

### INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Congratulations - your new Air Helper Springs are quality products capable of improving the handling and comfort of your vehicle. As with all products, proper installation is the key to obtaining all of the benefits your kit is capable of delivering. Please take a few minutes to read through the instructions to identify the components and learn where and how they are used. It is a good idea to start by comparing the parts in your kit with the parts list below.

The heart of the air spring kit is, of course, the air helper springs. Remember that the air helper springs must flex and expand during operation, so be sure that there is enough clearance to do so without rubbing against any other part of the vehicle.

Be sure to take all applicable safety precautions during the installation of the kit. The instructions listed in this brochure and the illustrations all show the right, or passenger's side of the vehicle. To install the right side assembly simply follow the same procedures.

### WARNING:

Do not inflate this assembly when it is unrestricted. The assembly must be restricted by the suspension or other adequate structure. Do not inflate beyond 100 psi. Improper use or over inflation may cause property damage or severe personal injury.

This kit includes inflation valves and air lines for each air spring. This will allow you to compensate for unbalanced loads. If you would rather have a single inflation valve system to provide equal pressure to both air springs, your dealer can supply the optional "T" fitting.

### IMPORTANT!

*For your safety and to prevent possible damage to your vehicle, do not exceed the maximum load recommended by the vehicle manufacturer (GVWR). Although your Air Helper Springs are rated at a maximum inflation pressure of 100 psi, this pressure may allow you to carry too great a load on some vehicles. It is best to have your vehicle weighed once it is completely loaded and compare that weight to the maximum allowed. Check your vehicle owner's manual or data plate on driver side door for maximum loads listed for your vehicle.*

*When inflating your Air Helper Springs, add air pressure in small quantities, checking pressure frequently during inflation. The air spring requires much less air volume than a tire and, therefore, inflates much quicker.*

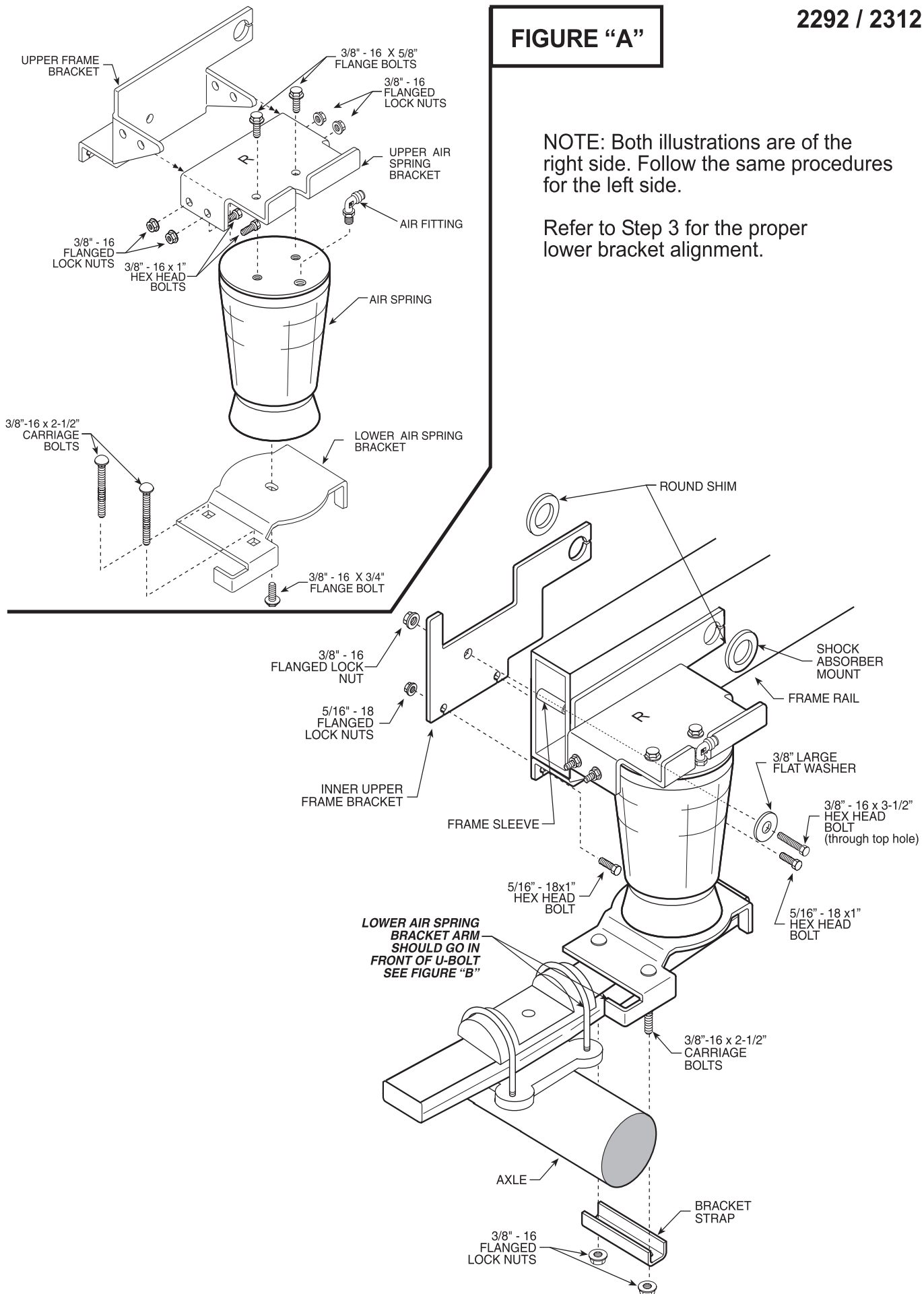
### PARTS LIST

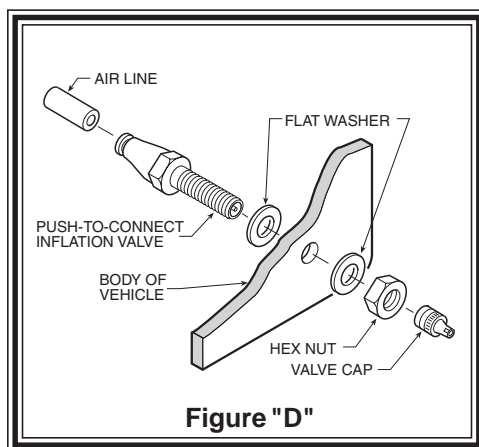
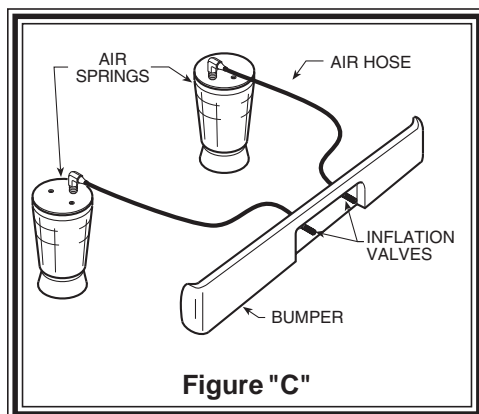
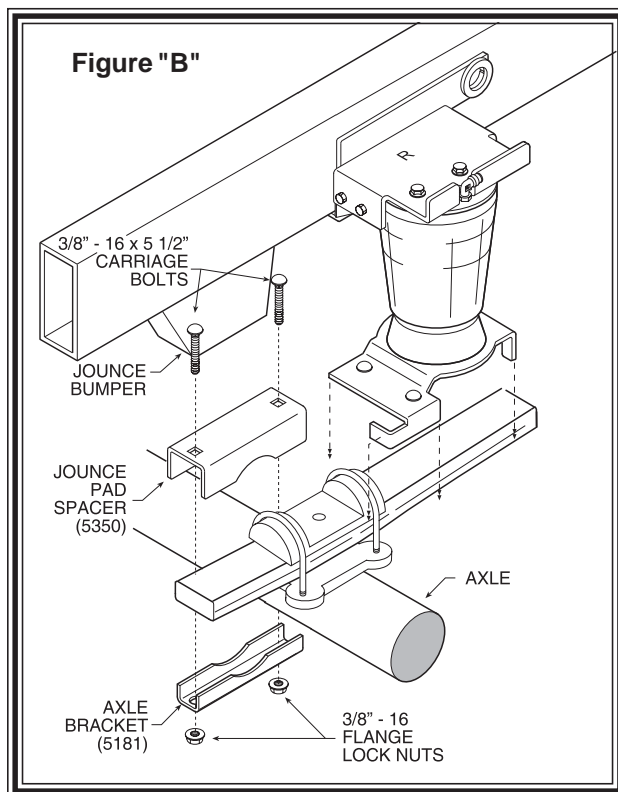
|                           |      |   |                                |      |    |
|---------------------------|------|---|--------------------------------|------|----|
| AIR SPRING                | 9002 | 2 | PUSH-TO-CONNECT                |      |    |
| LEFT UPPER FRAME BRACKET  | 5345 | 1 | INFLATION VALVE                | 3098 | 2  |
| RIGHT UPPER FRAME BRACKET | 5346 | 1 | VALVE CAP                      |      | 2  |
| LEFT UPPER                |      |   | THERMAL SLEEVE                 | 0899 | 2  |
| AIR SPRING BRACKET        | 5535 | 1 | 5/16"-18 X 1" HEX BOLT         |      | 4  |
| RIGHT UPPER               |      |   | 5/16"-18 FLANGE NUT            |      | 4  |
| AIR SPRING BRACKET        | 5534 | 1 | 5/16" FLAT WASHER              |      | 4  |
| LEFT INNER BRACKET        | 5347 | 1 | 3/8"-16 X 1" HEX BOLT          |      | 8  |
| RIGHT INNER BRACKET       | 5348 | 1 | 3/8"-16 X 5/8" FLANGE BOLT     |      | 6  |
| SPACER                    | 5366 | 4 | 3/8"-16 X 3 1/2 HEX BOLT       |      | 2  |
| LOWER BRACKET             | 5349 | 2 | 3/8"-16 X 2 1/2" CARRIAGE BOLT |      | 4  |
| JOUNCE BUMPER SPACER      | 5350 | 2 | 3/8"-16 X 5 1/2" CARRIAGE BOLT |      | 4  |
| BRACKET CLAMP             | 5086 | 2 | 3/8"-16 FLANGE NUT             |      | 18 |
| AXLE CLAMP                | 5181 | 2 | 3/8" FLAT WASHER               |      | 2  |
| FRAME SLEEVE              | 5392 | 2 | 3/8" LARGE FLAT WASHER         |      | 2  |
| 18 ft. TUBING             | 0938 | 1 | NYLON TIE WRAP                 |      | 6  |
| PUSH-TO-CONNECT           |      |   | CAUTION TAG                    |      | 2  |
| ELBOW                     | 3101 | 2 |                                |      |    |

FIGURE "A"

NOTE: Both illustrations are of the right side. Follow the same procedures for the left side.

Refer to Step 3 for the proper lower bracket alignment.





### NOTE:

Please read through this manual completely before installing the air spring kit to your vehicle.

### STEP 1 - PREPARE THE VEHICLE

With the vehicle on a solid, level surface chock the front wheels. Raise the vehicle by the axle and remove the back wheels. After the removal of the wheels lower the vehicle so the axle rests on jack stands rated for your vehicles weight. Remove the negative battery cable.

### STEP 2 - PRE-ASSEMBLE THE KIT

*Note:* The upper frame brackets and the upper air spring brackets are marked "R" and "L" to indicate right side and left side.

Select the upper air spring bracket marked "R" and the upper frame bracket marked "R" from the kit. Assemble the upper air spring bracket and the upper frame bracket using four 3/8"-16 x 1" hex head bolts and four 3/8"-16 flange nuts, *as shown in Figure "A"*.

### STEP 3 - INSTALLING THE ASSEMBLY TO THE VEHICLE

Remove the shock absorber top bolt and move the top of the shock absorber out of the way. Place the upper bracket assembly on the frame rail and around the shock absorber mount. Place the round shim on the outside of the bracket on the shock absorber mount. Then place the inner upper bracket marked "R" on the inside of the frame rail and around the shock absorber mount. Fasten the inside frame bracket and outside bracket assembly together with two 5/16"-18 x 1" hex head bolts and 5/16"-16 flange lock nuts. Place the round shim on the outside of the inner frame bracket on the shock absorber mount. Reinstall the shock absorber and tighten the shock absorber bolt back to manufacture's specifications. Using the upper brackets as a template drill one 3/8" hole on the inside of the frame and a 5/8 hole on the outside of the frame. ***Before drilling the hole make sure electrical, brake and fuel lines are cleared from the path of the drill.*** In order to prevent any damage to these lines it is recommended that a piece of wood be placed between the frame rail and the existing lines. Install the 3/8"-16 x 3 1/2" hex head bolt, frame sleeve, large flat washer, and secure with a 3/8"-16 flange lock nut.

Select one air spring from your kit and install the swivel elbow push to connect fitting. Tighten the air fitting so as to make contact with the nylon ring and tighten 1/4 turn to snug the fitting. No thread sealant is needed. Fasten the air spring to upper bracket the using the 3/8"-16 x 5/8" flanged bolts, *see Figure "A"*.

Select one lower bracket from your kit. Insert the 3/8"-16 x 2 1/2" carriage bolts into the square holes on the lower bracket. Fasten the air spring to the lower bracket using the 3/8"-16 x 3/4" flange bolt (*fingertight*), *see Figure "A"*. Attach the lower bracket to the leaf stack using the carriage bolts (installed earlier), the flange lock nuts and bracket strap as shown in *Figure "A"*. Tighten up the 3/8"-16 x 3/4" flange bolt in the bottom of the air spring that was installed earlier. Once the assembly is in place make sure that you have a minimum of a 1/2" clearance around the air spring for proper operation.

### STEP 4 - INSTALLATION OF THE JOUNCE BUMPER PAD SPACER

A jounce pad spacer will have to be added to the axle. Select a jounce bumper space and a axle clamp bracket from your kit. Attach the jounce pad space below the jounce bumper with two 3/8"-16 x 3 1/2" carriage bolts and two 3/8"-16 flange lock nuts, *please see Figure "B"*.

## STEP 5 - INSTALLATION OF THE LEFT SIDE ASSEMBLY

Follow steps 2-4 with reverse orientations for assembly and installation of the right side assembly.

## STEP 6 - INSTALL THE AIRLINE TUBING AND INFLATION VALVE

Uncoil the airline tubing and cut it into two equal lengths. **DO NOT FOLD OR KINK THE AIRLINE TUBING.** Try to make the cut as square as possible. Insert one end of the airline tubing into the air fitting installed in the top of the air helper spring. Push the airline tubing into the fitting as far as possible *see Figure "A"*.

Select a location on the vehicle for the air inflation valves. The location can be on the bumper or the body of the vehicle, as long as it is in a protected location so the valve will not be damaged, but maintain accessibility for the air chuck *see Figure "C"*. Drill a 5/16" hole and install the air inflation valve using two 5/16" flat washers per valve as supports *see Figure "D"*. Run the airline tubing from the air helper spring to the valve, routing it to avoid direct heat from the engine, exhaust pipe, and away from sharp edges. Thermal sleeves have been provided for these conditions. The airline tubing should not be bent or curved sharply as it may buckle. Secure the airline tubing in place with the nylon ties provided. Push the end of the airline tubing into the inflation valve as illustrated *see Figure "D"*.

## STEP 7 - CHECK THE AIR SYSTEM

Once the inflation valves are installed, inflate the air helper springs to 70 *psi* and check the fittings for air leaks. Using a spray bottle, apply a solution of soap and water to the fittings. If a leak is detected at a airline tubing connection then check to make sure that the airline tubing is cut as square as possible and that it is pushed completely into the fitting. The airline tubing can easily be removed from the fittings by exhausting all the pressure in the air springs and then pushing the collar towards the body of the fitting and then, with a gentle pull, remove the airline tubing. Reinstall the tubing and reinflate the air springs and check for leaks as noted above. If a leak is detected where the air fitting screws into the spring, deflate the air springs, then screw the air fitting into the air spring until the leak stops. Reinstall the tubing and reinflate the air springs and check for leaks as noted above.

This now completes the installation. Install the wheels and torque the lug nuts to the manufacturer's specification. Raise the vehicle by the axle and remove the jack stands. Lower the vehicle to the ground. Reattach the negative battery cable and remove the wheel chocks from the front wheels. Before proceeding, check once again to be sure you have proper clearance around the air springs. With a load on your vehicle and the air helper springs inflated, you must have at least 1/2" clearance around the air springs. As a general rule, the air helper springs will support approximately 30 lbs. of load for each *psi* of inflation pressure (per pair). For example, 50 *psi* of inflation pressure will support a load of 1000 lbs. per pair of air helper springs. **FOR BEST RIDE** use only enough air pressure in the air helper springs to level the vehicle when viewed from the side (front to rear). This amount will vary depending on the load, location of load, condition of existing suspension and personal preference.

### NOTE:

Too much air pressure in the air helper springs will result in a firmer ride, while too little air pressure will allow the air helper spring to bottom out over rough conditions. Too little air pressure will not provide the improvement in handling that is possible. **TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DAMAGE MAINTAIN A MINIMUM OF 10 *psi* IN THE AIR HELPER SPRINGS AT ALL TIMES.**

### NOTE:

Once the air helper springs are installed, it is recommended that the vehicle not be lifted by the frame, as over-extension may occur, resulting in damage to the air helper springs. However, should it become necessary to raise the vehicle by the frame, deflate both air helper springs completely.

### NOTE:

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| MIN PRESSURE          | 10 PSI  |
| MAX PRESSURE (LOADED) | 100 PSI |



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