



Dodge Challenger Shaker Hood Installation Instructions

Thank you for your order from Suncoast. All of us at Suncoast are pleased to support the North American automotive enthusiast community and provide high quality, American Made performance products.

The attached instructions should clearly guide you through the installation process of your new shaker hood system. This is our first shaker system so I am asking for your help in critiquing these instructions. If you have any questions during your installation, do not hesitate to call or email. Also, if you have any suggestions for improvements to the wording, or if something isn't clear, please send your suggestions, photos, flames, whatever to us at the contact info below.

Thanks again and enjoy your new functional shaker system.

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Suncoast Automotive Performance hoods are true bolt on parts specifically designed and produced to provide the fit and finish of an OEM metal hood with minimal or zero modifications required. You will still need to take proper precautions during fit check, painting, and final installation to assure the best possible look for your vehicle.

The attached procedures are general recommendations that will guide you through the process. While it is not too technically difficult we recommend you use a trained automotive paint and body professional you trust for painting and installing your new hood. Please read all instructions prior to starting any work.

1. Test Fit. If there are adjustments to be made to the hood, fenders, hinges, latch area, or cold air induction heat shield, it is essential that you accomplish these adjustments prior to painting. All vehicles are subject to some variation during manufacture and assembly. Most vehicles have been designed to accommodate this variation as well as allow a small amount of body panel adjustment to overcome minor traffic mishaps. To perform a test fit, simply follow all instructions for installation prior to painting your hood or scoop.

2. Hood Installation

Warning! Hoods are heavy and cumbersome to handle. You should always work with at least a two person team to accomplish hood removal and replacement.

2.1. Remove your existing hood from the vehicle by unbolting it at the hinges.

2.2. Your new hood will require transfer of the latch hardware from your original equipment. We provide pre-tapped steel bolt plates wherever factory hardware is to be transferred.

2.3. Being sure to protect the rear corners of the hood, loosely mount your SUNCOAST hood on the existing hinges using the original vehicle mounting hardware.

2.4. Once you have bolted your new hood to the hinges slowly close your hood while looking for interferences or misalignments.

2.4.1. To overcome side to side misalignments, first attempt to shift the alignment of the hood on the hinges. This may include loosening the hood bolts as well as the frame bolts.

2.4.2. The Dodge Challenger comes with height adjustable hinges so any height adjustment should be accomplished using the hinge adjustment. Shim kits are available from your local auto professional or parts store if more height adjustment is needed.

2.4.3. The front hood height is adjusted with the rubber stops mounted to the radiator cross beam support.



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- 2.4.4. If necessary, the hood latching mechanism can also be adjusted to get a tight closed locking position. To do this, simply loosen the bolts, reposition the latch mechanism and retighten the bolts.
- 2.5. Check for proper fit to your air intake. Trim the cold air intake heat shield if necessary to provide clearance with the hood. Cold Air heat shields should either leave a small gap or just touch/contact the hood underside but should not interfere with the underside of hood. The best installation condition is when the heat shield rubber top seal makes light contact with the hood around the hood's outlet vent. If an interference condition exists, remove the rubber seal from the cold air heat shield if it has one. Carefully trim the heat shield to a height where light contact will result then reinstall the rubber top seal (if applicable).
- 2.6. Examine the gap between the hood and the adjacent vehicle parts. Many of these parts can be adjusted also. If body panels need adjustment they can simply be loosened and repositioned both laterally and with shims as discussed above.
- 2.7. Once you have adjusted these adjacent parts to get the most uniform gap possible, any remaining variation can be removed by lightly sanding the hood edge. This is best done using 200 grit sandpaper mounted on a straight block. Attempting to sand the edge without the use of a block could result in a non-uniform hood edge.
- 2.8. Once you are satisfied with the hood position and alignment, tighten the hood mounting bolts securely.
- 2.9. If there are any fit issues regarding the hood, Suncoast can work with you to resolve them prior to the hood being painted. Once painted, we will not exchange for replacement or pay for repaint.



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3. Shaker Scoop Installation

Overview: The shaker scoop mounts above the engine on four mounting brackets that are bolted to the engine case. Adjustment of the scoop position relative to the hood is essential for proper fit and performance. The installation of the scoop should only be attempted after the hood is properly adjusted.

- 3.1. Separate the four brackets and determine front and rear brackets prior to proceeding.
- 3.2. Install the bolts and nut to the bracket.



- 3.3. Install the height adjustment nut and 1.5" fender washer on each bolt. Adjust the nut position to about 1/2 inch above the bracket.
- 3.4. On the rear of the engine block you will find two bolts, one should have a ground lug attached. Remove the ground lug, remove the bolt. Bolt the scoop bracket to the engine block using the bolts you just removed. Replace the ground lug. Repeat this for the other rear bracket.
- 3.5. On the front of the engine block you will be able to see two threaded bolt holes with a round machined face. Securely mount the front brackets using the bolts provided.





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- 3.6. Disassemble the scoop top from the scoop base.
- 3.7. Place the scoop base on the four bracket bolts. Add a 1.5" fender washer and nut to each bolt.



- 3.8. Place the scoop top on the scoop base. Align but do not attach the scoop connection screws. Be sure the weather seals are in place on the scoop top and base as shown.



- 3.9. Slowly lower the hood, adjusting the scoop to be centered in the hood opening.





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3.10. With the hood lowered examine the weather seal around the scoop perimeter. The weather seal should evenly contact the hood all the way around. If necessary, raise the hood, adjust the scoop height and side to side, front to back position. There should be between a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch compression on the weather strip. In other words, the weather seal should be pressed down between $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inches when the hood is lowered onto it and latched.



3.11. Once the scoop position is correct, raise the hood, remove the scoop top and securely tighten the four bracket retainer nuts.

3.12. Attached the scoop top to the scoop base using 5 screws provided.

3.13. Congratulations! Your new Suncoast Shaker Style hood is installed.

3.14. If there are any fit issues regarding the hood or scoop, Suncoast can work with you to resolve them prior to the hood being painted. Once painted, we will not exchange for replacement or pay for repaint.

4. Surface preparation for paint

4.1. Clean surface of hood with wax and grease remover that is compatible to your paint system.

4.2. We recommend using 180 to 220 grit sand paper for scuffing the entire surface area. This assures excellent adhesion of the primer, as well as smoothes any possible scratches or gel coat imperfections.

4.3. Wash again with wax and grease remover and let dry before applying primer.

4.4. Apply primer per the primer manufacturer's instructions.

4.5. After primer is cured, sand to the recommended topcoat finish specified by paint manufacturer.

5. Paint Selection and Preparation

5.1. Only high quality automotive paint should be used on your new Suncoast Hood. We recommend using a flex agent additive. Consult an automotive paint and body professional to assist in this selection.

6. Final Installation and Adjustment.

6.1. Simply unbolt your old hood from the hinges and bolt on the painted Suncoast hood.

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- 6.2. Once you have bolted your new hood to the hinges slowly close your hood while looking for interferences or misalignments. These should be minimal since you already accomplished the alignment once during the fit check. If necessary, first attempt to shift the alignment of the hood on the hinges. This may include loosening the hood bolts as well as the frame bolts. Shim kits are available from your local auto professional or parts store if height adjustment is needed.
- 6.3. If body panels need adjustment they can simply be loosened and repositioned both laterally and with shims as discussed above.