

# **AIR SUSPENSION KIT**

# RAM 2500 (2WD/4WD)\*

\*Will not fit with factory optional air equipped

*5000lbs HD/HD-J Kits* May require use of a 2" spacer (HP10152 – sold separately) on some later model RAM 2500 (2WD/4WD) Power Wagon applications

7500Ibs XD/XD-J Kits May not fit on some later model RAM 2500 (2WD/4WD) Power Wagon applications.

Use the most advanced air springs on the market to eliminate your vehicle's sag, sway and bottoming out. This heavy duty air suspension kit levels your truck's stance while providing added support for an overall smooth and safe ride. Thank you and congratulations on the purchase of an Air Suspension kit. Please read the entire manual prior to starting the installation to ensure you can complete it once started.

### **IMPORTANT**

An air suspension kit will not increase the GVWR (*Gross Vehicle Weight Rating*), as the GVWR is determined by the vehicle manufacturer. **Do not exceed the maximum capacity listed by the vehicle manufacturer**.

For safe and proper operation of the vehicle, never exceed a maximum of 100PSI in the air springs. Staying under the pressure limit will ensure maximum air spring life. **Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and/or a void warranty.** 

### **SAFETY WARNINGS!**

Please read and abide the instructions found in this manual, paying close attention to the helpful, cautionary or dangerous warning icons highlighting important safety recommendations and maintenance suggestions throughout this manual.



### HELPFUL INSTALL TIP Additional information that could



# PLEASE USE CAUTION

Hazards which could result in severe

DANGER WARNING

potentially make the job a little easier.

Unsafe practices could result in damage to you or your vehicle, or others.

- Serious personal injury or death may result from an air spring failure or accident due to improper installation or air spring pressure operation or maintenance.
- Inflating an unsecured air spring is dangerous. If it bursts, it could be hurled into the air with explosive force resulting in serious personal injury or death. Never inflate an air spring unless it is secured to the vehicle.
  - Removing and replacing air springs can be dangerous. This is only a job for a qualified service professional. Never perform air spring service procedures without proper training, tools, and equipment.

### **BEFORE STARTING THE INSTALLATION**

personal injury or death.

- Ensure the application information is correct for the make, model and year of the vehicle you are installing the kit on.
- Some vehicles are equipped with a rear wheel brake proportioning valve. Check with the manufacturer before installing the air spring kit, as it may affect braking performance.
- It is recommended to use a good quality anti-seize on all fasteners. This will reduce the chance of corrosion on the fasteners and will help facilitate removal, if required at a later date.
  - PLEASE NOTE: This kit contains push-to-connect fittings; using scissors or wire cutters to cut the nylon air line will distort the line and cause the connection to leak. The air line <u>must</u> be cut off squarely with the hose cutter provided in this kit, or a sharp utility knife. Failure to do so may void the warranty.

### **KIT CONTENTS**

Please confirm the items below are provided in your kit before starting the installation.

HEAVY DUTY KITS		QTY	PART #
<b>A</b> <sup>1</sup>	Double Convoluted Spring	2	HP10000
<b>C</b> <sup>1</sup>	Roll Plate, 4.5" Diameter	4	HP10054
<b>D</b> <sup>1</sup>	Fitting, ¼″ NPT	2	HP1099
<b>G</b> <sup>1</sup>	Bracket, Lower	2	HP1413
S <sup>1</sup>	Bolt 3/8" - 24 x 3/4" Countersunk	4	HP1977

HEAVY DUTY JOUNCE BUMPER KITS			PART #
<b>B</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>Double Convoluted Spring</b> <i>w/ Jounce Bumper</i>	2	HP10000J
<b>C</b> <sup>1</sup>	Roll Plate, 4.5" Diameter	4	HP10054
<b>D</b> <sup>1</sup>	Fitting, ¼″ NPT	2	HP1099
<b>G</b> <sup>1</sup>	Bracket, Lower	2	HP1413
<b>S</b> <sup>1</sup>	Bolt 3/8" - 24 x 3/4" Countersunk	4	HP1977

XTREME DUTY KITSQTYA2Double Convoluted Spring2		PART #	
A <sup>2</sup>	Double Convoluted Spring	2	HP10438
C <sup>2</sup>	Roll Plate, 5.5" Diameter	4	HP10069
D <sup>2</sup>	Fitting, 3/8" NPT	2	HP1385
G <sup>2</sup>	Bracket, Lower	2	HP1652

XTR	EME DUTY JOUNCE BUMPER KITS	QTY	PART #
B <sup>2</sup>	<b>Double Convoluted Spring</b> w/ Jounce Bumper	2	HP10438J
C <sup>2</sup>	Roll Plate, 5.5" Diameter	4	HP10069
	Fitting, 3/8" NPT	2	HP1385
<b>G</b> <sup>2</sup>	Bracket, Lower	2	HP1652

SH	ARED KIT CONTENTS	QTY	PART #
Ε	Bracket, Frame	2	HP1411
F	Bracket, Upper	2	HP1412
Н	Axle Strap	2	HP1383
	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 1.25" Hex Head	2	C10464
J	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 1.25" Carriage	4	HP1149
Κ	Bolt, 3/8" - 24 x 3/4" Carriage	4	HP1977
L	Bolt, 3/8" - 16 x 10" Carriage	4	HP1329
Μ	Bolt, M10 X 1.5 x 35mm Button Head	4	HP1414
Ν	Washer, 3/8" Flat	8	C653
0	Washer, 1/2" x 2" OD Thick Flat	2	HP1369
Ρ	Nut, 3/8″ Nylon Lock	10	HP1000
0	Heat Shield	1	HP0012
R	Worm Gear Ring Clamp	2	HP1001











## **REQUIRED TOOLS**

• Hoist or Floor Jack

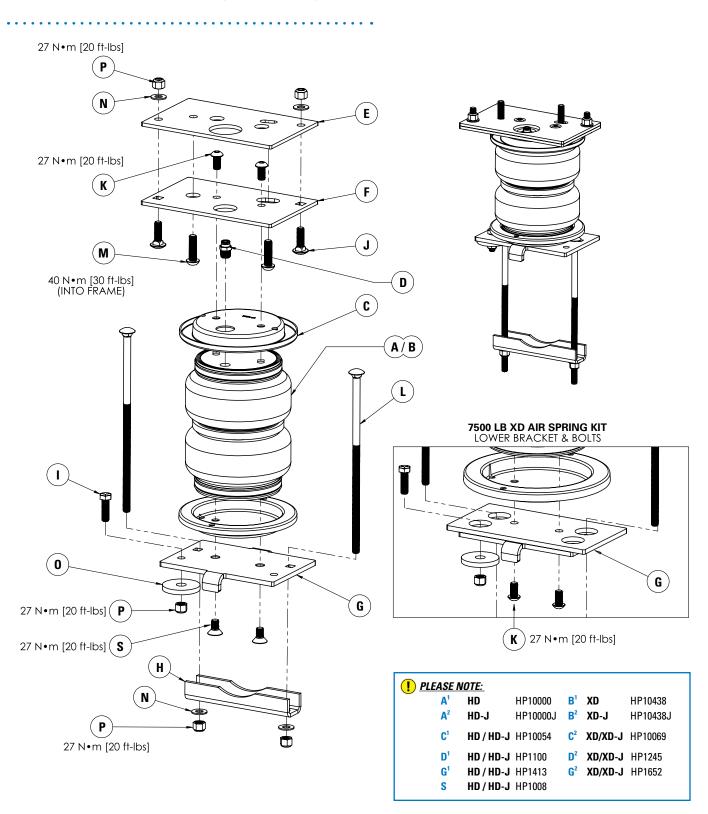
• Pipe Thread Sealant

- Safety Glasses
- Jack Safety Stands s • Torque Wrench
  - Ratchet
- Standard Combination Wrenches
- 7/32" Hex Allen Wrench
- Metric & Standard Sockets
- Hose Cutter (included) or Sharp Utility Knife
- Spray Bottle with Dish Soap/Water
- Air Compressor/Compressed Air Source (to test/fill air springs)
- Heavy Duty Drill
- 3/8 & 5/16 drill bits (very sharp)
- 3/8 Nut Driver

L6345

### **KIT EXPLOSION DIAGRAM**

**DRIVER SIDE ASSEMBLY SHOWN (Passenger side assembly is mirrored)** 



# INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### **1 MEASURE STOCK RIDE HEIGHT & CLEARANCE**

Park the vehicle on a level surface and remove any unnecessary weight from the vehicle to attain a "Normal Ride Height".

Using a measuring tape, measure the distance between the center of the wheel hub and the bottom of the fender well (see Figure 1A for reference) this will give you your stock Normal Ride Height.

Note the ride height for all four tires.

Check the clearance between the outside of the frame and the inside of the rear tires (as shown in red in Figure 1B), a minimum of 5" is required for adequate air spring clearance.

### 2 REMOVE REAR WHEELS

PLEASE NOTE: This step is optional for this installation but will make the install easier to complete.

Place wheel chocks in front of and behind both front wheels.

Raise the rear of the truck high enough to remove both wheels and attain a comfortable working height.

Place two jack stands under rear axle (as shown in Figure 1B).

Lower the vehicle until the axle is supported by the jack stands.

Remove rear wheels.

### **3 REMOVE JOUNCE BUMPER**

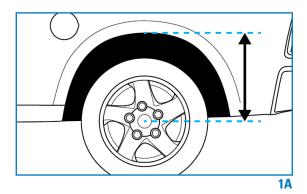
Remove the two bolts securing jounce bumper to frame rail on both sides of the vehicle.

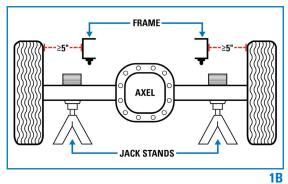
Discard the hardware as it will not be reused in this installation.

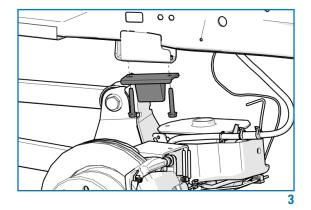
### 4 ZIP TIE VENT TUBE (IF EQUIPPED)

Some models may have a small vent tube extending from the axle near the bump stop on the driver's side of the vehicle.

If equipped, zip tie the vent tube to the small hole on the spring mount (as shown in Figure 4).









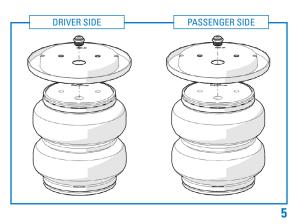
### 5 **INSTALL AIR FITTINGS**

Set a roll plate over the top surface of each air spring (as shown in Figure 5).

Insert the air fitting into the large threaded hole and tighten finger tight plus an additional 1.5 turns.



The use of thread sealant or Teflon tape is recommended.



### ATTACH UPPER AIR SPRING PLATES 6

Insert two  $3/8'' - 16 \times 1.25''$  carriage bolts through the square holes in the upper air spring plate and set the plate on the air spring (as shown in Figure 6).

- (!) Take note of the orientations of the plates as the kit cannot be installed if they are placed incorrectly.
- () Carriage bolts must be inserted before bolting plate to the air spring as the roll plate may prevent insertion of the bolts when plate is tightened.

Secure the plate to the air spring using two  $3/8'' - 24 \times 3/4'''$  bolts.

Torque to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).

### PREPARE LOWER BRACKETS 7

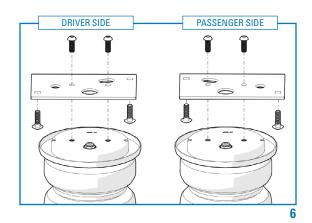
Install the 1/2" x 2" OD thick flat washer on the underside of the lower bracket using a 3/8" - 16 x 1.25" bolt and 3/8" nylon lock nut.

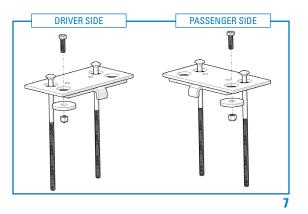
**!** Note the installation hole location in Figure 7 as each hole corresponds to a certain vehicle side.

Torque the bolt to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).

Insert two  $3/8'' - 16 \times 10''$  carriage bolts as shown through the square holes in the lower bracket.

Carriage bolts must be inserted before attaching the lower bracket to the air spring as the roll plate will cover the carriage bolt holes.





### 8 ATTACH LOWER BRACKETS TO AIR SPRINGS

Set a roll plate on the bottom surface of the air spring.

Place the driver side lower bracket assembly on the driver side air spring assembly and align the holes in the air spring, roll plate and lower bracket.

# (!) The large thick washer (circled in Figure 8) must be on the same side as the air fitting on the top of the spring.

Secure bracket with two 3/8" - 24 x 3/4" bolts and torque to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).

Repeat process for passenger side spring assembly.

### 9 INSTALL UPPER FRAME BRACKET

Attach the upper frame bracket to the frame of the vehicle by installing two M10 button head screws through the bracket into the holes previously occupied by the jounce bumper hardware (removed in Step 3).

### **!** Refer to Figures 9A and 9B for the correct plate orientation.

The large round hole must face outwards towards the tire and bolt in the slotted hole must be attached to the rearward jounce bumper hole.

Torque the button head screws to 40 N•m (30 ft-lbs).

### **10 INSTALL AIR SPRING ASSEMBLIES**

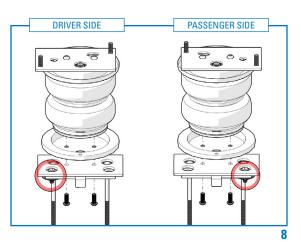
It may be necessary to raise the frame of the truck a few inches to allow more clearance to install the spring assemblies

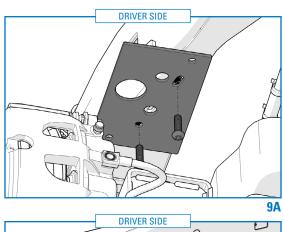
Set the driver side spring assembly in place (as shown in Figure 10A).

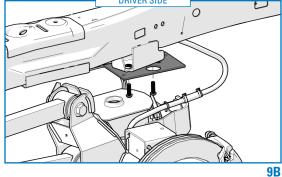
Ensure the rear carriage bolt sits between the axle and the brake lines (see circled area in Figure 10B on the following page for reference).

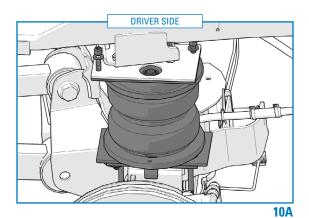
Fasten the spring assembly to the upper frame bracket by inserting the pre-installed carriage bolts through the round holes in the frame bracket and secure with two 3/8" flat washers and two 3/8" nylon lock nuts.

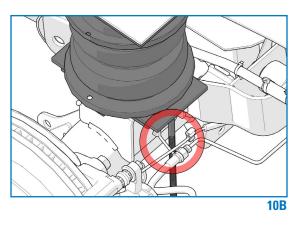
Torque lock nuts to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).











### **SECURE LOWER BRACKET** 11

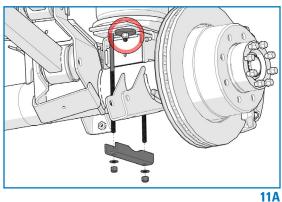
Raise the axle or lower the frame so the lower bracket sits flat on the jounce bumper strike plate.

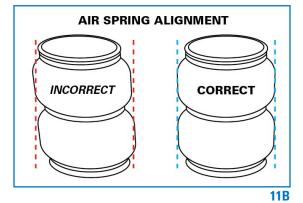
Adjust the bracket so the large flat washer is touching the side of the strike plate (see circled area in Figure 11A for reference).

### **!** Make sure the air spring is correctly aligned vertical as per Figure 11B.

Place the axle strap on the two carriage bolts (see Figure 11A) and secure with two 3/8" flat washers and two 3/8" nylon lock nuts.

Torque the lock nuts to 27 N•m (20 ft-lbs).





#### 12 **INSTALL HEAT SHIELD**

Bend tabs on the heat shield so the required 1/2" of dead space exists between the heat shield and exhaust when attached.

Attach the heat shield to the exhaust pipe on the passenger side using two ring clamps (shown in Figure 12). Each hose clamp holds a tab against exhaust pipe.



### **INSTALL AIR LINE**

Two fill valves are provided in this kit. The most common place to install them is in place of the license plate fasteners. Alternatively, two 5/16" holes can be drilled in a location of your choosing.

Cut the air line assembly into two equal lengths with the hose cutter provided in this kit or a sharp utility knife.

(!) PLEASE NOTE: This kit contains push-to-connect fittings; using scissors or wire cutters to cut the nylon air line will distort the line and cause the connection to leak. The air line must be cut off squarely with a hose cutter or a sharp utility knife.

Install one air line at a time starting at the fill valve location. Place a 5/16" nut on the air valve. Leave enough of the inflation valve in front of the nut to extend through the hole, install a flat washer, and 5/16" nut and cap (reference Figure A for assembly). There should be enough valve exposed after installation – approximately ½" – to easily apply a pressure gauge or an air chuck.

Route the air line back to the NPT fitting on the air spring, then cut the hose to length. Moisten the end of the air line prior to inserting it into the fitting and push it in until it stops.

### Repeat with the other fill valve.

Secure the air lines using the provided tie-straps, away from any moving items and heat sources.

### **CHECK SYSTEM FOR LEAKS**

Inflate both air springs to 90 psi (60 psi for in-coil bags), then use a mixture of dish soap and water on all air line connections to detect any air leaks. Large, expanding bubbles indicate a leak (as shown in Figure B).

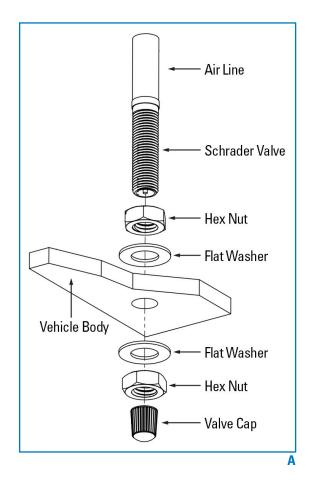
### Repair as necessary and retest.

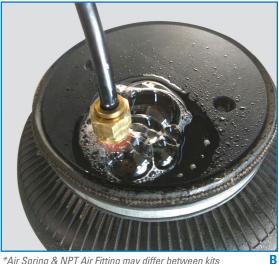
Inflate air springs to a predetermined value and on following day recheck pressure. If one or both of air springs have lost pressure, an air leak is present.

**!** Leak must be repaired, and then retested until no leaks exist.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** You have completed the install

After Installation continues on the following page.





\*Air Spring & NPT Air Fitting may differ between kits

. . . . . .

### Thank you again, and congratulations on the installation of your Air Suspension kit.

### AFTER COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION

- The air spring must have clearance between itself and the surrounding components to prevent any contact when spring is
  inflated or compressed. Trimming off excess bolt length may also be required to ensure no contact with the spring or other
  suspension components can be made once installed.
- If removed, re-install the wheels and torque fasteners to the manufacturer's specifications. Re-torque all fasteners after the first 500 miles of driving.

### **OPERATING YOUR VEHICLE WITH AIR SUSPENSION**

Air springs have minimum and maximum recommended pressure requirements:

PART #	SPRING STYLE	SPRING TYPE	MIN PSI	MAX PSI
HP10189	In-Coil	STANDARD DUTY	- 5 PSI	70 PSI
HP10560	111-0011	STANDARD DUTY	J 121	
HP10001		STANDARD DUTY		100 psi
HP10173	Sleeve Style	STANDARD DUTY	10 PSI	
HP10199		STANDARD DUTY		
HP10083	Single Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 psi
HP10083J	Single Convoluteu	HEAVY DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI <sup>*</sup> / 5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10000	Double Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 psi
HP10000J		HEAVY DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI <sup>*</sup> / 5 PSI	100 PSI
HP10068	Large Double Convoluted	HEAVY DUTY	5 PSI	100 psi
HP10438	Double Convoluted	EXTREME DUTY	5 PSI	100 psi
HP10438J		EXTREME DUTY with JOUNCE BUMPER	0 PSI <sup>*</sup> / 5 PSI	100 psi

\* Springs with a jounce bumper can be run at zero PSI when vehicle is unloaded only

For safe and proper operation, never operate the vehicle over the maximum listed PSI in the air springs. Staying under the pressure limit will ensure maximum air spring life. Failure in doing so may result in damage to your vehicle and/or a void warranty.

### ! It is recommended to check the air pressure in your air springs daily for first couple of days to ensure a leak has not developed.

Air springs are designed to maintain the vehicle's stock ride height with a load. Do not use the air springs as a means to lift vehicle with no load. This will result in a harsh ride.

### SERVICING YOUR VEHICLE WITH AIR SUSPENSION

When lifting the vehicle with a floor jack or hoist on the frame, never allow the air spring to limit the travel of the axle. Try to always jack the vehicle on the axle. Suspending the axle with the air spring limiting the axle travel will damage the air spring and void the air spring warranty.

### WARRANTY

See additional warranty included with this kit for details.