



## MS149-28 '81-'87 Chevy Trucks '81-'91 Blazers/Jimmys Hood Hinge Installation Instructions

We would like to take this opportunity to **THANK YOU** for purchasing EDDIE MOTORSPORTS products. We welcome any comments or feedback you might have. If you have any questions about our products or about the installation procedure, please feel free to contact us.

**Before beginning the installation, please read:**

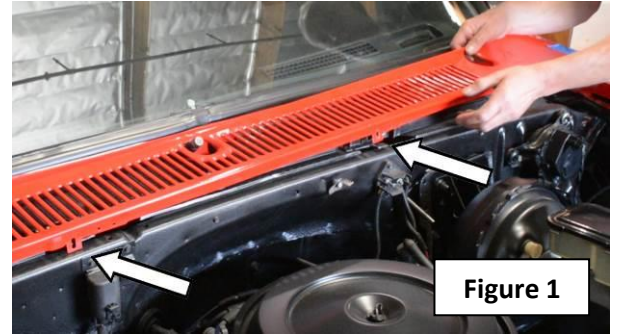
- \* Read all of the instructions thoroughly before beginning the installation. If you do not feel that you have the mechanical aptitude to complete the job in a safe manner, Eddie Motorsports strongly recommends that you employ the services of a knowledgeable technician to perform the installation.
- \* Use the packing list to verify that you have received all of the components and fasteners.
- \* We recommend that you protect your paint from scratches by liberally applying blue painter's tape to all contact surfaces, corners and seams of the fenders and hood before beginning the installation. **Eddie Motorsports will not be held responsible for scratches or damages that occur during the installation process.**
- \* Take note of your hood's fit and finish (taking photographs may be best). Pay close attention to the width of the seams, alignment of the hood to the fenders, cowl, etc. This will help in the final adjustment of the hood and prevent you from spending time trying to correct a pre-existing condition.
- \* Do not attempt the installation alone. There are several steps in the installation process that require two people to complete safely.
- \* To prevent galling of stainless steel fasteners, apply anti-seize compound to all bolt threads. Fasteners that have seized will not be warrantied.
- \* Eddie Motorsport's hood hinges are designed as direct replacement, bolt-on parts. However, due to the age of your vehicle, the lack of quality control that existed when it was originally built, and the vast array of (mostly imported) replacement sheet metal, our hinges may not fit exactly as they did on the vehicle(s) that we used to design them. Should you feel that the fit is not to your satisfaction, Eddie Motorsports, upon proof of purchase from us, will refund your money.
- \* Eddie Motorsports hood hinges are supplied with a nitrogen filled gas strut that we have pre-determined to be the correct strength for your vehicle's hood. Should your hood be lighter or heavier than the original hood that we tested, we will gladly exchange the struts for ones that have the strength to more adequately work with your application. Also note that the pressure in the struts will be **reduced** when exposed to cold weather. For your reference, the strut weight is marked on the end of the strut body.
- \* Eddie Motorsports does not guarantee the function of our hood hinges on hoods that have been modified (i.e. added hood scoops, excessive customization, heavy bondo, mirrors or under hood additions **OF ANY KIND**).
- \* Due to the extreme variance in construction quality, rigidity, and weight, Eddie Motorsports does not guarantee the function of our hood hinges with fiberglass or carbon fiber hoods.
- \* In most instances, the Eddie Motorsports hinges will not operate correctly without being installed on the car **WITH** the hood attached. We will be unable to assist you with any fitment or operation questions until you have completed the installation with the hood and struts installed on the vehicle.
- \* Eddie Motorsports is not responsible for applications that are outside the normal and intended use of our products including specific model and year applications.
- \* To assist you with this project, view the installation video in the tech support videos page on [www.eddiemotorsports.com](http://www.eddiemotorsports.com)

**Packing List:**

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2- Hinge Assemblies (RH/LH)          | 2- Cowl Cover Plates                   |
| 2- Firewall Strut Mounts             | 2- Firewall Strut Mount Backing Plates |
| 2- Hood Strut Mounts                 | 2- Stainless Steel Gas Struts          |
| 4- 1/4-20 x 1 1/4" Button Head Bolts | 4- 1/4" AN Washers                     |
| 4- 3/8-16 x 1" Button Head Bolts     | 4- 3/8" AN Washers                     |
| 8- 5/16-18 x 3/4" Button Head Bolts  | 4- 5/16" AN Washers                    |

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Remove the factory hood latch from the hood.
2. Using help to support the hood, remove the hood by first removing the front spring hinge bolts and then the rear hood hinge bolts. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DO THIS ALONE!**
3. Remove the front factory hinge springs from the fenders.
4. Remove the windshield wiper arms by raising the arm and using a curved pick to pull the internal retainer away from the wiper stud. Lift “up” and “down” to make sure the angle of the wiper allows the arm to pull off straight. If you attempt to force it off while on an angle, you could damage the mounting stud.
5. Using an 8MM socket, remove the four bolts that hold the factory cowl vent panel to the truck (Figure 1). Once these are removed, lift up on the front of the cowl and slide it forward, out of the sockets that hold it in place.
6. The two outer most fasteners holding the cowl panel are held into the stock hood hinges with clips (Figure 2). Remove these clips and save them for later as they will be used in the installation of the new billet aluminum hinges.
7. Remove the plastic vent located underneath the metal cowl vent panel. This vent is held into place by four clips. Pull up on the front of the grill to dislodge it from these clips
8. On each side of the truck, remove the four bolts that hold on the rubber hood hinge dust boots and the hood hinges (Figure 3).
9. To install the firewall strut mount on the driver side, it is necessary to remove the windshield wiper motor to gain access to the back of the firewall. Remove the three bolts holding the motor and gently let it hang.
10. To install the firewall strut mount on the passenger side, it is necessary to remove the vacuum diaphragm to gain access to the back of the firewall. Using an 8MM socket, remove the two bolts holding the diaphragm on the top of the cowl (Figure 4). Slide it out of the way, towards the center of the truck.
11. Cut out the Firewall Strut Mount Drill templates and tape each one within the recesses, in the upper corners of the firewall, on each side of the truck as shown (Figure 5).
12. Center-punch the marked spots on the template, remove it, and drill the two ¼” holes on each side of the truck.
13. **We highly recommend using two people to perform these next steps; one person to hold the Firewall Strut Mount Bracket and start the bolts and another person to position the Firewall Strut Mount Backing Plate behind the firewall.** Starting on the driver’s side, locate the two ¼-20 x 1 ¼” button head bolts which will be used to fasten the Firewall Strut Mount Bracket. Position one of the threaded Firewall Strut Mount Backing Plates with the notched corner facing “up and out” towards the fender as shown (Figure 6). Holding the bracket in this position, reach through the top hole in the cowl and position the bracket behind the strut mount and line up with the mounting holes. **NOTE: Use EXTREME CAUTION not to drop the backing plate! If you do, you will not be able to retrieve it!** Note that the bracket must be mounted with the ball stud pointing outward, towards the fender (Figure 7). Apply a small amount of blue Loctite to the two ¼-20 x 1 ¼” button head bolts and install them



through the strut mount and firewall and into the backing plates. Tighten the bolts thoroughly using caution not to over tighten. Repeat this process for the passenger side Firewall Strut Mount.

14. Reinstall the vacuum diaphragm and windshield wiper motor.

15. Install the aluminum Cowl Cover Plates, covering the factory dust boot holes and lining up with the hood hinge holes (Figure 8).

16. Apply anti-seize to two 3/8-16 x 1" button head bolts and use with two 3/8" AN washers to install the hood hinges over the cover plates and into the factory hood hinge holes on each side of the truck. Before tightening the bolts, insure that the hood hinge is traveling in the center of the slot in the cover plates and that the cover plates are parallel and square to the edge of the firewall and do not over hang. Do not completely tighten at this point as you may need to adjust the side-to-side position of the hinges.

Re-install the factory cowl panel retaining clip onto each hood hinge (Figure 8).

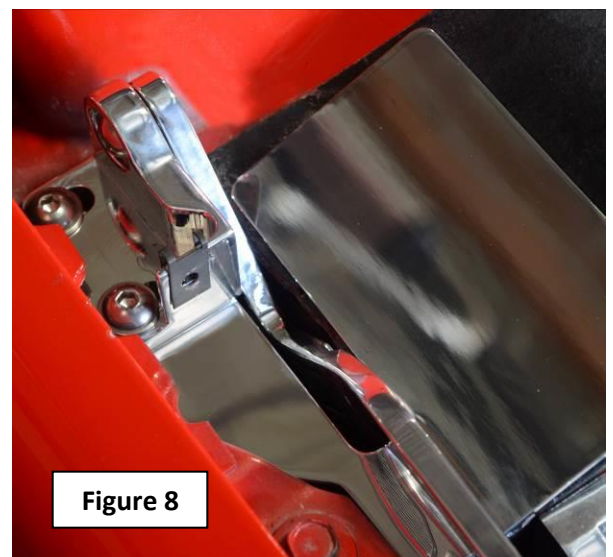
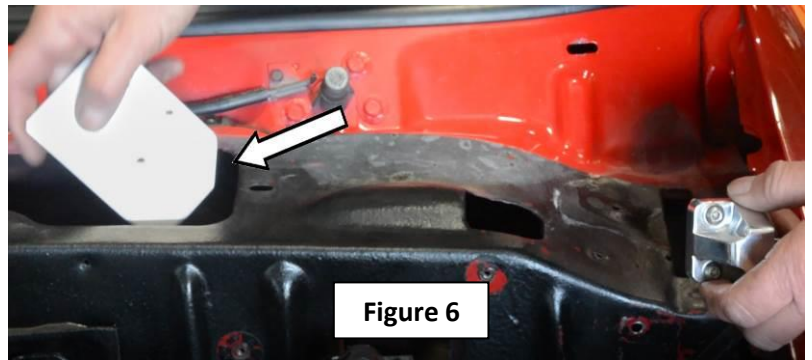
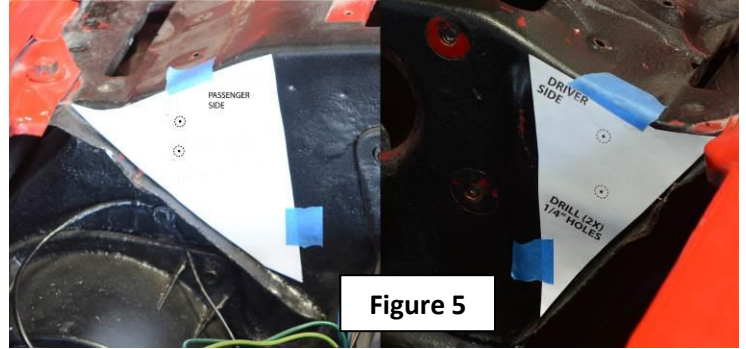
17. Apply anti-seize to two 5/16-18 x 3/4" button head bolts and use with two 5/16" AN washers to install the hood hinge onto each side of the hood. Before tightening the fasteners, slide the hood as far forward as possible in the slots in the hinges. Tighten the bolts thoroughly using caution not to over torque them.

18. Apply anti-seize to two 5/16-18 x 3/4" button head bolts and use with two 5/16" AN washers to install the Hood Strut Mount Bracket to the hood (Figure 9). Select the correct bracket for each side of the hood so that the larger aluminum area is installed facing "UP" towards the top of the hood as shown.

19. **BEFORE** installing the hood struts onto your truck, apply a small amount of grease to the ball studs and remove the wire keeper from each socket end of the strut (Figure 10). Install the stainless steel gas struts onto the hinge with the shaft side down ("body" end up) in order to insure proper operation and to prevent failure. **NOTE: you will NOT be able to collapse the struts without them first being installed and using the leverage of the hood.** Also, use caution as there is a small internal ring clip on the inside of the strut end. Should this become dislodged from its mounting groove, it will make it difficult to install the strut on to the ball stud. Do not replace the wire keepers at this time as you may need to remove the struts to adjust the hinges.

20. Making sure that you have all exposed paint on your truck thoroughly protected with painters tape and/or towels or fender covers, slowly move the hood to the closed position, carefully watching all edges to make sure that the hood does not come in contact with any body parts. Also, make sure that the hood hinge does not touch or rub the cowl cover plate as it retracts into the cowl.

21. Loosen the hood hinges at the cowl and move side-to-side as necessary to create clearance for the hood hinge movement and to properly align the hood-to-fender gaps. Since the cowl panel



has not been re-installed, it is not necessary to worry about front-to-back clearance of the hood at this time.

22. Once you have established your desired hood position, thoroughly tighten the hood hinges to the cowl using caution to not over torque them.

23. At this point, we recommend removing the hood to re-install the cowl panel. In some cases, it may be possible to re-install the cowl panel with the hood installed. Use your discretion to make this determination. Should you decide to do this, use caution so as not to scratch your hood and/or cowl panel.

24. Re-install your windshield wiper arms.

25. With the cowl panel installed and the bolts on the hood hinge plates loose, carefully adjust your front-to-back clearance between the hood and cowl plate. Once you have the hood adjusted to your satisfaction, thoroughly tighten the hood hinges plates using caution to not over torque them.

26. Re-install your hood latch.

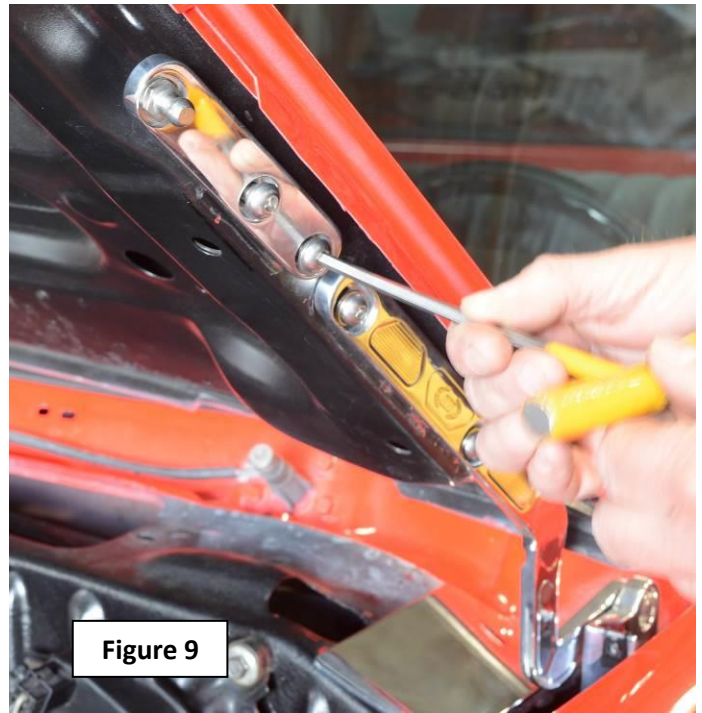


Figure 9

**\*\* To assist you with this project, view the installation video in the tech support videos page on [www.eddiemotorsports.com](http://www.eddiemotorsports.com)**

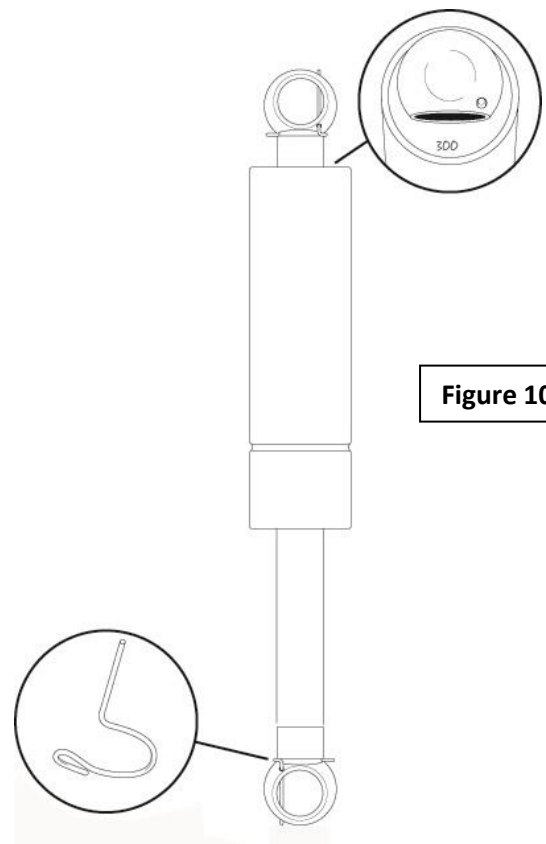


Figure 10

**MS149-28 Chevy Truck Hood Hinge Firewall Strut Mount Drill Template**

