



RUBICON EXPRESS 3290 MONIER CIR., RANCHO CORDOVA, CA. 95742 916-473-4600

## **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR: RE6111 XJ 4.5" SUSPENSION SYSTEM WITH ADD-A-LEAF RE6130 XJ 4.5" SUPER-FLEX SUSPENSION SYSTEM W/ REAR LEAF SPRINGS**

### **Safety Warning:**

Suspension systems or components that enhance the off-road performance of your vehicle may cause it to handle differently, on and off-road, than it did from the factory. Care must be taken to prevent loss of control or vehicle rollover during sudden maneuvers. Failure to drive the vehicle safely may result in serious injury or death to driver and passengers. We recommend you always wear your seatbelt, drive safely and avoid quick turns and other sudden maneuvers. Constant maintenance is required to keep your vehicle safe. Thoroughly inspect your vehicle before and after every off-road use.

### **Installation Warning:**

We recommend that certified technicians perform the installations of our products. Attempts to install these products without knowledge or experience may jeopardize the safety of the vehicle. These instructions only cover the installation of our products and may not include factory procedures for disassembly and reassembly of factory components. Read instructions from start to finish and be sure all parts are present before disassembling the vehicle. Included instructions are guidelines only for recommended procedures and in no way are meant to be definitive. Installer is responsible to insure a safe and controllable vehicle after performing modifications. Do not perform test drives on public roads with partially completed installations. Always double and triple check your work before use.

### **RE6111 KIT CONTENTS:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | RE1141 Gen2 sway bar disconnects                     |
| 1 | RE1210 Block and U-bolt kit (Dana 35/44), OR         |
|   | RE1260 Block and RE1225 U-bolt (Chrysler 8.25)       |
| 1 | RE1310 Front coil spring, pair                       |
| 1 | RE1380 Front bump stop extension kit                 |
| 1 | RE1410 Add-a-leaf spring set                         |
| 2 | RE1480 Pair leaf spring clamps                       |
| 1 | RE1482 Pair leaf spring center pins                  |
| 1 | RE1515 Rear stainless steel brake line               |
| 1 | RE1550 Front stainless steel brake line kit          |
| 1 | RE1600 Front adjustable track bar                    |
| 1 | RE2120 Transfer case lowering kit                    |
| 1 | RE3700 Lower front fixed SF2 control arms, pair      |
| 1 | RE3780 Upper front Adjustable SF2 control arms, pair |

### **RE6130 KIT CONTENTS:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | RE1141 Gen2 sway bar disconnects                         |
| 1 | RE1310 Front coil spring, pair                           |
| 1 | RE1380 Front bump stop extension kit                     |
| 2 | RE1463 3.5" leaf spring                                  |
| 1 | RE1515 Rear stainless steel brake line                   |
| 1 | RE1550 Front stainless steel brake line kit              |
| 1 | RE1600 Front adjustable track bar                        |
| 1 | RE2120 Transfer case lowering kit                        |
| 1 | RE2421 U-bolt kit (Dana 35/44) or RE1225 (Chrysler 8.25) |
| 1 | RE2700 Rear shackles, pair                               |
| 1 | RE3700 Lower front fixed SF2 control arms, pair          |
| 1 | RE3700 Pair lower front fixed control arms               |

### **REQUIRED TOOLS:**

Basic mechanics hand tools  
Jack stands and floor jack  
Drill motor and drill bits  
Spring compressors

### **PRE INSTALLATION NOTE:**

Control arm bushings are pre-lubed during initial assembly at Rubicon Express. As general maintenance the control arm bushings should be lubed with a silicone base grease as needed. Silicone base grease can be purchased at your local auto parts store.

The Super-flex joints are also pre-lubed during initial assembly at Rubicon Express. As general maintenance the super-flex joints should be greased as needed and the outer spanner nut tightened on the joint. Any type of grease will work on the Super-flex joints. Spanner nut tools are available through Rubicon Express (RE3771 & RE3772) if needed for tightening of the joints.

## INSTALLATION:

**Note:** 1984-1986 vehicles may require modifications to the front drive shaft for proper installation. These vehicles use a double offset joint, while later vehicles use a double cardan (spicer) style CV joint. The spicer CV joint may be retro fitted to the earlier vehicles by changing the transfer case output yoke for the later model. Lift heights this tall usually require modifications to the rear drive shaft – see troubleshooting.

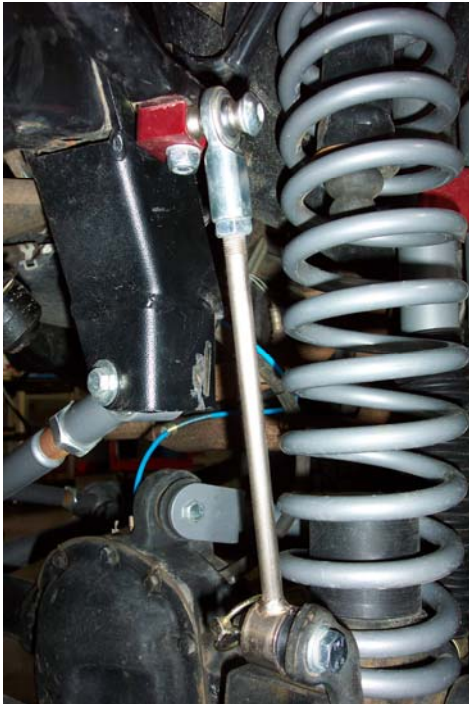
1. Raise vehicle and support with stands.
2. Remove wheels.
3. Remove front shocks.
4. Remove front sway bar end links.
5. Disconnect front track bar.
6. Disconnect steering linkage at pitman arm.
7. Remove front spring retainers (at bottom) and springs.
8. Support the front axle with jack stands.
9. Remove and replace your front factory hoses with the supplied stainless steel lines. Some require positioning the block and line vertically at the caliper. Watch line routing, use angle brackets and e-clips.
10. Remove the factory upper and lower control arms.
11. Install the lower control arms with the rubber bushing at the frame (use factory bolt at this end, and do not fully tighten until vehicle is back on the ground). The super-flex assembly bolts to axle bracket with supplied hardware. The offset tube is to be located as low as possible (SEE PHOTO 1).
12. Install the new upper front adjustable control arms using supplied hardware at axle end and factory bolt at frame end (don't fully tighten until vehicle is back on the ground). Set both control arms to an initial length of 15 3/8" center to center. Further adjustment may be needed at time of alignment for caster angle.
13. Install the front bump stop extensions by drilling a 5/16" hole in the center of the lower coil spring mount, then tightening the self-tapping bolt to cut the threads. Next remove the bump stop assembly and place it into the center of the coil spring.
14. Install the new coil spring with the bump stop extension in the center.
15. Tighten the bump stop extension bolt – be careful not to strip.
16. Install replacement track bar by drilling the tapered hole in the factory upper mount to 5/8". Next install the replacement track bar with the heim end at the unibody. Do not connect the lower bolt at this time.
17. Install longer front shocks. Some require bar pins to be installed through the bottom shock eyes (use light grease).
18. Install sway bar quick disconnects per instructions supplied with disconnects (SEE PHOTO 2).
19. Torque all bolts to factory specs. And double-check your work.

## -REAR AXLE-

20. Remove the rear shocks.
21. Remove the rear sway bar (this will not be re-used).
22. Support the rear axle.
23. Remove rear brake hose and install supplied stainless steel rear brake line.
24. Remove the U-bolts and rear leaf springs.
25. **Add-a-leaf kit:** Loosen any spring alignment clamps. Use c-clamps to clamp spring pack on each side of center pin. Remove center pin. Use vise grip pliers on center-pin head. Carefully remove c-clamps. Insert add-a-leaf into spring pack. Add-a-leaf will go into spring pack in such a way as to maintain the pyramid shape of the spring pack (see photo 3). Insert new center bolt through the spring pack with the head on the same side as the old one (spring perch side). Use c-clamps to assist tightening of center bolt. Tighten to 20 ft/lbs. Replace the spring alignment clamps.  
**Leaf spring kit:** Install new rear springs with new U-bolts in the same manner as factory springs – SEE PHOTO 3-B (don't fully tighten spring eyebolts until vehicle is back on the ground). The 3/8" center pins are stronger than stock and usually require enlarging the spring pad hole. The pins usually come with spacers installed for use w/ floating type degree shims (see troubleshooting for typical shimming requirements). If required, remove spacers so pin does not bottom out on axle tube. If using steel Rubicon Express shims, remove the spacers and replace with the shims (SEE PHOTO 4). These steel shims will require reaming to 3/8" for 3/8" pins. Reinstall springs. Do not fully tighten spring eyebolts until vehicle is back on the ground.
26. **Add-a-leaf kit:** Reinstall the springs. Do not fully tighten spring eyebolts until vehicle is back on the ground. Install the lift block with the thick end of the taper at the rear of the vehicle (SEE PHOTO 4). Note that the spring pad may need to have the hole enlarged for the pin on the block.  
**Leaf spring kit:** Remove and replace the rear shackles. (SEE PHOTO 5) Reinstall the springs. Do not fully tighten spring eyebolts until vehicle is back on the ground.
27. Tighten the U-bolts.
28. Install longer rear shocks. Some require bar pins to be installed through the top shock eyes (use light grease).
29. If installing RE2120 transfer case drop kit (see troubleshooting) install it now. Support cross member with floor jack. The cross member is factory mounted with two studs and two bolts. The studs will have to be removed with a stud remover or by double nutting them and backing them out. One side at a time, lower the cross member just enough to insert the spacers at each bolthole and install bolts and washers.
30. Reconnect the steering.
31. Install tires.
32. Lower vehicle.
33. Center the body over the front axle. A convenient way to accomplish this is to have a helper rotate the steering wheel left or right until centered.
34. Adjust the track bar to fit into the mounts with the axle centered.
35. Tighten track bar bolts.
36. Thoroughly bleed brake lines and check for leaks.
37. Double-check all nuts and bolts.
38. Test drive and note location of steering wheel.
39. Adjust drag link to center steering wheel.
40. Align vehicle as soon as possible. We suggest Caster @ minimum setting and Toe @ Maximum setting per factory specs
41. Retighten all bolts after 50 miles and again after every off road excursion.
42. **Reminder:** Do not reinstall the rear sway bar; it will not be reused.



< FRAME END (RUBBER) - **PHOTO 1** - AXLE END (ZERK ON TOP) >



**PHOTO 2**



**ADD-A-LEAF PHOTO 3 A**



<FRAME END (LARGE BUSHING) - LEAF SPRING **PHOTO 3 B**



**PHOTO 4**



< TOWARD FRONT - **PHOTO 5** – TOWARD REAR>

## **LIFT KIT TROUBLESHOOTING**

### **Rear driveline:**

Acceleration vibration: caused by the pinion being too high in relation to the transfer case output shaft. On leaf sprung vehicles, install axle shims to lower pinion accordingly.

Deceleration vibration: caused by the pinion being too low in relation to the transfer case output shaft. On leaf sprung vehicles, install axle shims to raise pinion accordingly.

Slip yoke vibration: caused by excessive angle on the transfer case slip yoke. Very common on vehicles with 2" or more of lift. This can sometimes be cured on 4.5" lifts with a transfer case drop kit and an RE1822 high travel slip yoke (84-95 XJ's only since later XJ's already have the high travel slip yoke and may instead require an SYE and CV drive shaft). Note that pinion adjustment may also be required- see acceleration and deceleration vibration troubleshooting above. For best performance, install a slip yoke eliminator (SYE) kit and CV drive shaft. Adjust pinion so it is 2 degrees below parallel with CV drive shaft (see acceleration and deceleration vibration troubleshooting above). *A transfer case drop kit can usually be omitted with a CV drive shaft.*

Drive shaft bind (84-95 XJ's): condition of interference between slip yoke and tube yoke. A high travel slip yoke (part #RE1822) may remedy this. Later XJ's already have the high travel slip yoke and may instead require an SYE and CV drive shaft (see above slip yoke notes).

### **High speed wobble:**

This is fairly common with y-type steering on lifted XJ's. It is a condition where front tires will shimmy after hitting a bump. Avoid bias ply tires and wheels with excessive offset. Check for worn or loose parts. In most cases a reduction of positive castor will eliminate this condition. A good rule of thumb is minimum factory caster and maximum factory toe in. Note that lift heights increased with coil spacers (or taller coils) may exhibit wobble that cannot be corrected with alignment.

### **Bump steer:**

Caused by improper relationship of drag link and track bar. To correct, center axle again following the instructions supplied with the track bar. Next determine the neutral position of the steering wheel. Adjust the drag link to center the steering wheel.