

Nolathane Territory kit makes wheel alignment easy

Suspension bushing and wheel alignment correction product specialist manufacturer, Nolathane, recently released an 'under-guard shimable' camber and caster adjustment kit to suit the popular Ford Territory that makes wheel alignment correction on these vehicles easy whilst still maintaining the original anti-dive steering geometry incorporated by Ford.

Front camber and caster alignment on Ford Territory, models SX-SY 2WD & AWD 05/2004-on, use a shim system between the upper-inner control-arm housings and the inner-guard. On raised or lowered vehicles it may be necessary to replace the original housings to obtain the desired wheel alignment settings

According to Nolathane, each of the left and right-hand side's original housings are made as a heavy one-piece steel unit which incorporates the two upper-inner control-arm mounts. Each of these mounts is angled on the one-piece housing to provide Ford Territory's with anti-dive geometry. This is different to Ford Falcons which use similar looking two-piece mounts but are lighter in construction and are not angled for anti-dive stability.

Whilst it is possible to fit the Falcon housings to the Territory, Nolathane says it DOES NOT recommend doing this due to the lighter construction and lack of anti-dive geometry in the Falcon housings.

According to Nolathane's product manager Jason Oltmanns, installation of its Territory kit is relatively straight forward:

"On Territory Turbo models it is difficult to access the mounting nuts for the upper-inner control-arm housings due to the limited space between the turbo and the inner guard. In most cases it is necessary to access these nuts from underneath - not easy and very time consuming," says Jason.

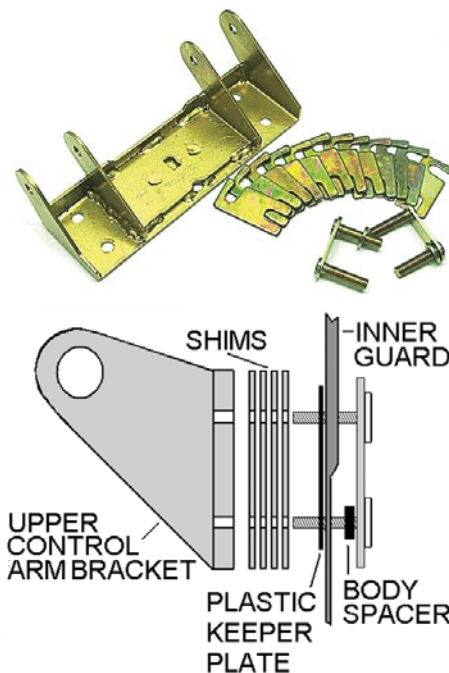
"Nolathane's new 'under-guard shimable' camber and caster kits for Territory's solve all of these problems at a competitive price. Once installed all adjustment is carried out under the guard - no need to lift the bonnet!

"For each of the control-arm mounting-brackets the Nolathane kit includes two small plates with the two locating studs pressed into it, which are then fitted through the engine bay access. An ABS plastic shim or keeper is then fitted to these protruding studs under the wheel-guard. These keeper plates hold the small plate and stud assemblies in place whilst the large housing is slipped onto the studs and the retaining nuts are started. The ABS plastic keeper can remain in place and the addition or removal of shims is now easily done under the guard. Once completed, simply tighten the retaining nuts from under the guard. The added benefit of leaving the ABS plastic keeper plate in place is that when it's time to perform another wheel alignment you simply loosen the two retaining nuts, install or remove the required shims then retighten the nuts, all from under the guard, without having to lift the bonnet."

The diagram above right is indicative of how the kit is installed onto the vehicle. You will notice that there is a body-spacer inserted over the lower stud, this is to compensate for the stepped inner-guard. The plastic keeper-plate, once installed, holds the mounting stud plates in place until the housing and retaining nuts are started.

Kits are packaged as pairs; therefore only one kit is required to do both sides of the vehicle and Nolathane bushes are also included. Sufficient shims are provided in each kit, however, should you require extra shims for the original housings or the Nolathane kit, the following part numbers are available:

45319 = 1.5mm shims in 10 pack



The Nolathane kit, part number 45542, will provide +/- 2.5 degrees of camber adjustment and +/- 2.5 degrees caster adjustment.

- 45320 = 3.0mm shims in 10 pack
- 45321 = 6.0mm shims in 5 pack
- 45316 = 1.5mm shims in 100 pack
- 45317 = 3.0mm shims in 100 pack
- 45322 = 6.0mm shims in 50 pack

For a product update sheet or more information contact the Redranger Team on 1300 88 2355 or go to the www.nolathane.com.au web site. ■

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