

**For high quality parts on
all of your vehicle maintenance,
trust Advance Auto Parts!**

SUSPENSION

*Why you should understand
suspension and handling, and
how to check it yourself.*

What you will need -

- Jack (floor jack preferred)
- Jack stand
- Work light

Do-It-Yourself difficulty guide -

EASY **AVERAGE** ADVANCED

Estimated time required -

1 Hour

Estimated cost savings -

\$65 - \$100

Your vehicle's suspension

system takes a lot of abuse. Shocks and struts may need replacing as soon as 15-20,000 miles, depending on the condition of the roads you drive. Shocks are fairly simple to replace, and now Advance Auto Parts carries strut/spring assemblies that can be easily replaced by the do-it-yourselfer. At 50,000 miles replace anti-sway bar bushings and inspect control arm and trailing arm bushings. Don't wait until they are completely worn out to replace. New bushings will give your vehicle a tight, new car feel again. If your vehicle begins to sag, get replacement springs from Advance Auto Parts. They are less expensive than you might think, and are fairly easy to replace.

For hundreds of other do-it-yourself projects and tips visit www.AdvanceAutoParts.com

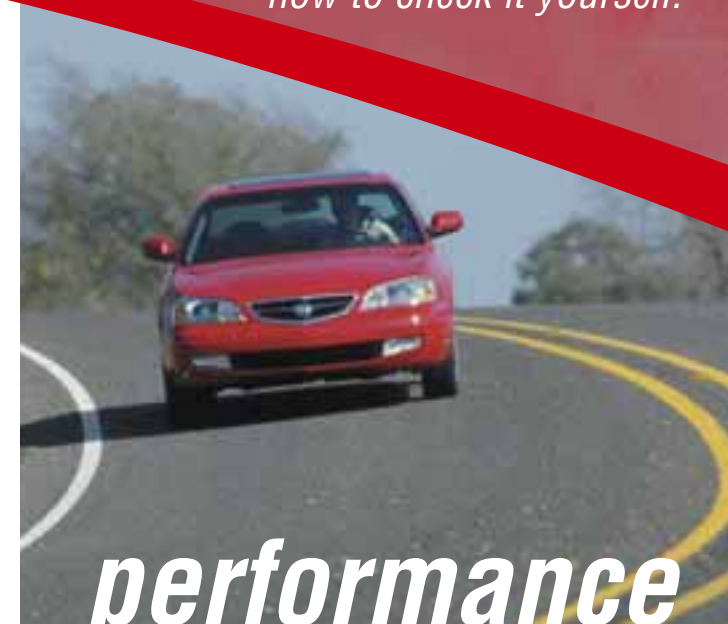
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Step-By-Step Instructions

Equipment You'll Need

Maintenance Tips



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why you should understand your suspension.



A suspension's job is two-fold: provide a smooth ride over bumps, and keep the wheels on the ground at all times so you can control the car. The most crucial components in regards to a vehicle's handling are the shocks, struts, springs, bushings and alignment. All of them wear out with time, degrading both the ride quality and the handling characteristics. New suspension parts from Advance Auto Parts will make a big difference in the handling, and safety, of your vehicle.

Be sure to pick up an Advance Auto Parts **Service Maintenance Schedule** for information on other important car care projects.



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how to inspect your suspension **do-it-yourself & save!**

Some suspension parts (shocks and struts) are easy to change, while others may require a professional (bushings, alignment settings).



1

Shocks and struts impact a vehicle's steering, stopping, and overall stability. Properly functioning shocks and struts will prevent your suspension from going through an excessive range of motion when they wear out. The result can cause premature wear of tires, springs and other suspension components.



2

Shock absorber life varies, but some typical signs that your shocks are due for replacement include: excessive oil or fluid leaking from shocks, the front end of the vehicle "dives" during braking, your car continues to bob up and down after hitting bumps, or if the car leans too much in the corners.



3

Check the front tires for uneven wear patterns across the tread. If you see something that doesn't look quite right, you may need a front-end alignment.



4

The control arms and other suspension parts are connected to the vehicle with rubber or polyurethane bushings. Inspect these bushings for cracking and other signs of age.