



1968-1972 GM A-BODY 2-DOOR* EXHAUST SYSTEMS

*Excluding El Camino: fits 112" wheelbase 2 door hardtop, 2-door post and convertible models only
70501353-RHKR (2.5") & 70501354-RHKR (3")

Installation Instructions



Left Right
Front over-axle hangers



Rear tailpipe hangers (left & right)

Thank you for choosing to install a Hooker Blackheart exhaust system on your 1968-72 GM A-body vehicle. Although these systems have been specifically developed for direct fitment with Hooker Blackheart LS swap components for these applications, they will provide equally beneficial fitment, function, and service life with other non-Hooker Blackheart LS swap headers or non-LS engine equipped A-bodies through modification of the system inlet tubes, or construction of new ones, by a competent fabricator.

PRE-INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS:

Check that the hardware package includes the following:

70501353-RHKR	
Qty.	Description
2	Tailpipe Hanger Brackets
1	Left Muffler Hanger Bracket
1	Right Muffler Hanger Bracket
2*	5/16 x 1.25" Body Bolts
2*	3/8 Thick Spacers
4*	1/4-20 x .75" Bolt
4*	1/4-20 Flanged Head Nut
4*	1/2-13 x 1.75" Cap Screw
4*	1/2-13 Locking Nut
4*	Rubber Isolators
10*	2.5" Band Clamps

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4*	1/2-13 Locking Nut
4*	Rubber Isolators
10*	3" Band Clamps

*Items not shown in photos above

If any listed hardware is missing, please contact Technical Service at: 1-866-464-6553 or 270-781-9741.

IMPORTANT! Position and support your vehicle on a suitable surface. **USE CAUTION AND WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE USING JACKS AND JACK STANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.** Use of a two-post under arm lift or four-post drive-on lift will considerably reduce the time and effort required to complete the installation. **MAKE SURE LIFT LOCKS ARE ENGAGED BEFORE WORKING UNDER THE VEHICLE.**

INSTALLATION:

NOTE: The following steps assume that you are installing the system using Hooker Blackheart LS swap mounting components and long-tube headers or mid-length headers and adapters already in place on the vehicle. If you are performing an installation of this system without utilizing these products, install all system components from the “X” crossover rearward. Then, adjust them for best fitment with the bottom of the floor panels and sufficient clearances around all suspension, fuel, and brake components. Do all this before modifying the included Hooker Blackheart inlet tubes, or fabricating new inlet tubes to be compatible with the geometry of your headers and transmission crossmember.

1. Remove all existing exhaust system components from the vehicle, including any stock or previously added hangers along the entire length of the exhaust system.
2. Raise and support the vehicle in a manner that allows full drop of the rear axle/suspension.
3. Place a supplied band clamp over each inlet of the crossover assembly and insert the supplied inlet tubes (right side tube has a single bend in it) into the crossover assembly.
4. Now, position a supplied clamp over the open end of each inlet tube and install the entire assembly onto the collectors of a previously installed set of Hooker Blackheart LS swap full-length headers, or the outlets of Hooker Blackheart adapter tubes already attached to a set of Hooker Blackheart mid-length headers or Hooker LS swap cast iron exhaust manifolds.
5. Place a supplied clamp over one end of each muffler and install the mufflers onto the outlets of the crossover assembly. To ensure proper final adjustment, tighten the clamps only enough to maintain the general position of the mufflers at this time.
6. Using the included 5/16” body bolts and 3/8 thick spacers, attach the included left and right front over-axle hanger brackets to the bottom flange of the vehicle frame crossmember in front of the rear axle. Use two factory hanger holes located along the bottom edge of the crossmember for attachment. Install the spacers between the brackets and the bottom of the crossmember. See **Figures 1 & 2** for proper bracket orientation.



Figure 1 – Left over-axle hanger bracket



Figure 2 – Right over-axle hanger bracket

7. Feed the supplied over-axle tubes over the front side of the axle and place a supplied clamp over the inlet of each before engaging them into the muffler outlets. To ensure correct adjustment later, do not tighten the clamps more than what is required to hold basic component positions at this time.
8. Install one supplied rubber isolator onto the barbed hanger rods of each over-axle tube and connect the other end of the isolators to the installed hanger brackets using one each of the supplied 1/2 bolts and nuts for each bracket. See **Figures 3 & 4**.
9. Using the supplied 1/4” bolts and nuts, attach the supplied tailpipe hanger brackets to the outside of the frame rails at the location of the two small vertically stacked 1/4” factory holes on the outside of each frame rail behind the rear tires.. See **Figures 5 & 6** for proper bracket orientation (images shown depict right side frame rail and hanger bracket orientation – left side bracket orientation/ installation is mirrored in a similar fashion).



Figure 3 – Left tailpipe hanger bracket



Figure 4 – Right tailpipe hanger bracket



Figure 5 – Right side frame attachment holes



Figure 6 – Right tailpipe hanger bracket orientation

10. Install the remaining two rubber isolators onto the hanger rods welded to each tailpipe. Place the remaining two supplied band clamps over the slip-connector inlets of the tailpipes.
11. Install the tailpipes onto the outlets of the over-axle pipes and engage the rubber isolators on the hanger rods into the U-channel of the tailpipe hanger brackets just attached to the frame rails. Connect the isolators and brackets together using one each of the included 1/2" bolts/nuts for each hanger bracket.
12. Tighten the band clamps enough to hold them in place on the slip-connectors, but not so tight as to prevent component adjustment.
13. Align all system components for best fit and fully tighten all clamps. The rear tailpipe hanger attachment holes are slotted specifically to allow fine adjustment of the tailpipe tip exit heights. Pay particularly close attention to the clearances between the over-axle tubes and the rear suspension upper control arms and coil springs. This is especially important when installing the 3" system to prevent component interference and unwanted noises.

NOTE: These exhaust systems are designed for use with two different sets of Hooker Blackheart LS swap engine brackets. If you are using the **71221006HKR** engine mounting brackets, the inlet pipes of these exhaust systems are to be engaged no more than two inches onto the outlets of Hooker Blackheart LS swap long-tube headers or Hooker Blackheart mid-length header or cast iron manifold adapter tubes. Using more than two inches of engagement at these connection points will cause other slip-connection points in the system to not have sufficient engagement for proper sealing and/or mechanical strength.

Any questions? Please contact Technical Service: 1-866-464-6553 or 270-781-9741. For online help, please refer to: www.holley.com.

COMPATIBILITY INFORMATION:

These exhaust systems were designed for direct installation with compatible Hooker Blackheart LS swaps headers and engine and transmission mounting components listed for this vehicle application. If needed, additional compatible LS engine swap components, such as EFI fuel control systems, fuel filters, fuel pumps, plumbing hose/fittings, valve covers and accessory drive brackets can be found at www.holley.com.

As shipped, the bend geometry of this system's inlet tubes (forward of the crossover) is compatible with the stock 68-72 Chevelle and Hooker Blackheart LS swap transmission crossmembers and Hooker Blackheart headers for this application only. As such, interference with other aftermarket transmission crossmembers and/or poor line-up characteristics with other brands of headers should be expected. Such issues can be remedied through modification of the supplied Hooker Blackheart inlet tubes, or the fabrication of new inlet pipes, to provide compatibility with the components installed on your vehicle.

These Hooker Blackheart exhaust systems are compatible with driveshafts up to 3.5" in diameter and have been verified to be compatible with factory OE, Hotchkis, Hellwig, and Detroit Speed rear anti-sway bar kits.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY – DISCLAIMER:

The regulation of emissions production, noise levels, and safety standards is undertaken by the federal government, each of the fifty state legislatures, and by many local municipalities, towns, and counties.

HOOKER™ makes no warranties of merchantability, of fitness for particular purpose, or that its products are approved for general use, or that its products comply with laws, regulations, or ordinances in the state where they may be sold to the ultimate purchaser, the consumer.

Unless expressly stated to the contrary in the catalog, instruction sheet; or price list, the entire risk as to the conformity of any company product in any such state and as to repair should the product prove to be defective or non-conforming, is on the retail purchaser, the buyer, the ultimate consumer, of such product and it is not upon the seller, distributor, or manufacturer.

In this connection, the retail purchaser, the buyer, the ultimate consumer assumes the burden of the entire cost of any and all necessary service, alterations, or repair.

THE FOREGOING STATEMENT LIMITS THE LIABILITY OF THE MANUFACTURER.

California vehicle code, sections 27156 and 38391, prohibits the advertising, offering for sale, or installation of any device, which modifies a vehicle's emission control system, unless exempted, unless otherwise noted. HOOKER™ Headers that have not received an Executive Order (E.O.) exemption from these code sections are not legal for sale or use in California on vehicles originally equipped with catalytic converters, except for racing vehicles, which may never be driven upon a highway. Check with your local authorities to determine if these headers are legal for use in your particular area.

Technical Service: 1-866-464-6553

Phone: 1-270-781-9741

For online help, please refer to the Tech Service section of our website: www.holley.com

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