

# TUFF COUNTRY

## EZ-RIDE SUSPENSION

### PART NO. DLB DODGE REAR LADDER BARS PARTS LIST:

Qty.	Description	Part No.
2	Rear Ladder Bars	LD-01
2	Front Ladder Bar Mount	FD-01
2	Rear Ladder Bar mount	CF-02
8	Poly Bushings	M02050
4	Anti Crush Sleeve	916218SL
4	1/2" x 3 1/2" Bolt	12312B
4	1/2" x 1 1/2" Bolt	12112B
8	1/2" Unitorque Nuts	12LN
16	1/2" Flat Washers	12WA
1	Instruction Sheet	FLB-INST

**Special Note:** Rear ladder bars may be installed on a stock or lifted vehicle.

Congratulations on your selection to purchase a Tuff Country Suspension System. We at Tuff Country are proud to offer a high quality product at the industries most competitive pricing. Thank you for your confidence in us, and our product.

**\*Important Notes:** Please read before beginning installation. OEM Manual should be used as a reference.

TUFF COUNTRY SUSPENSION highly recommends a qualified and or certified mechanic to perform this installation.

Check off parts list to be sure all parts are on hand. If any part is missing, you may call Tuff Country at: (800) 288-2190.

Read and understand all sections of instruction manual.

Use locktite on all bolts associated with this installation.

#### Torque Settings:

5/16"	15-18 ft. lbs.
3/8"	28-32 ft. lbs.
7/16"	30-35 ft. lbs.
1/2"	65-85 ft. lbs.
9/16"	75-90 ft. lbs.
5/8"	85-110 ft. lbs.
3/4"	105-125 ft. lbs.

## INSTALLATION MANUAL

1994 - 2001 DODGE RAM  
1500, 2500 AND 3500  
REAR LADDER BARS  
PART # DLB

SJ101900

**WARNING:** TUFF COUNTRY EZ-RIDE SUSPENSION HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THAT A CERTIFIED MECHANIC PERFORMS THIS INSTALLATION.

### IMPORTANT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

This vehicle's reaction and handling characteristics may differ from standard cars and/or trucks. Modifications to improve and or enhance off road performance may raise the intended center of gravity. Extreme caution must be utilized when encountering driving conditions which may cause vehicle imbalance or loss of control. Drive Safely! Avoid abrupt maneuvers, such as sudden sharp turns, which could cause a roll over, resulting in serious injury or death.

It is the customer's responsibility to make sure a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customer's responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 1000 miles or after every off road use.

After the original installation, Tuff Country also recommends having the alignment checked every 6 months to ensure proper tracking, proper wear on tires and front end components. Tuff Country takes no responsibility for abuse, improper installation, or improper suspension maintenance.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

DO NOT install a body lift in combination with a suspension system. If a body lift is used in conjunction with any Tuff Country Suspension product, your Tuff Country WARRANTY WILL BE VOID.

### NOTICE

It is the responsibility of the customer or the mechanic to wear safety glasses at all times when working with air tools.

## Please Follow Instruction Carefully

Before installation begins, drive and check to make sure there are not any uncommon sounds and or frame damage.

**Note:** Rear ladder bars may be installed on stock or lifted vehicles. If you are installing the rear ladder bars on a stock vehicle, the ladder bars are going to limit your ground clearance.

### Ladder Bar Installation:

1. To begin installation, block the front and rear tires of the vehicle so that the vehicle is stable and can't roll.

2. Position a hydraulic floor jack under the rear axle and raise until it comes into contact with the axle. Working on the driver side remove the (2) front U-bolt nuts off of the front legs of the rear U-bolts and save for later re-installation.

(See Illustration # 1)

3. Locate the (1) rear ladder bar bracket, install new ladder bar bracket to the front legs of the rear U-bolts and secure using the previously removed U-bolt nuts and torque to 115 ft lbs.

(See Illustration # 2)

4. Repeat steps 2 - 3 on the passenger side.

5. Locate (2) rear ladder bars, (8) M02050, poly bushings and (4) anti crush sleeves. Install new poly bushing into each end of the rear ladder bars. **Special Note:** Make sure to use a lithium or moly base grease on poly bushings. This is done to help eliminate squeaking and helps on the life of the bushing. Install new anti crush sleeves into each end of the new ladder bars.

6. Locate (2) 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts, (4) 1/2" flat washers, and (2) 1/2" unitorque nuts. Working on the driver side install new rear ladder bar to newly installed rear ladder bar bracket and secure using 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt, washers and nuts. **Do not tighten at this point.** Repeat procedure on passenger side.

7. Locate (2) front ladder bar brackets, (2) 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts, (4) 1/2" flat washers and (2) 1/2" unitorque nuts. Working on the driver side install the new front bracket to the front of the newly installed rear ladder bar. Holding the rear ladder bar into place, scribe a mark on the bottom of the frame rail where the front bracket is located. **Special Note:** If you are installing the rear ladder bars with the vehicle on a hydraulic hoist, you must lower the vehicle off the hoist, so that the weight is on the vehicle when performing this step. Repeat procedure on passenger side.

8. Working on the driver side drill a 1/2" hole in the bottom of the frame rail where you scribed the marks in step # 7. Take special care not to drill any wires and or lines on the inside of the frame rail.

9. Repeat steps 7 - 8 on the passenger side.

10. Remove the new front ladder bar brackets on the driver and passenger side from the rear ladder bars. Save new hardware for later re-installation.

11. Locate (4) 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolt, (8) 1/2" flat washers and (4) 1/2" unitorque nuts. Working on the driver side install the new front bracket into the newly drilled holes into the bottom of the frame and secure using 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts, washers and nuts. Torque to 90 ft lbs. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

(See Illustration # 2)

12. Working on the driver side, install the rear ladder bar into the newly installed front ladder bar bracket and secure using 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt, washers and nut. Repeat procedure on passenger side.

(See Illustration # 3)

13. Working on the driver side torque the back 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt that is securing the rear ladder bar to the rear ladder bar bracket to 90 ft lbs. Also torque the front 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt that is securing the rear ladder bar the front ladder bar bracket and torque to 90 ft lbs. Repeat procedure on passenger side.

## Congratulations Installation Complete

**Check and double check to make sure all steps were performed properly.**

**Special Note:** Make sure to use proper post installation care with the rear ladder bar kit. If you have any question on post installation care please feel free to contact Tuff Country or your local Tuff Country dealer.

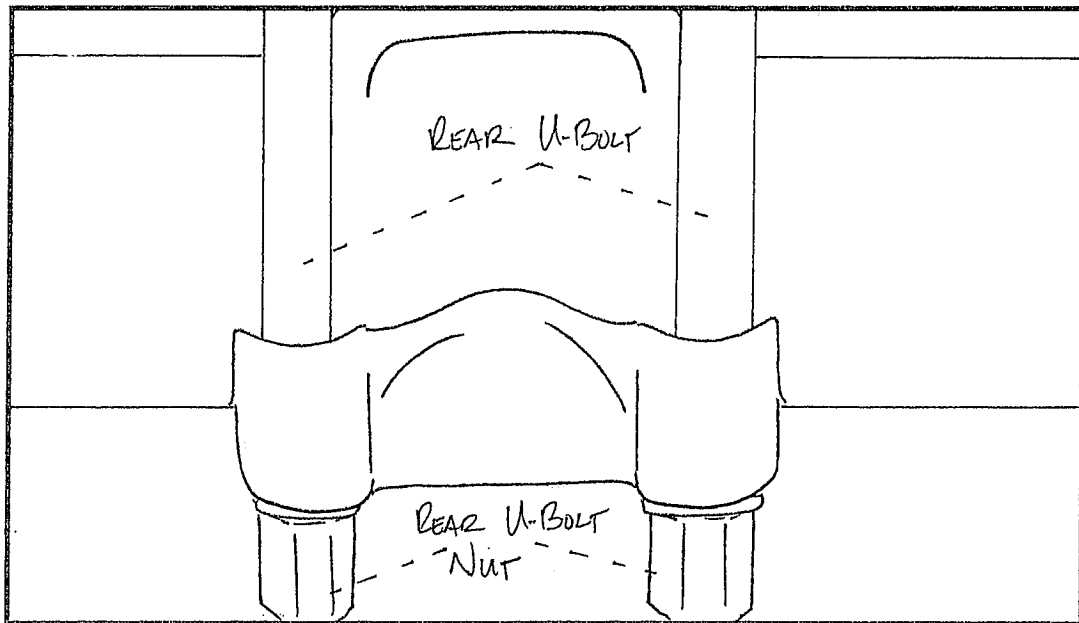


ILLUSTRATION # 1

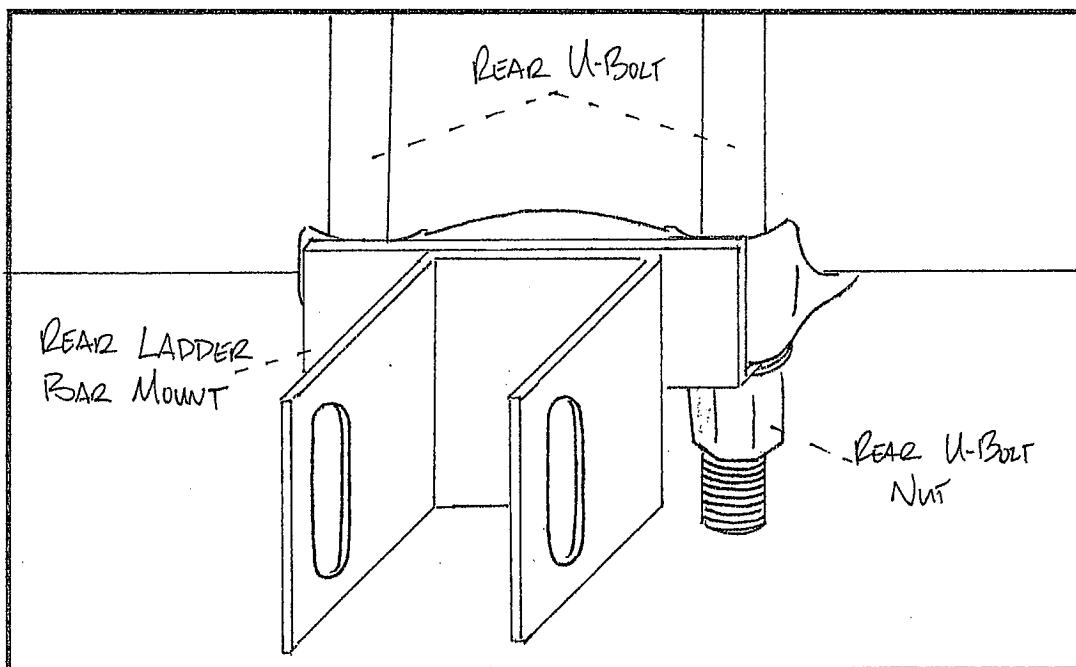


ILLUSTRATION # 2

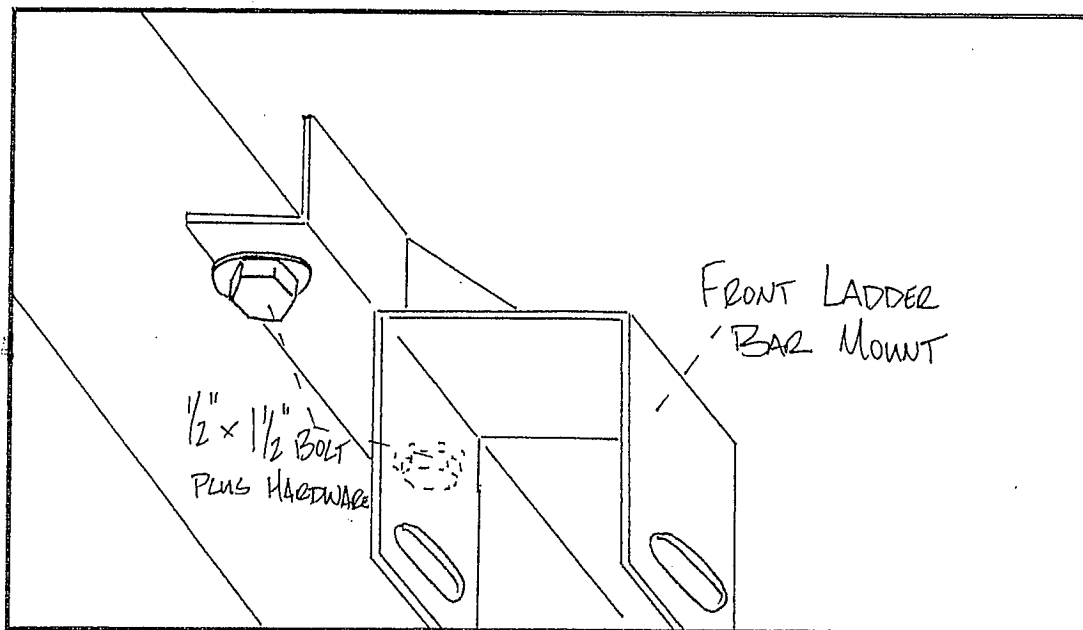


ILLUSTRATION # 3

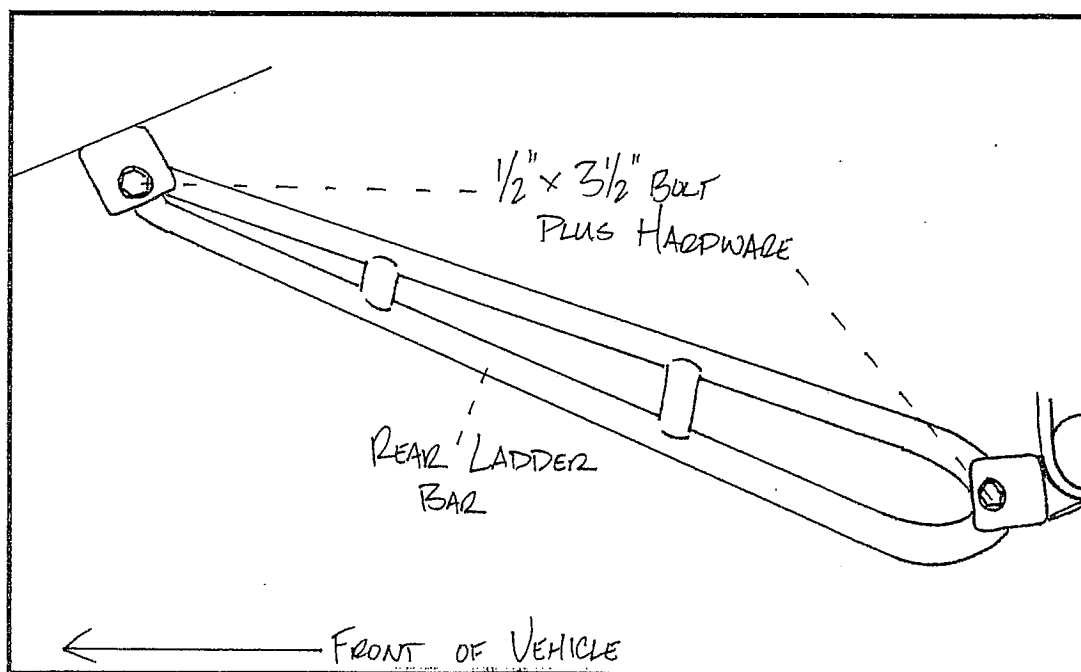


ILLUSTRATION # 4