

SAAB

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DESCRIPTION

Tube type rear axle with coil springs. Rear axle is straight tube with stub axles press fitted into the ends. Axle is mounted to body by two lower control arms, which are connected at rear to the axle tube and to the body at front. Rear links are also used which mount rearward from stub axle assembly to body. A cross bar is mounted from right side of axle and attaches to body support in center. Coil springs are mounted between lower control arms and body. Telescopic shock absorbers are used which are attached between lower control arms and body.

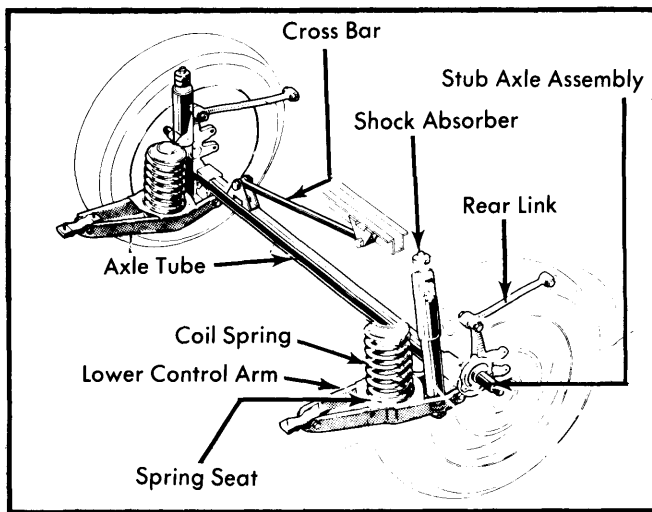


Fig. 1 Saab Rear Suspension Assembly

ADJUSTMENT

REAR WHEEL BEARINGS

See Wheel Bearing Adjustment in WHEEL ALIGNMENT Section.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

SHOCK ABSORBERS

Removal, Standard Type – Raise vehicle and place on safety stands. Remove tire and wheel. Disconnect shock absorbers from upper and lower mounting brackets. Remove shock absorber.

Installation – Reverse removal procedure and note: Bleed new shock absorber before installing. Place shock absorber straight up and down. Work it through full cycle several times. Make sure nuts are not overtightened. There should just be enough tension against rubber bushing to provide a solid fit.

Removal, Pneumatic Type – 1) Raise vehicle and place on safety stand at rear jacking point. Fit another safety stand under rear axle. This will stop axle from suddenly dropping.

2) Place a hydraulic jack under control arm near rear axle. Remove shock absorber mounting nuts. Remove bolts mounting control arm to rear axle. Lower control arm with jack until shock absorber can be removed.

Installation – To install, reverse removal procedure.

REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY

Removal – Raise rear of vehicle and support on safety stands. Remove wheels and tires. Disconnect rear brake hoses, lower shock absorber attachments, and cross bar. Position a jack under rear axle, lower axle and remove rear springs. Remove screws of spring link rear bushings and remove axle assembly from vehicle.

Installation – 1) To install, reverse removal procedure and note: When repositioning axle tube, DO NOT place jack in center of axle tube. Either use two jacks (one at each end) or one jack and one safety stand.

2) DO NOT tighten bearings until car weight is on suspension to ensure bushings are aligned correctly. Cross bar-to-body mounting bolt must be installed with nut facing forward. Bleed brake system.

COIL SPRING

NOTE – DO NOT place floor jack under rear axle.

Removal – 1) Set parking brake. Raise vehicle and place safety stands under rear axle. Remove wheel.

2) Place jack centered under control arm near coil spring. Slightly raise jack and disconnect lower end of shock absorber. Disconnect control arm from body. Let control arm down on jack until spring can be removed.

Inspection – Check spring for obvious signs of weakening or damage. Check free length of spring using table.

Coil Spring Table

Application	Free Length
Coil with GREEN Stripe	12.7" (323 mm)
Coil with YELLOW Stripe	12.9" (329 mm)
Coil with WHITE Stripe	12.4" (315 mm)
Coil with BLUE Stripe.....	12.8" (324 mm)

Installation – Reverse removal procedure. Make sure to use new lock nuts where control arm attaches to body.