



## Installation Instructions "Drop In" Fork Lowering Kit Harley Davidson 2016 - Later\* XL Models with 39mm Forks

### ATTENTION

Statements in these instructions that are preceded by the following words are of special significance:

#### **Warning**

This means there is the possibility of injury to yourself or others.

#### **Caution**

This means there is the possibility of damage to the vehicle.

#### **Note**

*Information of particular importance has been placed in italics.*

### Lifetime Limited Warranty

Progressive Suspension warrants to the original purchaser this Part to be free of manufacturing defects in materials and workmanship with a lifetime limited warranty. In the event warranty service is required, you must call Progressive Suspension immediately with a description of the problem.

If it is deemed necessary for Progressive Suspension to make an evaluation to determine whether the part is defective, a return authorization number will be given by Progressive Suspension. The parts must be packaged properly so as to not cause further damage and returned prepaid to Progressive Suspension with a copy of the original invoice of purchase and a detailed letter outlining the nature of the problem. If after the evaluation by Progressive Suspension the part was found to be defective it will be repaired or replaced at no cost to you. If we replace it, we may replace it with a reconditioned one of the same design.

Progressive Suspension shall not be held liable for any consequential or incidental damages resulting from the failure of a Progressive Suspension part. Progressive Suspension shall have no obligation if a part becomes defective as a result of improper installation or abuse.

#### **Warning**

Changing the chassis and/or suspension on any vehicle will change the handling characteristics of that vehicle. Care should be taken when operating the vehicle with such modifications while getting accustomed to the new handling characteristics.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Caution:** Follow instructions in an authorized shop manual or take the vehicle to a competent dealer.

The vehicle must be securely blocked to prevent it from dropping or tipping when the fork springs are removed. Failure to do so can cause serious damage and/or injury.

Progressive Suspension Drop-In Fork Springs are designed to work with the OEM (Original Equipment) forks. Use of this product on any forks other than OEM may produce an unsatisfactory ride and void the warranty.

Prior to installing your Drop-In Fork Lowering kit, you **MUST REMOVE** any previously installed fork lowering kit components.

### Recommended Tools

HD-45966 Fork Spring Compressing Tool or Equiv.  
(Part number shown is for Harley Davidson Tools)

### Installation

#### **Note**

*The left and right forks have different internals in these models.*

- Read all the instructions carefully before installing this kit on your motorcycle. Use your Harley-Davidson manual as a reference while installing this kit.
  - Support and lift the motorcycle securely so the front wheel is just off the ground and able to spin with light brake drag. The balance point is toward the front of the engine.
  - Remove any accessories necessary to gain access to the fork caps and triple trees.
  - If your bike is currently equipped with any type of fork lowering kit, You **MUST** remove that kit before installing this Drop-In Kit.
- #### **Warning**
- Failure to remove existing fork lowering kit components will result in unsatisfactory performance and may lead to fork damage, loss of vehicle control and injury.
- Remove the handle bars if they are directly above the fork caps to allow for the removal of the fork springs.
  - Loosen the pinch bolts on the upper triple clamp. Failure to do so will make fork cap removal very difficult and potentially damage the caps and or fork tubes.
  - Carefully remove the fork cap.

#### **Warning**

**CAUTION** The right fork cap is under spring pressure and care must be taken as it is removed to avoid injury! Keep downward pressure on the cap as you unscrew the final threads, this will minimize the spring "jump" that will occur as soon as the cap is fully un-threaded. **BE CAREFUL!**

- Remove the stock spacer, washer (right fork only) and fork spring from each fork. Use the HD-45966 Fork Spring Compressing Tool or Equiv. to remove the spring retaining clip from the left fork.
- For optimum performance we highly recommend the forks be thoroughly cleaned and new Progressive Suspension Heavy (20wt) fork oil installed.
- Before installing the new springs & preload spacers, it is crucial that you make sure you've installed the proper fork oil and the oil level is correct. We recommend Progressive Suspension Heavy (20wt) fork oil. To check the oil level properly you must have the springs and spacers removed, cycle the forks & cartridge several times to purge any trapped air and then completely compress the forks & cartridge (left fork). You then measure from the top of the fork tube to the oil level - the required measurement is 175mm in both forks. Add or remove fork oil to achieve this measurement in both forks.

### Caution

**NEVER ADD TOO MUCH OIL RESULTING IN A MEASUREMENT LESS THAN 175MM IN EITHER FORK WHEN USING THIS SPRING KIT**

### Caution

While the installation of this Drop-In Fork Spring kit will not change the compressed length of the front forks, we have found that some bikes may not have adequate clearance between the fender, fairing and / or accessories. So with the fork springs removed, lift the front forks, or lower the bike to completely compress the front forks. With the forks fully compressed, check for adequate clearance between the tire, fender, fairing, crash bar, accessories, etc. You must correct any clearance issues prior to installing this kit to avoid vehicle damage and / or vehicle control problems.

- Decide the approximate amount you would like to lower the forks and, using the Chart in **Figure 3**, determine the correct spacer lengths (left & right fork) for your year model bike. You may need to cut the supplied PVC spacer to your proper length for the right fork.
- With the **RIGHT FORK** fully extended, insert the Drop-In Fork Spring into the fork tube, then insert the Drop-In Compensation Spring, Supplied Washer and PVC spacer cut to proper length. **Figure 4**
- Reinstall the fork cap. The design of this kit makes this very easy as the only spring pressure you will feel during cap installation is from the Drop-In Compensation Spring which is only a light pressure by design.
- With the **LEFT FORK** slightly compressed and the cartridge rod fully extended, insert over the cartridge rod into the fork tube - the Drop-In Fork Spring, the Drop-In Compensation Spring, the OE Washer and the proper length steel spacer. Compress the springs and install the retaining clip. **Figure 5**
- Fully install the fork cap onto the cartridge rod and properly torque the nut against the cap to factory specs.
- Torque both fork caps into the fork tubes per factory specifications. Tighten the triple clamp pinch bolts and reinstall the handle bars and any accessories removed according to their manufacturers instructions.
- Remove motorcycle from lift and re-check all fasteners for proper tightness.

### FINE TUNING

- Front ride height can be adjusted by changing the spacer length. We recommend making changes in .25" increments - being certain not to make your spacer either longer than the **1" lower** length, or shorter than the **2" lower** length spacers specified for your model in **Figure 3**.
- A longer spacer will raise the front end, a shorter spacer will lower the front end.
- The operator must use extreme caution when operating a modified motorcycle, particularly while getting familiar with its altered handling characteristics and ground clearance.

**Figure 3**

#### SPACER LENGTH Left Fork (Supplied Steel Spacer) Right Fork (Supplied PVC Spacer)

| FOR 1" LOW |              |           |            |
|------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| YEAR       | Model        | LEFT FORK | RIGHT FORK |
| 2016       | XL883L       | 3.10"     | 7.0"       |
| 2016       | XL883N       | 3.10"     | 7.0"       |
| 2016       | XL1200C(ALL) | 3.10"     | 7.0"       |
| 2016       | XL1200V      | 3.10"     | 7.0"       |
| FOR 2" LOW |              |           |            |
| YEAR       | Model        | LEFT FORK | RIGHT FORK |
| 2016       | XL883L       | 1.80"     | 5.80"      |
| 2016       | XL883N       | N/A       | N/A        |
| 2016       | XL1200C(ALL) | 1.80"     | 5.80"      |
| 2016       | XL1200V      | 1.80"     | 5.80"      |

\*N/A = insufficient travel, lowering 2" not recommended

