

Rear Suspension

VOLKSWAGEN VANAGON

DESCRIPTION

Rear suspension is independent, coil spring type. Trailing arms mount in front to pivot brackets having provision for caster and toe-in adjustment.

Shock absorber mounts at top to chassis and at bottom to rear of trailing arm. Coil spring mounts to trailing arm and chassis in spring seats ahead of shock absorber. Drive shafts run through trailing arms and attach to inside of wheel hub.

ADJUSTMENT

WHEEL ALIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS & PROCEDURES

See *Wheel Alignment Specifications & Procedures* in **WHEEL ALIGNMENT** section.

WHEEL BEARING

Wheel bearings require no adjustments.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

TRAILING ARMS

Removal

1) Raise vehicle and support with safety stands. Remove wheel assembly. Support trailing arm with a floor jack.

2) Remove nuts attaching brake drum and axle hub assembly to trailing arm. Using hex wrench, remove hex screws at axle shaft-to-transaxle joint.

3) Pull axle shaft and brake drum assembly through trailing arm and remove from vehicle. Remove shock absorber lower retaining bolt and slowly lower floor jack.

4) Remove coil spring and spring seats. Note relative position of trailing arm in mounting brackets. Remove pivot bolts. Remove trailing arm from vehicle.

Bushing Replacement

1) Using bushing remover (VW 442) and adapter (30-14), and a threaded rod, pull bushing out of trailing arm. Coat washer with oil and place between nut and tool.

2) Coat hole in trailing arm, installer tool (3053), and bushing with soapy solution. Using bushing installer tool, and threaded rod, pull bushing into trailing arm until sleeve contacts tool. Wait about 30 seconds and remove tool. Bushing should seat itself. If necessary, press edge of bushing out.

Installation

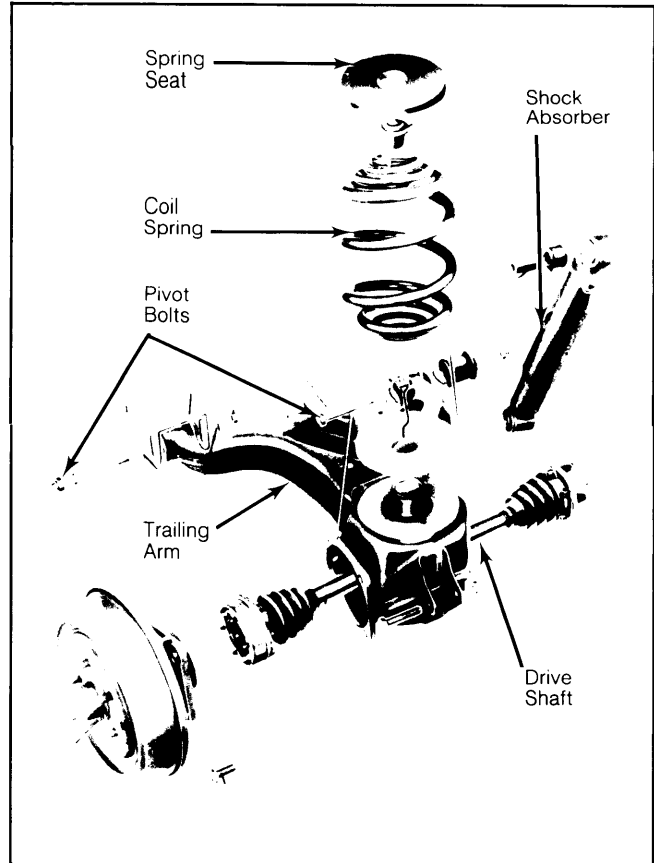
To install, reverse removal procedures. Depressions in spring seats must be aligned with ends of coil springs. Align depression in lower spring seat with depression in trailing arm. Install trailing arm at noted position in brackets. Check wheel alignment.

SHOCK ABSORBER & COIL SPRING

Removal

1) Raise vehicle and support with safety stands. Support trailing arm with a floor jack. Remove shock absorber retaining bolts. Remove shock absorber.

Fig. 1: Exploded View of Rear Suspension



NOTE: If only coil spring is to be removed, remove only one shock absorber mounting.

2) Slowly lower floor jack. Remove coil spring and spring seats.

Bushing Replacement

Press out bushings in shock absorber. File off any sharp edges on sleeve before installation. Coat parts with soapy solution and press sleeve 1/2 way into bushing using vise. Using press, fully push bushing and sleeve into shock absorber.

Installation

To install, reverse removal procedures. The end of the coil spring must fit in spring seat depressions. Depression in lower spring seat should fit into depression in trailing arm.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N.m)
Drive Shaft Hex Screws	33 (45)
Hub Assembly-to-Trailing Arm	101 (137)
Lower Shock Absorber Retaining Bolt	65 (88)
Trailing Arm Pivot Bolts	76 (103)
Axle Nut	253 (344)