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The following guidelines are to be used in conjunction with prior experience and/or knowledge of the procedure to remove & replace rear leaf springs on a Ford Mustang. Only special notes or warnings specific to the Hotchkis Leaf spring will be described in detail.

# **Removal of OE Leaf Springs**

- 1. Raise the rear of the vehicle from the frame and let the rear axle droop down until the wheels just begin to come off the ground.
- 2. Unbolt the rear shock from the leaf spring/shock bracket.
- 3. Unbolt the 2 U-bolts on each leaf spring. The shock bracket should be removed.
- 4. Loosen, but do not remove the front leaf spring bolt. One per side. It makes it easy if you remove the nut and just leave the bolt for easy removal later in the process.
- 5. Lower the vehicle an inch or so, to get the wheels & axle to rest on the ground. Alternately, you can use jack to support the rear axle so there is no weight on the leaf springs.
- 6. Unbolt the rear leaf spring shackles and support the rear section of the leaf spring.
- 7. Remove the front leaf spring bolt described in step 4 and the leaf spring should detach from the vehicle. Set the old leafs aside.
- 8. Remove the old rear frame bushings that mated with the OE shackle mount. Discard the old rear bushings.
- 9. Clean the rear frame mount cavities with wd-40.



## Installing Hotchkis Leaf Springs

- 1. With the provided grease, lube the inner and outer surfaces of the Hotchkis bushings (p/n 2020). Insert 2 bushings in each frame mount. (One on each side) Also insert 2 bushings in each rear eye of your Hotchkis leaf springs. Do not be shy with the grease all surfaces that will touch the bushing should be greased thoroughly.
- 2. Install the Hotchkis leaf spring, front end first. Position the front eye up to the mount in the car and insert the front bolt. Do not tighten at this time. Spin the nut on, but wait to tighten.
- 3. Rotate the rear section of the leaf spring up and install the Hotchkis shackles in the same manner as the OE removal. You can fully tighten the shackle bolts completely.
- 4. Raise the vehicle or lower the rear axle until the axles start to rest on the leaf springs. Line up the center bolt of the leaf spring with the hole of the axle mount.
- 5. Install the Hotchkis U-bolts onto the axle and install the shock bracket. Fully tighten the U-bolt nuts evenly.
- 6. Reinstall the rear shock to the shock bracket.
- 7. Roll the vehicle back and forth a few feet each way.
- 8. Drive the rear of the vehicle onto floor ramps. This will allow you to gain access to the front bolts for the leaf spring front mount.
- 9. Fully tighten the front leaf spring bolts.
- 10. You are finished with the installation. Wheel alignment is recommended.



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