks

Part number: RC0501

trailfortress.com/rough-country-lowering-shackles-rc0501

Scan for fitment, price and install help

97-03 F150 2/4WD,
73-87 GM 1/2TON 2WD,
88-98 GM 1/2T 2WD REAR LOWERING SHACKLES

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for all of 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 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. If anything is missing, do not proceed with the installation, call Rough Country to obtain needed items.

Product Use Information

Do not add, alter, or fabricate any factory or after-market parts. We will not be responsible for any product that is altered.

Notice to Dealer and Vehicle Owner

Any vehicle equipped with any Rough Country product must have the "Warning to Driver" 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—It is your responsibility to install the warning decal and to forward these installation instructions on to the vehicle owner for review and to be kept in the vehicle for its service life.

The shackle has two holes to achieve different increments of drop. On the 97-03 Ford F150, placing the spring in the upper hole will lower the rear of the vehicle approx 2", while the lower hole will lower the rear of the vehicle 1". For the 73-87 1/2T 2WD GM the upper hole will lower the rear 2 1/2" and the lower hole 2". On 88-98 1/2T 2WD GM, placing the spring in the upper hole will lower the vehicle 2" and the lower hole 1 1/2".

Kit Contents:
- **2-Rear Shackles**
- **4-Bushings**
- **2-Sleeves**

Tools Needed:
Floor Jack
Jack Stands
Assorted Wrenches

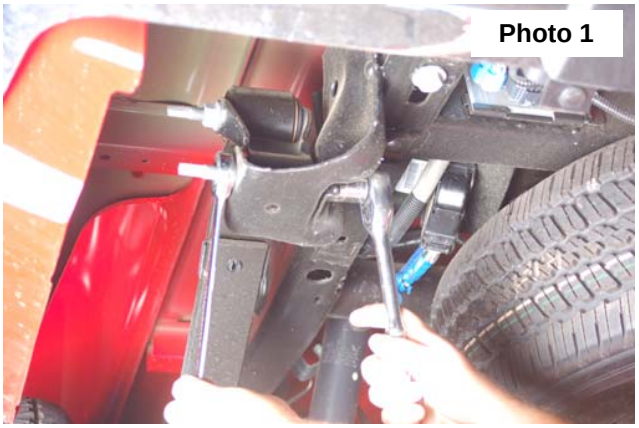
Torque Specs

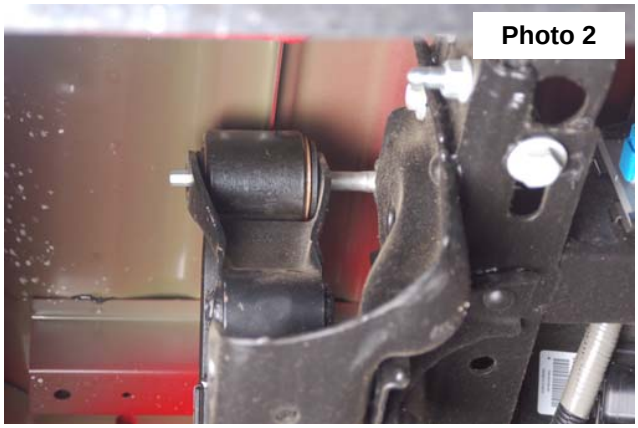
Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
9/16"	95 ft/lbs	130 ft/lbs
	Class 8.8	**Class 10.9**
14MM	85ft/lbs	120ft/lbs



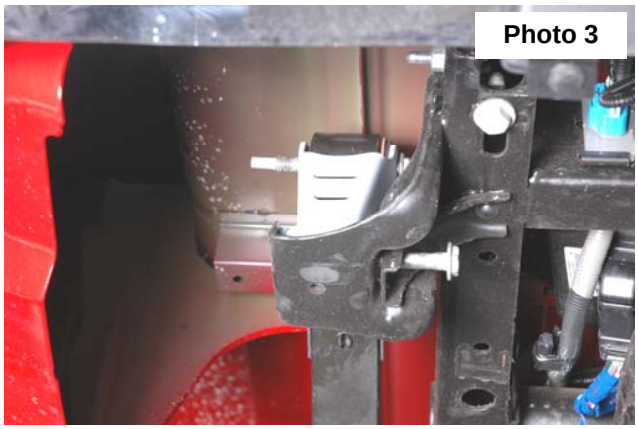
Installation Instructions-(97-03 Ford F150 Shown)

1. Jack up the rear of the vehicle using a floor jack. Both sides will be installed simultaneously to avoid binding the spring bolts.
2. Place jack stands under the frame rails to support the vehicle. With floor jack lower the vehicle onto jack stands and let the suspension hang. Leave floor jack under axle for support.
3. Lightly support the rear axle with the floor jack under the differential.
4. Remove the lower shackle bolts as shown in **Photo 1**. Retain hardware for reuse.
5. Jack up the rear end enough to remove the upper shackle bolt from the shackle. **See Photo 2.**
6. Lightly grease the supplied bushings /sleeves and install in the shackle.





7. Install the new shackle at the desired amount of drop (either top or bottom hole) with the stock hardware. **See Photo 3.**
8. Lower the jack and install the new shackle in the stock shackle mount with stock hardware.
9. Install the wheels /tires.
10. Jack up the vehicle and remove the jack stands.
11. Lower the vehicle to the ground.



Post Installation

1. Check all fasteners for proper torque. Check to ensure there is adequate clearance between all rotating, mobile, fixed and heated members. Test brake system.
2. Re torque all fasteners after 500 miles. Visually inspect components and re-torque fasteners during routine vehicle service.
3. Readjust headlights to proper settings.

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for your suspension needs.

ROUGH COUNTRY SUSPENSION SYSTEMS