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Skyjacker B8555



Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber

Instruction Manual

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber is engineered for enhanced vehicle suspension performance. It features a twin-tube design with advanced foam-cell technology, which helps maintain consistent performance by compensating for oil expansion during operation. This design also allows for versatile mounting in any direction. The shock absorber includes arc-welded end mounts and vehicle-specific multi-stage valving for optimal ride quality and durability.

Key Features:

- **Advanced Foam-Cell Technology:** Ensures consistent damping performance by managing oil expansion.
- **Vehicle Specific Multi-Stage Valving:** Provides optimized ride comfort and control for specific vehicle applications.
- **Increased Fluid Capacity:** Designed for maximum heat dissipation, contributing to prolonged performance.
- **370 Degree Arc Welded End Mounts and 180 Degree Directional Mounting:** Offers robust construction and flexible installation options.
- **Twin Tube Construction with Chrome Plated Shaft:** Enhances durability and corrosion resistance.





Figure 1: Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber with black boot. This image displays the full shock absorber assembly, highlighting its black finish and protective boot.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon opening the package, verify that all components are present and undamaged. The standard package for the Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber typically includes:

- One (1) Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber
- One (1) Protective Boot (pre-installed or separate)

- Mounting hardware (bushings, sleeves, washers, nuts - may vary by application)
- Skyjacker Black MAX Decal



Figure 2: Packaging for the Skyjacker Black MAX Shock Absorber. The image shows the product box, indicating the brand and model.



Figure 3: Unboxed components of the Skyjacker Black MAX Shock Absorber. This image displays the shock absorber, protective boot, and a bag of mounting hardware.

3. INSTALLATION (SETUP)

Installation of shock absorbers requires mechanical knowledge and appropriate tools. If you are not confident in your ability to perform this installation safely, it is recommended to seek professional assistance. Always refer to your vehicle's service manual for specific torque specifications and procedures.

Safety Precautions:

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands on a level surface. Never rely solely on a jack.
- Do not work under a vehicle unless it is properly secured.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts.

General Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare the Vehicle:** Lift the vehicle and support it safely on jack stands. Remove the wheel(s) to access the shock absorber.
2. **Remove Old Shock:** Loosen and remove the upper and lower mounting bolts/nuts of the existing shock absorber. Carefully remove the old shock.
3. **Prepare New Shock:** If the protective boot is not pre-installed, slide it onto the shock absorber shaft. Install any necessary bushings and sleeves onto the mounting eyes of the new shock absorber.
4. **Install New Shock:** Position the new Skyjacker B8555 shock absorber into the mounting locations. Install the upper and lower mounting bolts/nuts. Do not fully tighten at this stage.
5. **Torque Fasteners:** With the vehicle's weight on its wheels (or at ride height if applicable), tighten all mounting hardware to the vehicle manufacturer's specified torque settings. This is crucial for proper function and safety.
6. **Final Checks:** Re-install wheels, lower the vehicle, and perform a final visual inspection to ensure all components are correctly installed and tightened.

Note: The Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber's foam-cell design allows for mounting in any direction.

4. OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber is designed to control unwanted spring motion, providing a smoother ride and improved vehicle handling. It operates on a twin-tube hydraulic principle with an added foam-cell insert.

- **Damping Action:** As the vehicle's suspension moves up and down, the piston inside the shock absorber moves through hydraulic fluid. This movement is resisted by the fluid, converting kinetic energy into heat, which is then dissipated.
- **Foam-Cell Technology:** The foam-cell insert within the shock absorber compresses to compensate for the expansion of the hydraulic oil as it heats up during operation. This prevents aeration (mixing of air and oil),

which can lead to a loss of damping effectiveness, ensuring consistent performance even under demanding conditions.

- **Multi-Stage Valving:** The vehicle-specific multi-stage valving system adjusts the damping force based on the speed and intensity of suspension movement, providing optimal control across various driving conditions.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorbers.

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the shock absorbers for signs of damage, leaks, or wear. Check the protective boot for tears or cracks.
- **Mounting Hardware:** Ensure all mounting bolts and nuts remain tight. Re-torque to manufacturer specifications if necessary.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the shock absorbers clean from excessive dirt, mud, and debris, especially around the shaft and seals.
- **Bushings:** Inspect rubber bushings for cracking, hardening, or excessive wear. Worn bushings can lead to noise and reduced performance.

If any issues are detected, it is recommended to address them promptly to prevent further damage or compromised vehicle safety.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues that may arise with shock absorbers. If you experience problems not listed here, consult a qualified mechanic.

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive Bouncing or Swaying	Worn or damaged shock absorber, incorrect application.	Inspect shocks for leaks or damage. Verify correct part number for vehicle. Replace if necessary.
Knocking or Clunking Noises	Loose mounting hardware, worn bushings, internal shock damage.	Check and re-torque mounting bolts. Inspect and replace worn bushings. If internal damage is suspected, replace the shock.
Fluid Leaks from Shock Body	Damaged seal, internal component failure.	A leaking shock absorber has lost its damping ability and must be replaced.
Harsh Ride Quality	Incorrect shock application, worn suspension components.	Verify correct shock for vehicle. Inspect other suspension components (springs, control arms).

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Brand	Skyjacker
Model	Black MAX
Item Model Number	B8555

Attribute	Detail
Auto Part Position	Inside
Vehicle Service Type	Car (Note: Verify fitment for specific vehicle make/model/year)
Exterior Finish	Machined
Material	Chrome
Extended Length	22.3 Inches
Product Dimensions	24.5 x 3.1 x 3 inches
Item Weight	0.01 ounces (Note: This weight may refer to packaging or a single component, actual product weight may vary)
UPC	803696238739
Automotive Fit Type	Vehicle Specific Fit

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

For detailed warranty information regarding your Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber, please refer to the official Skyjacker website or contact their customer service directly. Warranty terms and conditions can vary and are subject to the manufacturer's policies at the time of purchase.

9. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

If you have questions, require technical assistance, or need to report an issue with your Skyjacker B8555 Black MAX Shock Absorber, please contact Skyjacker customer support through their official channels. Contact information can typically be found on the manufacturer's website or product packaging.
Website: www.skyjacker.com (Example link, verify actual website)