

**ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS**  
FOR  
**SUPERLITE 4R BIG BRAKE REAR KIT WITH HAT FOR OE  
PARKING BRAKE, FLEXLINES, AND 12.88" DIAMETER  
VENTED ROTOR**

**1999 - 2005 SUBARU WRX / 1999 - 2007 SUBARU IMPREZA**

PART NUMBER GROUP

**140-12878**

**DISC BRAKES SHOULD ONLY BE INSTALLED BY SOMEONE  
EXPERIENCED AND COMPETENT IN THE INSTALLATION AND  
MAINTENANCE OF DISC BRAKES  
READ ALL WARNINGS**

**WARNING**

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERSON INSTALLING ANY BRAKE COMPONENT OR KIT TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY OF THE COMPONENT OR KIT FOR THAT PARTICULAR APPLICATION. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE HOW TO SAFELY USE THIS BRAKE COMPONENT OR KIT, YOU SHOULD NOT INSTALL OR USE IT. DO NOT ASSUME ANYTHING. IMPROPERLY INSTALLED OR MAINTAINED BRAKES ARE DANGEROUS. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE, GET HELP OR RETURN THE PRODUCT. YOU MAY OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT BY CALLING WILWOOD AT (805) 388-1188, OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [WWW.WILWOOD.COM](http://WWW.WILWOOD.COM). USE OF WILWOOD TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOES NOT GUARANTEE PROPER INSTALLATION. **YOU**, OR THE PERSON WHO DOES THE INSTALLATION MUST KNOW HOW TO PROPERLY USE THIS PRODUCT. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE OVER THE PHONE TO UNDERSTAND OR FORESEE ALL THE ISSUES THAT MIGHT ARISE IN YOUR INSTALLATION.

RACING EQUIPMENT AND BRAKES MUST BE MAINTAINED AND SHOULD BE CHECKED REGULARLY FOR FATIGUE, DAMAGE, AND WEAR.



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Jump to Our Technical Tips  
Section on Our Web Site.



**WARNING**

**DO NOT OPERATE ANY VEHICLE ON UNTESTED BRAKES!  
SEE MINIMUM TEST PROCEDURE WITHIN**

ALWAYS UTILIZE SAFETY RESTRAINT SYSTEMS AND ALL OTHER AVAILABLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT WHILE OPERATING THE VEHICLE

**IMPORTANT • READ THE DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY INCLUDED IN THE KIT**

NOTE: Some cleaners may stain or remove the finish on brake system components. Test the cleaner on a hidden portion of the component before general use.

## Important Notice - Read This First

Before any tear-down or disassembly begins, review the following information:

- Review the Wheel Clearance Diagram (Figure 2, page 3) to verify that there is adequate clearance with the wheels you will be using with the installation.
- Due to OEM production differences and other variations from vehicle to vehicle, the fastener hardware and other components in this kit may not be suitable for a specific application or vehicle.
- It is the responsibility of the purchaser and installer of this kit to verify suitability / fitment of all components and ensure all fasteners and hardware achieve complete and proper engagement. Improper or inadequate engagement can lead to component failure.

## Photographic Tip

**Important** and highly recommended: Take photos of brake system before disassembly and during the disassembly process. In the event, trouble-shooting photos can be life savers. Many vehicles have undocumented variations, photos will make it much simpler for Wilwood to assist you if you have a problem.

## Exploded Assembly Diagram

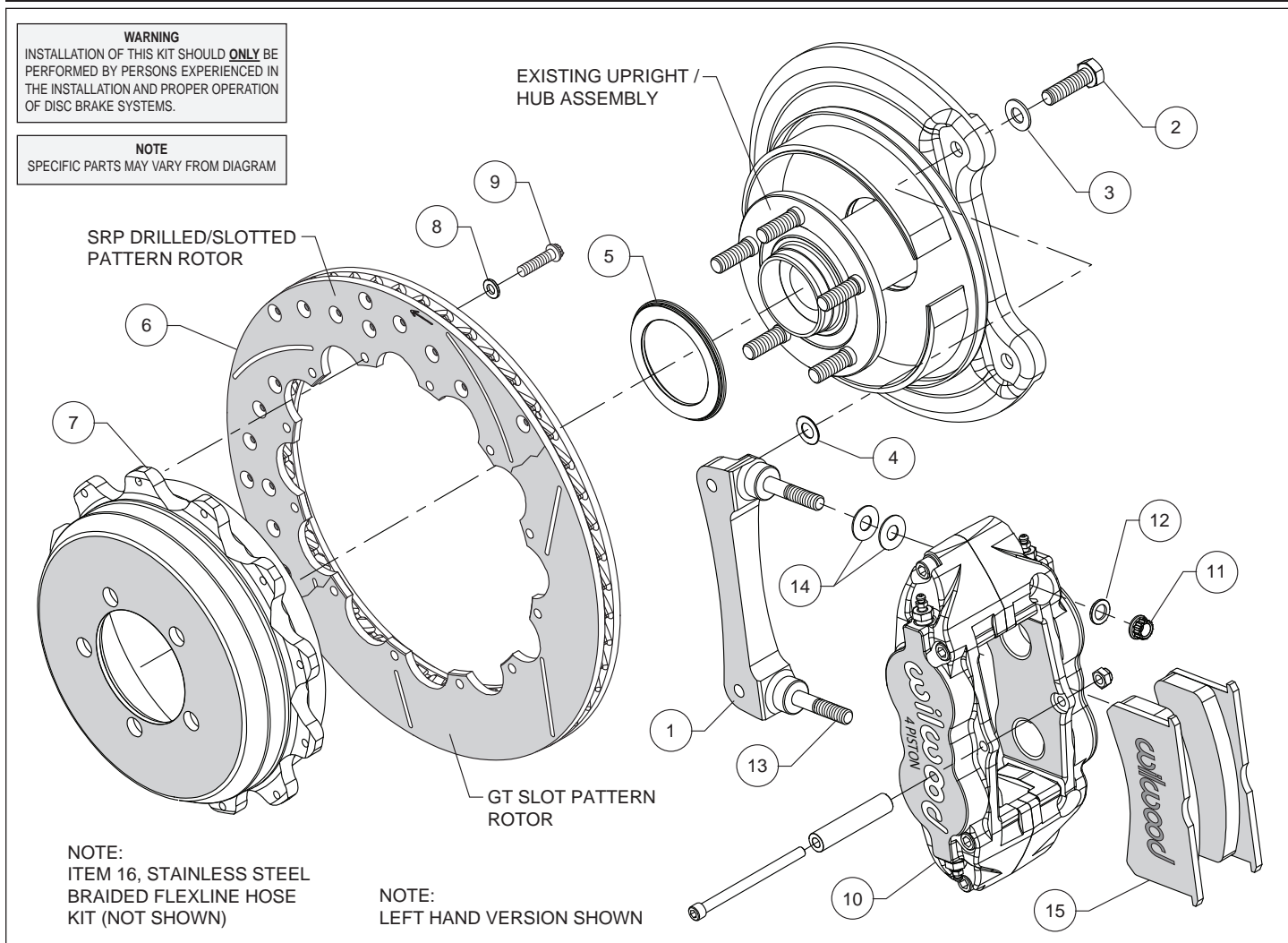


Figure 1. Typical Installation Configuration

## Parts List

ITEM NO.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY
1	250-12853	Bracket, Caliper Mounting	2
2	230-12856	Bolt, M10-1.50 x 25mm, Hex Head	4
3	240-1934	Washer, .406 I.D. x .82 O.D. x .06 Thick	4
4	240-6267	Shim, .030 Thick	8
5	300-12846	Adapter, Rotor Registration	2
6	160-9959/60	Rotor, GT - .81" X 12.88" Dia, 12 x 8.75" Bolt Circle (one each, right and left)	2
6A	160-9961/62-BK	Rotor, Black, SRP Drilled and Slotted (one each, right and left)	2
7	170-12854	Hat / Big Brake, 5 x 3.94, 1.51 Offset, 12 x 8.75" Bolt Circle	2
8	240-11240	Washer, .265 I.D. x .500 O.D. x .063 Thick	24
9	230-6738	Bolt, 1/4-28 x .75 Long, 12 Point	24
10	120-11876-BK	Caliper, Forged Narrow Superlite 4R	2
10A	120-11876-RD	Caliper, Forged Narrow Superlite 4R, Red	2
11	230-9183	Nut, 3/8-24, Self-Locking, 12 Point	4
12	240-10190	Washer, .391 I.D. x .625 O.D. x .063 Thick	4
13	230-9078	Stud, 3/8-16 x 3/8-24 x 2.50 long (pre installed in bracket)	4
14	240-1159	Shim, .035 Thick	12
15	150-8855K	Pad, BP-10 Compound, Axle Set	1
16	220-12861	Stainless Steel Braided Flexline Hose Kit (not shown)	1

NOTES: Part Number 230-8217 Rotor Bolt Kit, includes part numbers 230-6738 and 240-11240  
 Part Number 230-12855 Spindle/Bracket Mounting Bolt Kit, includes part numbers 230-12856, 240-1934 and 240-6267  
 Part Number 250-12852 Caliper Bracket Mounting Bolt Kit, includes P/N's 230-9183, 230-9078, 240-1159, 240-10190 and 250-12853  
 Item 6A is an optional item and is included with the "-D" drilled rotor kits. Add "-D" to end of part number when ordering.  
 Item 10A is an optional item and is included with the "-R" red caliper kits. Add "-R" to end of part number when ordering.

## General Information and Disassembly Instructions

- Installation of this kit should **ONLY** be performed by persons experienced in the installation and proper operation of disc brake systems. Before assembling this Wilwood rear disc brake kit, double check the following to ensure a trouble free installation.
- Inspect the contents of this kit against the parts list to ensure that all components and hardware are included.
- Make sure this is the correct kit to fit the exact make and model year of your vehicle. This kit is designed for direct bolt-on installation to 1999-2005 model year Subaru WRX and 1999-2007 Subaru Impreza axle hubs.
- Verify your wheel clearance using Figure 2.
- Verify that the factory axle hub center register diameter and lug pattern match those in the new registration ring and hat. **NOTE:** Axle hubs that have been modified with different size studs or lug patterns may require modifications to the new hat that must be performed by a qualified machinist.

### Disassembly

- Disassemble the original equipment rear brakes:
  - Raise the rear wheels off the ground and support the rear suspension according to the vehicle manufacturer's instructions.
  - Remove the rear wheels, calipers, rotors and dust shield, Photo 1.
- Remove any nicks or burrs on the axle hub and upright that may interfere with the installation of the new brake components.
- Clean and de-grease the axle hub and upright assembly.

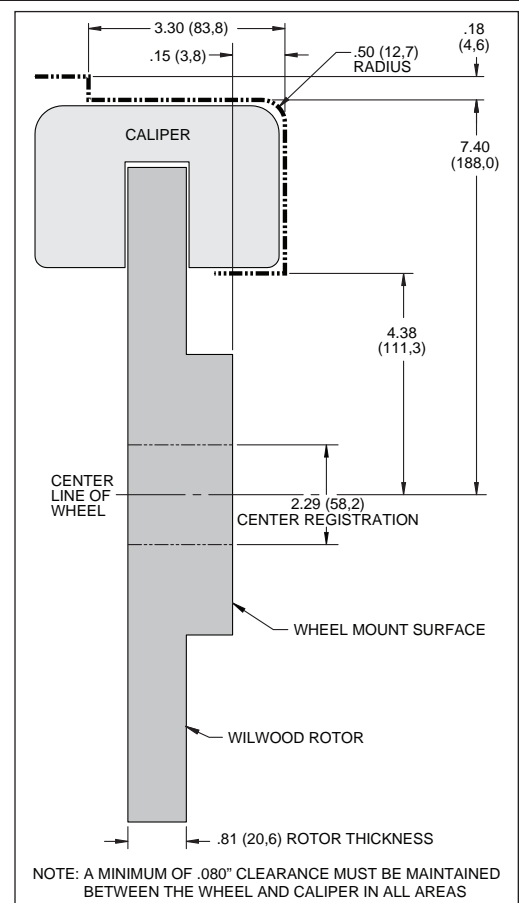


Figure 2. Wheel Clearance Diagram

## Assembly Instructions

**Assembly Instructions** (numbers in parenthesis refer to the parts list and Figure 1 on the preceding pages):

- Chisel the spot welds to remove the dust shield from the backing plate as shown in Photo 1.



Photo 1  
(Generic Example Shown)



Photo 2

- The caliper mount bracket (1) should initially be installed with clean, dry threads on the mounting bolts. Orient the bracket as shown in Figure 1 and Photo 2, and install using washers (3) and bolts (2). Initially place one shim (4) on each bolt between the bracket and upright, Figure 1. Temporarily tighten the mounting bolts. **NOTE:** *The bracket must fit squarely against the mount bosses on the upright.* Inspect for interference from casting irregularities, machining ridges, burrs, etc. Later, after the caliper alignment has been checked, the mount bolts will be secured using red *Loctite*<sup>®</sup> 271.

- Orient the rotor (6) and the hat (7) as shown in Figure 1 and Photo 3. Attach rotor to hat using bolts (9) and washers (8). Using an alternating sequence, apply red *Loctite*<sup>®</sup> 271 to the threads, and torque to 140 **in-lbs**. For an added measure of security, the bolts may be safety wired using standard 0.032 inch diameter stainless steel safety wire as shown in Figure 3. Please refer to Wilwood's data sheet DS-386 (available at [www.wilwood.com/Pdf/DataSheets/ds386.pdf](http://www.wilwood.com/Pdf/DataSheets/ds386.pdf)) for complete safety wire installation instructions.



Photo 3

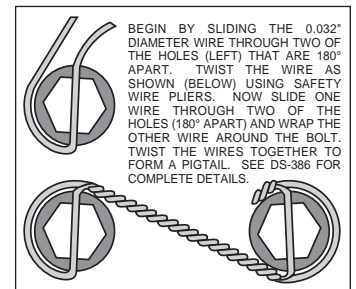


Figure 3. Safety Wire Diagram

- Slide the rotor registration adapter (5) onto the axle register on the axle hub with the smaller O.D. facing outward, Photo 4. Slide the hat/rotor assembly onto the axle hub. **NOTE:** *The hat must fit flush against the axle hub flange or excessive rotor run out may result.* Install three lug nuts (finger tight) to keep the hat/rotor assembly in place while continuing with the installation.

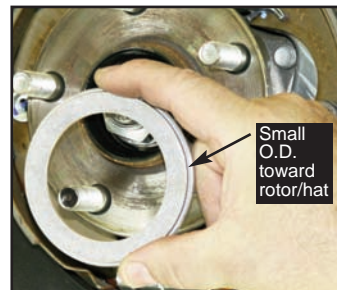


Photo 4

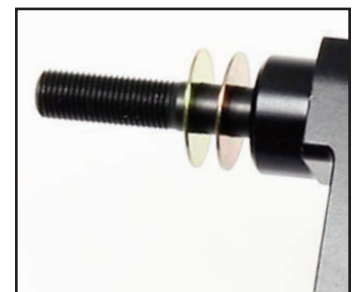


Photo 5

- Lubricate the caliper mounting studs (13) with lightweight oil. Initially place two .035" thick shims (14) on each stud as shown in Figure 1 and Photo 5. Mount the caliper (10) onto the bracket (1) using lock nuts (11) and washers (12), Figure 1. Temporarily tighten the lock nuts and view the rotor through the top opening of the caliper. The rotor should be centered in the caliper, Photo 6. If not, adjust by adding or subtracting shims (4) between the bracket and the upright. Once the caliper alignment is correct, remove the bracket mounting bolts one at a time, apply red *Loctite*<sup>®</sup> 271 to the threads, and torque to 40 ft-lb.

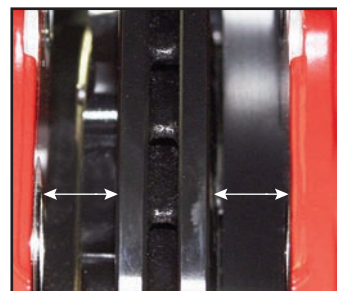


Photo 6



Photo 7

- Remove the caliper center bridge pad retainer bolt, nut, and tube from the caliper. Insert the brake pads (15) into the caliper, with the friction material facing the rotor, as shown in Photo 7. Check that the top of the brake pad is flush with the outside diameter of the rotor, Photo 8. If not, adjust by adding or subtracting shims (14) between the caliper and the bracket. After the caliper pad height is set, reinstall the center bridge pad retainer tube, bolt, and lock nut. The lock nut should be snug without play in the bolt or tube. Be cautious not to over tighten. Torque the caliper lock nuts (11) to 30 ft-lb.

## Assembly Instructions (Continued)

- Temporarily install the wheel and torque the lug nuts to the manufacturer's specification. Ensure that the wheel rotates freely without any interference.

• **NOTE:** OEM rubber brake hoses generally cannot be adapted to Wilwood calipers. The caliper inlet fitting is a 1/8-27 NPT. Install Wilwood's stainless steel braided flexline hose kit, P/N 220-12861 included with this kit. **Carefully route hoses to prevent contact with moving suspension, brake or wheel components.** **NOTE:** Wilwood hose kits are designed for use in many different vehicle applications and it is the installer's responsibility to properly route and ensure adequate clearance and retention for brake hose components.

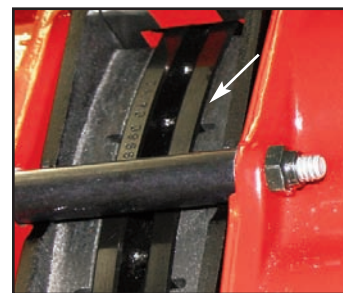


Photo 8

• **NOTE:** Specified brake hose kits may not work with all Years, Makes and Models of vehicle that this brake kit is applicable to, due to possible OEM manufacturing changes during a production vehicle's life. It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that all fittings and hoses are the correct size and length, to ensure proper sealing and that they will not be subject to crimping, strain and abrasion from vibration or interference with suspension components, brake rotor or wheel.

• In absence of specific instructions for brake line routing, the installer must use his best professional judgment on correct routing and retention of lines to ensure safe operation. Test vehicle brake system per the 'minimum test' procedure stated within this document before driving. After road testing, inspect for leaks and interference. Initially after install and testing, perform frequent checks of the vehicle brake system and lines before driving, to confirm that there is no undue wear or interference not apparent from the initial test. Afterwards, perform periodic inspections for function, leaks and wear in a interval relative to the usage of vehicle.

• Bleed the brake system, referring to the additional information and recommendations below for proper bleeding instructions. Check system for leaks after bleeding.

• Install the wheel and torque the lug nuts to manufacturer's specification.

## Additional Information and Recommendations

• Fill and bleed the new system with Wilwood Hi-Temp<sup>®</sup> 570 grade fluid or higher. For severe braking or sustained high heat operation, use Wilwood EXP 600 Plus Racing Brake Fluid. Used fluid must be completely flushed from the system to prevent contamination.

**NOTE:** Silicone DOT 5 brake fluid is **NOT** recommended for racing or performance driving.

• To properly bleed the brake system, begin with the caliper farthest from the master cylinder. Bleed the outboard bleed screw first, then the inboard. Repeat the procedure until all calipers in the system are bled, ending with the caliper closest to the master cylinder.

**NOTE:** When using a new master cylinder, it is important to bench bleed the master cylinder first.

• Test the brake pedal. It should be firm, not spongy and stop at least 1 inch from the floor under heavy load.

If the brake pedal is spongy, bleed the system again.

If the brake pedal is initially firm, but then sinks to the floor, check the system for fluid leaks. Correct the leaks (if applicable) and then bleed the system again.

If the brake pedal goes to the floor and continued bleeding of the system does not correct the problem, a master cylinder with increased capacity (larger bore diameter) may be required. Wilwood offers various lightweight master cylinders with large fluid displacement capacities.

• **NOTE:** With the installation of after market disc brakes, the wheel track may change depending on the application. Check your wheel offset before final assembly.

• If after following the instructions, you still have difficulty in assembling or bleeding your Wilwood disc brakes, consult your local chassis builder, or retailer where the kit was purchased for further assistance. Additional information is also available on our web site at [www.wilwood.com](http://www.wilwood.com), or e-mail technical assistance: [support@wilwood.com](mailto:support@wilwood.com).

## Brake Testing

### **WARNING • DO NOT DRIVE ON UNTESTED BRAKES BRAKES MUST BE TESTED AFTER INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE MINIMUM TEST PROCEDURE**

- Make sure pedal is firm: Hold firm pressure on pedal for several minutes, it should remain in position without sinking. If pedal sinks toward floor, check system for fluid leaks. DO NOT drive vehicle if pedal does not stay firm or can be pushed to the floor with normal pressure.
- At very low speed (2-5 mph) apply brakes hard several times while turning steering from full left to full right, repeat several times. Remove the wheels and check that components are not touching, rubbing, or leaking.
- Carefully examine all brake components, brake lines, and fittings for leaks and interference.
- Make sure there is no interference with wheels or suspension components.
- Drive vehicle at low speed (15-20 mph) making moderate and hard stops. Brakes should feel normal and positive. Again check for leaks and interference.
- Always test vehicle in a safe place where there is no danger to (or from) other people or vehicles.
- Always wear seat belts and make use of all safety equipment.

## Pad and Rotor Bedding

### **BEDDING STEPS FOR NEW PADS AND ROTORS – ALL COMPOUNDS**

Once the brake system has been tested and determined safe to operate the vehicle, follow these steps for the bedding of all new pad materials and rotors. These procedures should only be performed on a race track, or other safe location where you can safely and legally obtain speeds up to 65 MPH, while also being able to rapidly decelerate.

- Begin with a series of light decelerations to gradually build some heat in the brakes. Use an on-and-off the pedal technique by applying the brakes for 3-5 seconds, and then allow them to fully release for a period roughly twice as long as the deceleration cycle. If you use a 5 count during the deceleration interval, use a 10 count during the release to allow the heat to sink into the pads and rotors.
- After several cycles of light stops to begin warming the brakes, proceed with a series of medium to firm deceleration stops to continue raising the temperature level in the brakes.
- Finish the bedding cycle with a series of 8-10 hard decelerations from 55-65 MPH down to 25 MPH while allowing a proportionate release and heat-sinking interval between each stop. The pads should now be providing positive and consistent response.
- If any amount of brake fade is observed during the bed-in cycle, immediately begin the cool down cycle.
- Drive at a moderate cruising speed, with the least amount of brake contact possible, until most of the heat has dissipated from the brakes. Avoid sitting stopped with the brake pedal depressed to hold the car in place during this time. Park the vehicle and allow the brakes to cool to ambient air temperature.

### **COMPETITION VEHICLES**

- If your race car is equipped with brake cooling ducts, blocking them will allow the pads and rotors to warm up quicker and speed up the bedding process.
- Temperature indicating paint on the rotor and pad edges can provide valuable data regarding observed temperatures during the bedding process and subsequent on-track sessions. This information can be highly beneficial when evaluating pad compounds and cooling efficiencies.

## Pad and Rotor Bedding (Continued)

### POST-BEDDING INSPECTION – ALL VEHICLES

- After the bedding cycle, the rotors should exhibit a uniformly burnished finish across the entire contact face. Any surface irregularities that appear as smearing or splotching on the rotor faces can be an indication that the brakes were brought up to temperature too quickly during the bedding cycle. If the smear doesn't blend away after the next run-in cycle, or if chatter under braking results, sanding or resurfacing the rotors will be required to restore a uniform surface for pad contact.

### PRE-RACE WARM UP

- Always make every effort to get heat into the brakes prior to each event. Use an on-and-off the pedal practice to warm the brakes during the trip to the staging zone, during parade laps before the flag drops, and every other opportunity in an effort to build heat in the pads and rotors. This will help to ensure best consistency, performance, and durability from your brakes.

### DYNO BEDDED COMPETITION PADS AND ROTORS

- Getting track time for a proper pad and rotor bedding session can be difficult. Wilwood offers factory dyno-bedded pads and rotors on many of our popular competition pads and **Spec 37** GT series rotors. Dyno-bedded parts are ready to race on their first warm up cycle. This can save valuable time and effort when on-track time is either too valuable or not available at all, Dyno-bedding assures that your pads and rotors have been properly run-in and are ready to go. Contact your dealer or the factory for more information on Wilwood Dyno-Bedding services.

### **NOTE:**

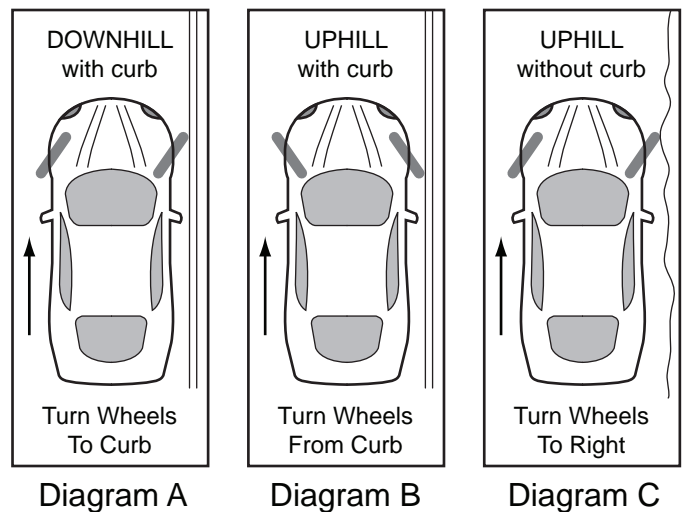
*NEVER allow the contact surfaces of the pads or rotors to be contaminated with brake fluid. Always use a catch bottle with a hose to prevent fluid spill during all brake bleeding procedures.*

## Parking Brake

### WARNING • PARKING BRAKE

- Parking brake must be properly adjusted before use and must be manually readjusted for wear if parking brake handle or foot lever travel becomes excessive.
- The holding ability of the brake should be tested by stopping on a sloping surface and applying the parking brake while holding car with the hydraulic foot brake. This should be accomplished both facing up and down hill.
- Do not rely exclusively on the parking brake to hold the car; Curb wheels as recommended by the applicable diagram and put gear selector in park, or shift into first gear or reverse with a manual transmission.

- Diagram A - When parking facing downhill, turn front wheels towards the curb or right shoulder. This will keep from rolling into traffic if the brakes become disengaged.
- Diagram B - Turn the steering wheel to the left so the wheels are turned towards the road if you are facing uphill with a curb. The tires will catch the curb if the car rolls backward.
- Diagram C - When facing uphill without a curb, turn the wheels sharply to the right. If the vehicle rolls, it will go off the road rather than into traffic.
- When parking on a hill, always set the parking brake and move the gear selector into park, or shift into first or reverse gear if your vehicle has a manual transmission.



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## Associated Components

<u>PART NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
260-1874	Wilwood Residual Pressure Valve (2 lb for disc brakes)
260-1876	Wilwood Residual Pressure Valve (10 lb for drum brakes)
260-8419	Wilwood Proportioning Valve
290-0632	Wilwood Racing Brake Fluid (Hi-Temp° 570) (12 oz)
290-6209	Wilwood Racing Brake Fluid (EXP 600 Plus) (16.9 oz)
340-1285	Wilwood Floor Mount Brake Pedal (with balance bar)
340-1287	Wilwood Swing Mount Brake Pedal (with balance bar)
260-6764	Wilwood 3/4 inch High Volume Aluminum Master Cylinder
260-6765	Wilwood 7/8 inch High Volume Aluminum Master Cylinder
260-6766	Wilwood 1 inch High Volume Aluminum Master Cylinder
260-8555	Wilwood 1 inch Aluminum Tandem Chamber Master Cylinder
260-8556	Wilwood 1-1/8 inch Aluminum Tandem Chamber Master Cylinder
270-2016	Quick Release Steering Hub (3/4 inch shaft)
270-2017	Quick Release Steering Hub (5/8 inch shaft)
220-12861	Flexline Kit, 1999-2012 Subaru WRX, Rear