



Steering Shaft Coupling Kit

For 1972-1986 CJ-5, CJ-7, CJ-8, SJ, & J-Series
Part #: 998710K and 8121299K

Kit Contents

- (1) Coupler
- (1) Boot
- (1) Retaining Spring
- (2) Bearings
- (1) Clamp
- (1) Internal Snap Ring

Required Tools

- Ratchet
- 1/2" Socket
- 7/16" Socket
- 1/2" Wrench
- 7/16" Wrench
- File
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Pliers
- Channel Lock Pliers
- Hammer
- Flathead Screwdriver
- Bench Vice or Hydraulic Press



Read all instructions carefully prior to starting installation.

1. Ensure that all kit components are accounted for.
2. Ensure the vehicle is parked with the wheels and steering wheel as straight as possible.
3. Spray the clamps at either end of the steering shaft with a penetrating oil.
4. Remove the nuts and bolts from the couplers at the steering column and steering box side of the steering shaft. Set them aside for later use.
5. Slide the steering shaft off of the steering column and steering box. The clamps may need to be pried loose in order for the steering shaft to slide off.

NOTE: In some cases the steering shaft cannot be removed with both the steering column and steering box bolted in. We suggest to loosen the steering column as it will afford more room than loosening the steering box. To achieve this:

- a. Remove the cosmetic cover between the steering column and the dashboard.
- b. Remove the 2 bolts holding the steering column to the dashboard.
- c. Remove the 4 bolts holding the steering column to the firewall.

6. Remove the small clamp from the boot using pliers.
7. Remove the snap ring from the factory coupler using a pair of needle nose pliers and a flathead screwdriver.
8. Slide the boot up the steering shaft.

NOTE: We suggest using a utility knife to cut the boot.

9. Remove the coupler from the steering shaft.

10. Remove both square-shaped bearings and the retaining spring from the steering shaft.
11. Press the pin flush to one side of the steering shaft using a bench vise or a hydraulic press. This will allow the **Boot** to be installed. Do not push the pin all the way out.
12. Thoroughly clean the steering shaft of any rust, grease, dirt, or debris.
13. Slide the included **Clamp** onto the steering shaft.
14. Use a file to remove any burrs from the steering shaft.
15. Flip the **Boot** inside out and grease the inside of the small end of it. Grease the shaft and pin area as well.
16. Gently slide the **Boot** over the shaft and pin. Once the **Boot** is past the pin it can be flipped back to its original shape.
NOTE: To ease installation the **Boot** can be warmed with a hair dryer or a heat gun on a low setting.
17. Center the pin in the steering shaft using the same method as in Step 11. Clean up any rough edges with a file.
18. Ensure the **Coupler** is clean of any dirt or debris. Liberally grease the inside of the **Coupler**.
19. Slide the **Retaining Spring** onto the end of the steering shaft with the pin located between the 2 tabs on each side of the **Retaining Spring**. Slide the **Bearings** onto the pin, ensuring they engage into the **Retaining Spring** properly.
20. Squeeze the **Bearings** tight to the steering shaft with a pair of channel lock pliers and gently slide the **Coupler** on. Top off the **Coupler** with grease if necessary.
21. Fully seat the **Boot** onto the **Coupler**. Install the **Internal Snap Ring**, ensuring the **Boot** stays in place and the ears of the **Internal Snap Ring** engages into the slots in the **Coupler**.
22. Install the **Clamp** over the small end of the **Boot**.
23. Check that the newly rebuilt coupling has full range of motion. This also helps to distribute the grease through the **Coupling**.
24. Remove any dirt and rust from the splines of the steering column and steering box. Apply some grease or penetrating oil to the splines.
25. Install the steering shaft and factory clamp onto the steering box first. Ensure the groove on the steering box lines up with the groove on the steering shaft. Do not install the bolt and nut at this time.
26. Install the steering shaft and factory clamp onto the steering column. Ensure the groove on the steering column lines up with the groove on the steering shaft.
27. Install the factory bolt and nut onto the clamp on both ends of the steering shaft and torque to 45 ft. lbs.
28. Clean any remaining grease from the steering shaft.
29. If any of the hardware for the steering column was removed, install and torque to factory specs.
30. Test drive the vehicle and check to ensure the steering wheel is still straight. It's common to see a steering wheel a few degrees off after the installation. This is normally due to adjusting the steering with a worn out steering shaft. To remedy this bring the vehicle to a mechanic for an alignment or straighten the steering wheel by adjusting the drag link adjuster.

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Standard and accepted safety precautions should be used in every procedure*