

1988-1998 C1500 Lowering Kit Instructions

Applies to all 2wd coil springs. All cabs.

IF your IHC Suspension product has a damaged or missing part, please contact customer service directly and a new replacement part will be sent to you immediately. For warranty issues, please return to the place of installation and contact IHC Suspension.

(956) 424-6901

Monday-Friday 8AM-6PM CST

Or

EMAIL: Sales@ihcsuspension.com

WEBSITE: www.ihcsuspension.com

LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

This unique product warranty proves our commitment to the quality and reliability of every product that IHC Suspension manufactures. The IHC Suspension product warranty only extends to the original purchaser of any IHC Suspension product, if it breaks, we will give you a new part. Warranty does not apply to discontinued parts.

Our Limited Lifetime Warranty excludes the following IHC Suspension items, bushings, bump stops, ball joints, and shock absorbers. These parts are subject to wear and are not considered defective when worn. They are warranted for 12 months from the date of purchase for defects in workmanship.

This product warranty is voided if the vehicle is not aligned after kit installation and proper maintenance is routinely done.

Product purchased directly from IHC Suspension has a 30-day return policy on uninstalled products from the date of purchase (may be subject to restocking fee). Uninstalled product returns must be in the original IHC Suspension packaging. Please call 956-424-6901 to get an RMA# for any return. Customer is responsible for shipping costs back to IHC Suspension. **Returns without RMA# will be refused.** Contact IHC Suspension directly about any potentially defective parts prior to removal from vehicle.

IHC Suspension products are **NOT** intended for off-road abuse. Any damage or failure as a result of abuse voids the warranty of the IHC Suspension product. IHC Suspension is **NOT** responsible for any subsequent damages to any related vehicle parts due to misuse, abuse, improper installation, or lack of maintenance. Furthermore, IHC Suspension reserves

the right to change, modify or cancel this warranty without prior notice.



READ INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY AND COMPLETELY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

INSTALLATION BY A **CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL TECHNICIAN** IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

IHC Suspension IS **NOT** RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE OR FAILURE RESULTING FROM IMPROPER INSTALLATION.

Safety Warning

MISUSE OF THIS PRODUCT COULD LEAD TO INJURY OR DEATH.

Suspension systems or components that enhance the on and off-road performance of your vehicle may cause it to handle differently than it did from the factory. Extreme care must be used to prevent loss of control during abrupt maneuvers.

Always operate your vehicle at reduced speeds to ensure your ability to control your vehicle under all driving conditions. Failure to drive safely may result in serious injury or death to driver and passengers.

Driver and passengers must ALWAYS wear your seat belts, avoid quick sharp turns and other sudden maneuvers. IHC Suspension does not recommend the combined use of suspension drop spindles, drop struts, drop springs or other lowering devices.

You should never operate your vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Constant maintenance is required to keep your vehicle safe. Thoroughly inspect your vehicle before and after every drag race/race use.

It is the responsibility of the retailer and/or the installer to review all state and local laws, with the end user of this product, related to bumper height laws and the lowering of their vehicle before the purchase and installation of any IHC Suspension products.

It is the responsibility of the driver/s to check their surrounding area for obstructions, people, and animals before moving the vehicle.

All lowered vehicles may have increased blind spots; damage, injury and/or death can occur if these instructions are not followed.

Installation Warning

All steps and procedures described in these instructions were performed while the vehicle was properly supported on a two-post vehicle lift with safety jacks.

Use caution during all disassembly and assembly steps to ensure suspension components are not over extended causing damage to any vehicle components and parts included in this kit.

Included instructions are guidelines only for recommended procedures and are not meant to be definitive. Installer is responsible to insure a safe and controllable vehicle after performing modifications.

IHC Suspension recommends the use of an OE Service Manual for model/year of vehicle when disassembly and assembly of factory and related components. Unless otherwise specified, tighten all bolts and fasteners to standard torque specifications listed within the OE Service Manual.

Suspension components that use rubber or urethane bushings should be tightened with the vehicle at normal ride height. This will prevent premature wear or failure of the bushing and maintain ride comfort.

Larger tire and wheel combinations may increase leverage on suspension, steering, and related components. Due to payload options and initial ride height variances, the amount of drop is a base figure. Final ride height dimensions may vary in accordance with original vehicle ride height. Always measure the vehicle ride height prior to beginning installation.

PRE-INSTALLATION MEASUREMENTS

It is imperative that you record the following measurements and factory components in the tables below. IHC Suspension tests and records as much data from each application as available at the time of product development. Vehicle manufacturers may change components or add models with different options. Recording and not exceeding the fender-to-hub-center IHC Suspension calls out will ensure the drop on the vehicle is correct.

These measurements will affect the performance of this lowering kit. Failure to ensure proper stock conditions may result in over lowering, causing premature failure on ball joints, if 4wd, axles, CV boots and drivetrain. Over lowering a vehicle will also result in an incorrect wheel alignment. This will wear tires incorrectly. Incorrect alignment will cause poor vehicle handling issues including but not limited to under steer. Over lowering the vehicle will also cause incorrect suspension geometry resulting in poor ride quality accompanied by pops and clunks which are symptoms of prematurely wearing components.

Failure to adjust head lamps may cause dangerous driving conditions for you and other drivers on the road. Record the head lamp position before the installation of this lowering kit and adjust to original factory position after the completion to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Refer to Owner's Manual.

VEHICLE HEIGHT MEASUREMENTS

	DRIVER BEFORE	DRIVER AFTER	PASS BEFORE	PASS AFTER
FRONT				
REAR				

****MEASUREMENT IS TO BE PERFORMED FROM CENTER OF HUB TO FENDER EDGE STRAIGHT UP FROM HUB ****

- **Make sure vehicle is on leveled pavement.**
- **All 4 tires are same size (if running stagger fitment measurement will vary)**
- **All 4 tires have corrected air pressure.**



WARNING

INSTALLATION WARNING

IHC Suspension recommends all steps and procedures described in these instructions be performed while the vehicle is properly supported on a two-post vehicle lift with safety jacks.

Otherwise, park vehicle on a clean flat surface and block the rear wheels for safety. Engage the parking brake.

Disconnect the vehicle power source at the ground terminal on the battery. Lock the steering wheel in the straightforward position with the column lock or steering wheel locking device.

Raise the front of the vehicle and support with safety jack stands at each frame rail behind the lower control arms.

Before starting installation

IHC Suspension highly recommends that the installation of this product be performed by a professional technician with experience working on and installing suspension products. Professional knowledge and skill will typically yield the best installation results. If you need an installer in your area, please contact IHC Suspension Customer Service to find one of our IHC Suspension Authorized dealers.

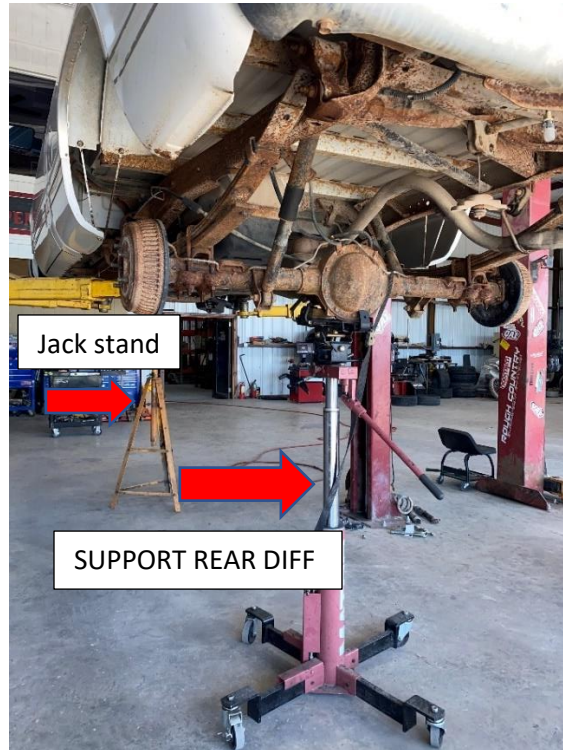
INSTALLATION BY A PROFESSIONAL IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

- A Factory Service Manual for your specific Year / Make / Model is highly recommended for reference during installation.
- All lifted vehicles may require additional driveline modifications and / or balancing.
- A vehicle alignment is REQUIRED after installation of this product.
- Speedometer / Computer recalibration is required if changing +/- 10% from factory tire diameter.
- A vehicle lift or hoist greatly reduces installation time.
- Installation time estimates are based on an available vehicle hoist.

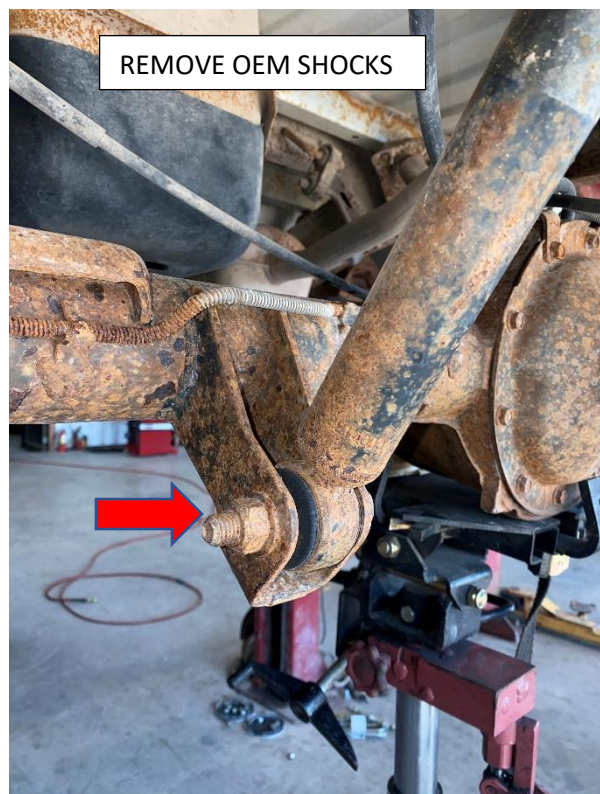
Vehicle must be in excellent operating condition. Repair or replace any and all worn or damaged components prior to installation of lowering kit

REAR DISSEMBLY

1. Disconnect the **negative terminal** on the battery. Jack up the truck and support the frame rails with jack stands. NEVER WORK UNDER AN UNSUPPORTED VEHICLE! Remove the rear tires.
2. Support rear axle with jack. Strap axle to prevent from falling.
3. NOTE: SUPPRT FRONT OF VEHICLE TO PREVENT SWAYING



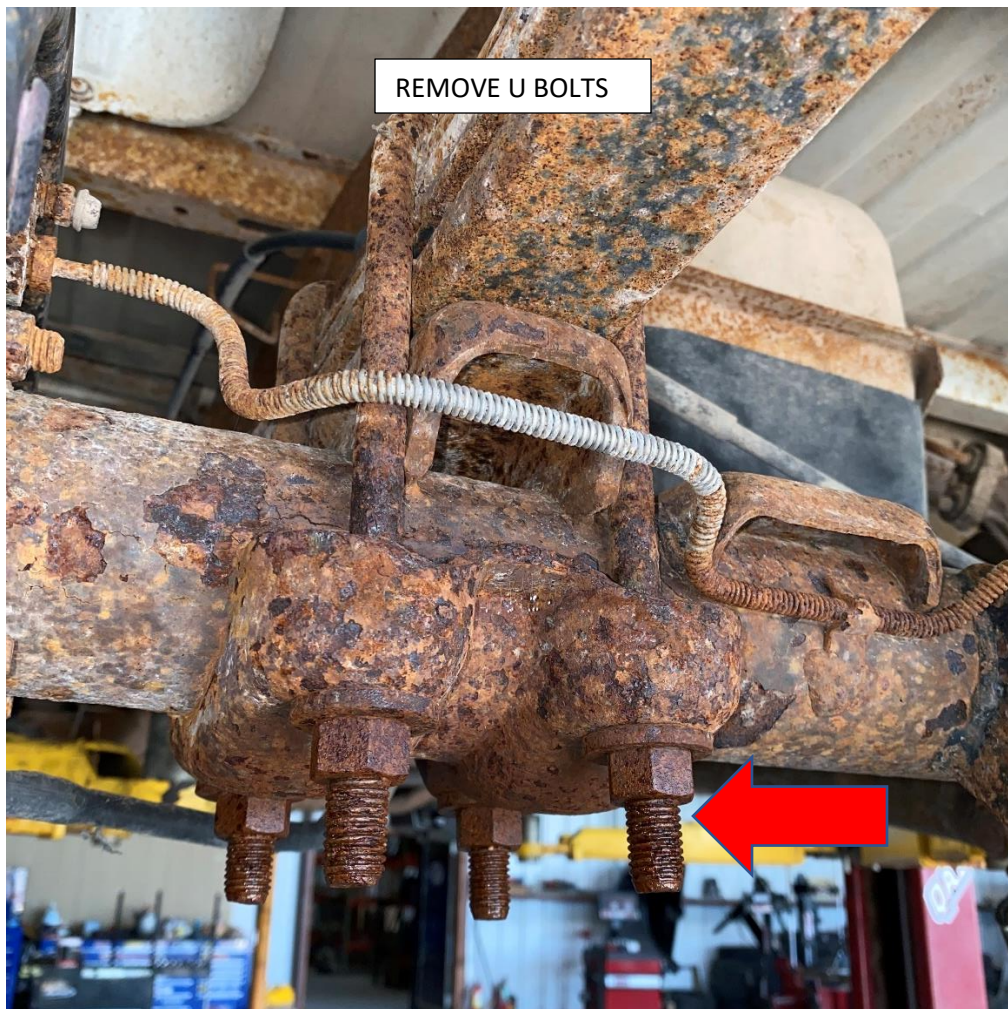
4. Remove OEM rear shocks. Refer to shocks



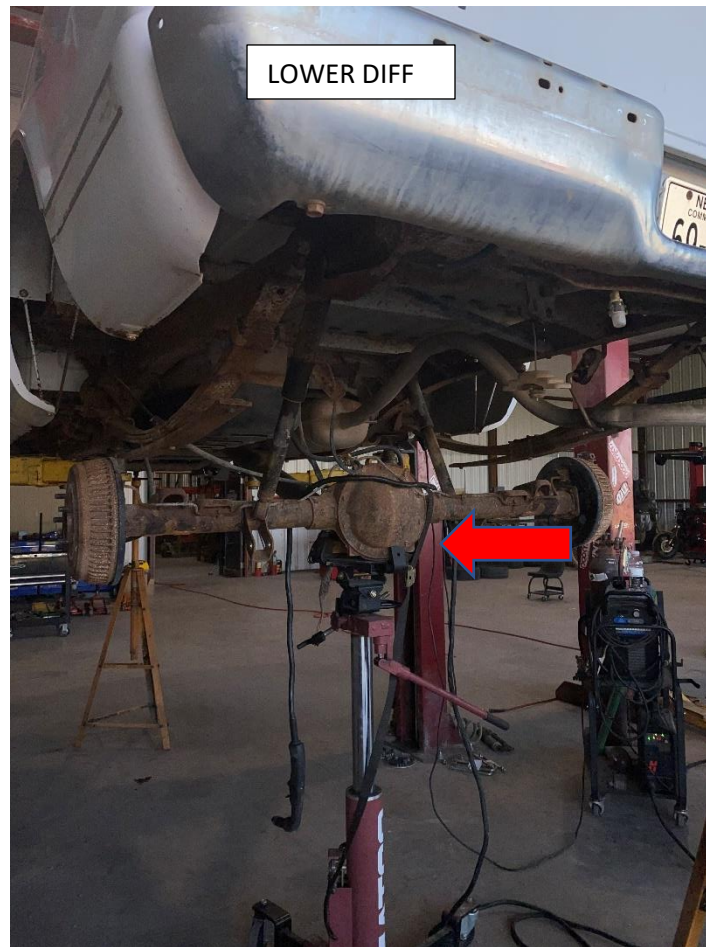
5. Disconnect ABS wiring/brake line brackets from LH frame rail. Refer to pic



6. Remove U BOLTS. NOTE: if your U bolts are too rusted like picture. You will need to replace U bolts.



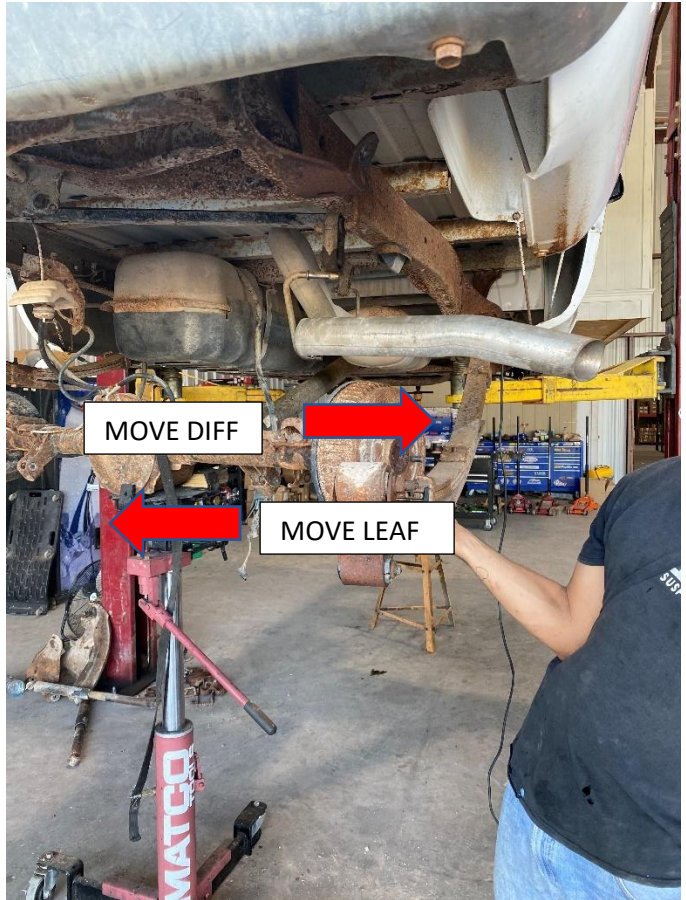
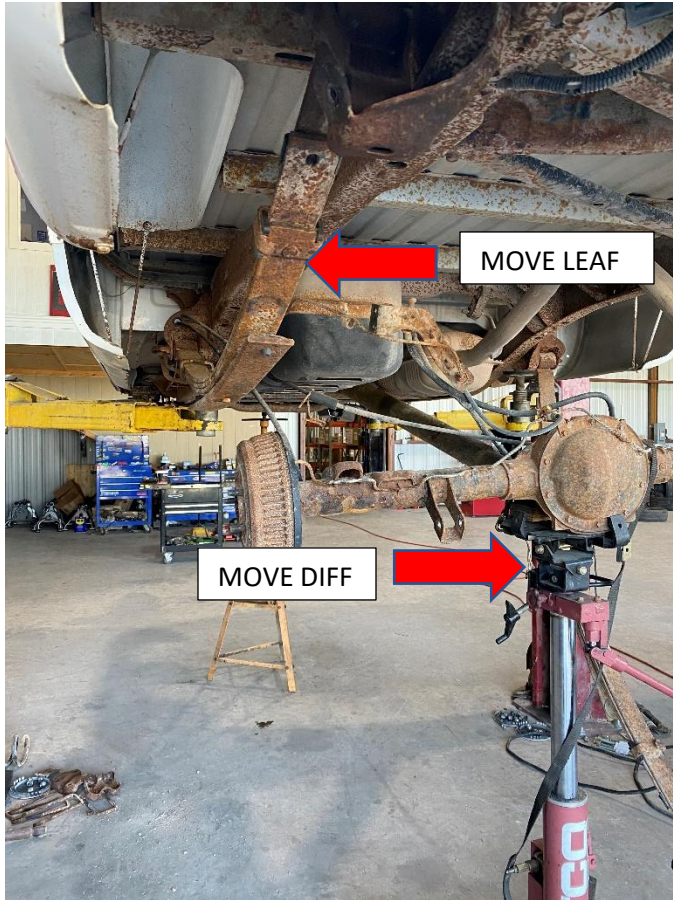
7. Lower rear differential down. Careful not to overextend brake/abs wiring.



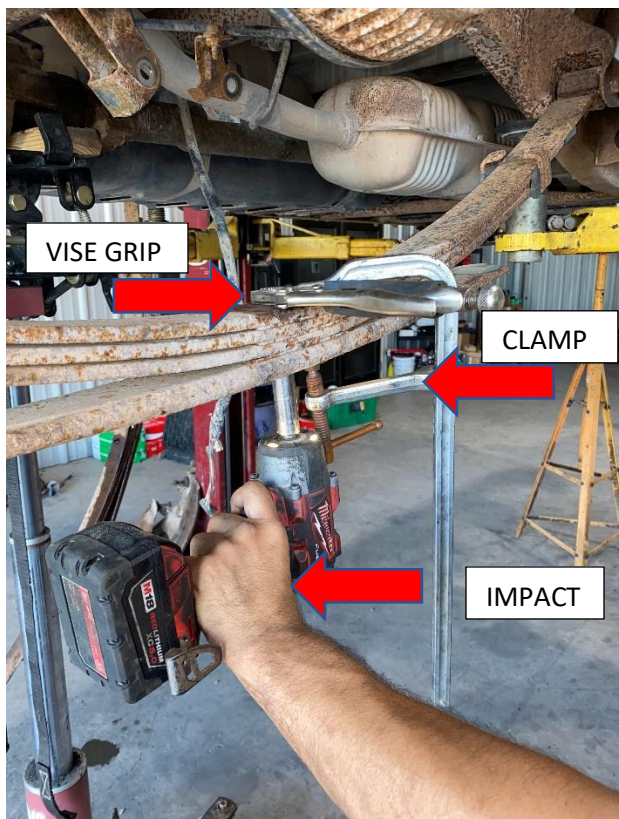
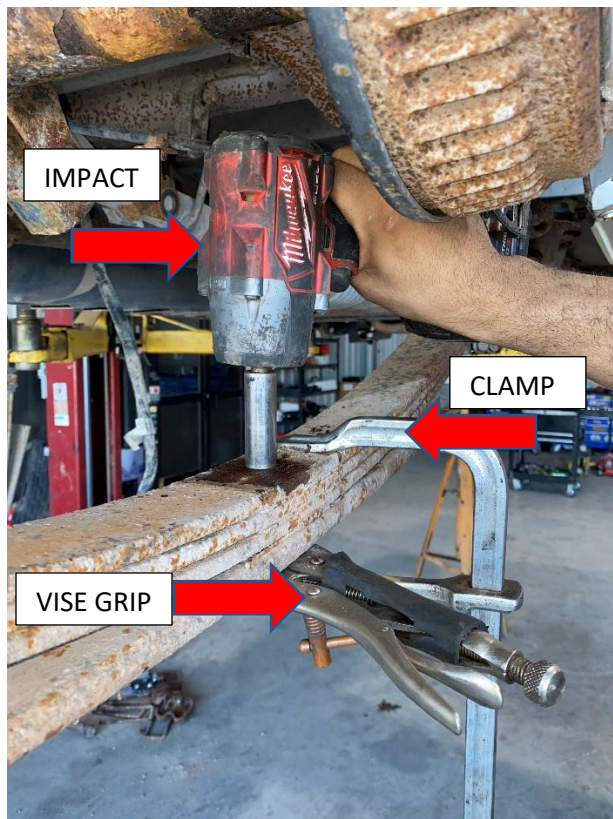
8. Remove rear shackles from hanger.



9. Move differential jack over to one side and flip leaf pack under Diff. Careful not to over extended brake line and wiring. Repeat on both sides.



10. Flip leaf pack center pin bolt. Refer to pic



C NOTCH INSTALLATION – MUST READ

C NOTCH installation must be performed while the rear suspension is unloaded.

Due to the design of the included Frame Notch Supports, pickup box removal is not required with this kit. However, some installers may prefer to remove the box to facilitate access to the frame. If it is decided to remove the vehicle's bed assembly, please refer to the appropriate General Motors Service Manual for recommendations regarding Pickup Box Removal Procedures.

Safety Reminder: Proper use of safety equipment and eye/face/hand protection is necessary when performing the following procedures!

Check the backside of the frame rail to be sure that all lines, electrical wiring, control cables and other components are cleared from this area to avoid damaging them in the following steps. Be sure to wear proper safety protection when using power tools! DO NOT create sparks near flammable or explosive materials.

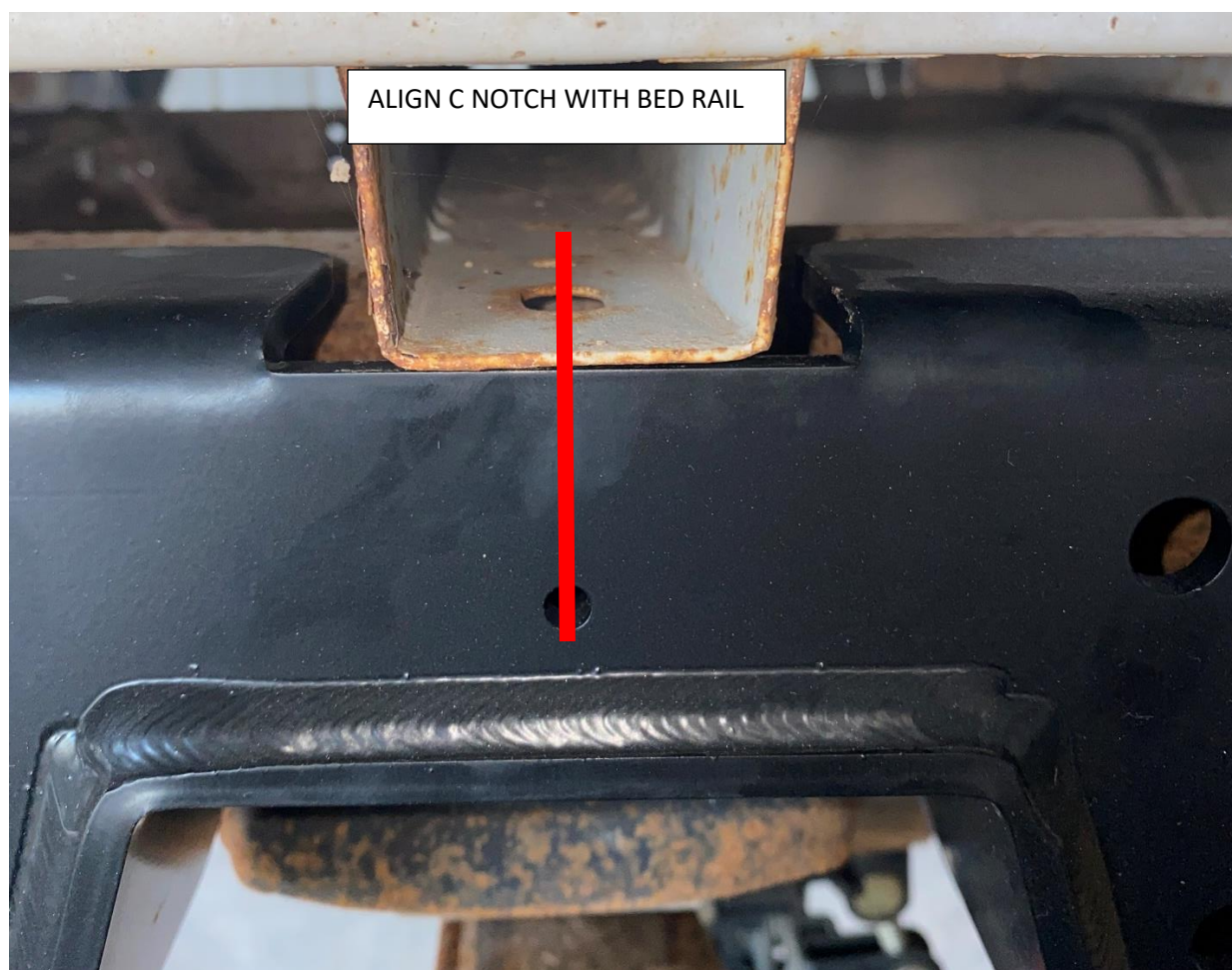
Be careful when cutting the frame rail. DO NOT remove any material from the frame rail that is not shown/described here. Be careful not to damage any lines or other components located behind the frame rail. Avoid creating any sharp corners or other defects that may cause unnecessary stress-concentrated areas in the frame rail. Avoid overheating frame rail.

Safety Recommendation: Due to the proximity of fuel tank to this area, we DO NOT recommend using a flamecutting torch or plasma cutter when performing these operations. Also, excess heat can easily damage the frame rail and other adjoining components.

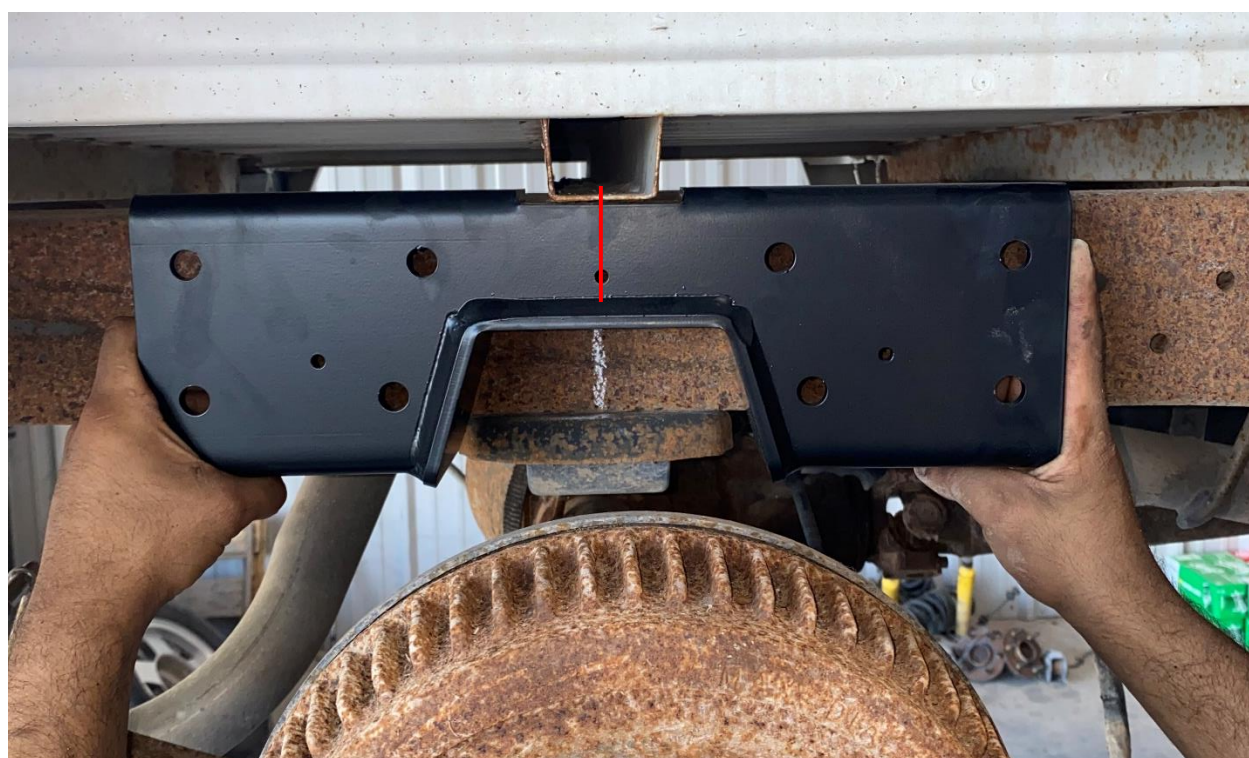
11. To avoid chassis damage, perform the following procedures to only ONE frame rail at a time.
12. Continue to clean frame surface and wipe down
13. Your guide will be the bed rail. Refer to pic



14. With notch, present plate. Refer to pic. There is a hole on the notch. Align with bed rail.



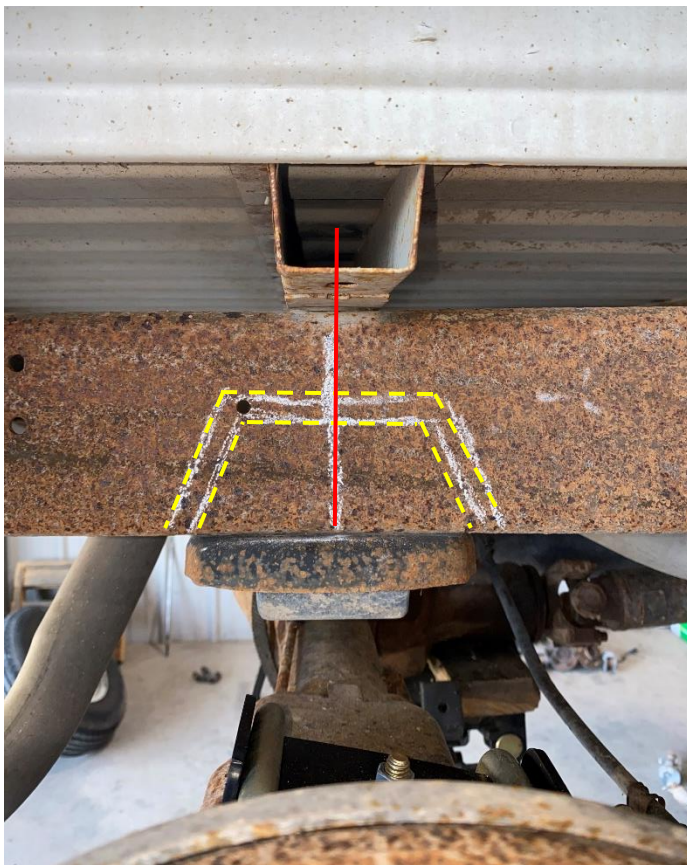
15. Picture shown is for clarity and notch position



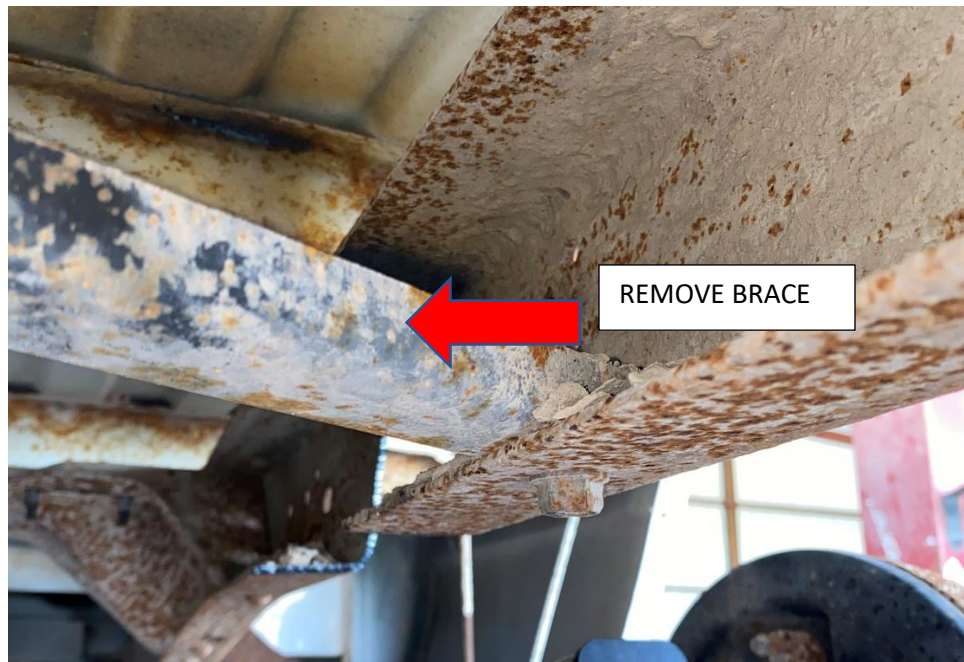
16. Mark inside of frame. Refer to pic



17. Once you mark the frame. Trace another line $\frac{1}{4}$ " above. This will allow notch to fit snug. Refer to pic



18. Remove rear support. Refer to pic.



19. After center is cut. Present notch and mark holes to drill frame. Refer to pic



20. Once holes are drilled install notch hardware. **TORQUE to 116 FT -LBS**

21. Repeat process on opposite side.



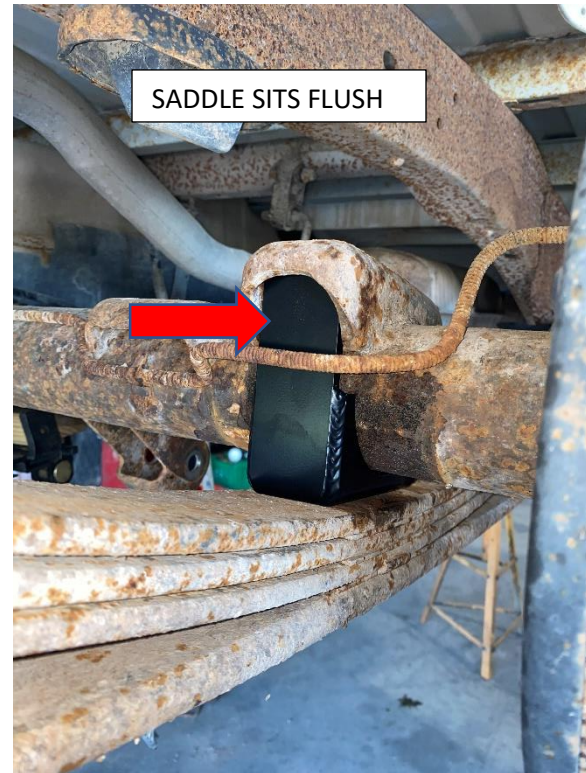
22. Install rear shackles to oem hanger.

23. NOTE: if doing a 6" rear drop re-use stock shackles. If doing 7" rear drop adds IHC lowering shackles and set on 2nd hole. **TORQUE TO 100 FT-LBS.** Refer to pic

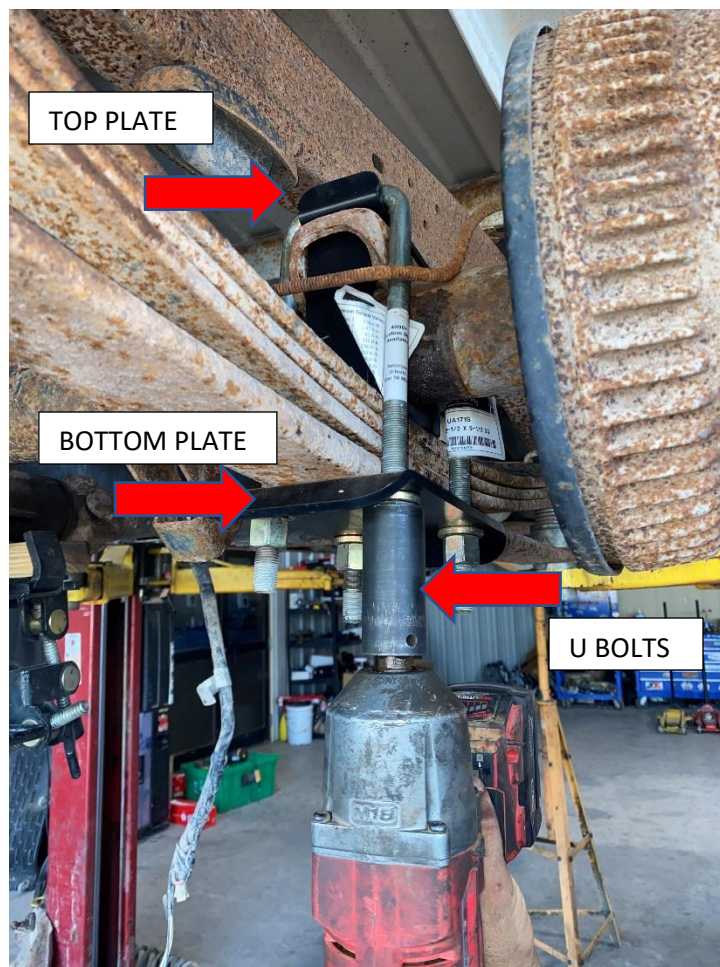


24. Install flip kit saddles. Lower rear DIFF and position saddle in place. Refer to pic.

25. NOTE: SPADE GOES FACING FRONT OF VEHICLE.



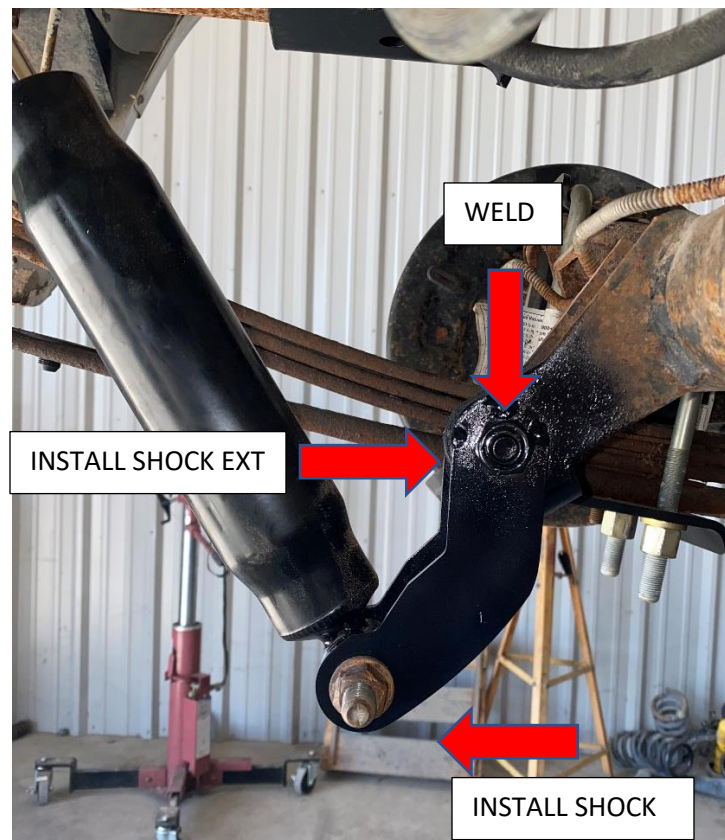
26. Install flip kit top plate and bottom plate. Install OEM U BOLT **TORQUE TO 100 FT_LBS**



27. Install IHC drop shock top mount. NOTE: insert t bar. **TORQUE TO 38 FT-LBS**



28. You will need to install shocks extender on bottom. NOTE: Recommend installing on drive on lift to get correct shock angle. NOTE: WELD SHOCK EXT TO PREVENT IT FROM MOVING. **TORQUE TO 80 FT-LBS** Refer to pic



29. Re-install all ABS wiring and BRAKE line to frame.
30. Install the wheels and lower the vehicle to the ground.
31. TORQUE rear shackle to 100 FT-LBS
32. Torque the lug nuts to the wheel manufacturers specs. Jounce the vehicle to settle the suspension to the new ride height. Reconnect the battery ground terminal.

FAILURE TO PERFORM THE POST INSPECTION CHECKS MAY RESULT IN VEHICLE COMPONENT DAMAGE AND/OR PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO THE DRIVER AND/OR OTHERS

Final Checks & Adjustments

Once the vehicle is lowered to the ground, check all parts which have rubber, Delrin or urethane components to ensure proper torque. Torque lug nuts to the wheel manufacturer specs. Move vehicle backwards and forwards a short distance to allow suspension components to adjust. Turn the front wheels completely left then right and verify adequate tire, wheel, brake line, and ABS wire clearance. Test and inspect steering, brake and suspension components for tightness and proper operation. Inspect brakes hoses and ABS lines for adequate slack at full extension, adjust, as necessary.

MAINTENANCE

RECHECK ALL HARDWARE FOR PROPER TORQUE VALUES AFTER 500 MILES, AND THEN PERIODICALLY AT EACH SERVICE INTERVAL THEREAFTER. RECOMMENDED TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE ON ALL BALL JOINTS AND CONTROL ARMS. ADD GREASE EVERY 6 MONTHS OR EVERY 10K MILES. FAILURE TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE WILL CAUSE PREMATURE WEAR ON BALL JOINTS AND BUSHING.

Vehicle Handling Warning

Lowering the height of your vehicle lowers the center of gravity and can affect stability and control. Use caution on turns and when making steering corrections. Vehicles with larger tires and wheels will handle differently than stock vehicles. Take time to familiarize yourself with the handling of your vehicle.

Wheel Alignment/Headlamp Adjustment

It is necessary to have a proper and professional wheel alignment performed by a certified alignment technician. Align the vehicle to IHC Recommended specifications. It is recommended that your vehicle alignment be checked after any race/drag race driving. In addition to your vehicle alignment, for your safety and others, it is necessary to check and adjust your vehicle headlamps for proper aim and alignment. If the vehicle is equipped with active or passive safety/collision monitoring and/or avoidance systems including, but not limited to, camera- or radar-based systems, check and adjust your vehicle's systems for proper aim and function.

