



## **1971-1973 Mustang Hood Hinges**

### **SWS PART # 890-1312 & 890-1313**

#### **Before beginning the installation, please read:**

- \* Read all of the instructions thoroughly before beginning the installation. If you do not feel that you have the mechanical aptitude to complete the job in a safe manner, we strongly recommend that you employ the services of a knowledgeable technician to perform the installation.
- \* Use the packing list to verify that you have received all of the components and fasteners.
- \* We recommend that you protect your paint from scratches by liberally applying blue painter's tape to all contact surfaces, corners and seams of the fenders and hood before beginning the installation. We will not be held responsible for scratches or damages that occur during the installation process.
- \* Take note of your hood's fit and finish (taking photographs would be best). Pay close attention to the width of the seams, alignment of the hood to the fenders, cowl, etc. This will help in the final adjustment of the hood and prevent you from spending time trying to correct a pre-existing condition.
- \* Do not attempt the installation alone. There are several steps in the installation process that require two people to complete safely.
- \* To prevent galling of stainless steel fasteners, apply anti-seize compound to all bolt threads. Fasteners that have seized will not be warrantied.
- \* These hood hinges are designed as direct replacement, bolt-on parts. However, due to the age of your vehicle, the lack of quality control that existed when it was originally built, and the vast array of (mostly imported) replacement sheet metal, our hinges may not fit exactly as they did on the vehicle(s) that we used to design them. We will process returns on hinges that are in new/unused condition.
- \* The hood hinges are supplied with a nitrogen filled gas strut that we have pre-determined to be the correct strength for your vehicle's hood. Part # 890-1312 is for steel hoods and #890-1313 is for fiberglass hoods. Also note that the pressure in the struts will be reduced when exposed to cold weather. For your reference, the strut weight is marked on the end of the strut body.
- \* We do not guarantee the function of our hood hinges on hoods that have been modified (i.e. added hood scoops, excessive customization, heavy bondo, mirrors or under hood additions OF ANY KIND).
- \* We are not responsible for applications that are outside the normal and intended use of our products including specific model and year applications.

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Remove hood
2. Remove the factory hinges from the fenders
3. Test threads in fenders with new bolts. If existing bolt holes have damaged threads or rust, you may have to re-tap or repair them. In some cases it may be possible to thru bolt with a nut and washer on the backside.
4. BEFORE installing the hinges on your vehicle, first install the stainless steel gas spring to each hinge. Remove wire keeper from each socket end on shock and install shock on hinge. Do not replace wire keepers at this time, you may need to remove shock to adjust hinges on some models. But don't forget to replace keepers when installation is complete.

### **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU INSTALL THE GAS SPRING WITH THE SHAFT SIDE DOWN IN ORDER TO ENSURE PROPER OPERATION AND PREVENT FAILURE.**

Note: To protect your paint from nicks and scratches during the install, invest in a roll of Painters tape and apply to fenders, cowl, hood and front end.

5. Position each hinge on the corresponding fender and attach using the supplied 5/16" X 1" bolts, each with one AN washer, 1 bolt will also use 5/16" flat washer. Tighten bolts snug so they are securely attached to fender.
6. Attach the hood to the hinges using the supplied 5/16" x 1" bolts, each one with a flat washer and AN washer. Be sure to use anti-seize on all bolts before installing. Depending on your hood manufacturer, you may need a shorter bolt when attaching the hinge to the hood. Check the length before installing and tightening. To make it easier to open and close the hood during adjustments, we recommend that you remove the hood latch from the hood. Attach the hood to the hinges using the supplied 5/16-18 X 1" bolts and a flat washer. Be sure to use anti-seize on all bolts before installing.
7. To avoid hitting your cowl when closing the hood for the first time, slide the hood as far forward as possible before closing. Close hood carefully making sure it does not hit the fenders or cowl.
8. Check the height and position of the hood. Make any adjustments by repositioning the hinge slightly at the hood or fender locations. Note that some installations may take considerably more time than others to properly adjust. Tips for adjustments: to adjust height = adjust at fender plate, to adjust front to back = adjust at hood plate, to adjust left to right = adjust at hood plate

### **PLEASE NOTE: IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO MODIFY THE MOUNTING SLOTS IN THE HINGES TO ACHIEVE MORE ADJUSTMENT.**

9. Once the hood position has been set to your satisfaction, securely tighten all bolts, re-install the hood latch, and remove painter's tape.