INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS: Hood Struts

PART #4952B

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1 Hood Bracket, Passenger Side 4 1/4" Nutsert
1 Fender Bracket, Driver Side 8 1/4" SAE Flat Washer
1 Fender Bracket, Passenger Side 6 1/4"-20 X 1" Bolt
2 Hood Struts 2 1/4" Nyloc NC Nuts
4 Ball Studs

Tools Needed: Drill, 25/64" Drill Bit, Hammer, File

Please read all instructions before beginning. Although every effort has been made to make sure these instructions will work for all of the model years listed above, some modifications not listed may be necessary due to the variety of engine compartment configurations.

1. Open hood and secure with prop rod. (For the last time!)

2. Measure 22 1/4" from the rear outside of the hood corner along the reinforcement rail. Make a mark at this point. This is where the rear hole for the hood bracket will be located.

3. Using the bracket as a template align the previously marked measurement as the hole center and mark the center of the other hole. The bracket should straddle the long oval cut out (V-notch) in the reinforcement rail. The ball stud hole should be towards the engine and front of the vehicle.

4. Ensure that the hood bracket is parallel with hood and mark both holes.

5. Using a 25/64" drill bit, carefully drill through the reinforcement rail. **Be very careful not to drill too far, as damage to the hood will result.** Wrapping the drill bit with tape near the end will act as stop and help you to not drill through the hood outer skin.

6. Assemble the bolt, washer, bracket and nutsert (will need to tap with hammer) and finger tighten as shown in photo. Push this assembly fully into the hood holes. As the bolt is tightened, it will crush the upper collar of the nutsert and hold it in place.

7. Repeat steps 1-6 on the passenger side to attach the hood bracket.

8. Remove the driver side rear most fender apron bolt and align the driver side fender bracket using thr rear hole in the bracket with apron hole as a guide. Secure loosely with the bolt previously removed. The ball will be on the front half of the bracket facing the engine. Note: 93-97 Rangers, the fender apron bolt bracket is up from the fender apron, while on other models/years, it is down from the apron. Rangers will require use of the included spacer.

9. Mark the lower hole of the fender bracket using the bracket as a template, and remove the bracket.

10. Install the ball studs on the fender brackets so that the nut side is toward the fender.

11. Drill a 5/16" hole at the marked point on the lower fender apron. Replace the fender bracket and secure with the apron stock bolt and the 1/4" bolt provided.

12. Repeat steps 8-12 on the passenger side.

13. Install the ball studs on the hood brackets so that nut side is on the engine side.

14. Use a small screwdriver to release the clips on either end of the hood struts. Install the struts rod side up and press in retaining clip.

15. **Carefully** close the hood to make sure that there is ample clearance of struts and other under hood components. **DO NOT SLAM THE HOOD THE FIRST TIME!**

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First apron screw from firewall (with spacer)

Placement of fender bracket (ball stud angle is up)

Rangers 93-97

On Explorers, you will need to notch the ABS Canister Mounting Plate. About a 1/4" notch as shown for clearance for the hood strut on the drivers side.

On Rangers with a clutch fluid reservoir, lower one end of the attachment plate 1" as shown. The other end is slotted, and will not have to be adjusted.

Driver side fender apron bolt closest to firewall. Shown on an Explorer.

On certain models, hood insulation will need to be cut to allow clearance of the strut canister itself as shown.

On the passenger side of Explorers, the fuse box will need to be lowered 1" so the hood strut will clear.

Rangers 89-92, Bronco II 89-90, Explorers 91-94