

BUICK, CADILLAC, CHEVROLET, OLDSMOBILE, PONTIAC REAR

Buick (All Exc. Estate Wagon & Apollo)
Cadillac (Exc. Commercial)
Chevrolet (Exc. Sta. Wag.), Chevelle, Monte Carlo
Oldsmobile (Exc. Omega, 88 Wagon)
Pontiac (Exc. Sta. Wag., Firebird, Ventura II)

REAR WHEEL BEARINGS

See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* Section.

DESCRIPTION

Rear suspension is of the link-type with coil springs. System uses four control arms that attach the rear axle assembly to the frame. A bracket on the axle supports coil springs. Top of coil spring is positioned under frame rail. Upper arms are attached to top of differential and extend forward to frame. Two shock absorbers are attached to frame and brackets on axle housing.

ADJUSTMENT

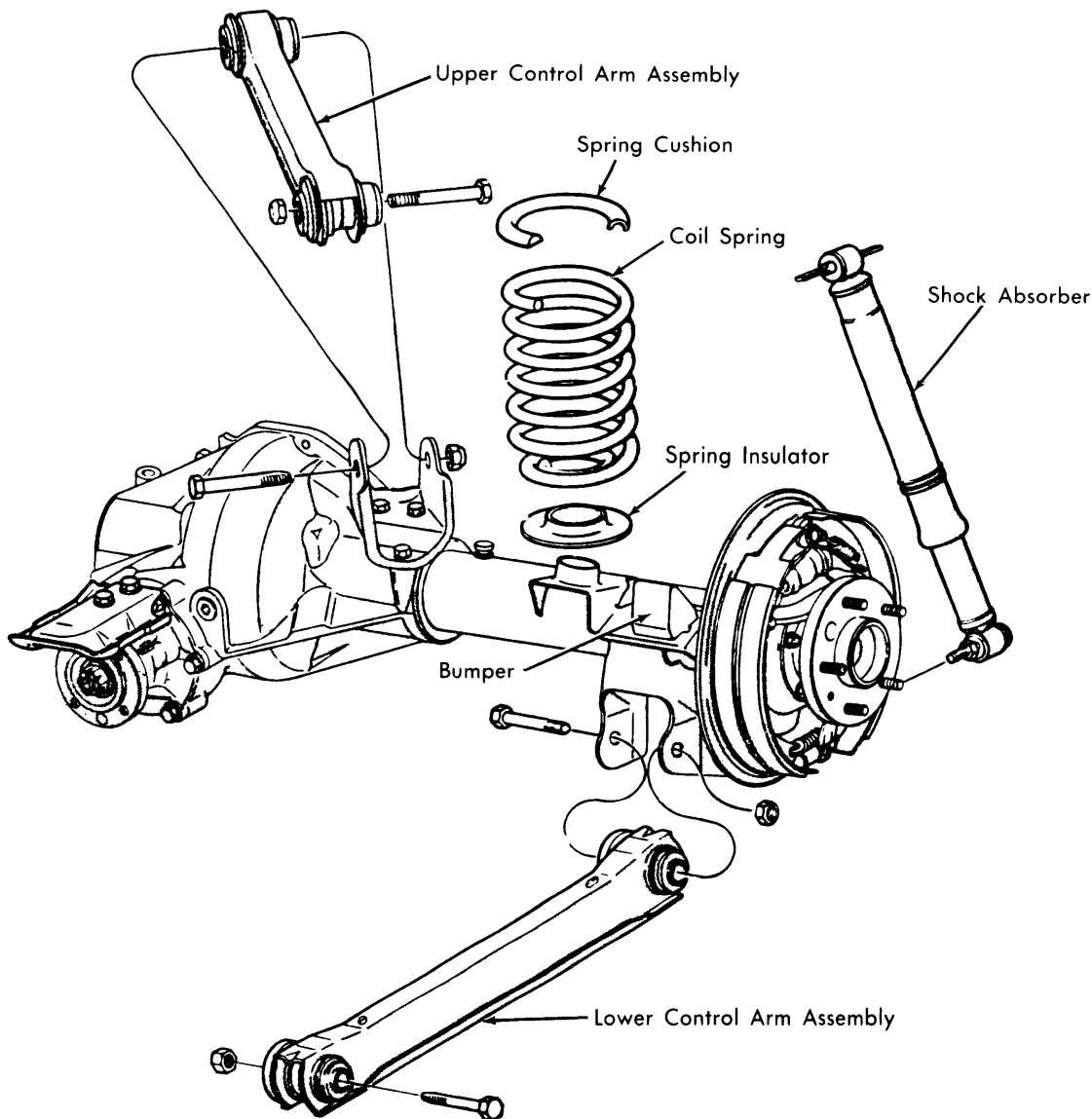
RIDING HEIGHT

See *Riding Height Adjustments and Specifications* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* Section.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

COIL SPRING

Removal — Raise and support vehicle at rear axle and frame. Disconnect shock absorbers at lower mounting. If equipped with Automatic Level Control, disconnect link at



REAR COIL SPRING SUSPENSION (TYPICAL)

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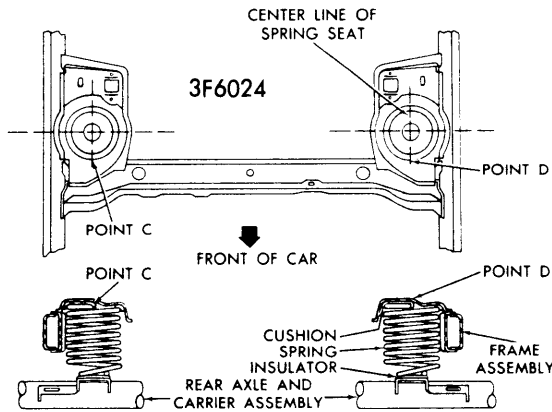
Front & Rear Suspension

BUICK, CADILLAC, CHEVROLET, OLDSMOBILE, PONTIAC REAR (Cont.)

overtravel lever and set lever in center position. **NOTE** — On Oldsmobile models, use suitable spring compressor to compress spring, then lower hoist and remove spring. Disconnect upper control arms from differential on all models except Bonneville, Catalina and Grand Ville. Disconnect brake line junction block at differential, then disconnect and plug brake lines from block. On Cadillac, unbolt and support propeller shaft rear flange. Lower axle slowly and remove springs. **CAUTION** — Do not allow axle to strain brake hoses.

NOTE — If vehicle is equipped with stabilizer bar it will be necessary to remove bar before unbolting arm.

Installation — Reverse removal procedures and tighten pivot bolts with vehicle on ground and at curb height.



COIL SPRING POSITION (CAD.)

Installation — Center spring in seat and reverse removal procedure, tightening nuts and bolts. Note proper location of coil spring end (see table).

Application	Spring Reference End	Direction
Buick	Top	Right
Cadillac	Top	Left
Chevrolet	Top	Right
Oldsmobile	Top	Right
Pontiac	Bottom	Rear

UPPER CONTROL ARM

CAUTION — Remove and replace one control arm at a time to prevent rear axle from rolling or slipping.

Removal — Raise vehicle on hoist and support rear axle. If equipped with Automatic Level Control, disconnect link at overtravel lever and set lever in center position. On Eldorado, remove shock absorber from lower mounting and position out of way. Unbolt control arm from upper and lower pivot bolt mountings and remove arm from vehicle.

Installation — Reverse removal procedures and tighten pivot bolts with vehicle on ground and at curb height.

LOWER CONTROL ARM

CAUTION — Remove and replace one control arm at a time to prevent rear axle from rolling or slipping.

Removal — Raise and support rear of vehicle. Support axle housing to relieve tension on control arm bolts. Remove lower control arm pivot bolt (below axle housing). Disconnect control arm from frame crossmember and remove assembly.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

CONTROL ARMS

Application	Bolt	Ft. Lbs.	Nut
Control Arms-to-Frame			
Century & Regal	90		80
Buick (All Others)	95		85
Eldorado	145		100
Cadillac (All Others)	95		75
Pontiac	① 110		② 80
Cutlass	90		80
88 & 98			100
Toronado			115
Chevelle & Monte Carlo			80
Chevrolet (All Others)			115
Control Arms-to-Axle			
Century & Regal	90		80
Buick (All Others)			
Upper	85		75
Lower	135		100
Eldorado			
Upper	110		80
Lower	145		100
Cadillac (All Others)	95		75
Pontiac	110		80
Cutlass, 88 & 98			③ 80
Toronado			
Upper			90
Lower			115
Chevrolet (All Models)			④ 80

- ① — Bonneville, Catalina & Grand Ville — 140 ft. lbs.
- ② — Bonneville, Catalina & Grand Ville — 110 ft. lbs.
- ③ — 88 & 98 lower arm nut — 115 ft. lbs.
- ④ — Lower arm nut — 115 ft. lbs.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs.
Shock Absorber (Upper)	
Chevrolet & Cadillac	12
Pontiac	15
Buick & Oldsmobile (Exc. Toronado)	20
Toronado	25
Shock Absorber (Lower)	
Cadillac	50
Toronado	75
All Others	65
U-Joint Yoke-to-Companion Flange	
Oldsmobile	75
Cadillac	70
Stabilizer Bar-to-Lower Control Arm	
Cutlass & Pontiac	50
Chevelle & Monte Carlo	55