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› [OEMTOOLS](#) /

› OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor User Manual

OEMTOOLS 25550

OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor User Manual

Model: 25550

INTRODUCTION

The OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor is designed for the safe compression and removal of MacPherson strut springs. This tool is essential for strut replacement and suspension system maintenance on a wide range of vehicles. Its heat-treated components, broad spring contact, and built-in detent pins ensure both safety and reliability during use. This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper and safe operation of your strut spring compressor.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Working with compressed springs can be dangerous. Always follow these safety guidelines to prevent serious injury:

- Always wear safety glasses and protective gloves when performing automotive repair work.
- Ensure your work area is stable, level, and on a hard surface.
- Never use impact tools with this spring compressor. Only use hand tools to tighten and loosen the clamps.
- Lubricate the threads of the center screw with anti-seize compound before each use to prolong tool life and ensure smooth operation.
- Ensure safety pins are fully engaged and securely lock the hooks to the spring coils to prevent slippage.
- Compress springs evenly by alternating between the clamps to maintain balance and prevent bulging.
- Do not over-compress the spring; the coils should never touch.
- Refer to your vehicle's manufacturer's maintenance manual for specific instructions regarding strut removal and installation for your make and model.
- Struts are often side-specific. Ensure they are installed correctly according to your vehicle's specifications.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor set includes two universal spring compressor tools designed for safe and efficient strut spring service.

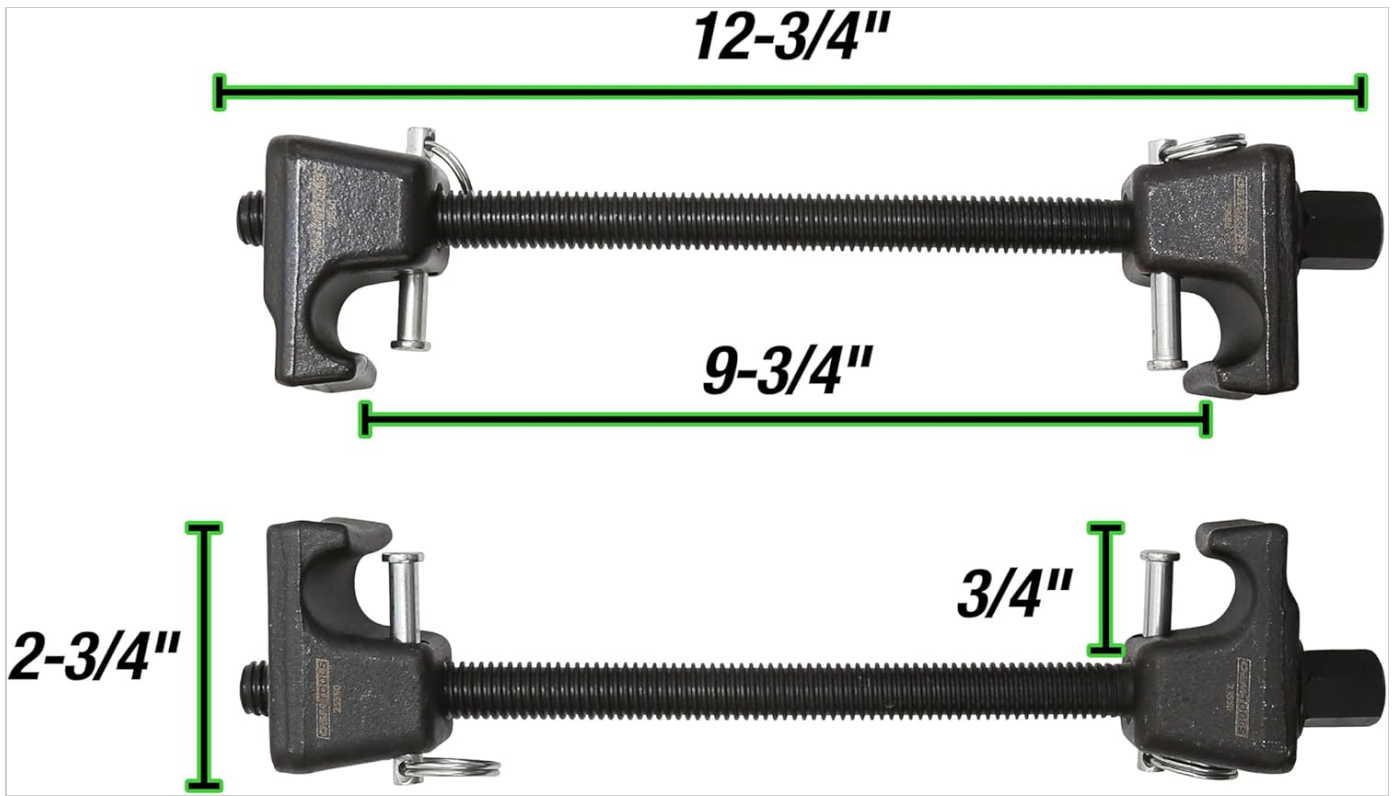


Figure 1: The OEMTOOLS 25550 Strut Spring Compressor showing its 12-3/4 inch overall length, 9-3/4 inch maximum safe opening, and 2-3/4 inch hook height.

***SAFETY LATCHES LOCK SPRING IN PLACE
PREVENTS SLIPPAGE***



Figure 2: Detail of the safety latches designed to lock the spring in place and prevent slippage during compression.

***HOOKS ARE FORGED AND CENTER
SCREW IS HARDENED FOR
LONGER LIFE***



Figure 3: The robust construction of the compressor, featuring forged hooks and a hardened center screw for extended durability and safety.

COMPRESSES MOST MACPHERSON STRUT SPRING SIZES



Figure 4: The pair of compressors, highlighting their universal design for compressing most MacPherson strut spring sizes.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

This section outlines the general procedure for using the OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor. Always consult your vehicle's service manual for specific steps and torque specifications.

Video Guide: MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor Usage

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Video 1: A detailed demonstration on how to safely use the OEMTOOLS MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor for strut replacement. This video shows a 2-post lift; wheel blocks and jack stands can also be used. Chock the wheels securely before beginning.

Step-by-Step Procedure:

1. Prepare the Vehicle:

- Safely lift the vehicle and secure it using appropriate lifting equipment (e.g., 2-post lift, jack stands).
- Remove the wheel from the side where the strut is being serviced.
- Depending on your vehicle's make and model, you may need to move the brake line and sway bar from the strut assembly. Refer to your vehicle's maintenance manual for specific instructions.

2. Remove the Strut Assembly:

- Remove the two or three bolts that secure the lower mounting plate of the strut onto the spindle or steering knuckle.
- Under the hood, locate the disc-shaped top bearing plate connected to the strut tower. Remove the three outer bolts, but do not remove the center bolt at this stage.
- Carefully remove the entire strut assembly from the vehicle.

3. Compress the Spring:

- Secure the strut assembly in a sturdy vice to hold it firmly while working.
- Lubricate the threads on the center screw of the spring compressors with anti-seize compound.
- Attach the OEMTOOLS strut spring compressors to the coils by positioning the clamps on opposite sides of the spring. This prevents bulging as the coils are compressed.
- Ensure the safety pins are securely in place on the coils to prevent the clamps from slipping.
- Tighten the clamps using a wrench. Alternate between the clamps, tightening them evenly to ensure the spring remains balanced during compression.
- Compress the spring until it is free from the spring saddle. Do not over-compress; the coils should never touch.

4. Disassemble the Strut:

- With the spring compressed securely, remove the top bearing plate by loosening the center nut. You may need to hold the shaft securely while loosening the nut.
- Carefully lift the compressed spring assembly off the strut tower and set it aside.
- Remove the bump stop and rubber seal from the bottom of the strut.
- Remove the old strut from the vice.

5. Assemble the New Strut:

- Place the new strut into the vice and secure it.
- Slide the bump stop and rubber seal onto the new strut.
- Install the spring onto the strut, ensuring proper alignment with the strut.
- Place the top bearing plate onto the spring and strut.
- Tighten the center nut to hold the top bearing plate securely in place. Hold the shaft securely as you torque the nut to the manufacturer's specifications.

6. Decompress the Spring and Reinstall:

- Once the top bearing plate is securely installed, you can loosen the strut spring compressor clamps. Alternate between the clamps and loosen them evenly so the spring remains balanced as it expands.
- Remove the safety pins and the spring compressors.
- Reinstall the new strut assembly onto your vehicle, reversing the removal steps.
- Replace the wheel.
- After replacing struts, it is highly recommended to have the vehicle's alignment checked by a qualified technician.

MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your OEMTOOLS 25550 Strut Spring Compressor:

- **Lubrication:** Always lubricate the threads of the center screw with anti-seize compound before each use. This prevents wear and corrosion, ensuring smooth operation and extending the life of the tool.
- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the tool to remove any dirt, grease, or debris.
- **Inspection:** Regularly inspect the hooks, screws, and safety pins for any signs of wear, damage, or deformation. Do not use the tool if any components appear compromised.
- **Storage:** Store the tool in a clean, dry place away from moisture and corrosive materials.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues while using the strut spring compressor, consider the following:

- **Clamps Slipping:** Ensure the safety pins are fully inserted and the hooks are properly seated on the spring coils. The spring may not be positioned correctly, or the clamps might not be tightened evenly.
- **Difficulty Tightening/Loosening:** Check if the threads are adequately lubricated with anti-seize compound. If the threads are damaged, the tool should be replaced.
- **Spring Bulging Unevenly:** This indicates uneven compression. Loosen the clamps slightly and re-tighten them, alternating turns between each compressor to ensure even pressure.
- **Tool Damage:** If any part of the compressor appears bent, cracked, or otherwise damaged, discontinue use immediately and replace the tool.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number	25550
Brand	OEMTOOLS
Item Weight	7.15 pounds
Product Dimensions	16.3 x 7.3 x 2.1 inches
Material	Steel
Power Source	Hand Powered
Number Of Pieces	1 (set includes 2 compressors)
Maximum Safe Opening	9.75 inches (from product title)

WARRANTY

The OEMTOOLS 25550 MacPherson Strut Spring Compressor comes with an OEMTOOLS Limited Lifetime Warranty. For specific details regarding warranty coverage and claims, please refer to the official OEMTOOLS warranty documentation or contact customer support.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries regarding your OEMTOOLS product, please visit the official OEMTOOLS website or contact their customer service department. Contact information can typically be found on the product packaging or the OEMTOOLS website.

