



**1978-88 GM A/G-BODY EXHAUST SYSTEMS**  
P/N 42511HKR (2.5") and 42512HKR (3")  
**Installation Instructions**



**Front over-axle hangers**



**Rear over-axle hangers**

Thank you for choosing to install a HOOKER™ exhaust system on your 1978-88 GM A/G-body vehicle. Although these systems have been specifically developed for direct fitment with HOOKER™ LS swap components for these applications, they will provide equally beneficial fitment, function and service life with other non-Hooker LS swap headers or non-LS engine equipped G-bodies through modification of the system inlet tubes, or construction of new ones, by a competent fabricator (use of double-hump crossmember required).

**PRE-INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS:**

Check that the hardware package includes the following:

42511HKR		42512HKR	
Qty.	Description	Qty.	Description
1	Left front over-axle tube hanger bracket	1	Left front over-axle tube hanger bracket
1	Left rear over-axle tube hanger bracket	1	Left rear over-axle tube hanger bracket
1	Right front over-axle tube hanger bracket	1	Right front over-axle tube hanger bracket
1	Right rear over-axle tube hanger bracket	1	Right rear over-axle tube hanger bracket
3*	5/16-18 x 1" bolts	3*	5/16-18 x 1" bolts
3*	5/16-18 nylock nuts	3*	5/16-18 nylock nuts
3*	5/16 flat washers	3*	5/16 flat washers
2*	3/8-16 x 1-1/4" flanged head bolts	2*	3/8-16 x 1-1/4" flanged head bolts
2*	3/8 flat washers	2*	3/8 flat washers
2*	3/8-16 nylock nuts	2*	3/8-16 nylock nuts
1*	1/4-20 x 1" bolt	1*	1/4-20 x 1" bolt
1*	1/4-20 flanged head nut	1*	1/4-20 flanged head nut
4	Rubber Isolators	4	Rubber Isolators
10	2.5" Band Clamps	10	3" Band Clamps

\*Items not shown in photos above

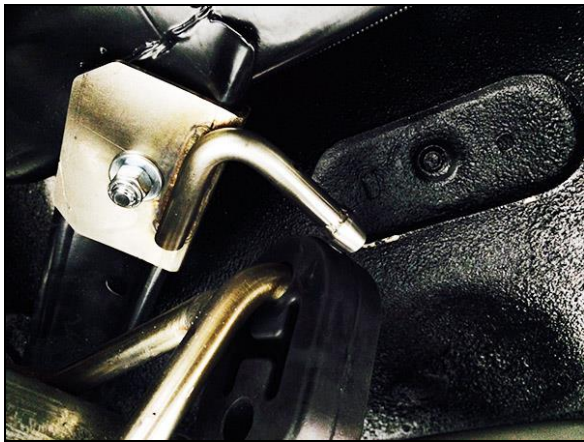
If any listed hardware is missing, please contact Technical Service at: 1-866-464-6553 or 270-781-9741.

**IMPORTANT!** Position and support your vehicle on a suitable surface. **USE CAUTION AND WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE USING JACKS AND JACKSTANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.** Use of a two-post under arm lift or four-post drive-on lift will considerably reduce the time and effort required to complete the installation. **MAKE SURE LIFT LOCKS ARE ENGAGED BEFORE WORKING UNDER THE VEHICLE.**

## **INSTALLATION:**

**NOTE:** The following steps assume that you are installing the system using HOOKER™ LS swap mounting components and long-tube headers or mid-length headers already in place on the vehicle. If you are performing an installation of this system without utilizing these products, install all system components from the “X” crossover rearward. Then, align them for parallel alignment with the bottom of the rocker panels and sufficient clearances around all suspension, fuel, and brake components. Do all this before modifying the included HOOKER™ inlet tubes, or fabricating new inlet tubes to be compatible with the geometry of your headers and transmission crossmember.

1. Remove all existing exhaust system components from the vehicle, including any stock or previously added hangers along the entire length of the exhaust system.
2. Raise and support the vehicle in a manner that allows full drop of the rear axle/suspension.
3. Place a supplied band clamp over each inlet of the crossover assembly and insert the supplied inlet tubes (right side tube has a single bend in it) into the crossover assembly.
4. Now, position a supplied clamp over the open end of each inlet tube and install the entire assembly onto the collectors of a previously installed set of HOOKER™ LS swap full-length headers, or the outlets of HOOKER™ adapter tubes already installed onto the collectors of a set of HOOKER™ mid-length headers or Hooker LS cast iron exhaust manifolds.
5. Place a supplied clamp over one end of each muffler and install the mufflers onto the outlets of the crossover assembly. To ensure proper final adjustment, tighten the clamps only enough to maintain the general position of the mufflers at this time.
6. Using the included 3/8” bolts, washers and nuts, attach the included **front** over-axle hanger brackets (barbed hanger rods pointing forward) to the formed frame gusset welded to the frame on either side of the driveshaft just behind the mufflers. The bend in the base plate will wrap over the front edge of each gusset to prevent rotation of the brackets once installed. See **Figures 1 & 2** for proper bracket orientation.



**Figure 1 – Left front hanger bracket**



**Figure 2 – Right front hanger bracket**

7. Feed the supplied over-axle tubes over the front side of the axle and place a supplied clamp over the inlet of each before engaging them into the muffler outlets. To ensure correct adjustment later, do not tighten the clamps more than what is required to hold basic component positions at this time.
8. Use a supplied rubber isolator to connect the barbed hanger rods of each hanger attached to the frame gusset brackets and the corresponding barbed hanger rods welded to the over-axle tubes.
9. Using the included 5/16” and 1/4” bolts, washers and nuts, attach the included **rear** over-axle hanger brackets (barbed hanger rods pointing inward) to the vehicle frame using the stock exhaust hanger holes located behind the shock absorbers. The driver’s side hanger will be attached using the two wide-spaced 5/16” holes along the same edge of its base and the passenger’s side hanger will be attached using the 5/16” and 1/4” holes that are closely spaced together at one end of its base. See **Figures 3 & 4** for further clarification.



Figure 3 – Rear driver's side hanger (passenger's side hanger is similar)



Figure 4

10. Install the remaining rubber isolators onto the frame hanger rods and then connect them to the corresponding rear hanger rods welded to the over-axle tubes.
11. Place the two remaining clamps over the inlets of the tips and install both onto the outlets of the over-axle tubes. To enable correct final adjustment, do not tighten the clamps more than what is required to hold basic component positions at this time.
12. Align all system components for best fit and fully tighten all clamps. Pay particularly close attention to the clearances between the over-axle tubes and the rear suspension upper control arms and coil springs; this is especially important when installing the 3" system to prevent component interference and unwanted noises.

Any questions? Please contact Technical Service: 1-866-464-6553 or 270-781-9741. For online help, please refer to: [www.holley.com](http://www.holley.com).

### **COMPATIBILITY INFORMATION:**

These exhaust systems were designed for direct installation with compatible HOOKER™ LS swaps headers and engine and transmission mounting components listed for this vehicle application. If needed, additional compatible LS engine swap components, such as EFI fuel control systems, fuel filters, fuel pumps, plumbing hose/fittings, valve covers and accessory drive brackets can be found at [www.holley.com](http://www.holley.com).

As shipped, the bend geometry of this system's inlet tubes (forward of the crossover) is only directly compatible with HOOKER™ LS swap headers and transmission crossmembers for this application. As such, interference with factory GM, or aftermarket transmission crossmembers and/or poor line-up characteristics with other brands of headers should be expected. Such issues can be remedied through modification of the supplied HOOKER™ inlet tubes, or the fabrication of new inlet pipes, to provide compatibility with the components installed on your vehicle.

The Hooker 42511HKR 2.5" exhaust system is compatible with driveshafts up to 4" in diameter. The Hooker 42512HKR 3" exhaust system is compatible with driveshafts up to 3.5" in diameter.

The Hooker G-body exhaust systems have been verified to be compatible with factory OE and Hotchkis rear suspension coil springs, upper control arms and sway bars

**LIMITATION OF LIABILITY – DISCLAIMER:**

The regulation of emissions production, noise levels, and safety standards is undertaken by the federal government, each of the fifty state legislatures, and by many local municipalities, towns, and counties.

HOOKER™ makes no warranties of merchantability, of fitness for particular purpose, or that its products are approved for general use, or that its products comply with laws, regulations, or ordinances in the state where they may be sold to the ultimate purchaser, the consumer.

Unless expressly stated to the contrary in the catalog, instruction sheet; or price list, the entire risk as to the conformity of any company product in any such state and as to repair should the product prove to be defective or non-conforming, is on the retail purchaser, the buyer, the ultimate consumer, of such product and it is not upon the seller, distributor, or manufacturer.

In this connection, the retail purchaser, the buyer, the ultimate consumer assumes the burden of the entire cost of any and all necessary service, alterations, or repair.

**THE FOREGOING STATEMENT LIMITS THE LIABILITY OF THE MANUFACTURER.**

California vehicle code, sections 27156 and 38391, prohibits the advertising, offering for sale, or installation of any device, which modifies a vehicle's emission control system, unless exempted, unless otherwise noted. HOOKER™ Headers that have not received an Executive Order (E.O.) exemption from these code sections are not legal for sale or use in California on vehicles originally equipped with catalytic converters, except for racing vehicles, which may never be driven upon a highway. Check with your local authorities to determine if these headers are legal for use in your particular area.

**Technical Service: 1-866-464-6553**

**Phone: 1-270-781-9741**

**Fax: 1-270-781-9772**

**For online help, please refer to the Tech Service section of our website: [www.holley.com](http://www.holley.com)**

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