ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

1999 - 2018 GM 1500 SERIES TRUCKS/SUVS*
*For additional vehicle compatibility, visit www.wilwood.com

TX4R REAR BRAKE KIT WITH 16.00” DIAMETER VENTED GTB ROTORS

BASE PART NUMBER

140-16861

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. 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.

WARNING

DO NOT OPERATE ANY VEHICLE ON UTESTED 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

Important: Before assembling this kit, see “Modification Instructions” on page 4 for information on clearing the dust shield for proper caliper bracket mounting.

- 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.
- This brake kit does not include flexlines. OEM brake lines will not adapt to Wilwood calipers. Check the assembly instructions, or associated components section for brake line recommendations before assembly. In addition, Wilwood offers an extensive listing of brake lines and fittings on our web site: www.wilwood.com.
- 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
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 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 bolt-on installation to 1999-2018 model year GM 1500 Series Truck/SUV axle hub.
- Verify your wheel clearance using Figure 2.
- Verify that the factory axle hub center register diameter and lug pattern match those in the new rotor. 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 Instructions

- 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, and rotors.
  - Remove any nicks or burrs on the axle flange and OEM caliper mount bosses that may interfere with the installation of the new brake components.
  - Clean and de-grease the axle flange and mount bosses.

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Figure 2. Wheel Clearance Diagram
Assembly Instructions

**NOTE:** Numbers in parenthesis refer to the parts list and Figure 1 on the preceding pages.

**STEP 1** 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 1, and install using bolts (2) and washers (3). Initially place one .029” thick shim (4) on each bolt between the bracket and OEM caliper mount bosses, Figure 1 and Photo 2 (arrow). Temporarily tighten the mounting bolts. **NOTE:** The bracket must fit squarely against the mount bosses. 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® 271.

**STEP 2** Slide the rotor (5) onto the axle flange. **NOTE:** The rotor must fit flush against the axle flange or excessive rotor run out may result. Install three lug nuts (finger tight) to keep the rotor in place while continuing with the installation, Photo 3.

**STEP 3** **NOTE:** This kit contains distinct right and left hand calipers that must be mounted in a specific direction, as described below. Lubricate the caliper mounting studs (7) with lightweight oil. Initially place one .032” thick shim (6) on each stud as shown in Figure 1 and Photo 4. Mount the caliper (8) onto the bracket (1) using lock nuts (9) and washers (10), Figure 1. Ensure that the caliper is mounted so that the largest pistons are at the rotor exit end of the caliper, in relation to the direction of rotor rotation. 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 5. If not, adjust by adding or

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Modification Instructions

**NOTE:** Some trimming of the dust shield is required for proper fitment of new caliper mounting bracket. Only trim off enough material to provide adequate clearance so that the Wilwood caliper mounting bracket does not touch the dust shield and properly attaches to OEM caliper mount bosses without any binding. See approximate areas to be trimmed in Photos A and B at right.

![Photo A](Image)

**Before**

![Photo B](Image)

**After**

![Photo A](Image)

![Photo B](Image)

**Before**

**After**

**Page 4**
subtracting shims (4) between the bracket and the OEM caliper mount bosses. Always use the same amount of shims on each of the two mounting bolts. Once the caliper alignment is correct, remove the bracket mounting bolts (2) one at a time, apply red Loctite® 271 to the threads, and torque to value shown in Figure 1.

STEP 4 Remove the two pad retaining pins from the caliper by carefully popping out the pin retaining clips and sliding out the pins. Insert the brake pads (11) into the caliper, with the friction material facing the rotor, as shown in Photo 6, and secure the brake pads in place with the pad retaining pins and clips, as shown in Figure 1. Check that the top of the brake pad is flush with the outside diameter of the rotor, Photo 7. If not, adjust by adding or subtracting shims (6) between the caliper (8) and the bracket (1). After the caliper pad height is set, torque the caliper lock nuts to value shown in Figure 1.

STEP 5 Temporarily install the wheel and torque the lug nuts to the manufacturer’s specification. Ensure that the wheel rotates freely without any interference.

STEP 6 Attach brake line to caliper. **NOTE:** OEM rubber brake hoses generally cannot be adapted to Wilwood calipers. The caliper inlet fitting is a 1/8-27 NPT. The preferred method is to use steel adapter fittings at the caliper, either straight, 45 or 90 degree (use PTFE tape on pipe threads of adapter fitting for proper sealing to caliper) and enough steel braided line to allow for full suspension travel and turning radius, lock to lock. **Ensure hoses are routed to prevent contact with moving suspension, brake or wheel components.** Wilwood offers universal brake flex line hose kits, domestic (3/8-24 IF) chassis fittings, order:

P/N 220-7699 for years 1999-2006, 16 inch length, 3/8-24 IF
P/N 220-11196 for years 2007-2018, 12 inch length M10 x 1 IF

Hose kits include hoses, fitting, etc., all in one package for this application.

• **NOTE:** Wilwood hose kits are designed for use in many different vehicle applications and it is the installer’s responsibility to properly route and provide adequate clearance and retention for brake hose components.

• **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.

• **CAUTION:** 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. It is the installer’s responsibility to ensure that all fittings and hoses are the correct size and length, properly seal, and that they will not be subject to crimping, strain and abrasion from vibration or interference with suspension components, brake rotor or wheel.
Assembly Instructions (Continued)

STEP 7 Bleed the brake system, referring to the ‘Additional Information and Recommendations’ below for proper bleeding instructions. Check system for leaks after bleeding.

STEP 8 Install the wheel and torque the lug nuts to manufacturer’s specifications.

•CAUTION: Test vehicle brake system per the ‘Minimum Test Procedure’ 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 an interval relative to the usage of vehicle.

STEP 9 Bed-in the brake pads per the procedure on page 7.

Additional Information and Recommendations

•Fill and bleed the new system with Wilwood Hi-Temp° 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, or e-mail technical assistance: info@wilwood.com.
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 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.

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.
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.