



## 1987-1996 2WD Dodge Dakota GEN 3 HEMI Swap Headers BH2370



### Installation Instructions

Thank you for choosing to use HOOKER™ headers as part of your HEMI swap project. These headers are part of the most comprehensively engineered system of mounting components, headers and exhaust systems available for this application. The entire Hooker™ swap system is designed to decrease your total swap installation effort and cost while increasing the engineered quality of your vehicle.

#### **PRE-INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS:**

Check that the hardware package includes the following:  
(16) M8 x 1.25 header bolts

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

**NOTE:** Shifter cable routing change may be needed in order to use these headers.

**NOTE:** These headers are geometrically/functionally compatible with 727, 46RE/RH, 545RFE, NAG 1, and 8HP automatic transmissions, T56, and TR6060 manual transmissions.

**NOTE:** The collector outlets of these headers are designed to be connected to with a 41173HKR exhaust clamp.

**NOTE:** Designed to be used in conjunction with BHS544 swap brackets and BHS545 crossmember with adapter depending on transmission of choice.

**NOTE:** You may need to loosen and rotate knock sensors for best fit.

**NOTE:** Works best with trucks lowered with spindles, if lowered extreme with springs grinding on the rear of the control arm may be needed for fit on the passenger side.

**NOTE:** Two people will be needed for install.

The instructions contained in this document assume you have already installed the engine and transmission in the vehicle with the above mentioned HOOKER™ mounting components per their instructions.

An automotive lift or a jack and jack stands will be required to safely raise and support the vehicle. **CAUTION! WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE. USE JACKS /JACK STANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.**

#### **COMPATIBILITY INFORMATION:**

These headers were specifically designed to be installed with HOOKER™ HEMI swap engine and transmission mounting components and exhaust systems for this same application. Attempts to install these headers with any other type or combination of engine and transmission mounting components may cause them to not provide their intended ground or vehicle component clearances, or compatibility with the related HOOKER™ exhaust systems.

#### **INSTALLATION:**

1. Disconnect the cables from the vehicle battery, if connected.

2. Remove the engine oil dipstick tube and steering shaft, be sure that steering wheel stays in place and doesn't rotate.
3. Relocate any transmission shifter cables that will be in the way of the header install.
4. Using an automotive lift or floor jack, lift the entire vehicle or front of the vehicle a minimum of 12" to 15" off the ground.
5. Remove the right and left wheels and inner fenders by removing the bolts in the wheel wells and removing anything that attaches to the fender wells on the top side.
6. Remove any existing header/manifold and exhaust that is installed and clean the cylinder head sealing surface.
7. Install the driver's side headers from below using an OE replacement gasket, you may find it easier to start a rear bottom bolt and slide the header flange over it to help hold. Depending on the transmission used you may need to remove the starter for easier install.
8. Complete installation of remaining header bolts and tighten, you will need to do this through the fender well opening and from underneath. It is recommended to use anti-seize on all hardware.
9. Re-install the steering shaft, use blue Loctite on the steering shaft bolt and tq to manufacture specs. Re-install the dipstick tube, modification may be needed for fitment around header tubes.
10. Install the passenger side header next, remove the starter if a passenger side starter is being used.
11. Start the install by removing the passenger side engine mount through bolt so you can jack/raise the engine up to its highest point.
12. Once the engine is raised to its highest point start the header install as shown in figure 1. This header is a challenge to install due to the tight space, it may take multiple attempts before finding the sweet spot to get the header to drop into place.
13. With the header down past the valve cover start lowering the engine down. As you lower the engine hold the header in the correct area and be sure it doesn't bind up.
14. Reinstall the engine mount through bolt and tighten.
15. Use a new OE replacement gasket and install all hardware and tighten.
16. Check over both headers that have been installed, make sure nothing is touching and all hardware has been installed.
17. Reinstall both inner fenders and anything removed from the inner fenders.
18. Install the O2 sensors into bungs, if using. Install O2 plugs (user supplied), if not using O2 sensors.
19. Reconnect battery power and start engine, check for exhaust leaks or any other issues before driving.



FIGURE 1

**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 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.