



**DODGE PICKUP
3" BODY LIFT
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS
1972 – 1986 Kit 9321**

⚠ WARNING
Installation of a TrailMaster body lift kit will change the vehicle's center of gravity and handling characteristics both on- and off-road. You must drive the vehicle safely! Extreme care must be taken to prevent vehicle rollover or loss of control, which could result in serious injury or death. Avoid sudden sharp turns or abrupt maneuvers and always make sure all vehicle occupants have their seat belts fastened.

⚠ WARNING
Before you install this kit, read and understand all instructions, warnings, cautions, and notes in this instruction sheet and in the vehicle owner's manual.

⚠ CAUTION
Proper installation of this kit requires knowledge of the factory recommended procedures for removal and installation of original equipment components. We recommend that the factory shop manual and any special tools needed to service your vehicle be on hand during the installation. Installation of this kit without proper knowledge of the factory recommended procedures may affect the performance of these components and the safety of the vehicle. We strongly recommend that a certified mechanic familiar with the installation of similar components install this kit.

⚠ WARNING
Vehicles equipped with a solid length steering shaft will require purchase of an after-market steering shaft to accommodate the body lift.

⚠ WARNING
This kit should only be installed on a vehicle that is in good working condition. Before you install the kit, thoroughly inspect the vehicle for corrosion or deformation of the sheet metal around the factory body mounts. If the vehicle is suspected to have been in a collision or misused, do not install this kit. Off-road use of your vehicle with this kit installed may increase the stress applied to the factory body mounts. We do not recommend that any vehicle with a body lift kit installed be involved in any extreme off-road maneuvers such as jumping. Failure to observe this warning may result in serious personal injury and/or severe damage to your vehicle.

⚠ WARNING
Many states and municipalities have laws restricting bumper heights and vehicle lifts. Consult state and local laws to determine if the changes you intend to make to the vehicle comply with the law. Before combining a body lift with a suspension lift, consult an installation professional to see how this will affect the vehicle.

⚠ WARNING
The installation of larger tires may reduce the effectiveness of the Anti-lock Braking System (ABS).

⚠ WARNING
Always wear eye protection when operating power tools.

⚠ WARNING
Before you install this kit, block the vehicle tires to prevent the vehicle from rolling.

⚠ WARNING
Accidental deployment of the air bag can result in serious personal injury or death. To avoid accidental deployment during installation of the kit, the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS, or airbag) must remain deactivated. Do not allow anyone near the airbag during installation. Refer to the factory service manual or owner's manual for the recommended procedure to disable the SRS. After you install the kit, reactivate the SRS before driving the vehicle.

⚠ NOTE
TrailMaster recommends using the Loctite® supplied in the kit on the threads of all kit nuts and bolts unless specified otherwise in these instructions.

A. Before you start

△NOTE

This kit is designed to fit appropriate application 2WD and 4WD, standard and extended cab full size Dodge pickups with gasoline engines only. **This kit is not designed to fit vehicles equipped with a diesel engine.**

1. Read all warnings and instructions completely and carefully before you begin. Check the kit for proper contents (refer to the part's list).
2. If at anytime during the installation you encounter something different from what is outlined in the instructions, call technical support at 1-888-717-5797.

△WARNING

Ensure that your vehicle is properly blocked and secured before you begin installation of this lift kit.

3. Park the vehicle on a clean, dry, flat, level surface. Block the tires so the vehicle cannot roll in either direction.
4. Battery cable.
 - a. Disconnect both battery cables. Be sure to disconnect the negative cable first, then the positive cable.

B. Get ready to install the kit

1. Steering column.
 - a. Most steering columns have a slip joint. Check the joint to see if the inner and outer sections are pinned together. If they are pinned together, drill out pins.
 - b. The shaft will telescope out about 1 1/4".
2. Grille.
 - a. Remove the screws mounting the grille assembly to the vehicle.
 - b. Remove the grille assembly from the vehicle.
3. Fan shroud.

- a. Remove all screws holding the fan shroud to the radiator. Rest fan shroud on fan.
4. Automatic transmission.
 - a. In engine compartment remove automatic shift linkage from steering column and pivot. Remove shift linkage from vehicle.
 - b. Scribe a line along shift rod just above the first bend at the top of the shift rod.
 - c. Cut shift rod through the scribed line.
 - d. Position shift extension pin between the two pieces of the shift rod. Align the scribed line and weld the extension in place.
 5. Manual transmission.
 - a. If the vehicle is equipped with a hydraulic clutch it requires no modification.
 - b. If the vehicle is equipped with a manual clutch linkage, remove two spring clips from clutch linkage rod and clutch mechanism. Remove clutch linkage rod from vehicle.
 - c. Near the bottom of the clutch linkage rod, scribe a line on the rod parallel to its axis. (Later, when you cut the rod and weld an extension pin between the two pieces of the rod, you'll use this line to keep the two pieces of the rod properly oriented.)
 - d. Cut through the rod in the middle of the scribed line.
 - e. Position the extension pin between the two pieces of the rod. Align the scribed line and weld the extension in place.
 6. 4WD.
 - a. The 4WD shift lever will lower into the floorboard.
 7. Wires and clips.
 - a. Remove wiring and steel vapor lines from clips on driver's side frame rail.
 - b. Check for any other wires, cables, hoses that may need to be disconnected before lifting. Disconnect as necessary. Make a diagram to ensure proper reconnection after the lifting operation is complete.

C. Install the kit

1. Measurements.

- a. Measure the distance between the cab and the bed. Record measurements to ensure proper alignment of cab and bed after lifting the operation is complete.

2. Prepare to lift the body.

- a. Loosen but do not remove all six cab-mounting bolts. They are located as follows on each side of the vehicle: in front beside the radiator, screwing down from the top, under the front floorboard screwing up into the body, and just behind the front seat also screwing up into the body.

3. Lift body to install passenger spacer blocks.

- a. Remove the cab mounting bolts from the passenger side of the cab only. Ensure that vehicle doors are closed. This will help prevent the cab from flexing during the lifting operation.
- b. Using a hydraulic jack and a wooden block, slowly lift the passenger side of the vehicle just high enough to place the spacer blocks on top of the body mounting pads (the cab uses all large spacer blocks). Be sure to constantly check for any wires, hoses, cables, etc. that may be binding.
- c. Install new cab mounting bolts and washers in conjunction with stock hardware.
- d. Lower the body onto the spacer blocks.

4. Lift body to install driver side space blocks.

⚠NOTE

TrailMaster recommends using the Loctite® supplied in the kit.

- a. Repeat step 3. for the driver's side of the vehicle. Check to be sure that the steering shaft is extending while lifting the driver's side of the cab. It should extend about 1 1/4".
- b. Remove new cab-mounting bolts, one at a time, apply Loctite®, reinstall bolt and tighten to vehicle torque specifications. Use the supplied *Loctite®* on all mounting hardware.

5. Lift the bed.

- a. Loosen but do not remove all six bed-mounting bolts (eight on long bed models). They are located as follows; at the front of the bed, just in front of the rear axle, just behind the rear axle, and at the rear of the bed.
- b. Remove the bed mounting bolts from the passenger side of the bed only.
- c. Using a hydraulic jack and a wooden block, slowly lift the bed just high enough to place the spacer blocks on the bed mounting pads.
- d. Install kit bed mounting bolts on the frame and bed. Do not tighten.
- e. Repeat step 5 a. through d. for driver's side of the bed.
- f. Realign the bed to the cab. Refer to the measurements recorded earlier.
- g. Remove kit bed-mounting bolts, one at a time, apply Loctite®, install bolts and tighten to vehicle torque specifications.

⚠NOTE

Note you may have to remove the fan in order to allow access to the fan shroud.

6. Fan shroud.

- a. Test-fit the fan shroud to the radiator. Mark fan shroud where the fan contacts the fan shroud.
- b. Carefully trim the bottom of fan shroud to accommodate fan. Do not trim more than necessary.

7. Wires and clips.

- a. Replace the wiring and the steel vapor lines in the clips on the frame rail where possible.

8. 4WD.

⚠NOTE

The transfer case shift lever may not register in the same positions on the console.

- a. Check gearshift operation. Be sure that the shift lever engages completely in all gears. If it does not, remove the shift boot and check gear shift operation again. Note the positions where the gearshift contacts the floorboard.

- b. Notch floorboard if necessary.
9. Automatic transmission.
- a. The linkage rod should be painted to prevent rusting.
 - b. Install the shift rod in the spring-loaded bracket at the transmission and the steering column shift lever.
 - c. Install shift rod on shift linkage and steering column. Tighten the transmission linkage adjusting screw securely.
10. Manual transmission.
- a. Check shift lever operation. Be sure that the shift lever engages completely in all gears. If it does not, remove the shift boot and check shift lever operation again. Note the positions where the shift lever contacts the floorboard.
 - b. Notch the floorboard to allow for complete engagement and install the shift boot.
 - c. The clutch linkage should be painted to prevent rusting.
 - d. Position the clutch linkage on the bracket at the frame rail and the clutch pedal.
 - e. Install clutch linkage on bracket and the clutch pedal with two spring clips. If applicable, tighten the adjusting screw securely.

D. After Installation

1. Grille.
- a. Install the grille assembly on vehicle. Install screws on grille assembly and grille.
2. Battery cables.
- a. Install both battery cables to the battery. Be sure to install the positive cable first, then the negative cable.
3. Stickers.
- a. Place the warning sticker on dash in plain sight of all vehicle occupants.

4. If you purchased gap guards (sold separately), install them. You did remember to buy your gap guards, didn't you?

⚠CAUTION

All fasteners should be retorqued after 500 miles and after off road use. All body lift components should be visually inspected and fasteners retorqued during routine vehicle servicing.

5. Double-check the vehicle.
- a. Check for any wires, cables, hoses, etc. that may be binding.
 - b. Check transmission and transfer case operation. Be sure that there is complete engagement in all gears and 4 wheel drive ranges.
 - c. Start the engine.
 - d. Check steering operation. Be sure that there is no binding.
 - e. Check fan to fan shroud clearance again.
 - f. Check clutch operation.
 - g. Test drive in all gears and 4WD ranges.
 - h. Double-check all hardware again in 500 miles, and as part of your regular maintenance schedule.

⚠NOTE

The vehicle owner must retain all warranty information, instruction sheets, and other documents regarding the installation of this product. Information contained in the instructions and on the warranty card will be required for any warranty claims. The vehicle owner needs to understand the modifications that have been made to his vehicle and how they affect the handling and performance of the vehicle. Failure to provide the customer with this information can result in damage to the vehicle and possible personal injury.

⚠CAUTION

TrailMaster does not recommend any particular wheel and tire combinations for use with its body lifts and can not assume responsibility for the customers choice of wheels and tires. Your owner's manual can be referenced for recommended tire sizes and warnings related to the use of oversized tires. Larger wheel and tire combinations increase stress and wear on steering and suspension components, which leads to increased maintenance and higher risk for component failure. Larger wheel and tire combinations also alter speedometer calibration, braking effectiveness, center of gravity, and handling characteristics. Consult with an experienced local off road shop to find what wheel and tire combinations work best with your vehicle.

Rev. 01, Copyright 10/04 TrailMaster

Parts List

Quantity	Description
14	Block , spacer, 3" height x 3" diameter
8	Bolt , 3/8" x 4 1/2"
2	Bolt , 3/8" x 5 1/2"
4	Bolt , 1/2" x 7"
1	Label (sticker), warning to driver
1	Label (sticker), logo
1	Loctite , 6ml bottle
10	Nut , 3/8" nylock
4	Nut , 1/2" nylock
1	Pin , linkage extension (round steel)
10	Washer , 3/8" USS
4	Washer , 1/2" USS