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› [Dorman](#) /

› Dorman 521-947 Rear Driver Side Lower Rearward Lateral Arm Instruction Manual

Dorman 521-947

Dorman 521-947 Rear Driver Side Lower Rearward Lateral Arm Instruction Manual

Model: 521-947 | Brand: Dorman

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation and maintenance of the Dorman 521-947 Rear Driver Side Lower Rearward Lateral Arm. This component is engineered as a direct replacement for the original equipment on specific Chrysler and Dodge vehicle models, ensuring reliable fit and performance.

The Dorman 521-947 lateral arm is constructed from durable materials and undergoes rigorous testing to meet strict quality standards, promoting longevity and vehicle safety. Please read all instructions carefully before proceeding with installation.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Dorman 521-947 is a rear driver side lower rearward lateral arm designed for precise fitment and function in compatible vehicles. It is a critical component of the vehicle's suspension system, contributing to wheel alignment and stability.



Figure 2.1: Dorman 521-947 Rear Driver Side Lower Rearward Lateral Arm, full view. This image shows the overall shape and design of the lateral arm, including the mounting points at each end.

2.1. Key Features

- **Direct Replacement:** Engineered to match the design and dimensions of the original equipment for specific vehicles.
- **Reliable Fit:** Ensures proper alignment and suspension geometry.
- **Durable Construction:** Manufactured from stainless steel to strict standards for extended service life.
- **Rigorously Tested:** Undergoes thorough quality control to ensure performance and longevity.

2.2. Specifications

Specification	Detail
Model Number	521-947
Brand	Dorman
Part Position	Rear Driver Side, Lower Rearward
Material	Stainless Steel
Color	Black
Item Weight	2.09 pounds (approx.)
Product Dimensions	21.7 x 5.2 x 6.2 inches (approx.)
Compatible Vehicles	Chrysler 300: 2005-2020 Dodge Challenger: 2008-2020 Dodge Charger: 2006-2020 Dodge Magnum: 2005-2008

Note: Always verify compatibility with your specific vehicle's make, model, and trim level before installation.

3. SAFETY INFORMATION

Automotive repair can be hazardous. Always follow proper safety procedures to prevent injury or damage to the vehicle. If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified mechanic.

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands on a level surface before working underneath it. Never rely solely on a jack.
- Disconnect the vehicle's battery if instructed or if working near electrical components.
- Use the correct tools for each task.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts.
- Dispose of old parts and fluids responsibly.

4. INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general procedure for replacing the rear driver side lower rearward lateral arm. Specific torque specifications and detailed steps may vary by vehicle model. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for precise instructions.

4.1. Tools Required (Typical)

- Vehicle jack and jack stands
- Wheel chocks
- Socket wrench set
- Combination wrenches
- Torque wrench
- Pry bar (optional, for leverage)
- Penetrating oil (optional, for rusted fasteners)

4.2. Installation Steps

1. Prepare the Vehicle:

- Park the vehicle on a level, firm surface.
- Engage the parking brake.
- Place wheel chocks on the front wheels.
- Loosen the lug nuts on the rear driver side wheel, but do not remove them.
- Jack up the rear of the vehicle and support it securely with jack stands. Ensure the vehicle is stable.
- Remove the rear driver side wheel.

2. Locate the Lateral Arm:

Identify the rear driver side lower rearward lateral arm. It connects the wheel hub assembly to the vehicle's chassis.



Figure 4.1: Side view of the Dorman 521-947 lateral arm, showing its curved profile and mounting points. This view helps in identifying the component's orientation.

3. Remove the Old Lateral Arm:

- Apply penetrating oil to the mounting bolts if they appear rusted.
- Using appropriate wrenches and sockets, carefully loosen and remove the bolt connecting the lateral arm to the wheel hub assembly.
- Next, loosen and remove the bolt connecting the lateral arm to the vehicle chassis.
- Once both bolts are removed, carefully detach the old lateral arm from the vehicle.

4. Install the New Lateral Arm:

- Position the new Dorman 521-947 lateral arm into place.
- Align the mounting holes with the chassis and the wheel hub assembly.
- Insert the bolts through the mounting points. Hand-tighten them initially.



Figure 4.2: Close-up view of one end of the Dorman 521-947 lateral arm, highlighting the bushing and mounting hole. This detail is important for proper alignment during installation.

- Once both bolts are in place, use a torque wrench to tighten them to the manufacturer's specified torque values. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for these specifications. **Do not overtighten.**

5. Reassemble and Test:

- Reinstall the wheel and tighten the lug nuts hand-tight.
- Lower the vehicle off the jack stands and remove the jack.
- Torque the lug nuts to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

- Remove wheel chocks.
- It is highly recommended to have a professional wheel alignment performed after replacing suspension components to ensure proper vehicle handling and tire wear.

5. MAINTENANCE

The Dorman 521-947 lateral arm is designed for long-term durability with minimal maintenance. However, periodic inspection of suspension components is recommended as part of your vehicle's routine service schedule.

- **Visual Inspection:** Regularly inspect the lateral arm and its bushings for signs of wear, cracks, tears, or corrosion.
- **Fastener Check:** Periodically check the tightness of the mounting bolts. Loose fasteners can lead to premature wear or component failure.
- **Alignment:** If you notice uneven tire wear or changes in vehicle handling, have your wheel alignment checked by a qualified technician.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues after installing the lateral arm, consider the following common troubleshooting steps:

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Clunking or rattling noise from rear suspension	Loose mounting bolts, worn bushings (if other components are old), incorrect installation.	Check and re-torque all mounting bolts. Inspect other suspension components for wear. Ensure proper installation.
Uneven tire wear	Incorrect wheel alignment.	Have a professional wheel alignment performed.
Vehicle pulls to one side	Incorrect wheel alignment, other worn suspension components.	Perform a wheel alignment. Inspect other suspension parts.

If issues persist, consult a certified automotive technician.

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding the warranty of your Dorman 521-947 Rear Driver Side Lower Rearward Lateral Arm, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Dorman website. For technical support or further assistance, contact Dorman customer service.

You can find more information about Dorman products and support at the [Dorman Store on Amazon](#).

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Disclaimer: This manual is for informational purposes only. Professional installation is recommended.