

Roof Strut Installation Instructions

Please Read thoroughly before starting.

CAUTION: DO NOT REMOVE THE STRUTS FROM THE TOOLING AND DO NOT REMOVE OR LOOSEN ANY SCREWS ON THE TOOLS. (This will strip out the threads on my tools.)

Each roof strut is mounted in an installation tool when shipped. I highly recommend that you have a second person help. The roof is VERY heavy. Have your assistant back you up (just hold the roof) from the other side of the truck while you install the struts.

The roof of your SSR must be in the "up" and "unlatched" position. This is accomplished by beginning the retraction of the roof and stopping when the roof compartment lid is fully open and the roof latches to the windshield are released. This will allow you to manually position the roof for strut installation.

If you are right handed, replace the driver's side strut first. Left handed installers should replace the passenger side first. The installation is done with one hand and you will be replacing one strut at a time. **Removing both struts before installing the new ones is NOT safe. Remember – the roof is VERY heavy.**

Reach into the roof compartment with a small flat blade screwdriver and pull the spring clip off of the top strut end. Pry the top of the strut off the ball mount with a medium flat blade screwdriver. It is slightly compressed and will extend about 1/2" more when pried loose.

Get the top of the strut free from the mount. You may have to pull the roof a little aft in order to get the strut free if it is trapped forward of the mounting ball. Once it's clear of entanglements, pull the strut aft and push it toward the center of the compartment. This will cause the bottom of the strut to pop off of the bottom mount.

Struts are shipped with the end fittings already aligned properly. A 1/2" wrench can be used to rotate the end fitting (and strut) in the tool if needed. Each end should be set to "pop on" perpendicular to the tooling surfaces.

Install the new "Driver's Side" strut onto the bottom mount first. Please note that the steel strut ends must be aligned very precisely to fit onto the ball studs. Once the strut is positioned for mounting, a large flat blade screwdriver can be used to pry the strut onto the lower ball stud. The brown clip on the harness at the bottom will give you trouble. You just need to unlatch the brown clamp (wire/hydraulic line) and rotate it so that it is sitting flat to give you a little more clearance at the bottom.

Carefully retract the roof by hand (probably about 1 to 1.5") until the upper ball stud mount is positioned for snapping the top of the strut in place. On the driver's side, you will have your right arm in the roof compartment while "peeking" down to see the upper mount. Snap the strut onto the upper mount ball. You should be able to do this by hand, but a medium screwdriver can be used to pry (push) the tool a bit. It only takes a little pressure to snap it on, once it is aligned properly.

With both ends of the strut now installed, move the roof (by hand) into the compartment about 1/2"... just enough to unload the pressure from the installation tool. You will feel it with your hand when it gets loose. Pull the tool off of the top mount and then fish the tool out from under the bottom mount. Re-clip the brown clamp around the tubes and wires at the bottom.

Repeat the above process for the other side, using your other arm.

Once you are finished, please put the installation tools into the box and affix the included shipping label for returning them. You can drop off the box at a shipping point or contact the shipper's office for pick-up.

Call if you have any problems or questions. 480-225-2123 (cell)

My Best Regards - - Mike