



## EZ - Ride Suspension

New part # 10890  
 Old part # CLB  
 1988 - 1998 Chevy or GMC 1500, 2500 or 3500  
 Rear ladder bars

<u>Part #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty.</u>
LD-01	Rear ladder bars	2
CF-01	Front ladder bar mounts	2
CF-02	Rear ladder bar mounts	2
CF-03	Front ladder bar mount support brackets	2
10890NB	Hardware bag	1
PB2408	Poly bushings	8
S10058	.875" x .500" x 2.080" sleeve	4
LUBE	Poly lube packs	2
10890INST	Instruction manual (customer copy)	1
10890INST	Instruction manual (installer copy)	1
MIRRORHANGER	Rear view mirror hanger	1
WARNINGDECAL	Warning decal	1

**Congratulations on your selection to purchase a Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension System. We at Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension are proud to offer a high quality product at the industries most competitive pricing. Thank you for your confidence in us and our product.**

**After the original installation, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension also recommends having the alignment checked every 6 months to ensure proper tracking, proper wear on tires and front end components. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension takes no responsibility for abuse, improper installation or improper suspension maintenance.**

## Installation manual

### Rear ladder bars

**1988 - 1998**

**Chevy or GMC 1500, 2500 or 3500**

**New part # 10890**

**Old part # CLB**

sj121107rev.01

### Important customer information:

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that a qualified or a certified mechanic performs this installation.

**It is the responsibility of the customer/installer to wear safety glasses at all times when performing this installation.**

**This vehicles reaction and handling characteristics may differ from standard cars and/or trucks. Modifications to improve and/or enhance off road performance may raise the intended center of gravity. Extreme caution must be utilized when encountering driving conditions which may cause vehicle imbalance or loss of control. DRIVE SAFELY! Avoid abrupt maneuvers: such as sudden sharp turns which could cause a roll over, resulting in serious injury or death.**

**It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use.**

**The Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product safety label that is included in your kit box must be installed inside the cab in plain view of all occupants.**

### Limited lifetime warranty

Notice to all Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension customers: It is your responsibility to keep your original sales receipt! If failure should occur on any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension component, your original sales receipt must accompany the warranted unit to receive warranty. Warranty will be void if the customer can not provide the original sales receipt. Do not install a body lift in conjunction with a suspension system. If a body lift is used in conjunction with any Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension product, your Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension WARRANTY WILL BE VOID. Tuff Country Inc. ("Tuff Country" ) suspension products are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for life if purchased, installed and maintained on a non-commercial vehicle; otherwise, for a period of twelve (12) months, from the date of purchase and installation on a commercial vehicle, or twelve thousand (12,000) miles (which ever occurs first). Tuff Country does not warrant or make any representations concerning Tuff Country Products when not installed and used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for such installation and operation and accordance with good installation and maintenance practices of the automotive industry. This warranty does not apply to the cosmetic finish of Tuff Country products nor to Tuff Country products which have been altered, improperly installed, maintained, used or repaired, or damaged by accident, negligence, misuse or racing. ("Racing is used in its broadest sense, and, for example, without regards to formalities in relation to prizes, competition, etc.) This warranty is void if the product is removed from the original vehicle and re-installed on that or any other vehicle. This warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of any implied warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or other warranty of quality, whether express or implied, except the warranty of title. All implied warranties are limited to the duration of this warranty. The remedies set forth in this warranty are exclusive. This warranty excludes all labor charges or other incidental of consequential damages. Any part or product returned for warranty claim must be returned through the dealer of the distributor from whom it was purchased. Tuff Country reserves the right to examine all parts returned to it for warranty claim to determine whether or not any such part has failed because of defect in material or workmanship. The obligation of Tuff Country under this warranty shall be limited to repairing, replacing or crediting, at its option, any part or product found to be so defective. Regardless of whether any part is repaired, replaced or credited under this warranty, shipping and/or transportation charges on the return of such product must be prepaid by the customer under this warranty.

Important information that needs to be read before installation begins:

Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension packages (2) sets of instruction sheets with this box kit. (1) is for the installer and (1) is for the customer. The (1) for the customer has some post installation procedure literature and it is the installers responsibility to make sure that the customer receives a copy of the installation manual along with the literature.

Before installation begins, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends that the installer performs a test drive on the vehicle. During the test drive, check to see if there are any uncommon sounds or vibrations. If uncommon sounds or vibrations occur on the test drive, uncommon sounds or vibrations will be enhanced once the suspension system has been installed. Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends notifying the customer prior to installation to inform the customer of these issues if they exist.

Make sure to use thread locker or lock tite on all new and stock hardware associated with the installation of this suspension system.

Hardware bag 10890NB includes:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
12312B (1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts)	4
12112B (1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts)	4
12UN (1/2" unitorque nuts)	8
716WA (7/16" USS flat washers)	16

Recommended tools selection:

Torque wrench  
Standard socket set  
Standard wrench set  
Metric socket set  
Metric wrench set  
Hydraulic floor jacks

**Rear ladder bar installation:**

1. To begin installation, block the front tires of the vehicle so that the vehicle is stable and can not roll forward. Safely lift the rear of the vehicle and place a pair of jack stands on the driver and passenger side of the vehicle. Remove the rear wheels and tires from the vehicle.

2. Place a pair of hydraulic floor jacks under the rear differential. Place one on the driver side side and one on the passenger side. Carefully raise up on both hydraulic floor jacks at the same time until the jacks come into contact with the rear axle.

3. Working on the driver side, remove the (2) front u-bolt nuts and save for later re-installation. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

4. Locate the new rear ladder bar axle brackets. Working on the driver side, install the new rear ladder bar axle brackets to the front legs of the u-bolts. Secure using the front u-bolt nuts. Torque to **115 ft lbs**. Repeat procedure on the passenger side. Carefully remove the hydraulic floor jacks from under the rear differential. Install the tires and wheels and carefully lower the vehicle to the ground.

**Special note: The rest of the installation will be performed with the weight of the vehicle on the ground. If the rest of the installation is not performed with the weight of the vehicle on the ground, proper fitment may not occur.**

5. Locate the new rear ladder bars. Also, locate (8) new poly bushings and (4) new crush sleeves that were packaged with installer copy of the instruction manual. Install the new poly bushings and sleeves into each end of the new rear ladder bars. **Special note: Make sure to use a lithium or moly base grease prior to inserting the new bushings into the new rear ladder bars. This will help increase the life of the bushing as well as help prevent squeaking.**

6. Locate (2) new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts, (2) 1/2" unitorque nuts and (4) 7/16" USS flat washers from hardware bag 10890NB. Working on the driver side, install the new rear ladder bar to the newly installed axle mount bracket and secure using the new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt and hardware. **Special note: Do not tighten at this point. Also, the rear ladder bar will be installed with the cut out holes towards the front of the vehicle and also the bar welded between the 2 eyelets will be installed towards the sky.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

7. Locate the new front ladder bar frame mount brackets. Also, locate (2) new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts, (2) 1/2" unitorque nuts and (4) 7/16" USS flat washers from hardware bag 10890NB. Working on the driver side, install the new front ladder bar frame mount bracket to the previously installed rear ladder bars and secure using the new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt and hardware. **Do not tighten at this point.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

8. Working on the driver side, swing the new front ladder bar frame mount bracket up until it meets the stock frame rail. Hold the new front bracket to the frame rail with 2 pair of vise grips. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

9. Working on the driver side, remove the ladder bar from the frame mount brackets and save the new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts and hardware for later installation. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

10. Working on the driver side, and using the new bracket as a guide, carefully drill (2) 1/2" holes into the bottom of the stock frame rail. Drill in the far forward hole and the far rearward hole in the bracket. Also, take special care not to drill into any wires and or hoses running down the inside of the stock frame rail. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

11. Locate (4) new 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts, (4) 1/2" unitorque nuts and (8) 7/16" USS flat washers from hardware bag 10890NB. Locate the (2) new front ladder bar frame mount brackets and the (2) new front ladder bar frame mount support brackets. Working on the driver side, install the new front ladder bar frame mount bracket to stock frame rail and secure using the new 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts and hardware. **Special note: Make sure to install the new frame mount support bracket on the inside of the stock frame rail. This will increase the strength of the stock frame rail. Install some thread locker or lock tite and torque to 75 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

12. Working on the driver side, swing the newly installed rear ladder bar up to the newly installed front ladder bar frame mount bracket and secure using the new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolts and hardware. **Install some thread locker or lock tite and torque to 75 ft lbs.** Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

13. Working on the driver side, install some thread locker or lock tite on the new 1/2" x 3 1/2" bolt that is connecting the new rear ladder bar to the new rear ladder bar axle mount and torque to **75 ft lbs**. Repeat procedure on the passenger side.

14. Check and double check to make sure all steps were performed properly and check again.

**Special note: After the completion of the installation, Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension recommends taking the vehicle to an alignment shop and having a proper front end alignment performed.**

**Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension recommends that a complete re-torque is done on all bolts associated with this suspension system. It is the customers responsibility to make sure that a re-torque is performed on all hardware associated with this suspension system after the first 100 miles of installation. It is also the customers responsibility to do a complete re-torque after every 3000 miles or after every off road use. Neglect of following these steps could cause brackets to come loose and cause serious damage to the suspension system and to the vehicle.**

**Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension packages (2) sets of instruction sheets with this box kit. (1) is for the installer and (1) is for the customer. The (1) for the customer has some post installation procedure literature and it is the installers responsibility to make sure that the customer receives a copy of the installation manual along with the literature.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tuff Country or your local Tuff Country dealer.**

**Special post installation procedure: Tuff Country EZ-Ride Suspension highly recommends adding a minimum of 1 pint, but no more that 1 1/2 pints, of proper front differential fluid into the front differential. To achieve this, you may have to fill the differential with it on its side or you may have to insert the fluid through the vent tube opening. On occasion, the customer may find burping of fluid coming out of the front vent tube.**