

# ***Air Lift* 1000**

by AIR LIFT®

## **Kits 60806, 60807, 60732 & 60785**



*Cover  
illustration  
may not depict  
actual kit.*



## **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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# Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to assist with the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of the Air Lift 1000 air spring kit.

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

Air Lift Company 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 Company at (800) 248-0892 or visit our website at [www.airliftcompany.com](http://www.airliftcompany.com).

## IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

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 truck is designed to carry. Payload is GVWR minus the Base Curb Weight.

## 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.

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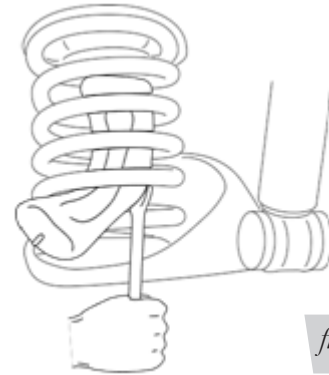
## NOTE

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

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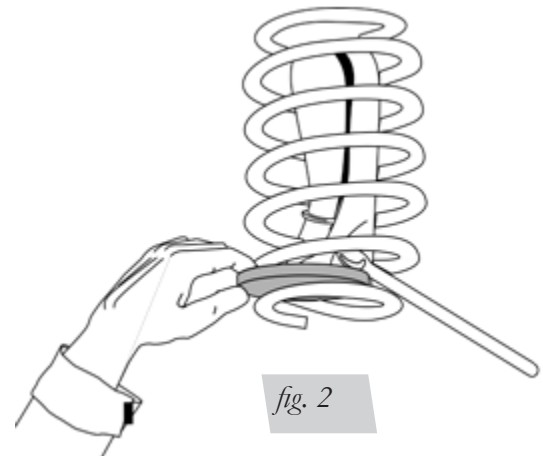
# Installing the Air Lift1000 System

1. Jack up rear of vehicle or raise on hoist. Support frame with safety stands. Lower axle or raise body of vehicle until suspension is fully extended.
2. Remove plastic cap from barbed stem on end of cylinder. Exhaust the air from the cylinder by rolling it up toward barbed stem. Replace cap on stem to hold flat shape.
3. Insert flattened air cylinder into coil spring through lowest opening with stem at the bottom (Figure 1).



*fig. 1*

4. Push the cylinder up within the coil by hand or with a blunt instrument such as a spoon-type tire iron.
5. When the cylinder is completely within the coil, remove the cap and allow the cylinder to assume its “as molded” shape.
6. Push cylinder to the top of the coil and insert protector on top of lower spring seat (See Figures 2).
7. Install air line as detailed on pages 4 and 5. A teed air line installation is recommended unless weight in vehicle varies from one side to the other and unequal pressures are needed to level load (or compensate for axle torque transfer in racing application). Dual air lines are used in this case.



*fig. 2*

8. Inflate cylinders to 35 lbs. air pressure. Test for air leaks by applying a liquid soap/water solution to all valve cores, fittings and connections.
9. Lower vehicle to the ground. Read Maintenance/Operation Tips for proper care of your air cylinders.
10. Recheck air pressure after 24 hours. A 2-4 PSI loss after initial installation is normal. If pressure has dropped more than 5 lbs. Retest for leaks with a soapy/water solution.

Tee air line installation recommended unless weight in vehicle varies from one side to the other and unequal pressures are needed to level the load. Dual air lines are used in this case.

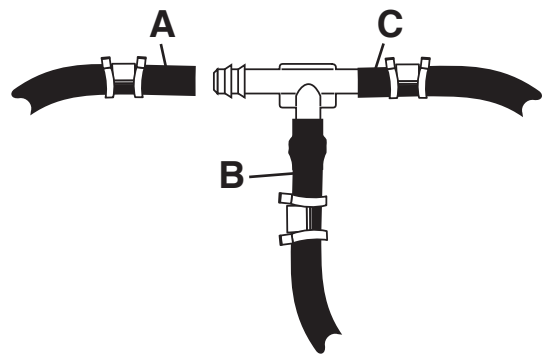
### TEE AIR LINE ROUTING

**TO PREVENT AIR LINE FROM MELTING, KEEP IT AT LEAST EIGHT INCHES FROM EXHAUST SYSTEM.**

- A. Locate desired tee location on the frame rail or cross member.
- B. Determine and cut adequate length of air line to reach from tee to left and right side on air cylinders.

**CAUTION: LEAVE SUFFICIENT AIR LINE SLACK TO PREVENT ANY STRAIN ON FITTING DURING AXLE MOTIONS.**

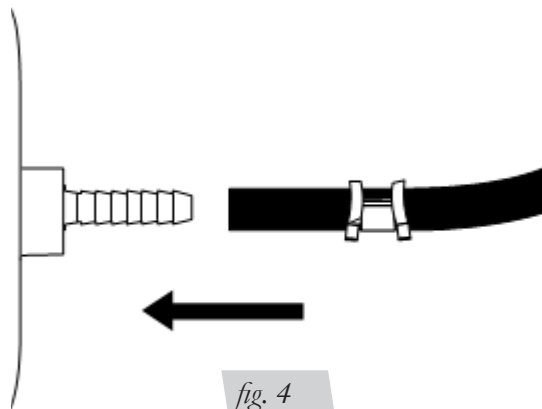
- C. Slide air line clamp onto the air line.
- D. Push the air line over one side of the tee until all the barbs are covered. Repeat procedure for other leg of tee. With pliers slide the air line clamp forward until it fully covers the barbed section. Repeat for other leg of tee.
- E. Route along cross member and either lower control arm or upper spring seat to air cylinder.
- F. Insert air line through spring seat and spacers.
- G. Push the air line onto the stem, covering all the barbs (Figure 4). With pliers slide the air line clamp upward until it fully covers the barbed section.
- H. Push the remaining air line over the last fitting on tee and route along frame to desired inflation valve location (Figure 5). Attach with plastic straps or wire.
- I. Select a location for inflation valve in the gas cap well, the trunk, rear bumper, fender flange or behind the license plate, insuring that the valve will be protected and accessible with an air hose.
- J. Drill a 5/16" hole for inflation valve and mount as in illustration (Figure 7). Rubber washer is for outside weather seal.
- K. Slide air line clamp over the air line. Push air line onto fitting covering all barbs, with pliers slide the air line clamp forward until it fully covers the barbed section (Figure 6).
- L. Raise axle or lower body until air cylinders lightly touch upper spring seat and lower spacers.
- M. Check TAILPIPE clearance and insure that it is at least 2-3 inches from air cylinder. If necessary, loosen clamps and rotate or move to obtain additional clearance. If heat shield is provided, install. Attach shock absorbers if removed earlier in the installation.



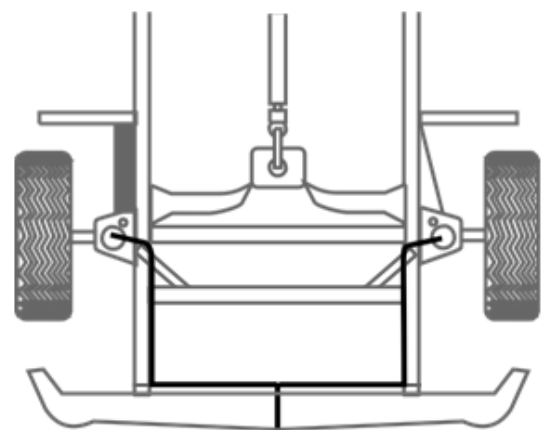
Use this procedure for all air line connections:

- A. Slide air line clamp onto the air line
- B. Push the air line over the barbed stem.
- C. Compress the ears on the air line clamp with pliers and slide it forward to fully cover the barbed section.

*fig. 3*



*fig. 4*



*fig. 5*

**DO NOT INFLATE AIR CYLINDERS BEFORE READING MAINTENANCE & OPERATING TIPS.**

N. Continue with step 8, page 3.

## DUAL AIR LINE ROUTING

**TO PREVENT AIR LINE FROM MELTING, KEEP IT AT LEAST EIGHT INCHES FROM EXHAUST SYSTEM.**

A. Select a location for the inflation valves in the rocker panel flange, or rear bumper, assuring that each valve will be protected and accessible with an air hose (Figure 8).

B. Determine and cut adequate length of air line to reach from valve location to left side air cylinder.

**CAUTION: LEAVE SUFFICIENT AIR LINE SLACK TO PREVENT ANY STRAIN ON VALVE STEM DURING NORMAL AXLE MOTIONS.**

C. Insert the air line through the spring seat and spacer.

D. Slide air line clamp onto the cut air line.

E. Push the air line onto the stem, covering all the barbed section (Figure 4). With pliers slide the air line clamp forward until it fully covers barbed section.

F. Repeat process for right side.

G. Drill 5/16" hole for inflating valves and mount as illustrated. Rubber washer is for outside weather seal (Figure 7).

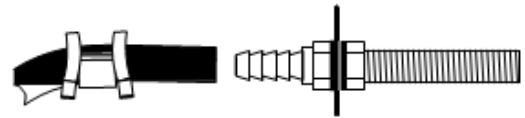
H. Route air line along control arm and frame to inflation valve location and cut off excess.

I. Slide a clamp onto the air line and push the air line over the fitting, covering all the barbs. With pliers slide the air line clamp forward until it fully covers the barbed section (Figure 6).

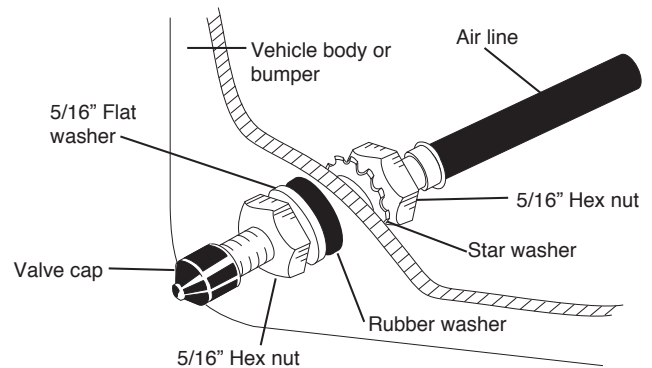
J. Raise axle or lower body until air cylinders lightly touch upper spring seat and lower spacers.

K. Check TAILPIPE clearance and insure that it is at least 2-3 inches from air cylinders. If necessary, loosen clamps and rotate or move to obtain additional clearance. If heat shields are supplied, install them. Attach shock absorbers if removed earlier in the installation.

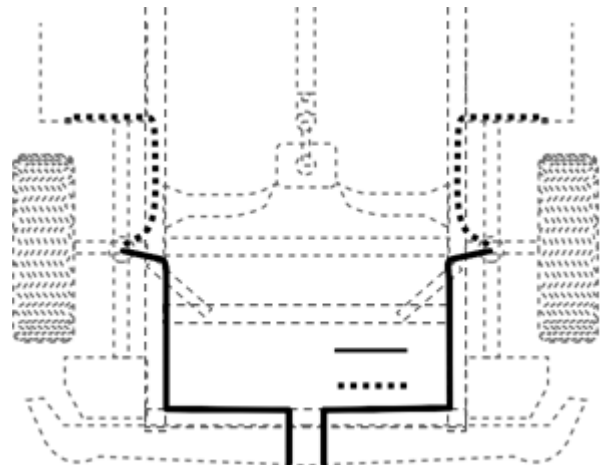
L. Continue with step 7, page 3.



*fig. 6*



*fig. 7*



*fig. 8*

**FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM PRESSURE WILL VOID THE WARRANTY**

<b>MINIMUM AIR PRESSURE 5 P.S.I.</b>	<b>MAXIMUM AIR PRESSURE 35 P.S.I.</b>
<p><b>MAINTENANCE TIPS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Check pressure weekly!</li><li>2. Always maintain at least 5 p.s.i. air pressure to prevent chafing or coil pinch.</li><li>3. If you develop an air leak in the system, use a soapy/water solution to check all air line connections and the valve core before removing cylinder.</li></ol> <p><b>OPERATING TIPS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Inflate your air springs to 35 p.s.i. before adding the payload. This will allow the air cylinder to properly mesh with the coil spring. After vehicle is loaded, adjust your air pressure (down) to level the vehicle and for ride comfort.</li><li>2. When you are carrying a payload it will be helpful to increase the tire inflation pressure in proportion to any overload condition. We recommend a 2 p.s.i. increase above normal (not to exceed tire manufacturers maximum) for each 100 lbs. additional load on the axle.</li></ol>	
<div data-bbox="191 772 505 982" data-label="Image"></div> <p data-bbox="599 783 1146 814"><i>Thank you for purchasing Air Lift Products</i></p> <p data-bbox="711 848 1068 966"><b>AIR LIFT COMPANY</b> P.O. BOX 80167 Lansing, MI 48908-0167</p>	

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# Product Use Information

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q. Will installing air springs increase the weight ratings of a vehicle?

No. Adding air springs will not change the weight ratings (GAWR, GCWR and/or GVWR) of a vehicle. Exceeding the GVWR is dangerous and voids the Air Lift warranty.

### Q. Is it necessary to keep air in the air springs at all times and how much pressure will they need?

The minimum air pressure should be maintained at all times. The minimum air pressure keeps the air spring in shape, ensuring that it will move throughout its travel without rubbing or wearing on itself.

### Q. Is it necessary to add a compressor system to the air springs?

No. Air pressure can be adjusted with any type of compressor as long as it can produce sufficient pressure to service the springs. Even a bicycle tire pump can be used, but it's a lot of work.

### Q. How long should air springs last?

If the air springs are properly installed and maintained they can last indefinitely.

### Q. Will raising the vehicle on a hoist for service work damage the air springs?

No. The vehicle can be lifted on a hoist for short-term service work such as tire rotation or oil changes. However, if the vehicle will be on the hoist for a prolonged period of time, support the axle with jack stands in order to take the tension off of the air springs.

## TUNING THE AIR PRESSURE

Pressure determination comes down to three things — level vehicle, ride comfort, and stability.

### 1. Level vehicle

If the vehicle's headlights are shining into the trees or the vehicle is leaning to one side, then it is not level (fig. 8). Raise the air pressure to correct either of these problems and level the vehicle.

### 2. Ride comfort

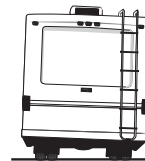
If the vehicle has a rough or harsh ride it may be due to either too much pressure or not enough (fig. 10). Try different pressures to determine the best ride comfort.

### 3. Stability

Stability translates into safety and should be the priority, meaning the driver may need to sacrifice a perfectly level and comfortable ride. Stability issues include roll control, bounce, dive during braking and sponginess (fig. 11). Tuning out these problems usually requires an increase in pressure.



Bad headlight aim



Sway and body roll



Rough ride

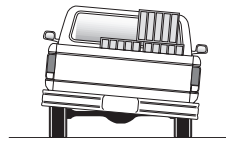
## GUIDELINES FOR ADDING AIR

1. Start with the vehicle level or slightly above.
2. When in doubt, always add air.
3. For motorhomes, start with 50-100 PSI in the rear because it can be safely assumed that it is heavily loaded.
4. If the front of the vehicle dives while braking, increase the pressure in the front air bags, if equipped.
5. If it is ever suspected that the air bags have bottomed out, increase the pressure (fig. 12).
6. Adjust the pressure up and down to find the best ride.
7. If the vehicle rocks and rolls, adjust the air pressure to reduce movement.
8. It may be necessary to maintain different pressures on each side of the vehicle. Loads such as water, fuel, and appliances will cause the vehicle to be heavier on one side (fig. 13). As much as a 50 PSI difference is not uncommon.

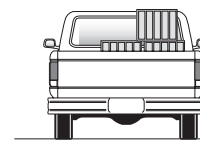


Bottoming out

fig. 12



Unlevel



Level

fig. 13

## Warranty and Returns Policy

Air Lift Company warrants its products, for the time periods listed below, to the original retail purchaser against manufacturing defects when used on catalog-listed applications on cars, vans, light trucks and motorhomes under normal operating conditions for as long as Air Lift manufactures the product. The warranty does not apply to products that have been improperly applied, improperly installed, used in racing or off-road applications, used for commercial purposes, or which have not been maintained in accordance with installation instructions furnished with all products. The consumer will be responsible for removing (labor charges) the defective product from the vehicle and returning it, transportation costs prepaid, to the dealer from which it was purchased or to Air Lift Company for verification.

Air Lift will repair or replace, at its option, defective products or components. A minimum \$10.00 shipping and handling charge will apply to all warranty claims. Before returning any defective product, you must call Air Lift at (800) 248-0892 in the U.S. and Canada (elsewhere, (517) 322-2144) for a Returned Materials Authorization (RMA) number. Returns to Air Lift can be sent to: Air Lift Company • 2727 Snow Road • Lansing, MI • 48917.

Product failures resulting from abnormal use or misuse are excluded from this warranty. The loss of use of the product, loss of time, inconvenience, commercial loss or consequential damages is not covered. The consumer is responsible for installation/reinstallation (labor charges) of the product. Air Lift Company reserves the right to change the design of any product without assuming any obligation to modify any product previously manufactured.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that vary from state-to-state. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages. The above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. There are no warranties, expressed or implied including any implied warranties of merchantability and fitness, which extend beyond this warranty period. There are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face hereof. Seller disclaims the implied warranty of merchantability. (Dated proof of purchase required.)

(Warranty and Returns continued)

<b>Air Lift 1000</b> .....	<b>Lifetime Limited</b>	<b>LoadController/Dual</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>RideControl</b> .....	<b>Lifetime Limited</b>	<b>Load Controller (I)</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>LoadLifter 5000*</b> .....	<b>Lifetime Limited</b>	<b>Load Controller (II)</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>SlamAir</b> .....	<b>Lifetime Limited</b>	<b>SmartAir</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>AirCell</b> .....	<b>Lifetime Limited</b>	<b>Wireless AIR</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>Air Lift Performance**</b> .....	<b>1 Year Limited</b>	<b>WirelessONE</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>
<b>LoadController/Single</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>	<b>Other Accessories</b> .....	<b>2 Year Limited</b>

*\*formerly SuperDuty*

*\*\*formerly LifeStyle & Performance and EasyStreet*

## Replacement Information

If you need replacement parts, contact the local dealer or call Air Lift customer service at (800) 248-0892. Most parts are immediately available and can be shipped the same day.

**Contact Air Lift Company customer service at (800) 248-0892 first if:**

- Parts are missing from the kit.
- Need technical assistance on installation or operation.
- Broken or defective parts in the kit.
- Wrong parts in the kit.
- Have a warranty claim or question.

**Contact the retailer where the kit was purchased:**

- If it is necessary to return or exchange the kit for any reason.
- If there is a problem with shipping if shipped from the retailer.
- If there is a problem with the price.

## Contact Information

If you have any questions, comments or need technical assistance contact our customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, our local number is (517) 322-2144.

For inquiries by mail, our address is PO Box 80167, Lansing, MI 48908-0167. Our shipping address for returns is 2727 Snow Road, Lansing, MI 48917.

You may also contact us anytime by e-mail at [sales@airliftcompany.com](mailto:sales@airliftcompany.com) or on the web at [www.airliftcompany.com](http://www.airliftcompany.com).

## Need Help?

Contact our customer service department by calling (800) 248-0892, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. For calls from outside the USA or Canada, our local number is (517) 322-2144.

**Register your warranty online at  
[www.airliftcompany.com/warranty](http://www.airliftcompany.com/warranty)**



*Thank you for purchasing Air Lift products — the professional installer's choice!*

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