

Cusco 288 540 A

Cusco Front Strut Bar OS Type Instruction Manual

Model: 288 540 A | Brand: Cusco

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the installation, maintenance, and general information regarding the Cusco Front Strut Bar OS Type, Model 288 540 A. This product is designed to enhance vehicle chassis rigidity and handling performance.

Compatibility: This strut bar is compatible with 2008-2014 Infiniti G35 and G37 Sedan/Coupe models.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always ensure the vehicle is securely supported on a level surface using jack stands before beginning any work.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety glasses and gloves.
- Do not attempt installation if you are unfamiliar with automotive repair procedures. Professional installation is recommended.
- Ensure all fasteners are tightened to the manufacturer's specified torque values. Over-tightening or under-tightening can lead to component failure.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts and hot engine components.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present and undamaged before proceeding with installation.

- Cusco Front Strut Bar OS Type (Main Bar and Brackets)
- Mounting Hardware (new bolts)
- Zip Ties (typically two)
- Instruction Sheet (may be in Japanese)
- Cusco Sticker



Image 1: Cusco Front Strut Bar OS Type components. This image displays the main oval shaft bar and the blue end brackets, along with associated mounting hardware.

4. INSTALLATION

The following steps provide a general guide for installing the Cusco Front Strut Bar. Refer to your vehicle's service manual for specific torque specifications and detailed procedures for removing and reinstalling components in the engine bay.

Required Tools (Typical):

- Socket Wrench Set
- Torque Wrench
- Pry Tool (plastic, for trim removal if necessary)
- Clean Cloth

Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface and engage the parking brake. Allow the engine to cool completely.
2. **Access Strut Towers:** Open the hood. Identify the top of the front strut towers. You may need to remove plastic covers or other components to gain clear access.
3. **Remove OEM Bolts:** Carefully remove the factory bolts securing the top of the strut mounts. Keep these bolts organized as they may be reused or replaced with the provided hardware.
4. **Position Brackets:** Place the Cusco strut bar end brackets over the strut tower studs. Ensure they sit flush against the strut tower.
5. **Install Main Bar:** Attach the main oval shaft bar to the end brackets. Secure it loosely with the provided hardware.
6. **Align and Tighten:** Ensure the entire assembly is properly aligned and not interfering with any other engine bay components. Gradually tighten all bolts to the vehicle manufacturer's specified torque settings for the strut tower bolts. For the Cusco bar's own fasteners, tighten them securely.
7. **Check for Clearance:** Verify that the strut bar does not interfere with any hoses, wires, or other components, especially the brake ABS line from the master cylinder. A slight adjustment or re-routing of the ABS line may be necessary to ensure proper clearance, as noted by some users. Use the provided zip ties if needed to secure any lines away from the bar.
8. **Reinstall Covers:** Reinstall any removed plastic covers or components.
9. **Final Inspection:** Double-check all fasteners for tightness and ensure no tools or debris are left in the engine bay.

5. FUNCTION AND BENEFITS

The Cusco Front Strut Bar OS Type is designed to connect the top of the vehicle's front suspension strut towers. This connection creates a more rigid structure, reducing chassis flex during cornering and aggressive driving. The benefits include:

- **Improved Handling:** By minimizing chassis flex, the suspension geometry is maintained more consistently, leading to sharper steering response and better cornering stability.
- **Enhanced Ride Quality:** While primarily for performance, increased chassis rigidity can sometimes contribute to a more controlled and predictable ride.
- **Durable Construction:** The Type-OS features an oval shaft design made of lightweight aluminum, engineered for an optimal balance of strength and weight. The steel end plate brackets, finished in Cusco blue, ensure precise fitment.

6. MAINTENANCE

The Cusco Front Strut Bar requires minimal maintenance.

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically check all mounting bolts for tightness, especially after the first few hundred miles of driving.
- **Cleaning:** Clean the strut bar with a mild automotive cleaner and a soft cloth to maintain its appearance. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents that could damage the finish.
- **Corrosion Check:** Inspect the bar and brackets for any signs of corrosion or damage. Address any issues promptly.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Loose Fitment/Rattling:** Ensure all bolts are properly tightened to specifications. Recheck the fitment of the brackets on the strut towers.
- **Interference with Engine Bay Components:** If the bar is touching other components (e.g., hoses, wires, brake lines), re-evaluate the installation. Minor adjustments or re-routing of lines may be necessary. Ensure adequate clearance for all moving parts and heat sources.
- **Unexpected Noise:** A rattling or squeaking noise could indicate loose hardware or contact with another component. Inspect thoroughly and tighten as needed.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model Number:** 288 540 A
- **Type:** OS Type Front Strut Bar
- **Material (Bar):** Lightweight Aluminum (Oval Shaft Design)
- **Material (Brackets):** Steel
- **Color (Brackets):** Cusco Blue
- **Approximate Dimensions:** 40 x 7 x 7 inches (Product Dimensions)
- **Approximate Weight:** 7 pounds
- **Compatibility:** 2008-2014 Infiniti G35 / G37 Sedan/Coupe

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Cusco products are manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty information, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your product or visit the official Cusco USA website. For technical support or inquiries regarding your Cusco Front Strut Bar, please contact the authorized dealer or manufacturer directly.

