

SAAB

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.

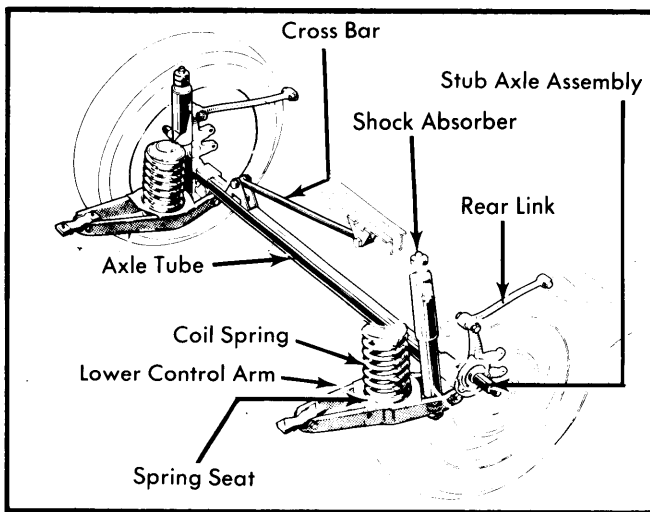


Fig. 1 Saab Rear Suspension Assembly

ADJUSTMENT

REAR WHEEL BEARINGS

Install washer and lock nut. Tighten lock nut to 36 ft. lbs. (49 N.m) to seat bearings. Loosen lock nut completely, then retighten to 17-35 INCH lbs. (2-4 N.m). Lock nut into place by bending flange into slot of lock nut.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

CAUTION — DO NOT raise vehicle with jack under rear axle.

COIL SPRINGS

Removal — 1) Apply handbrake and loosen wheel lug nuts. Raise and support vehicle on safety stands; remove tire and wheel. Support control arm with jack. Slightly raise arm and disconnect lower end of shock absorber.

2) Disconnect control arm from body. Support rear axle with suitable stand to prevent sudden drop of axle. Lower control arm and remove spring, spring support and rubber spacer (if equipped). Check spring for wear or damage and free length.

Coil Spring Identification Table

Application	Free Length
Coil with Blue Stripe	12.7" (323 mm)
Coil with Green Stripe	12.1" (307 mm)
Coil with White Stripe	12.4" (315 mm)

Installation — To install reverse removal procedure. Use new lock nuts to attach control arm to body.

REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY

CAUTION — DO NOT raise vehicle with jack under rear axle.

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 bushings 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.

SHOCK ABSORBERS

CAUTION — DO NOT raise vehicle with jack under rear axle.

Removal & Installation (Standard Type) — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands; remove tire and wheel. Disconnect shock absorber from upper and lower mounting brackets. Remove shock. Bleed air from shock before installation by holding shock upright and work it through full cycle several times. Reverse removal procedure to install shock.

CAUTION — Pneumatic shock absorbers require special handling to prevent personal injury. Drill a hole $\frac{3}{8}$ - $\frac{5}{8}$ " (10-16 mm) in diameter in pressure chamber edge before discarding.

Removal & Installation (Pneumatic Type) — Raise and support vehicle on safety stands; remove tire and wheel. Support rear axle with safety stand to prevent sudden drop of axle. Raise control arm with a jack placed near axle. Remove shock mounting nuts and control arm-to-rear axle mounting bolts. Lower control arm and remove shock. To install, reverse removal procedure.