

Front Suspension

TRIUMPH TR7 & TR8

DESCRIPTION

Suspension is strut type with a coil spring around strut tube. Strut is secured at top to inner fender and at bottom to control arm link. A stabilizer bar is connected to chassis and lower control link. Control arm links are mounted by a ball joint at stub axles and through bolts at chassis.

ADJUSTMENT

WHEEL ALIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS & PROCEDURES

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

WHEEL BEARING ADJUSTMENT

Raise and support front of vehicle. Remove tire and wheel. Check hub for excessive end play. If adjustment is necessary, remove grease cap and cotter pin. Tighten spindle nut to 50 ft. lbs. (68 N·m), then back off 1 flat and install cotter pin.

BALL JOINT CHECKING

Inspect ball joints for excessive wear or play. Replace ball joints as necessary.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

LOWER CONTROL LINK

Removal – 1) Raise and support vehicle with safety stands. Remove tire and wheel. Remove mounting hardware from end of stabilizer bar. Remove bolts holding steering arm to stub axle and move out of way. Remove nut and separate ball joint. Remove bolt and nut securing lower control link to chassis, then take out link.

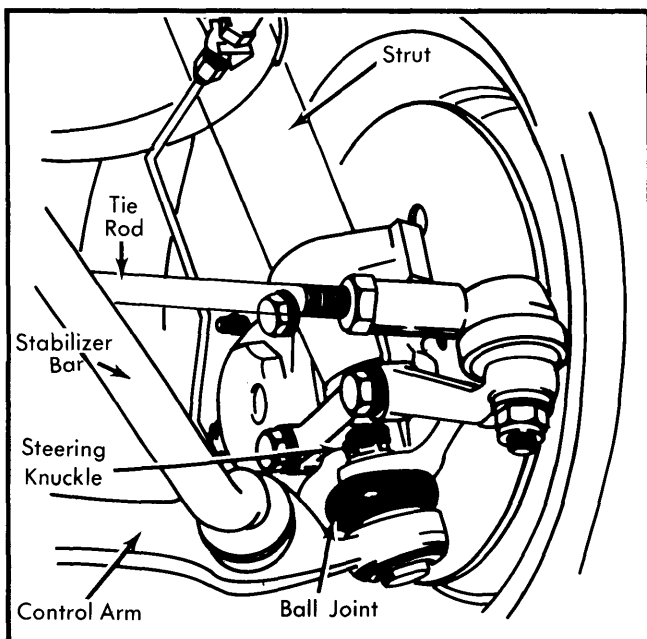


Fig. 1 Detail of Components to Remove in Order to Take Off Lower Control Link and Strut Assembly

2) Remove plastic and rubber ring from ball joint. Remove snap ring retaining ball joint housing to bottom link. Press or drive out ball joint and housing. Install new ball joint, fit snap ring, plastic, and rubber ring.

Installation – To install reverse removal procedure and tighten lower control link when vehicle weight is on ground.

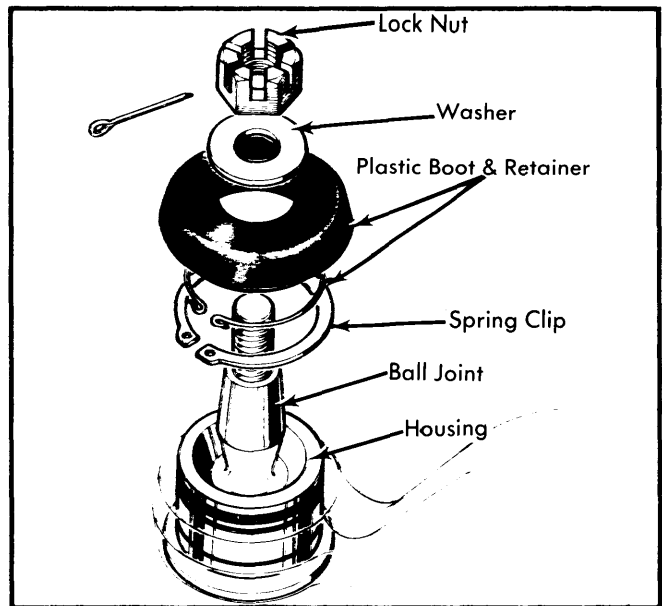


Fig. 2 Exploded View of Ball Joint Assembly

STRUT ASSEMBLY

Removal – 1) Raise vehicle and support with jack stands. Remove tire and wheel. Separate steering arm from stub axle assembly by removing two bolts. Disconnect brake hose from bracket on strut tube. Disconnect brake caliper and hang out of way.

2) Remove ball joint nut and separate from stub axle. Remove three nuts mounting strut assembly to inner fender panel. Pull strut downward and maneuver from vehicle.

3) Using a spring compressor, collapse coil and remove slotted nut from top of strut assembly. Take out spring pan complete with top mounting and swivel assembly. Remove spring from strut.

Disassembly – Using plug nut wrench (RTR359), remove plug nut. Slide shock absorber from strut tube.

Reassembly – Fit shock absorber to strut tube, then fit plug nut and tighten.

TRIUMPH TR7 & TR8 (Cont.)

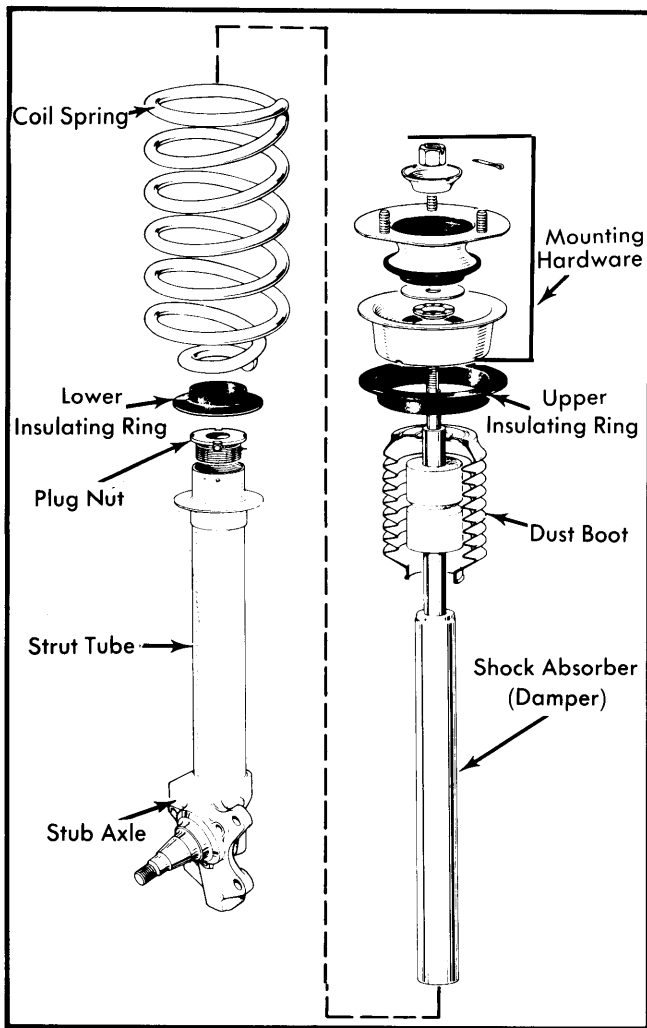


Fig. 3 Disassembled View of Strut

Installation - 1) Compress coil spring and ensure bumper stop is correctly positioned. Fully extend strut rod and fit the following: lower insulating ring, rubber seal, spring, upper insulating ring, and spring pan. Fit seal to thrust collar and place on upper spring pan.

2) Install plain washer (smearing first with light coating of grease) with ground surface facing spring pan. Insert rubber mounting to strut and secure with dished washer and slotted nut. To complete installation, reverse removal procedure. Bleed brake system.

WHEEL BEARINGS

Removal - 1) Raise vehicle and support with stands. Remove wheel and grease cap. Remove cotter pin and loosen outer bearing nut.

2) Remove caliper mounting bolts and remove caliper. Remove outer bearing nut, washer, outer bearing and disc. Remove seal from disc and remove inner bearing.

Installation - To install, reverse removal procedure.

STABILIZER BAR

Removal - Raise vehicle and place on safety stands. Remove bolts and brackets mounting stabilizer bar to chassis. Remove mounting nut and rubber bushing securing stabilizer bar to lower control link. Pull out stabilizer, adjusting vehicle height as necessary. If necessary, inner bushing and mounting bushings can now be removed and replaced.

Installation - Refit inner dished washer with dish facing bushing, then install inner bushing on each end of stabilizer bar. Insert stabilizer bar and fit outer rubber bushings with dished washers. Reinstall mounting brackets and tighten all nuts and bolts.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N·m)
Stabilizer Bar-to-Chassis	37 (50)
Stabilizer Bar-to-Lower Control Link	59 (80)
Strut Mounting-to-Body	21 (29)
Strut-to-Mounting	44 (60)
Strut Tube Plug Nut	74 (101)
Tie Rod-to-Stub Axle	74 (101)