



**Installation manual
2" Leveling kit
2007 - 2008 GM 1500 4 x 4
Part # 12000**

sj121007rev.02

**Part # 12000
2007 - 2008 GM 1500 4 x 4
2" leveling system**

Parts list:

<u>Part #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty.</u>
12000-01	Front leveling spacer	2
12000NB	Hardware bag	1
12000INST	Instruction sheet (customer copy)	1
12000INST	Instruction sheet (installer copy)	1
MIRRORHANGER	Rear view mirror hanger	1
WARNINGDECAL	Warning decal	1

Congratulations on your selection to purchase a Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension System. We at Tuff Country are proud to offer a high quality product at the industries most competitive pricing. Thank you for your confidence in us, and our product.

Before installation begins, it is the customers/installers responsibility to make sure that all parts are on hand. If any parts are missing, please feel free to call one of our customer service representatives @ (800) 288-2190.

Make sure to use lock tite on all new and stock hardware associated with this installation.

It is the responsibility of the installers to make sure that the rear view mirror hanger is hung from the rear view mirror. The rear view mirror hanger has instructions on proper post installation procedures.

The Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product safety label that is included in your kit box must be installed inside the cab in plain view of all occupants.

Important customer information:

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that a qualified and/or certified mechanic performs this installation.

If you desire to return your vehicle to stock, it is the customers responsibility to save all stock hardware.

This vehicles reaction and handling characteristics may differ from standard cars and/or trucks. Modifications to improve and/or enhance off road performance may raise the intended center of gravity. Extreme caution must be utilized when encountering driving conditions which may cause vehicle imbalance or loss of control. DRIVE SAFELY! Avoid abrupt maneuvers, such as sudden sharp turns which could cause a roll over, resulting in serious injury or death.

It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use.

After the original installation, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension also recommends having the alignment checked every 6 months to ensure proper tracking, proper wear on tires and front end components. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension takes no responsibility for abuse, improper installation or improper suspension maintenance.

It is the responsibility of the customer or the mechanic to wear safety glasses at all times when performing this installation.

It is the customers/installers responsibility to read and understand all steps before installation begins. OEM manual should be used as a reference guide.

Limited lifetime warranty

Notice to all Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension customers: It is your responsibility to keep your original sales receipt! If failure should occur on any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension component, your original sales receipt must accompany the warranted unit to receive warranty. Warranty will be void if the customer can not provide the original sales receipt. Do not install a body lift in conjunction with a suspension system. If a body lift is used in conjunction with any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product, your Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension WARRANTY WILL BE VOID. Tuff Country Inc. ("Tuff Country") suspension products are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for life if purchased, installed and maintained on a non-commercial vehicle; otherwise, for a period of twelve (12) months, from the date of purchase and installation on a commercial vehicle, or twelve thousand (12,000) miles (which ever occurs first). Tuff Country does not warrant or make any representations concerning Tuff Country Products when not installed and used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for such installation and operation and accordance with good installation and maintenance practices of the automotive industry. This warranty does not apply to the cosmetic finish of Tuff Country products nor to Tuff Country products which have been altered, improperly installed, maintained, used or repaired, or damaged by accident, negligence, misuse or racing. ("Racing is used in its broadest sense, and, for example, without regards to formalities in relation to prizes, competition, etc.) This warranty is void if the product is removed from the original vehicle and re-installed on that or any other vehicle. This warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of any implied warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or other warranty of quality, whether express or implied, except the warranty of title. All implied warranties are limited to the duration of this warranty. The remedies set forth in this warranty are exclusive. This warranty excludes all labor charges or other incidental of consequential damages. Any part or product returned for warranty claim must be returned through the dealer of the distributor from whom it was purchased. Tuff Country reserves the right to examine all parts returned to it for warranty claim to determine whether or not any such part has failed because of defect in material or workmanship. The obligation of Tuff Country under this warranty shall be limited to repairing, replacing or crediting, at its option, any part or product found to be so defective. Regardless of whether any part is repaired, replaced or credited under this warranty, shipping and/or transportation charges on the return of such product must be prepaid by the customer under this warranty.

Important information that needs to be read before installation begins:

Before installation begins, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that the installer performs a test drive on the vehicle. During the test drive, check to see if there are any uncommon sounds or vibrations. If uncommon sounds or vibrations occur on the test drive, uncommon sounds or vibrations will be enhanced once the suspension system has been installed. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends notifying the customer prior to installation to inform the customer of these issues if they exist.

Recommended tools:

Torque wrench
Standard socket set
Standard wrench set
Metric socket set
Metric wrench set
Tape measure
Hydraulic floor jacks
Hammer

Torque settings:

5/16"	15—18 ft lbs.
3/8"	28—32 ft lbs.
7/16"	30—35 ft lbs.
1/2"	65—85 ft lbs.
9/16"	85—120 ft lbs.
5/8"	95—130 ft lbs.
3/4"	100—140 ft lbs.

Please follow instruction carefully:

Before installation begins, measure from the center of the hub, to the bottom of the fender well, and record measurements below.

Pre installation measurements:

Driver side front: _____
Passenger side front: _____

At the end of the installation take the same measurements and compare to the pre-installation measurements.

Post installation measurements:

Driver side front: _____
Passenger side front: _____

1. To begin installation, block the rear tires of the vehicle so that the vehicle is stable and can't roll backwards. Safely lift the front of the vehicle and support the frame with a pair of jack stands. Place a jack stand on both the driver and passenger side. Next, remove the tires and wheels from both sides.

2. Working on the driver side, loosen but do not remove the stock nut that connects the stock outer tie rod to the stock knuckle. Carefully break the taper from the stock outer tie rod and the stock knuckle. Once the taper had been broken, remove the stock nut and set it aside for later re-installation. **Special note: Take special care not to damage the stock outer tie rod or the stock dust boot. A helpful tip is to hit the stock knuckle with a hammer to break the taper.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

Photo # 1

3. Working on the driver side, loosen but do not remove the stock nut that connects the stock upper control arm ball joint to the stock knuckle. Carefully break the taper from the stock upper control arm ball joint and the stock knuckle. Once the taper had been broken, remove the stock nut and set it aside for later re-installation. **Special note: Take special care not to damage the stock upper control arm ball joint or the stock dust boot. A helpful tip is to hit the stock knuckle with a hammer to break the taper.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

Photo # 2

4. Working on the driver side, remove the stock hardware that connects the stock strut to the stock lower control arm. Save the stock hardware for later re-installation. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

5. Working on the driver side, remove the (3) stock nuts that hold the stock strut into the stock upper location. The stock nuts may be discarded. Remove the stock strut from the stock location and set aside. Repeat procedure on the passenger side. **Special note: Make sure to mark the driver side and passenger side strut before removal. This is done so that when you re-install the modified struts back into the vehicle you will install the driver side strut on the passenger side of the vehicle and install the passenger side strut on the driver side.**

6. Locate (6) new 10 mm flange nuts from hardware bag 12000NB. Install the new 10 mm flange nuts on the stock studs of the stock struts. Make sure to tighten the nuts all the way down on the stock strut. Measure each stock stud to 7/8" and cut off the excess thread using a die grinder. Once all (6) studs have been cut to 7/8" remove the new 10 mm flange nuts from the stock studs and set aside for later re-installation. **Special note: You must install the 10 mm flange nuts before you cut the excess threads off. Then when you remove the new 10 mm flange nuts, it will clean the thread so you can install the new front spacer.**

Photo # 3 / measuring

Photo # 4 / cutting

7. Locate the new front strut spacers. Install the new front strut spacers onto the stock strut and secure using the new 10 mm flange nuts. Make sure to use thread locker or lock tite and torque to **45 ft lbs.**

Photo # 5

8. Locate the stock modified driver side strut. Also, locate (3) 7/16" x 1" bolts, (3) 3/8" USS flat washers and (3) 7/16" lock washers from hardware bag 12000NB. Install the stock modified driver side strut into the **passenger** side stock upper location and secure using the new 7/16" x 1" bolts and hardware. **Do not tighten at this point.**

Photo # 6

9. Locate the stock modified passenger side strut. Also, locate (3) 7/16" x 1" bolts, (3) 3/8" USS flat washers and (3) 7/16" lock washers from hardware bag 12000NB. Install the stock modified passenger side strut into the **driver** side stock upper location and secure using the new 7/16" x 1" bolts and hardware. **Do not tighten at this point.**

Photo # 6

10. Locate the stock lower strut hardware. Working on the driver side, install the lower front strut to the stock lower control arm and secure using the stock hardware. Make sure to use thread locker or lock tite and torque to **40 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

Photo # 7

11. Locate the stock upper control arm mounting hardware. Place a hydraulic floor jack under the driver side lower control arm and carefully raise up on the hydraulic floor jack until the stock upper control arm can be attached to the stock knuckle. Secure using the stock hardware and torque to **65 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

12. Locate the stock outer tie rod hardware. Working on the driver side, attach the stock outer tie rod to the stock knuckle. Secure using the stock hardware and torque to **65 ft lbs.**

13. Working on the driver side, add some thread locker or lock tite to the (3) new 7/16" x 1" bolt holding the stock strut into the upper stock location and torque to **45 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

14. Remove the hydraulic floor jack from under the stock lower control arms.

15. Install the tires and wheels and carefully lower the vehicle to the ground.

16. Check and double to check to make sure that all steps were performed properly. Take your vehicle directly to an alignment center for proper alignment.

Congratulations installation complete!

Take vehicle directly to a front end alignment shop and have a proper front end alignment performed.

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension recommends that a complete re-torque is done on all bolts associated with this suspension system. It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use. Neglect of following these steps could cause brackets to come loose and cause serious damage to the suspension system and to the vehicle.

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension packages (2) sets of instruction sheets with this box kit. (1) is for the installer and (1) is for the customer. The (1) for the customer has some post installation procedure literature and it is the installers responsibility to make sure that the customer receives a copy of the installation manual along with the literature.

After the original installation, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension also recommends having the front end alignment check every 6 months to ensure proper tracking, proper wear on tires and front end components. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension take no responsibility for abuse, improper installation or improper suspension maintenance.

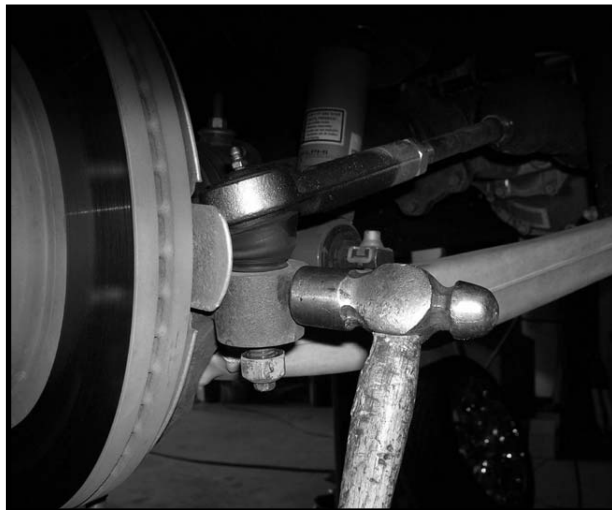


Photo # 1



Photo # 2

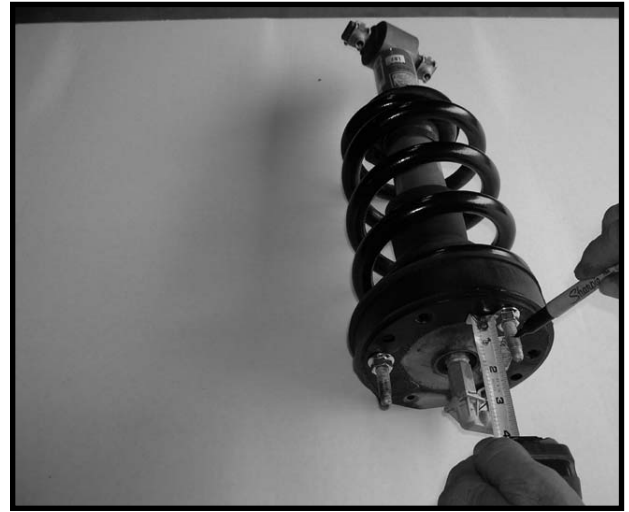


Photo # 3

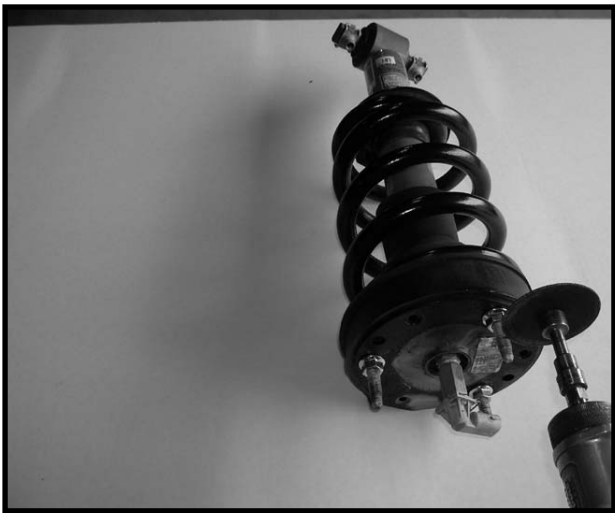


Photo # 4

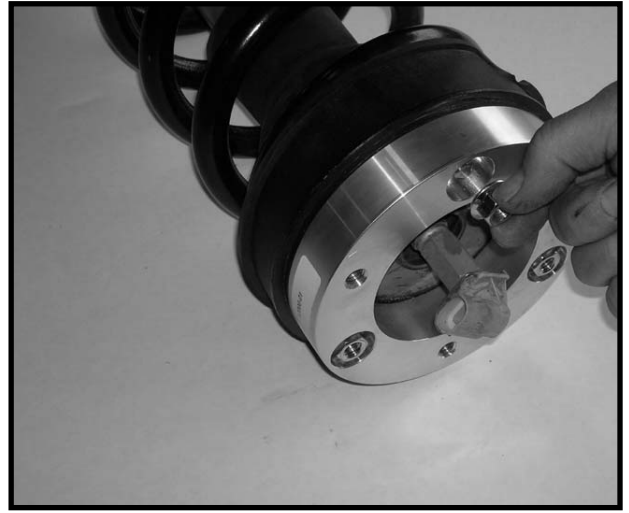


Photo # 5



Photo # 6

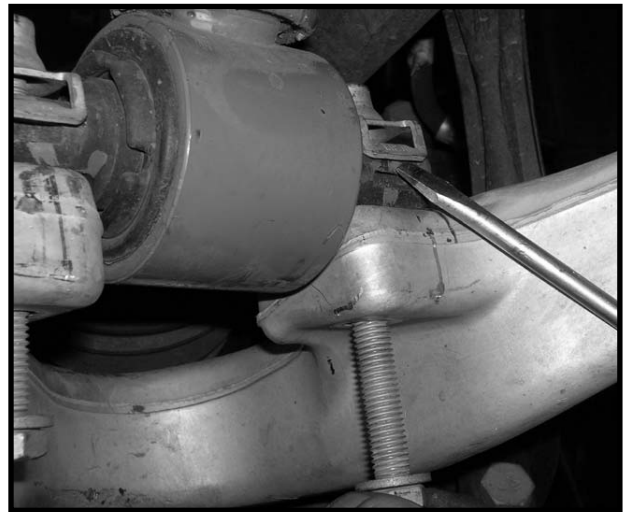


Photo # 7