

AIR LIFT
PERFORMANCE

Kit 78520

Honda Accord (8th GEN)
Acura TL & TSX

Front Application



CAUTION

READ PAGE 8 BEFORE
INSTALLATION

INSTALLATION GUIDE

For maximum effectiveness and safety, please read these instructions completely before proceeding with installation.

Failure to read these instructions can result in an incorrect installation.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Notation Explanation	2
Important Safety Notices	2
Installation Diagram	3
Hardware List	3
Installing the Air Suspension	4
Preparing the Vehicle	4
Removing the Front Suspension	4
Air Suspension Installation	6
Routing the Air Lines	8
Before Operating	9
Setting the Ride Height	9
Torque Specifications	9
Suggested Driving and Maximum Air Pressures	9
Check for Binding	9
Installation Checklist	10
Damping Adjustment	10
Limited Warranty & Return Policy	12



Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of this Honda Accord (8th GEN)/Acura TL and TSX Performance kit.

It is important to read and understand the entire installation guide before beginning installation or performing any maintenance, service or repair. The information includes a hardware list, step-by-step installation information, maintenance tips, safety information and a troubleshooting guide.

Air Lift Performance reserves the right to make changes and improvements to its products and publications at any time. For the latest version of this manual, contact Air Lift Performance at (800) 248-0892 or visit our website at www.airliftperformance.com.

NOTATION EXPLANATION

Hazard notations appear in various locations in this publication. Information which is highlighted by one of these notations must be observed to help minimize risk of personal injury or possible improper installation which may render the vehicle unsafe. Notes are used to help emphasize areas of procedural importance and provide helpful suggestions. The following definitions explain the use of these notations as they appear throughout this guide.



DANGER

INDICATES IMMEDIATE HAZARDS WHICH WILL RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.



WARNING

INDICATES HAZARDS OR UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH COULD RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.



CAUTION

INDICATES HAZARDS OR UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE MACHINE OR MINOR PERSONAL INJURY.

NOTE

Indicates a procedure, practice or hint which is important to highlight.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICES

The installation of this kit does not alter the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) or payload of the vehicle. Check your vehicle's owner's manual and do not exceed the maximum load listed for your vehicle.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating: The maximum allowable weight of the fully loaded vehicle (including passengers and cargo). This number — along with other weight limits, as well as tire, rim size and inflation pressure data — is shown on the vehicle's Safety Compliance Certification Label.

Payload: The combined, maximum allowable weight of cargo and passengers that the vehicle is designed to carry. Payload is GVWR minus the Base Curb Weight.



WARNING

DO NOT INFLATE AIR SPRINGS WHILE OFF OF THE VEHICLE. DAMAGE TO ASSEMBLY MAY RESULT AND VOID WARRANTY.



CAUTION

DO NOT WELD TO, OR MODIFY PERFORMANCE STRUTS/SHOCKS IN ANY WAY. DAMAGE TO UNIT MAY OCCUR AND WILL VOID WARRANTY.

Installation Diagram

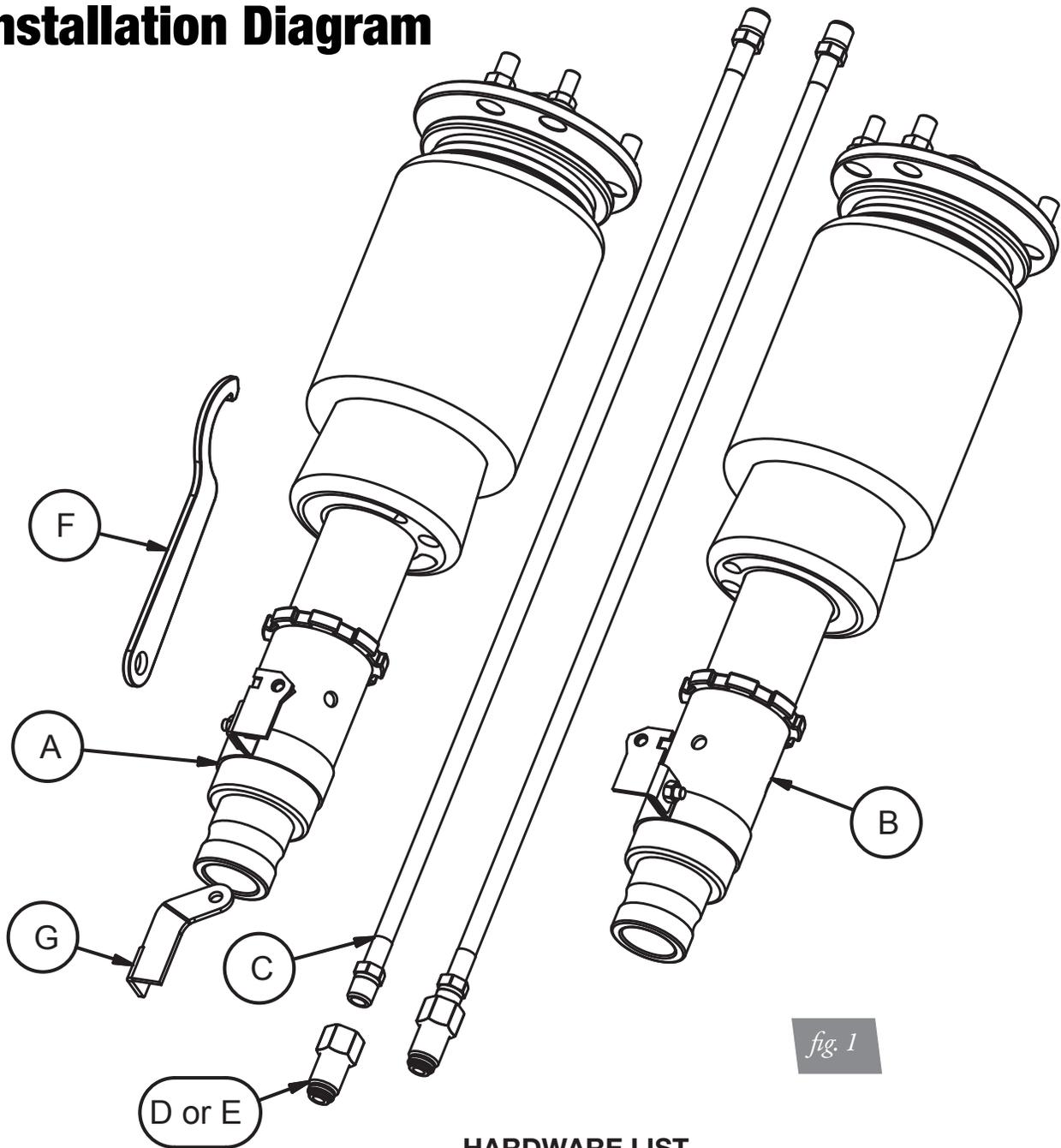


fig. 1

HARDWARE LIST

Item	Part #	Description	Qty
A	35305	ASM, Shock, 8th Gen Accord Left Front	1
B	35304	ASM, Shock, 8th Gen Accord Right Front	1
C	20997	Leader Line, 1/4" ID	2
D	21810	Fitting, 1/4" FNPT X 1/4" PTC, DOT	2
E	21987*	Fitting, 1/4" FNPT X 3/8" PTC, DOT	2
F		Spanner Wrench	1
G	26769-005	Headlight Alignment Bracket.....	1

*1/4" MNPT x 3/8" PTC fittings are NOT included in this kit, but are available as a special order.



Missing or damaged parts? Call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892 for a replacement part.

Installing the Air Suspension

PREPARING THE VEHICLE

1. Elevate and support the vehicle with a hoist or safety stands.
2. Remove the front wheel and support the hub assembly (fig. 2).



REMOVING THE FRONT SUSPENSION

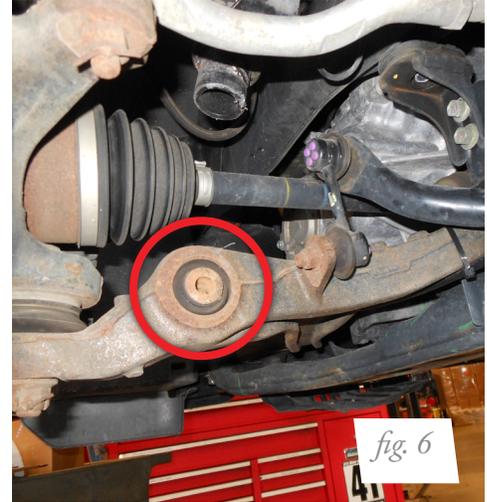
1. Unbolt the sensor wire tab from the shock body (fig. 3).



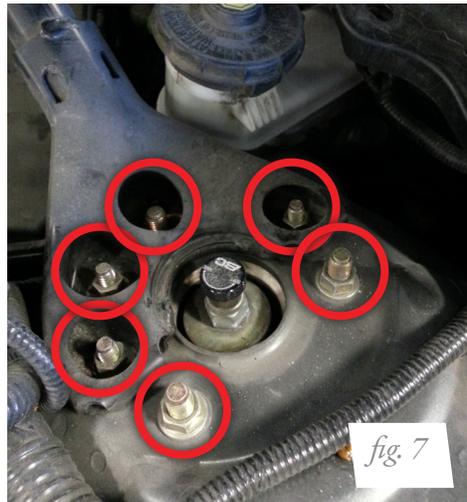
2. Unthread and remove the lower shock pinch bolt (fig. 4).



3. Unbolt the fork mount from the lower control arm (fig. 5). Slide the fork off the shock and remove the fork mount (fig. 6).



4. Remove the six upper bracket nuts of various sizes (fig. 7).

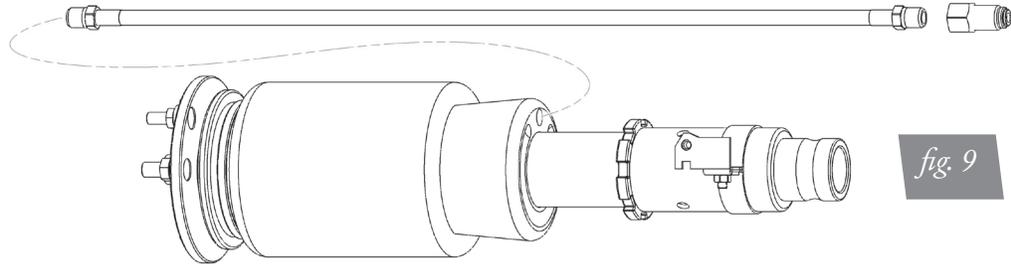


5. Remove the shock assembly from the vehicle (fig. 8).



AIR SUSPENSION INSTALLATION

1. Begin by installing the leader line into the air spring. Apply thread sealant to the threads of the leader line. Tighten the appropriate fitting to the air line (one and three-quarter turns beyond hand-tight). Tighten the leader line into the air spring (one and three-quarter turns beyond hand-tight) (fig. 9).



2. Attach the shock upper mount to the chassis and torque the M8 nuts to 22Nm (16 lb.-ft.) Torque the M10 nuts to 55Nm (41 lb.-ft.) (fig. 10).

NOTE

The images are representative, actual kit may differ.



3. Insert the fork mount and loosely attach to the shock (fig. 11). Do not torque the pinch bolt at this time.



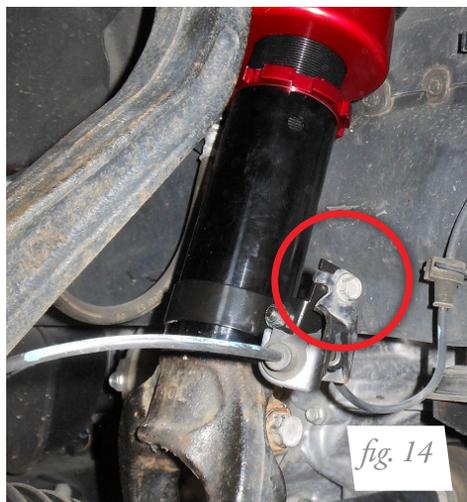
4. Align the fork mount with the lower control arm bushing and insert the previously removed bolt (fig. 12). Tighten the lower bushing bolt snugly, but do not torque at this time. Bolt torque must be done at the desired ride height.



5. Make certain the shock mount is fully seated into the fork mount and torque the pinch bolt to 49Nm (36 lb.-ft.) (fig. 13).



6. Attach the sensor wire to the shock (fig. 14). Torque bolt to 10Nm (7 lb.-ft.).



CAUTION

AFTER INITIAL INSTALLATION OF YOUR STRUTS/SHOCKS:

- DO NOT CYCLE THE SUSPENSION WITH THE AIR LINE CONNECTED TO THE LEADER LINE WITHOUT FIRST ADDING AIR SPRING PRESSURE. DOING SO MAY CAUSE THE AIR SPRING TO IMPROPERLY INFLATE (FIG.15). IT IS SAFE TO CYCLE THE SUSPENSION TO CHECK FOR CLEARANCES ETC. WITH THE LEADER LINE OPEN TO ATMOSPHERE (DISCONNECTED FROM AIR LINE).
- BEFORE SETTING VEHICLE ON THE GROUND FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO INFLATE THE AIR SPRINGS TO AT LEAST 50 PSI. THIS WILL PREVENT ANY POSSIBILITY OF THE AIR SPRING KICKING OUT AND CAUSING A LEAK (FIG. 16). REFERENCE FIG. 17 FOR CORRECT INSTALLATION.



fig. 15

Caused by cycling with air line attached without pressure. Remove air line from spring to release vacuum and re-attach. Inflate to 50+ PSI before lowering car to ground.



fig. 16

Shows what spring looks like after lowering car to ground with <50 PSI and raising it with air pressure. Do NOT drive!



fig. 17

Shows what spring looks like when installed correctly.

ROUTING THE AIR LINES

1. Fully compress the suspension using a jack. With the suspension compressed, review the best routing for the leader line that is clear of all suspension and steering components.
2. Routing should allow for the suspension to extend and steer without kinking, pulling the line tight or rubbing on other components. Following the brake line routing is often a good place to start. Check clearances to all other components.

Before Operating

SETTING THE RIDE HEIGHT

1. Refer to the User Guide supplied with this kit to set up the suspension.

Torque Specifications		
Location	Nm	lb-ft
M8 Upper mount nuts	22	16
M10 Upper mount nuts	55	41
Lower shock pinch bolt	49	36
Fork mount bushing bolt	64	47
Sensor wire bracket bolt	10	7
Upper control arm bushing bolt	31	23
Wheel studs	108	80
Braided air line threads	1 and 3/4 turns beyond hand-tight	

Table 1

Suggested Driving Air Pressure	Maximum Air Pressure
100-120 PSI (6.9-8.3BAR)	150 PSI (10.3BAR)
FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MINIMUM PRESSURE (OR PRESSURE PROPORTIONAL TO LOAD) WILL RESULT IN BOTTOMING OUT, OVER-EXTENSION OR RUBBING AGAINST ANOTHER COMPONENT AND WILL VOID THE WARRANTY.	

Table 2

CHECK FOR BINDING



CAUTION

MAKE SURE THE FRONT WHEELS ARE STRAIGHT WHEN DEFLATING AND REINFLATING AIR SPRINGS.

1. Inflate and deflate the system (do not exceed 125 PSI [8.6BAR]) to check for clearance or binding issues. With the air springs deflated, check clearances on everything so as not to pinch brake lines, vent tubes, etc. Clear lines if necessary.
2. Inflate the air springs to 75-90 PSI (5.2-6.2BAR) and check all connections for leaks.

INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

- Clearance** — Inflate the air springs to 75-90 PSI (5.2-6.2BAR) and make sure there is at least 1/2" (13mm) clearance from anything that might rub against the air spring. This should be checked with the air spring fully inflated and fully deflated.
- Leak** — Inflate the air springs to 75-90 PSI (5.2-6.2BAR) and check all connections for leaks. All leaks must be eliminated before the vehicle is road tested.
- Heat** — Be sure there is sufficient clearance from heat sources, at least 6" (152mm) from air springs and air lines. If a heat shield was included in the kit, install it. If there is no heat shield, but one is required, call Air Lift customer service at **(800) 248-0892**.
- Fastener** — Recheck all bolts for proper torque.
- Road** — Inflate the air springs to recommended driving pressures (Table 2). Drive the vehicle 10 miles (16km) and recheck for clearance, loose fasteners and air leaks.
- Operating instructions** — If professionally installed, the installer should review the operating instructions with the owner. Be sure to provide the owner with all paperwork that came with the kit.

DAMPING ADJUSTMENT

The struts in this kit have 30 settings, or “clicks”, of adjustable compression and rebound damping characteristics. Damping is changed through the strut rod using the supplied adjuster (figs. 18 and 19) or a 3mm allen wrench.

Turn the adjuster clockwise and the damping settings are hardened. Turn the adjuster counterclockwise and the damping is softened.

Each shock is preset to “-13 clicks”. This means that the shock is adjusted 13 clicks away from full stiff. Counting down from full stiff is the preferred method of keeping track of, or setting, damping. This setting was developed on a 2011 Accord Coupe V6 with automatic transmission, and may need to be adjusted to different vehicles and driving characteristics.



fig. 18



fig. 19

Notes

Limited Warranty and Return Policy

Air Lift Company provides a 1-year limited warranty to the original purchaser of Air Lift Performance damper kits from the date of original purchase, that the products will be free from defects in workmanship and materials when used on vehicles as specified by Air Lift Company and under normal operating conditions, subject to the requirements and exclusions set forth in the full Limited Warranty and Return Policy that is available online at www.airliftperformance.com/warranty.

For additional warranty information contact Air Lift Company customer service.

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Need Help?

Contact our customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, our local number is (517) 322-2144.



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Printed in the USA
JJC-1021

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