

2005-2009 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE REAR SUSPENSION UPGRADES INSTALL

Before any upgrades (other than shocks) can be done on a 2005-2009 convertible, you have to remove the two rear chassis braces. And, those braces must be reinstalled after making any suspension changes. These instructions are to remove and reinstall those braces only. You can use the many other suspension upgrade instructions to install your actual suspension upgrades.

To Remove the Chassis Braces

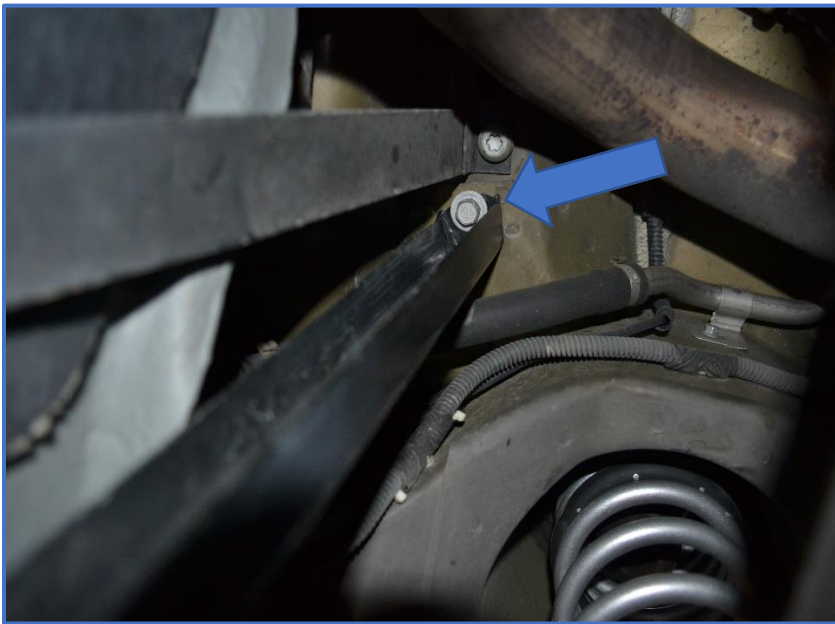
1. Chock the front tires, then jack up the rear of the car and secure it with two jack stands placed and the back of the rear frame rails. Looking from the side, that would be about 6 inches forward of the rear seam of the door.



2. While it is not necessary for removing the braces, you remove the rear wheels to do most suspension upgrades, so I would remove them now.
3. Both rear chassis braces must be removed and reinstalled at the same time. You should not completely remove one brace then the other, in order to not introduce any body shift.
4. The braces are secured by 12 bolts; four 15mm at the front of the braces attached to the bottom of the rocker panel; four 15mm at the rear of the braces attached to the bottom of the trunk floor reinforcement; two 15mm just forward of the leading end of the lower control arms; and two 13mm above and just forward of the differential.



5. The bolts need to be removed in a certain order. Start by removing the two 13mm bolts above the differential (one for each brace). You will need a combination of socket and extensions that are at least 16 inches long to reach them.



6. Remove the two long 15mm bolts just forward of the leading end of the lower control arms.



7. Loosen the two bolts (one on each brace) farthest forward on the braces, but DO NOT remove them.
8. Loosen the six remaining 15mm bolts, moving from one brace to the other for each corresponding bolt.
9. Unless you have a buddy to help hold up the braces from falling, use a floor jack to hold up each brace while you remove the remaining bolts.



10. Remove the three remaining 15mm bolts on the brace secured by the jack.

11. Lower the jack while sliding the brace rearward until it clears the front bolt that you loosened but didn't remove. Repeat on the other brace.
12. Now you have complete access to make any suspension upgrades.

To Reinstall the Chassis Braces

1. Note: ALL bolts must be STARTED by HAND on BOTH braces before any are tightened and torqued.
2. Start by sliding the front of one of the braces under the front bolt that you didn't remove completely.



3. Move to the rear and lift the brace, and hand START the two 15mm bolts into the trunk floor reinforcement.

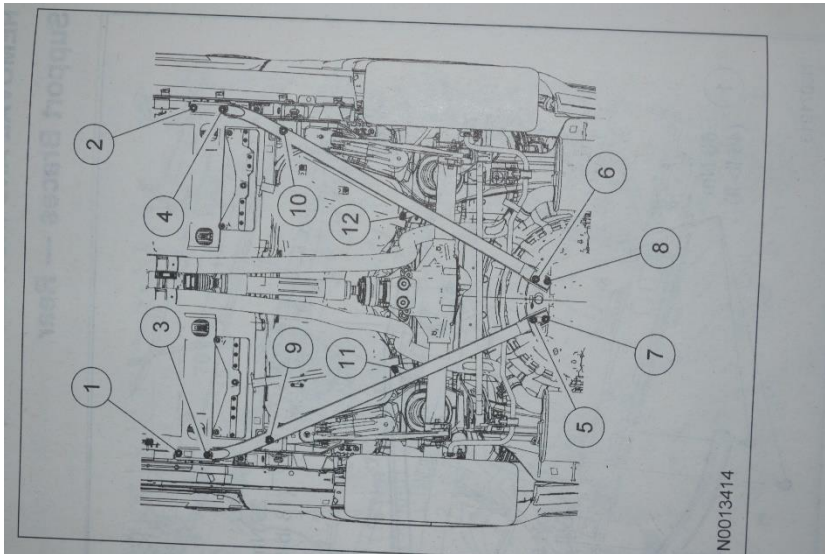


4. Hand start the remaining three bolts for that brace. Please note that middle bolts are coated with bolt sealer/locker that you should reapply.



5. Repeat steps 2 through 4 for the other brace.

- Important: HAND SNUG all the bolts for both braces in the sequence noted on the provided undercarriage illustration.



- Now torque all the bolts in the same sequence to 46 ft lbs for the 15mm bolts, and 18 ft lbs for the two upper 13mm bolts.