Steeda S197 Mustang Watts Link Installation Instructions 555-2525

Parts List

- Qty. Description
- 1 Watts Link Assembly (see Assembly Instructions)
- 2 Axle Bracket Clamps
- 8 M10 X 90 Bolts
- 8 M10 Washers

Disassembly/Preparation



- 1. To facilitate the installation of the Steeda Watts Link, it is necessary to raise the rear of the vehicle in the loaded state. If a drive on lift is not available, raise and support the vehicle axle with jack stands on either side of the center section. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure safe practices when working under the vehicle.
- 2. Remove the nuts and bolts of the rear sway bar chassis links. Rotate the sway bar down and forward out of the way. Retain the hardware, taking note of the installed orientation.
- 3. Remove the factory panhard bar. It is secured with a bolt on each side of the vehicle. Retain the chassis side hardware and take note of the hardware orientation.
- 4. Remove the panhard bar support brace. It is secured by two vertical bolts on the driver's side and one horizontal bolt on the passenger side of the vehicle. Retain the hardware for re-use in the Steeda Watts Link installation, taking note of the orientation.





Installation

1. Temporarily install one M10 X 90 bolt into an upper hole of each axle bracket. These bolts will hook over the axle tube while the next step is being performed.



2. Lift the completed assembly into position by hooking the bolts from Step 1 over the top of the axle tube and lifting the main support up to the original panhard bar/brace mounting locations. Loosely secure the main support on both sides using one of the factory vertical brace bolts on the driver's side and the factory panhard bar bolt/nut on the passenger's side. Help may be needed to coordinate this step.



- 3. Install the second factory panhard brace bolt on the driver's side and the factory panhard brace bolt/nut on the passenger's side.
- 4. Rotate the swaybar back into position and install the chassis links into their respective chassis brackets. Secure each side with the factory hardware. The driver's side bolt will also pass through the bracket on the Steeda Watts Link support beam.





- 5. Tighten the chassis link bolts to 85 ft-lbs. Tighten the driver's side vertical brace bolts to 46 ft-lbs. Tighten the passenger's side panhard bar brace nut to 85 ft-lbs. Tighten the passenger's side panhard bar bolt to 129 ft-lbs.
- 6. Clamp the axle brackets to the axle using the provided boxed ends, M10 X 90mm long hex head bolts, and M10 washers. Both brackets should be right up against the spring perch. Looking from the side, the adjustment slots of each axle bracket should be vertical and perpendicular to the ground. Tighten the bolts to 42 ft-lbs in a cross pattern so they are tightened evenly.



- 7. Set roll center height by moving the center pivot up or down. The center of the pivot defines your roll center height from the ground. Increasing your roll center will promote over steer and lowering your roll center will promote under steer.
- 8. Once the center height is set, the ends of the lateral links should be adjusted in the slots so that the links are as close to level as possible. Note: if you are running at the extreme top or bottom of the center pivot adjustment, due to ride height variation it may be necessary to re-adjust your center pivot up or down in order to level your lateral links for ideal geometry.
- 9. Once the links are parallel with the ground, the lateral links should be adjusted in length so that the center pivot link is vertical.
- 10. After setting your center pivot and lateral links, tighten the 4 bolts of the center pivot to 46 ft-lbs and both ends of each lateral link to 60 ft-lbs.
- 11. After setting your rear roll center, center your axle with the chassis. Adjustments are made by rotating both of the lateral links. To maintain a vertical center pivot, rotate each link the same amount, but in the opposite direction for each adjustment. Each full rotation of both lateral links will move the axle 0.1".
- 12. Lower the vehicle. Be sure your tire pressures are consistent from side to side and the vehicle is on flat level ground. The position of the axle can be checked relative to the chassis by measuring the distance from the outer fenders to each corresponding wheel. By comparing this distance from side to side you can make your adjustments accordingly. After each adjustment jostle the suspension to settle it prior to taking a measurement.
- 13. Once adjusted to the desired position, hold each link in position by the 18mm wrench flat and secure the link by tightening the jam nuts on both sides.





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