Dorman 38436

Dorman 38436 Front Upper Door Hinge Spring Instruction Manual

Model: 38436

Product Overview

The Dorman 38436 Front Upper Door Hinge Spring is designed to restore the proper function of your vehicle's door. This component is durably constructed from spring steel to maintain stable pressure on the hinge, ensuring smooth and consistent door operation. It offers a straightforward repair solution, eliminating the need to remove the entire door, thereby saving time, effort, and labor costs.



Image: The Dorman 38436 Front Upper Door Hinge Spring, showing its coiled design.

Setup and Installation

This door hinge spring is engineered as a direct replacement for the factory part on specified vehicle years, makes, and models. Proper installation is crucial for optimal performance and safety.

Installation Guidelines:

- **Safety First:** Always wear appropriate safety gear, including eye protection, during installation.
- **Vehicle Compatibility:** Ensure this part is compatible with your exact vehicle by verifying the make, model, and trim level.
- **Tools Required:** A specialized door spring compressor tool is highly recommended for safe and efficient installation. While some methods involving zip ties or other means may be suggested by others, using the correct tool minimizes risk of injury and ensures proper seating of the spring.
- **Installation Process:**
    1. Carefully remove the old or broken hinge spring from the door assembly.
    2. Using a door spring compressor tool, compress the new Dorman 38436 spring.
    3. Position the compressed spring into the designated spring perch area of the door hinge.
    4. Slowly and carefully release the spring compressor, allowing the spring to expand and seat securely.
    5. Test the door's movement to ensure smooth operation and proper retention in open positions.

- **Professional Assistance:** If you are uncomfortable performing this installation yourself, it is advisable to seek assistance from a qualified automotive professional.



Image: Side view of the Dorman 38436 Hinge Spring, highlighting its coiled structure.

Operation and Function

The Dorman 38436 Door Hinge Spring functions by providing the necessary tension to hold the vehicle door in its open positions and to assist in its closing. Once installed, the spring works passively within the door hinge mechanism. A properly functioning spring ensures that the door does not swing freely or close unexpectedly, enhancing convenience and safety for vehicle occupants.

Maintenance

The Dorman 38436 Door Hinge Spring is a durable component designed for long service life and typically requires no routine maintenance. However, it is good practice to periodically inspect the door hinges and the spring for any signs of wear, corrosion, or damage, especially if the door's operation becomes stiff or loose. If any issues are observed, consider inspecting the entire hinge assembly.

Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with your vehicle door after installing the Dorman 38436 Hinge Spring, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Door Still Sags or Swings Freely:**
  - Verify that the spring is correctly seated within the hinge mechanism. An improperly seated spring will not provide adequate tension.
  - Inspect the hinge pins and bushings for wear. Even with a new spring, worn hinge pins or bushings can cause door sag or improper movement.
  - Ensure that the correct spring was used for your specific vehicle application.
- **Difficulty Opening or Closing Door:**
  - Check for any obstructions or binding in the hinge area.
  - Ensure the spring is not over-compressed or installed incorrectly, which could create excessive resistance.
- **Unusual Noises from Hinge:**

- Lubricate the hinge points with a suitable automotive grease or lubricant.
- Inspect for any foreign debris or damage to the spring or hinge components.

If troubleshooting does not resolve the issue, it is recommended to consult a professional mechanic.

Specifications

Attribute	Detail
Brand	Dorman
Model Number	38436
Material	Steel
Product Dimensions	11"L x 5"W
Item Weight	1.6 ounces
Mounting Type	Door Mount
Hole Count	2
Unit Count	1.0 Count
UPC	037495384360
Manufacturer Part Number	38436
OEM Part Numbers	384362; 15591898; 16622460; 88891766



Image: End view of the Dorman 38436 Hinge Spring, showing its internal structure.

Warranty Information

Specific warranty details for the Dorman 38436 Front Upper Door Hinge Spring are not provided in this manual. For comprehensive warranty information, please refer to the official Dorman Products website or contact Dorman customer service directly. Warranty terms typically cover defects in materials and workmanship under normal use.

Customer Support

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries regarding the Dorman 38436 Front Upper Door Hinge Spring, please contact Dorman Products directly. Dorman has over a century of automotive experience and a team of product experts dedicated to providing reliable solutions.

You can find more information and contact details on the official Dorman website: www.dormanproducts.com

Visit the Dorman Store on Amazon: Dorman Store

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