

## FIAT BRAVA

### DESCRIPTION

Rear suspension consists of upper and lower reaction struts, shock absorbers encased by coil springs and a track bar. Lower reaction struts mount near wheels under axle housing and at forward end to car body. Upper reaction struts mount off bracket on axle housing and at front end to bracket on body. A track bar is connected at one end to bracket mounted off frame and at opposite end to bracket below axle housing. Coil springs mount between axle assembly and frame. Hydraulic shock absorbers are used and are mounted between axle and body, inside of coil springs.

### REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

#### REAR SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY

**Removal** — Raise vehicle, support with safety stands, and remove rear wheels. Disconnect propeller shaft from rear axle.

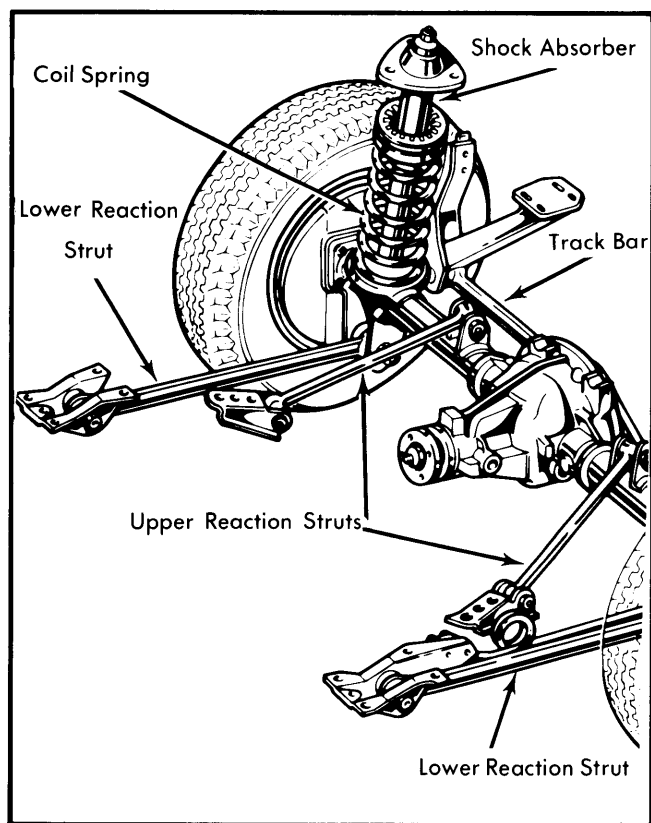


Fig. 1 Fiat Brava Rear Suspension Assembly

Disconnect parking brake cable from cable housing assembly. Disconnect track bar from frame. Position a jack under axle assembly and raise jack enough to support axle. Disconnect lower strut rods from frame bracket, then remove brake cable and brake regulator rod from bracket. Disconnect brake hose from "T" fitting on rear axle. Disconnect upper reaction struts from frame bracket. Disconnect shock absorber from upper mount and upper mount from body. Lower rear axle with suspension from vehicle.

**Installation** — To install rear axle, reverse removal procedure while noting the following: Tighten nuts and bolts to specifications with weight of vehicle on ground. Bleed brake system after installation.

#### SHOCK ABSORBERS

**Removal** — Remove rear suspension assembly. Take out lower shock absorber mounting bolt and remove shock absorber.

**CAUTION** — Coil spring is under tension.

**Installation** — To install, reverse removal procedure.

#### STRUT RODS

**Removal (Lower)** — Remove nut and bolt mounting strut in rear axle bracket. Disconnect parking brake cable from bracket on strut. Remove strut from front bracket and lift out.

**Removal (Upper)** — Remove hardware mounting strut in rear bracket, then separate strut from front bracket and remove.

**Installation (Upper and Lower)** — To install, reverse removal procedure.

### TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Shock Absorber-to-Upper Mount .....	11 (1.5)
Upper Mount-to-Body .....	18 (2.5)
Shock Absorber Lower Mount .....	36 (5)
Reaction Strut Rods	
Upper .....	58 (8)
Lower .....	36 (5)
Track Bar-to-Rear Axle .....	72 (10)
Track Bar-to-Body .....	58 (8)