

1979 - 1985 RX-7 Strut Tower Brace

Part No. 14019 & 14017

Installation:

1. Remove the nuts from the eight (8) studs (four per side) which protrude through the shock towers, including any nuts on these studs which secure any support brackets for the A/C hose or cruise control cable.

2. Place an aluminum support casting on each shock tower. The castings are marked "R" (passenger) and "L" (driver). This identification mark on the casting must be positioned toward the front of the car.

3. Re-install the nuts on the eight (8) studs loosely - do not tighten. If you removed any support brackets from these studs, re-install them between the nut and the casting. Do not position these brackets on the stud beneath the casting!

4. Remove the four (4) bolts which hold the hood latch to the firewall. If you have a vehicle with A/C, you may also need to remove one or two brackets next to the hood latch which supports the A/C hose. Also remove the small plastic clip which holds the hood release cable to the firewall about 6" from the latch. Pull the hood latch away from the firewall.

5. Gently place the strut brace into position. Push the hood latch up into the rectangular opening at the rear of the bar, so that the rear flange of the strut brace is in contact with the firewall. Re-insert the four (4) bolts which hold the hood latch, bolting them through the strut brace rear flange into the firewall. Do not tighten these bolts. Align the hood latch by matching the unpainted circles on the latch with the bolts head. This will ensure that the hood will close correctly without re-adjustment.

6. Insert the eight (8) bolts which hold the strut brace to the two aluminum castings. The holes in the castings may not line up perfectly with the strut studs of the strut brace. This is normal. These holes have been positioned and sized so that these castings will fit all 1979-85 vehicles and thus the holes may not appear perfectly aligned. In fact, the castings are aligned by the tapered seat on the base. When correctly installed, these castings are a rigid and secure link in the brace system.

7. Begin tightening all the nuts and bolts holding the castings to the strut towers, the strut brace to the castings, and the hood latch to the firewall.

8. If you removed any firewall brackets from your A/C hose, attach the hose to the underside of the strut brace with the provided plastic wraps.

9. For vehicles with a 12A engine and a stock air cleaner, you will need to bend the air inlet downward slightly so that it will not contact the crossbar. When you bend the inlet downward, be certain that the hot air inlet linkage beneath the air cleaner inlet will still function properly.

10. Remove any tools from the engine compartment and GENTLY lower the hood until it is fully closed. Be certain that the hood latches securely and the brace does not contact the engine. It is normal for the hood to lightly contact the rubber bumpers on the crossbar of the strut brace.

Note: If you have a clearance problem with the engine, check to ensure your engine is level in the engine compartment. Engine misalignment is the most common source of clearance problems.

