

Rear Suspension

FIAT SPIDER 2000

DESCRIPTION

Spider rear suspension consists of 4-links, shock absorbers, coil springs, and a track bar. The 2 lower links mount near the wheels, under the axle housing, and at brackets on the body just ahead of rear wheels.

The 2 upper links mount to brackets on the axle housing and to brackets on the body. A track bar is connected to axle housing bracket on one end and to a frame bracket on the other. Shock absorbers are surrounded by coil springs.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

REAR SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY

Removal

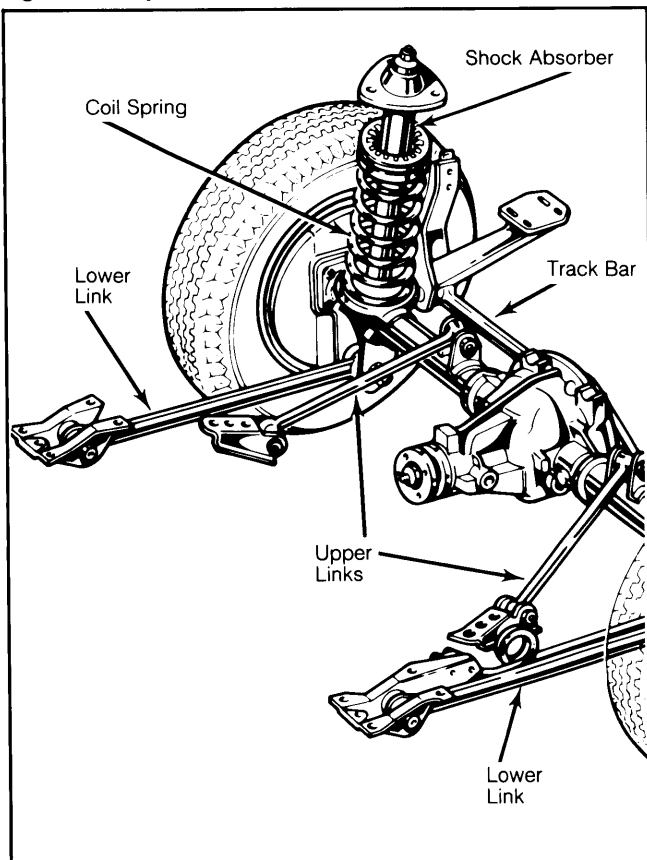
1) Raise vehicle, and support with safety stands. Remove wheel assemblies. Disconnect propeller shaft from rear axle. Disconnect parking brake cable from cable housing assembly.

2) Disconnect track bar from body. Place a floor jack under axle assembly. Raise jack just enough to support axle assembly.

3) Disconnect lower links from body bracket. Remove brake hose and brake regulator rod from bracket. Disconnect brake hose from "T" fitting on rear axle.

4) Disconnect upper struts from frame bracket. Disconnect shock absorbers from upper mounts, and remove upper mounts from body. Lower rear axle assembly from vehicle.

Fig. 1: Fiat Spider 2000 Rear Suspension Assembly



Installation

To install, reverse removal procedures, and note the following. Tighten nuts and bolts with full weight of vehicle on floor. Bleed brake system after installation.

SHOCK ABSORBERS

Removal

Remove rear suspension assembly. Take out lower shock absorber mounting bolt, and remove shock absorber (coil spring is under tension).

Installation

To install, reverse removal procedure.

UPPER & LOWER LINKS

Removal (Lower)

Remove nut and bolt mounting link in rear axle bracket. Disconnect parking brake cable from bracket on link. Remove link from front bracket, and lift out.

Removal (Upper)

Remove hardware mounting link in rear bracket, separate link from front bracket, and remove.

Installation (Upper and Lower)

To install, reverse removal procedure.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N.m)
Shock Absorber-to-Lower Mount	36 (49)
Shock Absorber-to-Upper Mount	11 (15)
Upper Shock Mount-to-Body	18 (24)
Link Bolts	58 (79)
Track Bar-to-Body	58 (79)
Track Bar-to-Rear Axle	72 (98)