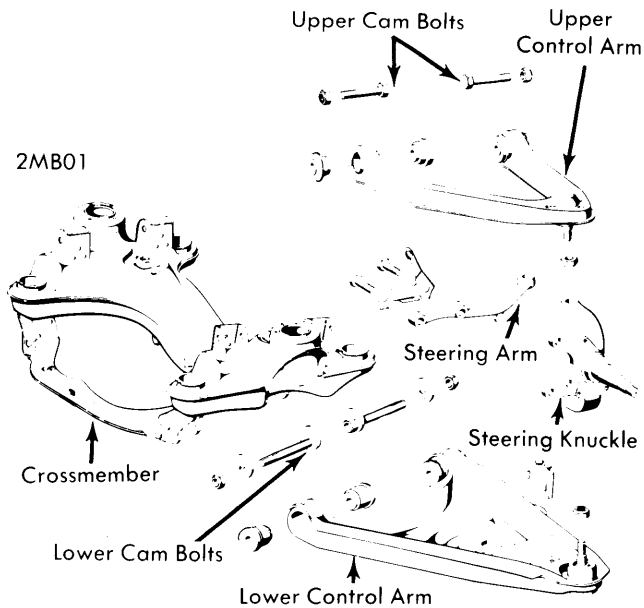


MERCEDES-BENZ, EXC. 450SE & 450SEL

230
240D
280
450SL
450SLC

DESCRIPTION

Suspension is control arm coil spring type. A stabilizer bar is attached to lower control arms and mounted to crossmember. Front suspension with crossmember can be removed as a unit.



FRONT SUSPENSION

WHEEL ALIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS & ADJUSTMENTS

See *Wheel Alignment Specifications and Adjustments* in **WHEEL ALIGNMENT** Section.

WHEEL BEARING ADJUSTMENT

See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment* in **WHEEL ALIGNMENT** Section.

BALL JOINT CHECKING

See *Ball Joint Checking* in **WHEEL ALIGNMENT** Section.

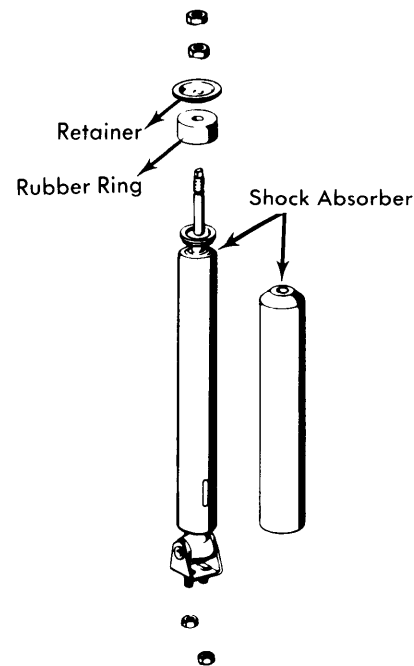
REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

SHOCK ABSORBER

Removal — Raise and support vehicle, place safety stands under lower control arm. Remove wheels. Disconnect upper and lower shock mounting nuts. Remove shock absorber. **NOTE** — Unscrew water cooling compensating tank before removing right front shock absorber.

Installation — To install shock absorber, reverse removal procedure and tighten to specification.

CAUTION — Do not reverse upper and lower shock absorber plates as lower plate could slide over locking ring while driving (see illustration).



SHOCK ABSORBER
230 SERIES SHOWN, OTHERS SIMILAR

COIL SPRING

Removal — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands, remove wheel. Remove shock absorber as previously outlined. Disconnect stabilizer bar linkage. Support lower control arm inner side with a jack. Mark control arm cam bolts for correct installation. Remove control arm cam bolts (do not reverse front with rear), lower jack and remove coil spring with rubber ring.

Installation — To install coil springs, reverse removal procedure and tighten to specifications. **NOTE** — Cam bolts affect caster/camber and should be installed as removed.

FRONT STABILIZER BAR

Removal — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands. Disconnect stabilizer bar linkage on both sides. Unscrew stabilizer clamps and remove stabilizer bar from vehicle.

Installation — To install stabilizer bar, reverse removal procedure. Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications.

SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY

Removal — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands, remove wheels. Remove shock absorbers and coil springs as previously outlined. Reconnect lower control arm to steering knuckle. Support engine. Disconnect and remove left and right front engine mounts. Disconnect and plug brake hoses. Disconnect tie rods from steering arms. Remove stabilizer bar as previously outlined. Remove engine shock absorber from crossmember. Support crossmember on a jack, remove bolts from crossmember mounts and remove suspension assembly.

Installation — To install suspension assembly, reverse removal procedure. Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications.

STEERING KNUCKLE

Removal — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands, remove wheels. Place front stands under lower control arms. Disconnect steering arm from steering knuckle. Disconnect and plug brake hoses, remove caliper. Remove upper and lower ball joint nuts, remove steering knuckle.

Front Suspension

MERCEDES-BENZ, EXC. 450SE & 450SEL (Cont.)

Installation — To install steering knuckle, reverse removal procedure. Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications.

UPPER CONTROL ARM

Removal — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands, remove wheel. Remove steering arm from steering knuckle. Remove steering knuckle as previously outlined. Remove cam bolts on upper control arm, and remove upper control arm.

Installation — To install upper control arm, reverse removal procedure. **CAUTION** — *Install front control arm cam bolts from rear in a forward direction, and rear cam bolts from the front in a rearward direction.* Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications.

LOWER CONTROL ARM

Removal — Remove lower shock absorber mount. Raise and support vehicle on safety stands, remove wheel. Disconnect steering arm from steering knuckle. Disconnect and plug brake hose. Remove coil spring as previously outlined. Remove nut on upper ball joint. Disconnect lower ball joint from steering knuckle and remove lower control arm.

Installation — To install lower control arm, reverse removal procedure. **NOTE** — *Use new lock nuts on upper and lower ball joints.* Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS	
Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Lower Shock Absorber Mount	18 (2.5)
Stabilizer Bar Bolts	18 (2.5)
Steering Linkage Bolts	25 (3.5)
Steering Knuckle Arm Bolts	58 (8.0)
Upper Control Arm Cam Bolts	43 (6.0)
Lower Control Arm Cam Bolts	87 (12.0)
Upper Ball Joint	43 (6.0)
Lower Ball Joint	58 (8.0)
Engine Mounting Bolts	25 (3.5)
Suspension Mounting Bolts	33 (4.6)