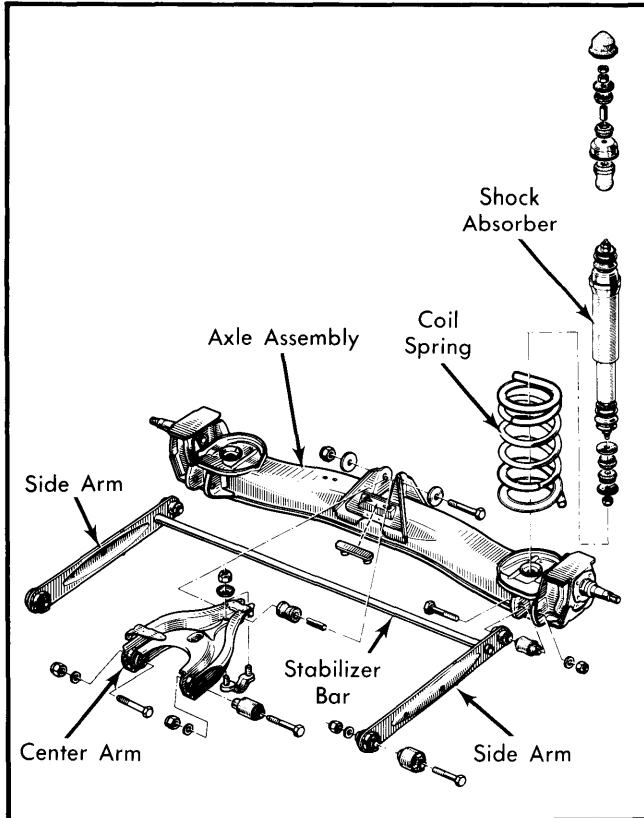


## RENAULT 18i

### DESCRIPTION

The trailing axle shaft is supported by a center arm and 2 side arms. The pivot points are mounted in rubber bushings. A stabilizer bar is welded at each end to the side arms. Coil springs mount over shock absorbers.



**Fig. 1 Exploded View Of Renault 18i Rear Suspension**

### ADJUSTMENTS

#### WHEEL ALIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS & PROCEDURES

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

#### REAR WHEEL BEARINGS

Tighten stub axle nut to 22 ft. lbs. (30 N·m) while rotating brake drum. Lightly tap side of brake drum with a mallet. Loosen nut  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn. Attach a dial indicator to brake drum with indicator tip on stub axle. Check bearing end play. End play should be .001" (.03 mm) or less. Adjust bearing end play by turning stub axle nut.

### REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

#### REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Removal** — 1) Raise rear of vehicle and support with safety stands. Remove both rear wheels. Remove lower shock absorber

attaching nuts and push shock absorber up as far as possible. Remove flexible brake lines from limiter.

2) Pull down on rear axle and remove coil springs. Remove the 2 side arm nuts and drive out bolts. Disconnect parking brake cables at adjuster and remove them from retaining bracket. Place jack under rear axle shaft. Disconnect brake limiter valve. Remove 2 center arm bolts from body. Lower axle assembly away from vehicle.

**Installation** — Reverse removal procedures and note the following: Lubricate all bolts with grease before installation. Tighten all bolts with full weight of vehicle on ground. Bleed brake system.

#### SIDE ARMS

**Removal** — Raise vehicle and support with safety stands. Disconnect 2 parking brake cables. Remove bolts that attach side arms to body and rear axle assembly. Remove side arms and stabilizer bar as an assembly.

**Installation** — Reverse removal procedures and note the following: Lubricate all bolts with grease before installation. Tighten all bolts with full weight of vehicle on ground.

#### CENTER ARM

**Removal** — Raise vehicle and support with safety stands. Disconnect brake limiter control rod. Remove nuts that clamp center arm to axle assembly. Remove nuts and bolts that attach center arm to body. Remove center arm.

**Installation** — Reverse removal procedures and note the following: Lubricate all bolts with grease before installation. Tighten all nuts and bolts with full weight of vehicle on ground. Check alignment of limiter valve.

#### SHOCK ABSORBER & COIL SPRING

**Removal** — Remove cover and upper shock absorber attaching nuts from inside luggage compartment. Raise vehicle on hoist and remove wheels. Remove lower shock absorber attaching nuts. Remove brake hose clips from rear axle. Compress shock absorber by hand and carefully work shock absorber and coil spring from vehicle.

**Installation** — Reverse removal procedures.

### TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N·m)
Center Arm-to-Axle .....	30 (41)
Center Arm-to-Body .....	59 (80)
Center Arm Clamp Nuts .....	11 (15)
Side Arm-to-Axle .....	30 (41)
Side Arm-to-Body .....	26 (35)
Shock Absorber Nuts	
Lower .....	22 (30)
Upper .....	11 (15)