

AIR LIFT
PERFORMANCE

78562 (55mm)

78563 (50mm)

Volkswagen MKVII

Front Application

***(For vehicles with 55mm or
50mm lower-strut diameter)***



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.



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
Removal of Stock Suspension	4
Installing the Kit Components	7
Routing the Air Lines	8
Before Operating	9
Setting the Ride Height	9
Torque Specifications	9
Suggested Driving Air Pressure and Maximum Air Pressure	9
Check for Binding	9
Installation Checklist	10
Limited Warranty and Return Policy	12



Introduction

Air Lift Performance thanks you for purchasing the most complete, fully engineered Slam Series air suspension made for the Volkswagen MKVII. Read these installation instructions to correctly and safely set up the vehicle for a #lifeonair.

Air Lift assumes that the installer has the mechanical knowledge and ability to work on vehicle suspension systems and has basic tools necessary to complete the project. Special tools needed to complete the installation are noted on the *Installation Diagram* page.

Air Lift 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 **www.airliftperformance.com**.

An Air Lift Performance air management system is highly recommended for this product. Learn more at **air-lift.co/productlines**.

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

 **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

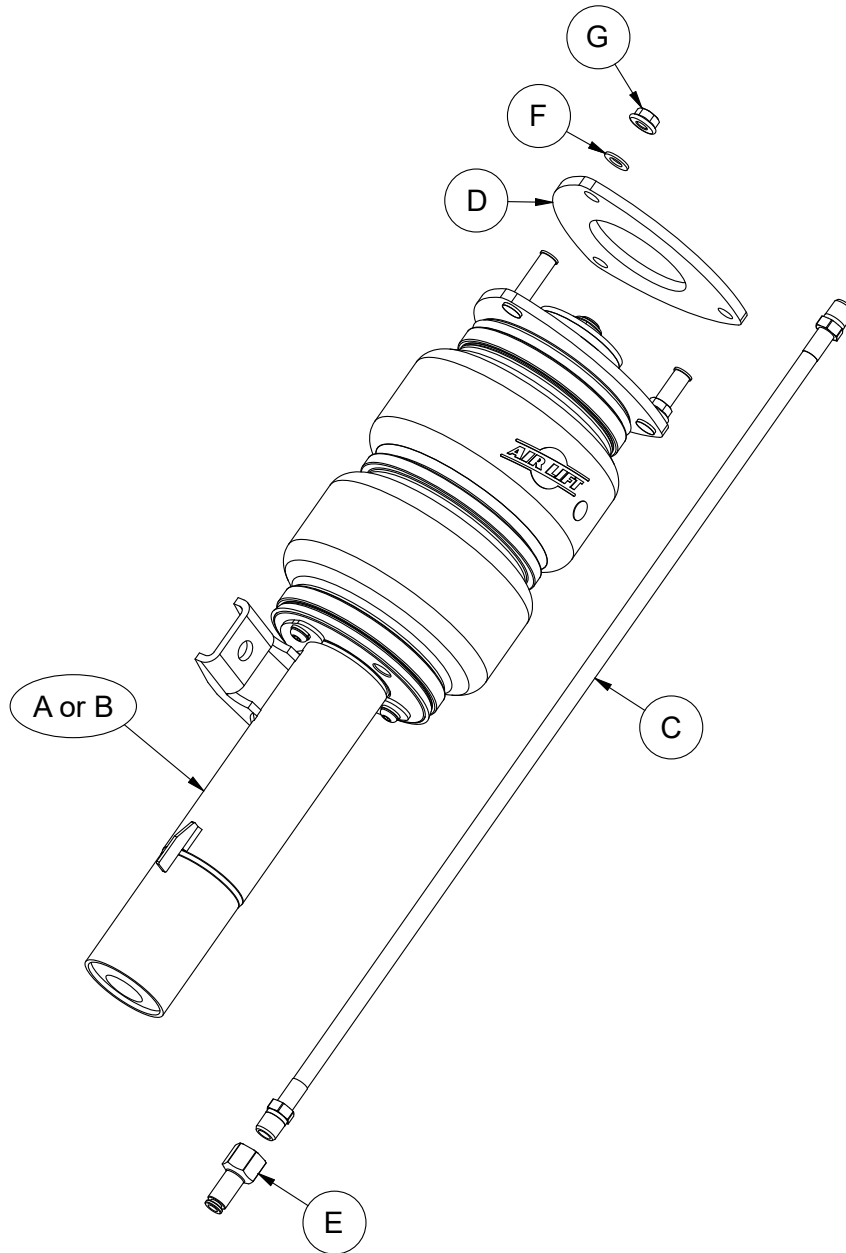


fig. 1

HARDWARE LIST

Item	Part #	Description	Qty
A	35416	55mm MKVII front strut	2
B	35417	50mm MKVII front strut	2
C	20997	Leader line, 1/4" ID	2
D	07320-003	Spacer, upper front	2
E	21810	Union, 1/4" FNPT x 1/4" PTC, DOT	2
F	18501	M8 Flat washer	6
G	18258	M8-1.25 Serrated flange nut	6



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

Installing the Air Suspension

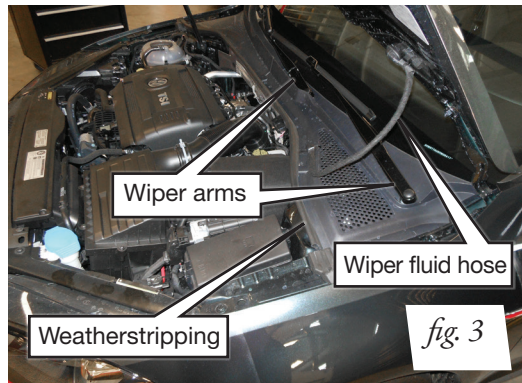
PREPARING THE VEHICLE

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

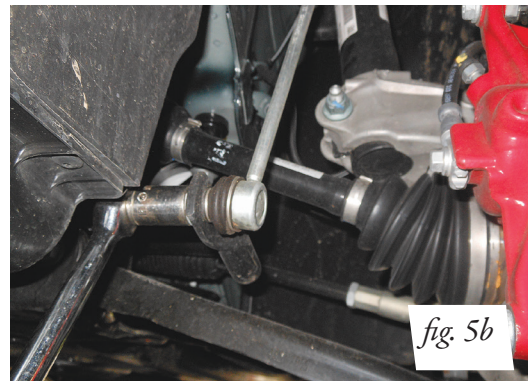


REMOVAL OF STOCK SUSPENSION

1. Remove the weatherstripping from the plastic cowl cover. Remove both wiper arms. Unclip the wiper fluid hose from the cowl cover and remove both sections of cover from the vehicle (Figs. 3 & 4).



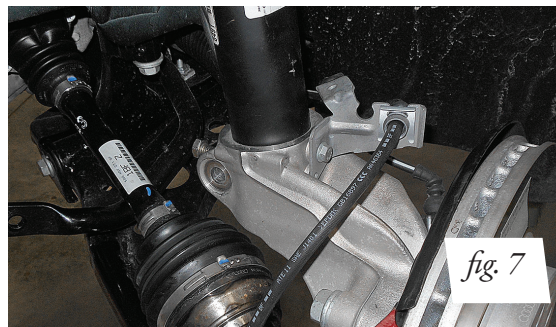
2. Remove the stabilizer bar end link from the strut and stabilizer bar (Figs. 5a & 5b).



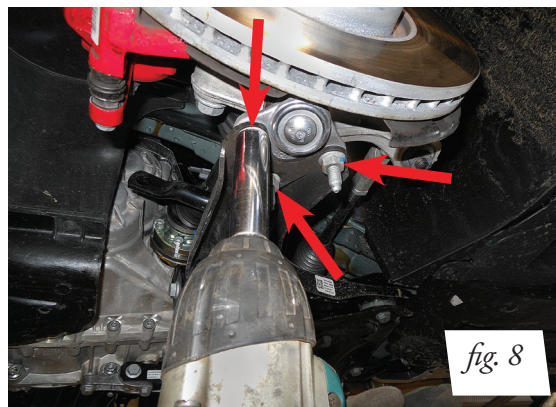
3. Remove the axle bolt from the bearing hub (Figs. 6a & 6b).



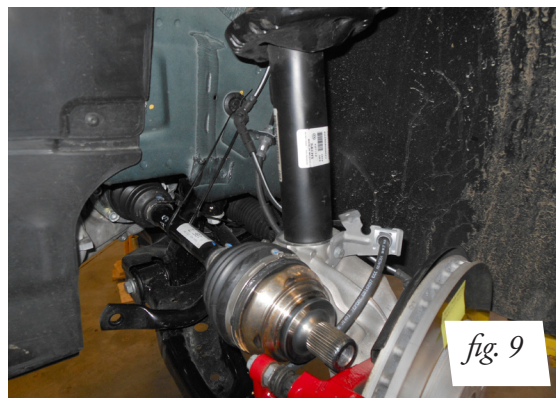
4. Remove the lower strut pinch bolt (Fig. 7).



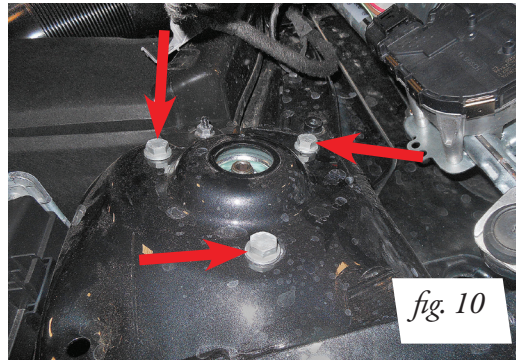
5. Support the hub assembly with a jack and remove the three lower ball joint nuts (Fig. 8).



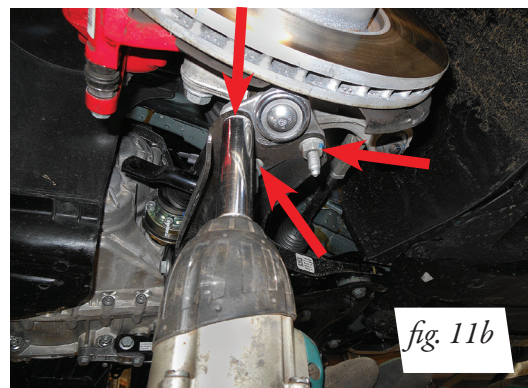
6. Rotate the hub and remove the axle from the bearing. Support the axle and slide the hub down from the strut (Fig. 9).



7. Unbolt the three upper strut mount bolts. Remove the strut from the vehicle (Fig. 10).



8. Insert the axle through the bearing (Fig. 11a), reattach the axle bolt and three lower ball joint nuts (Fig. 11b). Torque the ball joint nuts to 60Nm (44 lb.-ft.). Thread the axle bolt in place (Fig. 11c). See Table 1 (page 9) for axle bolt torque specifications.



INSTALLING THE KIT COMPONENTS

1. Install the braided air line into the air spring (Fig. 12) with thread sealant and torque 1 3/4 turns beyond hand-tight. Attach the desired air fitting to the braided air line with thread sealant, torque 1 3/4 turns beyond hand-tight.

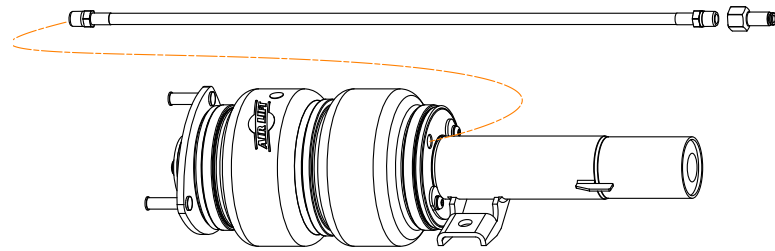


fig. 12

2. Remove protective caps from studs and install spacer plate on upper bracket (Fig. 13a). Insert the strut and attach the strut to the chassis. Torque nuts to 15Nm (11 lb.-ft.) + 90 degrees (Fig. 13b).

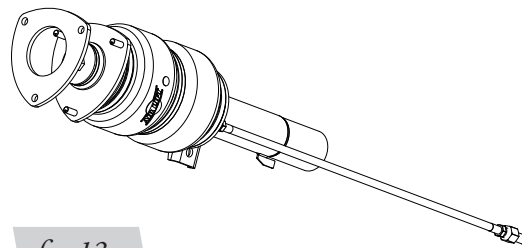


fig. 13a



fig. 13b

⚠ CAUTION

TORQUE-TO-YIELD BOLTS ARE DESIGNED TO BE REPLACED AFTER ONE USE. TORQUE-TO-YIELD BOLTS ARE THOSE WITH AN ANGLE TURN AS PART OF THE TORQUE SPECIFICATION.

3. Lift the hub assembly, sliding over the strut lower mount with the locating tab between the clamp area (Fig. 14a). With the lower mount fully seated, install the lower clamp bolt (Fig. 14b). Torque to 70Nm (52 lb.-ft.).

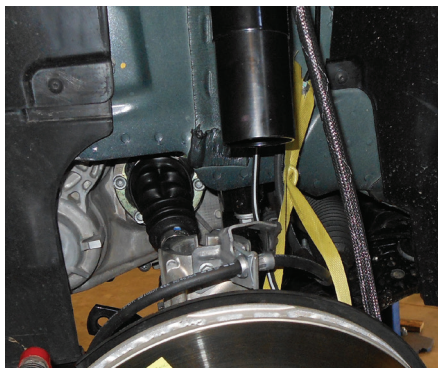


fig. 14a



fig. 14b

- To prevent the end link from contacting the chassis, the lower end link stud (Fig. 15a) must be shortened. Remove the stock nut. Apply the supplied threadlocker to the end link stud threads and replace with the supplied nut (Fig. 15b). Torque the end link nut to 65Nm (48 lb.-ft.). Trim the end link stud threads flush with the newly installed nut (Fig. 15c).

*fig. 15a**fig. 15b**fig. 15c*

- Attach the end link stud to the end link tab on the strut (Fig. 16). Torque to 65Nm (48 lb.-ft.).

*fig. 16*

ROUTING THE AIR LINES

- 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.
- 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.
Upper mount to chassis	27	20
Lower strut clamp bolt	70	52
Stabilizer end link to bar	65	48
Stabilizer end link to strut	65	48
Ball joint to control arm	60	44
Axle bolt (12 point without ribs)	200	148
Axle bolt (12 point with ribs)	70 + 90 degrees	52 + 90 degrees
Forward control arm to sub-frame bushing bolt	70 + 180 degrees	52 + 180 degrees
Wheel studs	120	89
Braided air line threads	1 3/4 turns beyond hand-tight	

Table 1

 **CAUTION**

TORQUE-TO-YIELD BOLTS ARE DESIGNED TO BE REPLACED AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN LOOSENED. TORQUE-TO-YIELD BOLTS ARE THOSE WITH AN ANGLE TURN IN ADDITION TO THE TORQUE SPECIFICATION.

Suggested Driving Air Pressure	Maximum Air Pressure
3.1-4.5BAR (45-65 PSI)	8.6BAR (125 PSI)
FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MINIMUM PRESSURE (OR PRESSURE PROPORTIONAL TO LOAD) MAY RESULT IN EXCESSIVE BOTTOMING OUT AND WILL VOID THE WARRANTY.	

Table 2

CHECK FOR BINDING

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.

 **CAUTION**

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

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 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.

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.

Need Help?

Contact Air Lift Company customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, dial (517) 322-2144.



Connect by searching for **Air Lift Performance** #LifeonAir



Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Performance products!



Air Lift Performance • 2727 Snow Road • Lansing, MI 48917 or P.O. Box 80167 • Lansing, MI 48908-0167
Toll Free (800) 248-0892 • Local (517) 322-2144 • Fax (517) 322-0240 • www.airliftperformance.com

Printed in the USA
JJC - 0521

California: ⚠️WARNING: Cancer and Reproductive Harm – www.P65Warnings.ca.gov