

SECTION 3 — STEERING, SUSPENSION, WHEELS AND TIRES

REAR SUSPENSION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Both the G- and P-Series vehicles use a leaf spring/solid rear axle suspension system.

NOTE: 1993 SOP the 14,500-14,800-16,000# units are equipped with the new taper leaf spring.

The rear axle assembly is attached to multi-leaf springs by U-bolts. The spring front eyes are attached to the frame at the front hangers, through rubber bushings. The rear ends of the springs are attached to the frame by the use of shackles which allow the spring to "change its length" while the vehicle is in motion. Control arms are not required with leaf springs. (See Figure 3-15.)

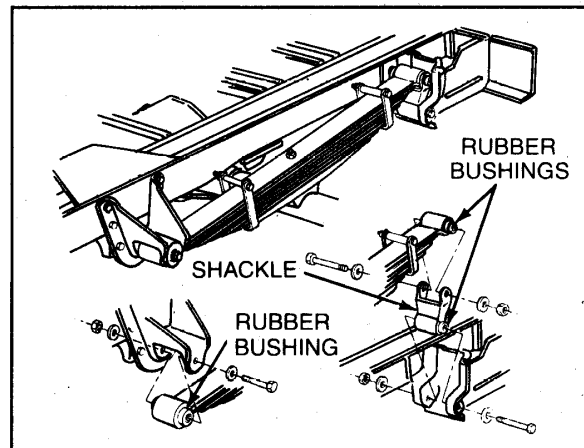
Ride control is provided by two identical direct double-acting shock absorbers angle-mounted between the frame and brackets attached to the axle tubes.

On G-Series vehicles, the shock absorbers are mounted to the front of the axle on the right side, and to the rear of the axle on the left side. For P-Series vehicles, both right and left shock absorbers are mounted to the front of the axle.

MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

Since the rear springs and shock absorbers use rubber bushings in the mounts, no lubrication is required. However, inspect the suspension periodically for worn or damaged components such as weak or broken spring leaves, leaking shock absorbers, and loose or broken mounting bolts, etc. Check for uniformity of ride height between right and left sides. Replace any worn or damaged parts.

Rear shock absorbers should be inspected and their operation checked following the same procedures for shock absorbers listed in this section under Front Suspension.

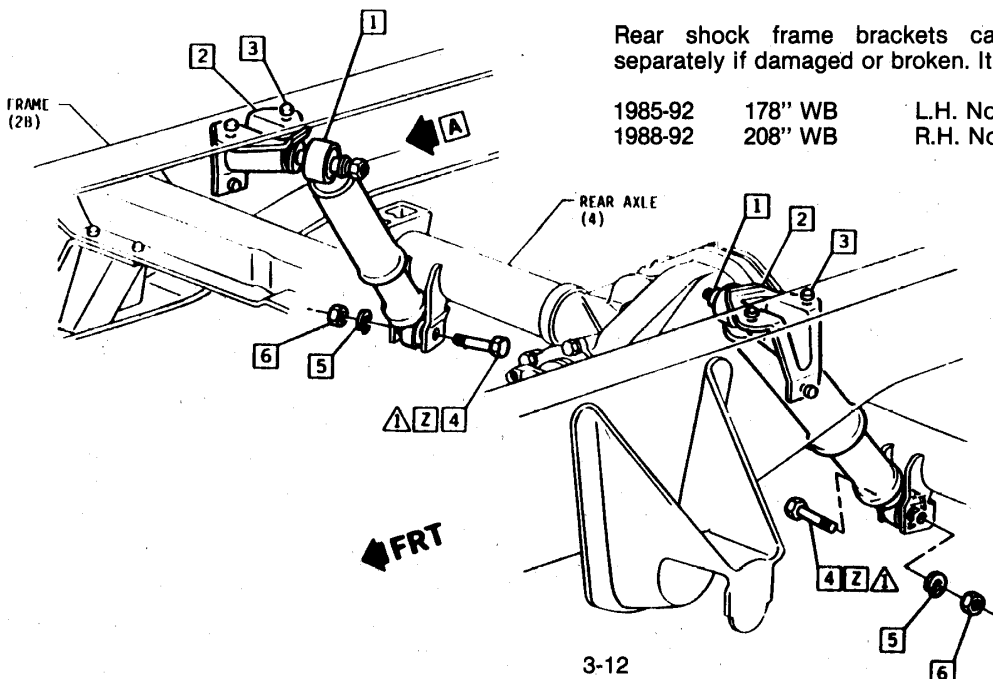


**Figure 3-15 — Rear Spring Installation —
G-Series — Typical**

The U-bolts attaching the rear axle to the leaf springs should be checked and retightened to the specified torque after the first 500 miles of vehicle operation. Recheck the U-bolt torque each 10,000 miles thereafter. Torque specifications are listed in the chart which follows:

U-BOLT TORQUES — REAR

Model	Bolt Diameter	Torque
G-10,20	9/16 in.	115-130 ft. lbs.
G/P-20,30	5/8 in.	125-175 ft. lbs.
P-30	3/4 in.	200 ft. lbs.



Rear shock frame brackets can be purchased separately if damaged or broken. Item No. 2.

1985-92 178" WB L.H. No. 15638125
1988-92 208" WB R.H. No. 15638126