



Manual Rev.
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1995-2004 Toyota Tacoma QuickLIFT Installation Guide

Step 1 - Unpack QuickLIFT kit and verify contents.

Remove all items from the packing tube. You should have the following before beginning:

- * (2) Gas Charged Springs (RT-QL-200-A7A)
- * (4) 3/16" multi-grip rivets - outer holes in hood brackets
- * (2) 3/16" Aluminum rivets - center hole of hood brackets
- * (4) Self tapping high strength screws - used to attach fender brackets
- * (4) Fender & hood steel brackets
- * Full-color printed instructions
- * Gas Spring locking clips (already installed on the gas spring ball ends - Remove before assembly - **DO NOT LOSE, these are very small and disappear if dropped.**)



Step 2 - Gather the required tools.

Please gather the following tools before you begin the installation:

- * Power Drill
 - * 3/16", indexed #11 & 5/32" drill bits
 - * Fine permanent marker or felt tip pen
 - * Masking tape
 - * Tape Measure
 - * Hammer & center punch
 - * Masking tape
 - * Rivet gun, capable of 3/16" rivets (most brands can handle this size)
- Note: Only use the rivets supplied in the QuickLIFT kit.



Recommended: Craftsman standard or Swivel Riveter (shown - 974749) - \$9.99 to \$17.99

Step 3 - Mark driver's side hood bracket location.

A. Open hood and place a piece of masking tape on the inside hood frame directly up from the hood's hinge. Holding the bracket as shown (when viewed from front of vehicle) place the end of the tape measure up against hood hinge and place a horizontal mark at exactly **14-5/8"** on the tape.

B. Align the bottom edge of the bracket with the mark you made - the ball-stud should be pointing inward or toward the vehicle. Bracket should be over-hanging the hood's frame with the backside flush against the hood's frame. Mark the center hole using a permanent marker - double check measurements and use photos in following steps for clarification if needed.

Hood bracket



Step 4 - Align driver's side hood bracket and mark the 1st hole.

A. Hold the small hood bracket such that the ball-stud faces inward. The small bracket will lay flat on the hood's frame as shown with the bottom of the bracket aligned to the mark you made. Bracket should sit flat and feel stable with ball-stud end of bracket closest to hood skin as shown in Figure 1.



B. Using a center punch and a hammer, tap the center of the dot you just made (the indentation will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering). Place bracket back in place to be sure it is still centered where it should be before moving to Step 5. Set bracket aside.

Step 5 - Drill a indexed #11 or 3/16" hole.

A. Carefully drill the lower bracket hole as shown to the right using an **#11 indexed bit** or a **3/16" drill bit**. Wrap a piece of electrical tape 1/4" down from the tip - this will keep bit from passing through and hitting the hood skin. Test fit the rivet - it should be a snug but should fit through hole. Since the #11 bit is slightly larger than the 3/16" drill bit, it may require slight reaming to fit the rivet if you do not have access to the #11 drill bit.



Step 6 - Rivet center hole of bracket to hood.

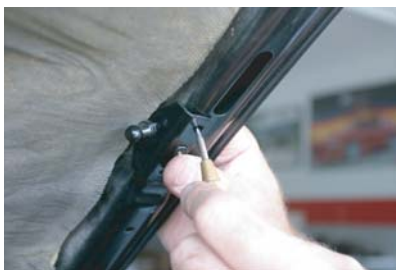
A. With the bracket in place, insert the **aluminum rivet** through the bracket and hole with the long stem sticking outward (**lighter and longer than other four rivets**). The rivet may require a few twists while firmly pushing it in. Hold bracket in place using a piece of tape at the other end of the bracket.

B. Check to be sure your rivet gun has the 3/16" rivet head installed, then slide rivet into gun. While applying force to the rivet and bracket, firmly squeeze riveter handle multiple times until rivet gun pops and snaps off the rivet stem. **Be careful when rivet stem snaps off not to scratch paint.**



Step 7 - Drill upper & lower holes and rivet bracket into place.

A. Use center punch to indent center of upper hole before drilling. Carefully drill hole leaving the bracket in place. Use (1 of 4 multi-grip rivets for hole) and rivet into place. Repeat for lower hole. **Be careful not to drill up through top of the hood. Heed the warnings mentioned earlier.**



Step 8 - Repeat steps 3-7 and install the passenger side hood bracket.

A. Your hood has a symmetrical under structure. Repeat Steps 3-7 to install the upper passenger side hood bracket. Take your time and verify the measurements using the bracket you just installed.

Step 9 - Position and mark first hole for driver's side fender bracket.

A. Align the fender bracket as shown to the right - Measure **1-3/4"** from the hood crush pin to the edge of the bracket shown in Figure 1.



B. Place bracket so that it over-hangs inner fender and aligns with the mark you just made. The ball-stud should be pointing inward toward engine and lower than the mounting point.



Use the photos to the right or from any of the following steps for bracket alignment clarification. Exact placement is not necessary, just install both sides the same.

Step 10 - Mark hole center and then drill hole using 5/32" drill bit.

A. Using a center punch and a hammer, tap the center of the marked hole. This will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering.

B. Drill the hole at the marked position using a **5/32" drill bit**. You will be using a self-taping high-strength screw in the next step to attach the bracket.



Step 11 - Screw the right end of the bracket to fender.

A. Using a color matching paint, touch up the area where you just drilled the hole.

B. Using a 5/16" socket and wrench (or 5/16" nut driver - recommended), carefully screw the right screw into the fender. Apply adequate pressure while fastening the sheet metal screw in.



Step 12 - Mark center with marker and indent with center punch.

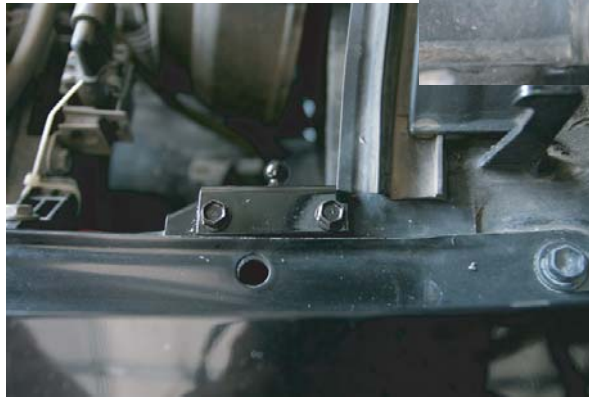
A. Using a permanent marker, mark the left hole of the fender bracket. **Be sure that the bracket is parallel to the fender. Twist to align if necessary.**

B. Using a center punch and hammer, tap the center of the marked hole. This will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering.

Step 13 - Drill second hole and screw bracket to fender.

A. Drill the second hole through the bracket hole using a **5/32"** drill bit. Do not ream or over drill the hole.

B. Fasten the bracket firmly to the vehicle.



Step 14 - Repeat steps 9-13 to attach the passenger fender bracket.

A. Repeat Steps 9-14 to attach the passenger side fender bracket. The vehicle is symmetrical so the same locators can be used. Feel free to measure off of key areas to ensure a symmetrical installation.

Step 15 - Cycle gas-springs, then install.

A. Have a friend hold the hood up. Remove the stock prop rod assembly at this time.

Cycle each gas-spring before installing. Hold with both hands and firmly press against carpet or something that won't move. (Compress each spring a few times) - if this cannot be completed, do not worry, cycle the gas springs once installed on the vehicle very slowly by lowering the hood carefully the first time few times.

B. Install the driver's side gas spring with the cylinder at the top (large end up and connected to the hood's ball stud). Be sure that the gas spring sockets snap securely onto the ball studs. Continue holding the hood until Step 17 is completed. **This procedure is most easily completed if the upper ends are snapped onto the ball-studs first and the lower ends are snapped on last.**



Step 16 - Install the gas spring locking clips.

A. Insert clip through holes at each end of ball-stud, starting from the inside of the gas spring.

B. Slide clip down till it stops with the clip's end sticking out of the end of the socket.

C. Rotate clip until it snaps onto shaft.

Remove all tools from engine area. Check that all the steps were followed correctly and that the brackets and springs are securely mounted.

Lower hood slowly and check for clearance issues. The springs will take a few repetitive operations to get them working properly - lower and raise the hood a few times to lubricate the gas-springs.