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Leaf Spring and Shackle Bushings

#1198, 1209 Date 10/19/07

Parts list:

- 8 ea. spring bushing halves
- 4 ea. shackle bushing halves
- 4 ea. spring bushing sleeves
- 2 ea. shackle bushing sleeves

Suggested tools list:

- 1. Hydraulic press
- 2. Torch
- 3. Basic hand tools

1. Move the Bronco to a level surface and block the wheels.
2. Jack the frame/body up high enough to take the tension off the leaf springs and support the frame/body at that point.
3. Remove the u-bolts and plate that secure the springs to the axle.
4. Remove the bolts that secure the springs to the rear shackles.
5. Remove the bolts that secure the springs to the front frame mounting point.
6. Remove the bushings from the spring. A hydraulic press is the preferred method of removing the spring bushings. An alternate method of removing the bushings is to burn them out. Using a torch, heat the rubber part of the bushing until the rubber starts to burn and starts to disintegrate.

WARNING: EXTREME CAUTION MUST BE USED WHEN USING THIS TECHNIQUE. RUBBER BURNS VERY HOT. ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS MUST BE TAKEN FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION (EYE PROTECTION, GLOVES, ETC) AND TO PROTECT THE WORK SPACE.

CAUTION: DO NOT OVER HEAT THE SPRING OR SHACKLE. THIS COULD DAMAGE THE PARTS AND MAKE THEM UNUSABLE.

After a few minutes, the rubber bushing should be soft enough to push a slim flat blade screwdriver down the length of the rubber bushing. Do this at two or three spots around the inner sleeve and sleeve should drop out. If not, it can be tapped out using a large diameter drift and hammer.

7. Remove the outer bushing from the spring eye. It may be necessary to drive the outer sleeve from the spring eye with a drift and hammer.
8. Clean the spring eye with a wire brush. Clean the spring eye.
9. Lightly lube the spring eye to make the install of the new bushing easier.
10. RUBBER BUSHINGS: Use a press or dead blow hammer to install the new bushing.
11. URETHANE BUSHINGS: Install the two bushing halves in the spring eye. Insert the sleeve in the bushing. Drive the sleeve into the bushing using a dead blow hammer.
12. Install the shackle onto the rear eye of the spring.
NOTE: On the Wild Horses new rear springs, the double wrapped end installs to the front of the Bronco.
13. Move the spring under the axle and secure the shackle to the rear spring hanger using the hardware removed in Step 4. Torque to specs.
14. Slide the front spring eye into the front spring perch. A tapered punch may be needed to align the mounting holes. Secure the spring with the hardware removed in Step 5. Torque to spec.
15. Position the spring on the axle spring perch. Secure the spring using the hardware removed in Step 3. Torque to specs.
16. Jack the body high enough to remove the supports.
17. Lower the Bronco.
18. Check all fasteners for tightness.

