

## CHRYSLER CORP. ARIES, DODGE 400, LE BARON & RELIANT

### DESCRIPTION

Rear suspension is a trailing arm, solid-axle design. An integral tubular stabilizer bar is positioned inside the axle and attached to the spindle mounting plates at either end of the axle channel. The trailing arms and coil spring seats are welded directly to the axle channel. A track bar provides lateral stability. Coil springs and vertically-mounted shock absorbers complete the suspension assembly.

### ADJUSTMENTS

#### WHEEL BEARINGS

Tighten adjusting nut to 240-300 INCH Lbs. while rotating wheel. Stop rotation and back off adjusting nut  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn. Finger tighten adjusting nut while again rotating wheel. Position nut lock with 1 pair of slots in line with cotter pin hole. Install cotter pin. This adjustment should provide .0001-.002" end play.

### REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

#### SHOCK ABSORBERS

**Removal** — Raise vehicle and support axle. Remove wheel and tire assembly. Remove upper and lower shock absorber mounting bolts and remove shock absorbers.

**Installation** — To install, reverse removal procedure and tighten all nuts and bolts.

#### COIL SPRINGS

**Removal** — Raise vehicle and support axle assembly. Remove both lower shock absorber mounting bolts. Lower the axle assembly until the spring and upper spring isolator can be removed. Remove 2 screws holding isolator cup to side rail, and remove entire assembly.

**Installation** — To install, reverse removal procedure.

#### TRACK BAR, BRACE & BRACKET

**Removal** — Raise vehicle. Raise rear axle to curb height with jack stands. Remove track bar-to-axle through bolt, and track bar-to-frame pivot bolt. Remove track bar. Remove diagonal brace-to-underbody stud nut and remove brace. Remove 2 track bar bracket-to-frame bolts and remove bracket.

**Installation** — To install, reverse removal procedure.

#### PIVOT BUSHING

**Removal** — 1) Raise vehicle and remove wheel and tire. Remove parking brake cable guide and hydraulic hose retaining bracket screw. Support trailing arm and remove hanger bracket-to-frame side rail screws.

2) Wedge bushing end of trailing arm down slightly with a block of wood. Remove pivot bolt and spacer. Position bushing

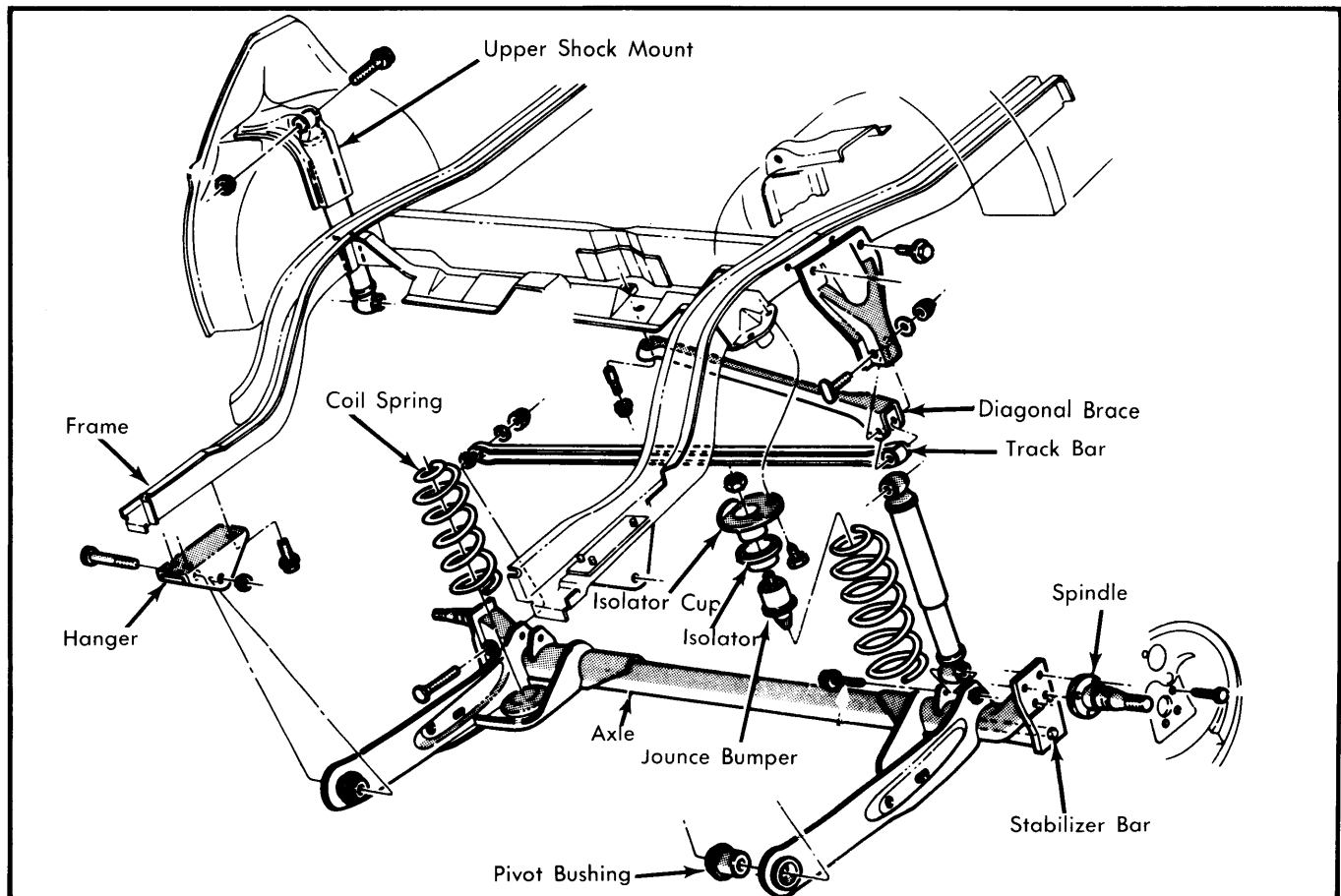
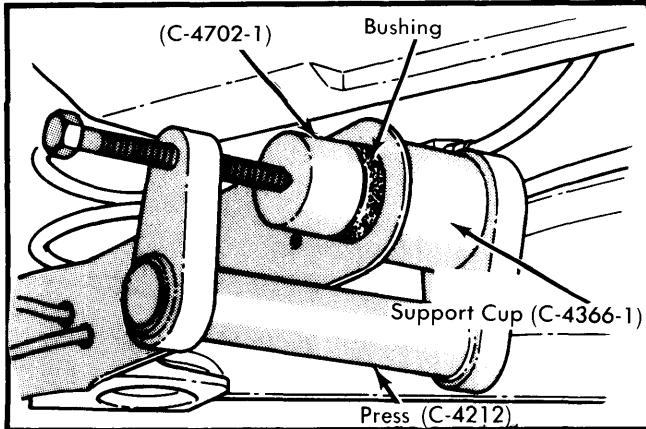


Fig. 1 Rear Suspension Assembly

## CHRYSLER CORP. ARIES, DODGE 400, LE BARON & RELIANT (Cont.)

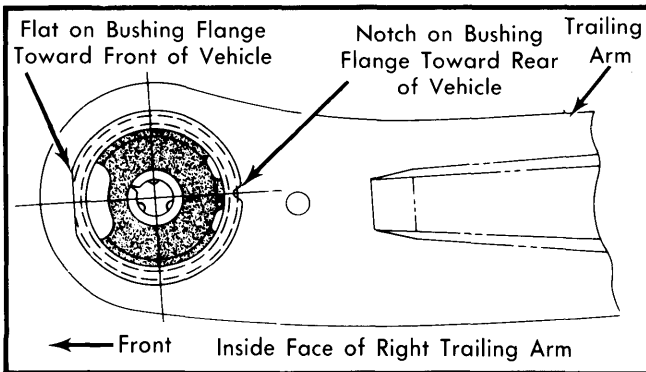
remover tool (C-4702-1) over support cup (C-4366-1) and press (C-4212). See Fig. 2.

3) Position assembly with support cup supporting trailing arm. Turn screw on press into remover tool and press bushing out.



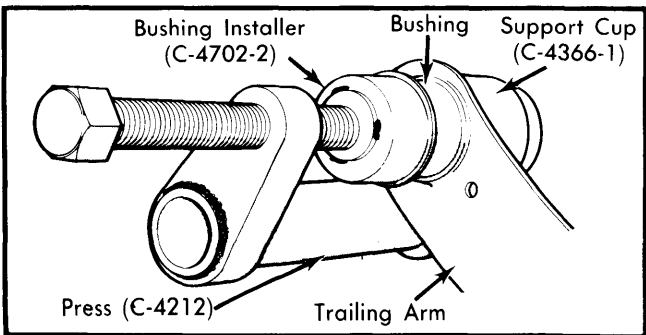
**Fig. 2 Removing Pivot Bushing**

**Installation** - 1) Align bushing to tool and arm cavity as shown in Fig. 3. Tap bushing slightly to hold position. Assemble bushing installer tool (C-4702-2) onto press screw and support



**Fig. 3 Proper Positioning of Pivot Bushing**

2) Position hanger bracket on pivot bushing and install bolt. Loosely assemble nut. Remove spacer block and position hanger to frame rail. Install and tighten screws. Install brake



**Fig. 4 Installing Pivot Bushing**

hose and cable guide bracket to trailing arm. Install and tighten retaining screw. Install wheel and tire. Lower vehicle and tighten pivot bolt nut.

### WHEEL BEARINGS

**Removal** - Raise vehicle and support off floor. Remove grease cap, cotter pin, nut lock and bearing adjusting nut. Remove thrust washer and outer bearing cone. Slide drum off spindle. Carefully drive out inner seal and remove bearing cone with 3/4" diameter non-metallic rod.

**Installation** - Seat new bearing cup against shoulder of hub. Force lubricant between all bearing cone rollers. Install inner cone and new seal. Face lip of seal inward. Position seal flush with end of hub. Clean spindles and apply a light coat of wheel bearing lubricant to polished surfaces. Install drum on spindle and install outer bearing cone, thrust washer, and adjusting nut. Install wheel and tire and lower vehicle.

### REAR AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Removal** - 1) Raise vehicle and support axle with jack stands. Remove wheel and tire. Separate parking cable at connector and floor pan bracket. Separate brake tube assembly from brake hose at trailing arm support bracket and remove lock.

2) Remove lower shock absorber through bolts and track bar-to-axle through bolts. Support track bar end with wire. Lower axle until spring and isolator assembly can be removed.

3) Support pivot bushing end of trailing arms and axle beam with jack stands. Remove pivot bushing hanger bracket-to-frame screws. Lower and remove axle assembly from vehicle.

4) Remove brake drum assembly, spindle and brake support, if required.

**Installation** - To install, reverse removal procedure and tighten lower shock absorber bolts and track bar bolts with suspension supporting vehicle on ground.

### TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N·m)
Trailing Arm-to-Hanger Bracket	40 (54)
Brake Assembly and Spindle Bolts	45 (61)
Lower Shock Absorber Bolts	40 (54)
Upper Shock Absorber Nuts	40 (54)
Track Bar Bolts	80 (109)
Track Bar Brace-to-Body Stud	40 (54)
Track Bar Brace-to-Stud Nut	45 (61)