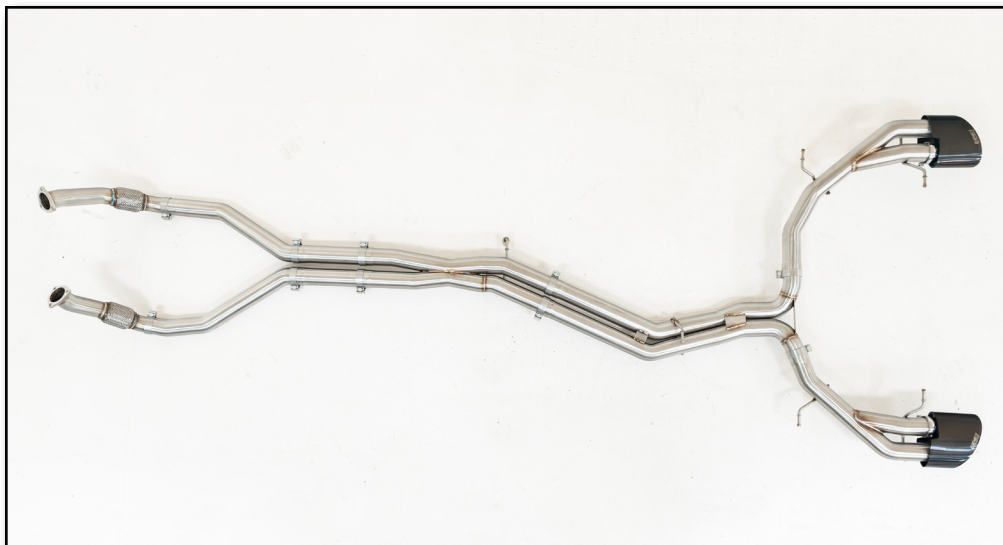




Audi C8 RS6/RS7 Cat-Back Exhaust System Installation Instructions - [Click HERE to Shop](#)



Skill Level
1 - Easy
Basic Skills
Required

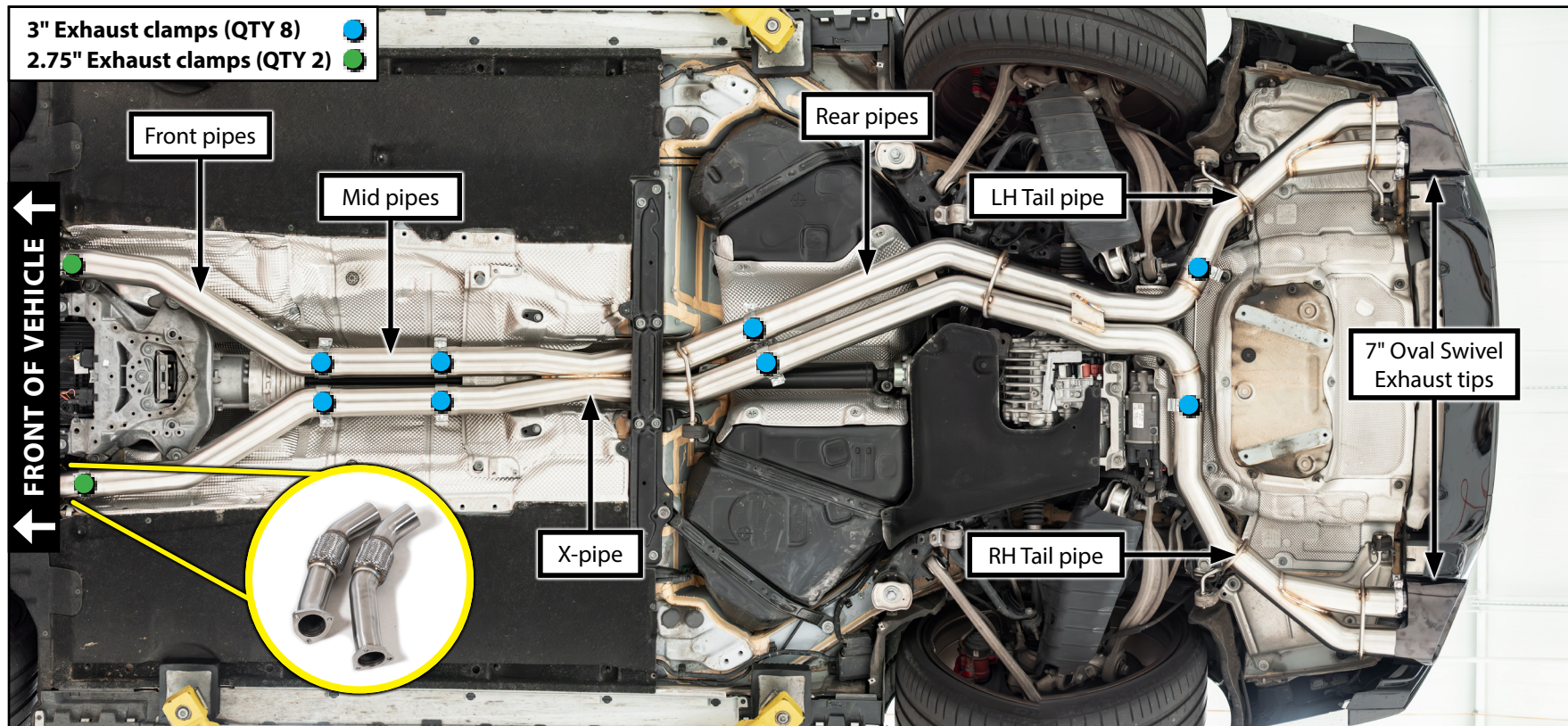


Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

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KIT CONTENTS



REQUIRED TOOLS

Note: The tools required for each step will be listed by the step number throughout these instructions.

Standard Automotive Tools

- Protecta-Sockets (for lug nuts) [ES#2221243](#)
- **3/8" Drive Ratchet** [ES#2765902](#)
- **3/8" Drive Torque Wrench** [ES#2221245](#)
- **3/8" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets** [ES#2763772](#)
- **3/8" Drive Extensions** [ES#2804822](#)
- **Hydraulic Floor Jack** [ES#2834951](#)
- **Torx Drivers and Sockets** [ES#11417/8](#)
- 1/2" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets [ES#2839106](#)
- 1/2" Drive Ratchet
- 1/2" Drive Extensions
- 1/2" Drive Torque Wrench [ES#2221244](#)
- 1/2" Drive Breaker Bar [ES#2776653](#)
- Bench Mounted Vise
- Crows Foot Wrenches
- Hook and Pick Tool Set [ES#2778980](#)

Required For This Install

- 1/4" Drive Ratchet [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Extensions [ES#2823235](#)
- Plier and Cutter Set [ES#2804496](#)
- Flat and Phillips Screwdrivers [ES#2225921](#)
- **Jack Stands** [ES#2763355](#)
- **Ball Pein Hammers**
- Pry Bar Set [ES#1899378](#)
- Electric/Cordless Drill
- **Wire Strippers/Crimpers**
- Drill Bits
- Punch and Chisel Set
- Hex Bit (Allen) Wrenches and Sockets [ES#11420](#)
- Thread Repair Tools [ES#1306824](#)
- **Open/Boxed End Wrench Set** [ES#2765907](#)

Available On Our Website

Specialty Tools

- **Exhaust Hanger Removal Pliers** [ES#2784927](#)

INSTALLATION NOTES

- **RH** refers to the *passenger side* of the vehicle.
- **LH** refers to the *driver side* of the vehicle.
- Always use the proper torque specifications.
- If applicable to this installation, torque specifications will be listed throughout the document and at the end as well.
- Please read all of these instructions and familiarize yourself with the complete process **BEFORE** you begin.

GENERAL PREPARATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

ECS Tuning cares about your health and safety, please read the following safety information. This information pertains to automotive service in general, and while it may not pertain to every job you do, please remember and share these important safety tips.

- Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses.
- Make sure the parking brake is applied until the vehicle is safely lifted and supported.
- Whether lifting a vehicle using an automotive lift or a hydraulic jack, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points.
- Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- **ALWAYS** support the vehicle with jack stands.
- **ALWAYS** read and follow all safety information and warnings for the equipment you are using.

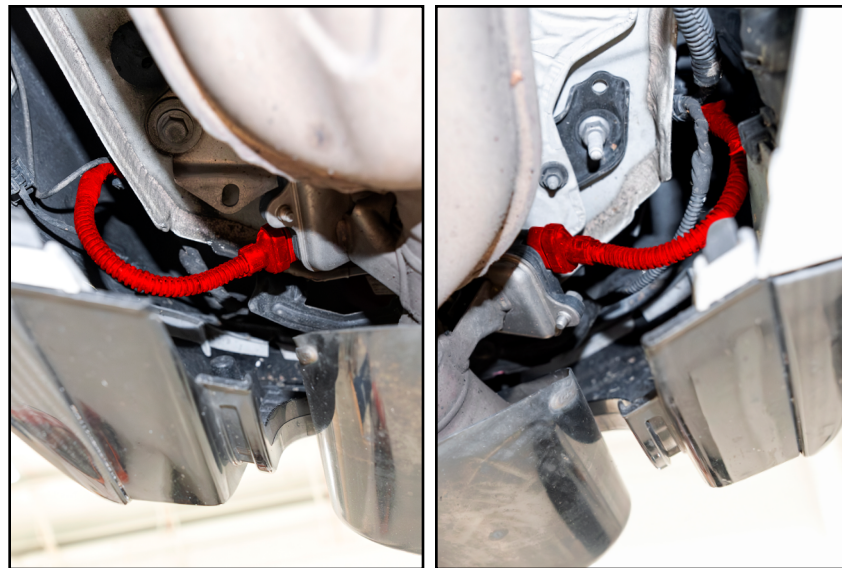


NEVER get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and **ALWAYS** make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.

REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

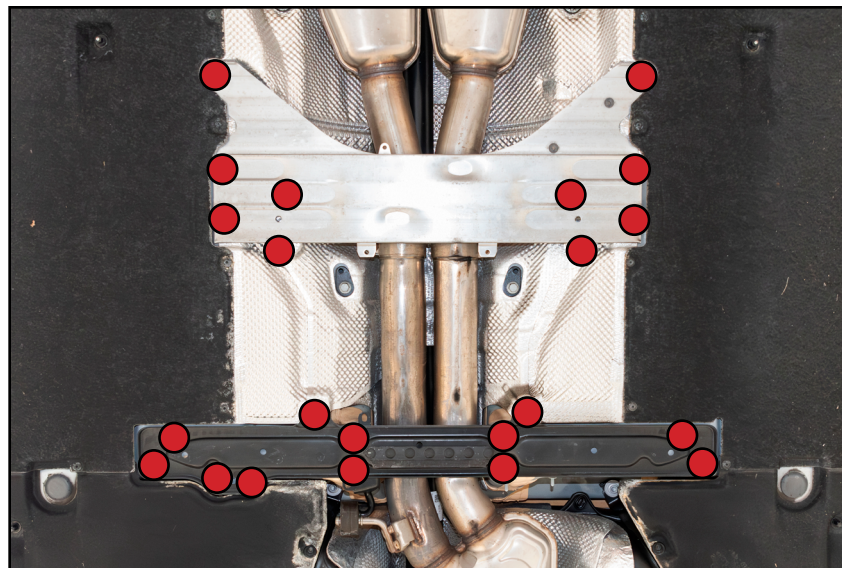
Step 1:

Disconnect the connector (highlighted in **RED**) for the valve controller on each muffler and tuck it safely up out of the way.



Step 2: T25 Torx, M10 Triple Square Socket & Ratchet

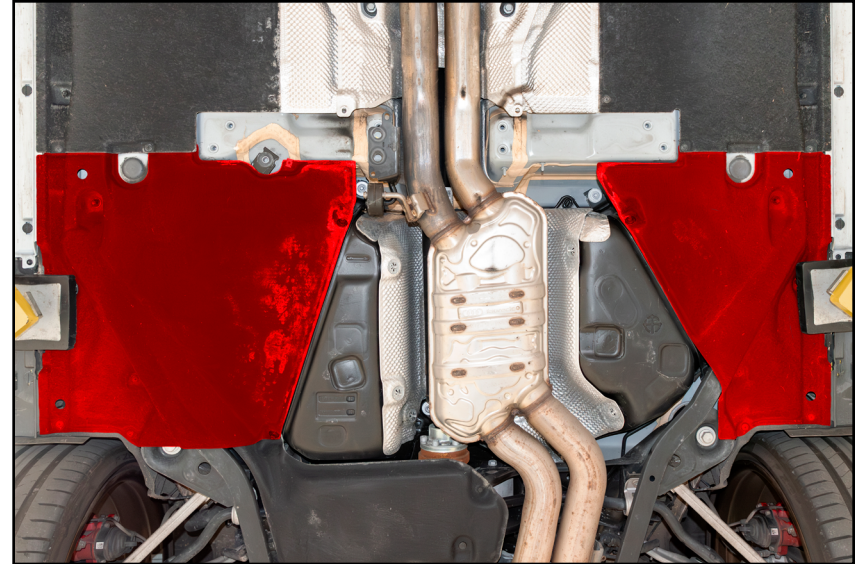
Remove the screws (**RED** circles) and remove both chassis cross braces from the underside of the vehicle.



REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

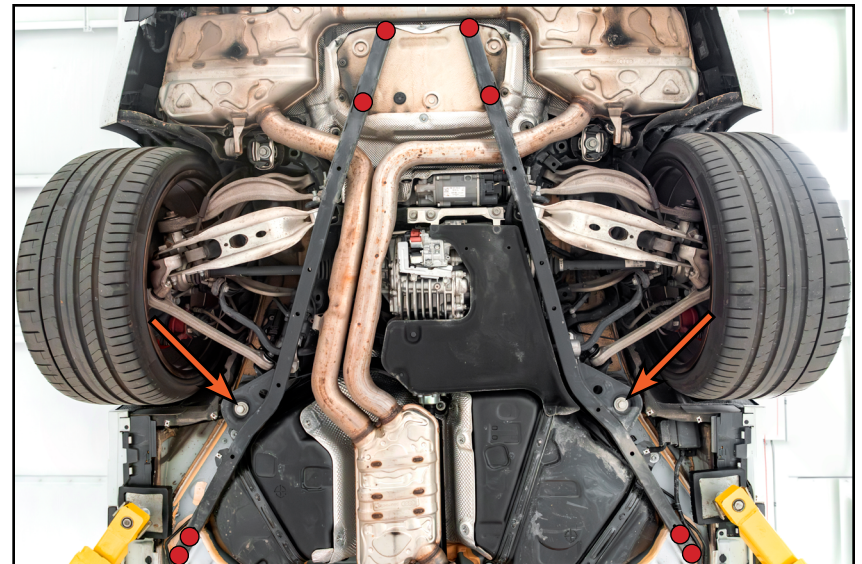
Step 3: 10mm, T25 Torx Socket & Ratchet

Loosen the fasteners and remove the two rear plastic underbody panels (highlighted in **RED**).



Step 4: Pole Jack, 21mm, 16mm Socket & Ratchet

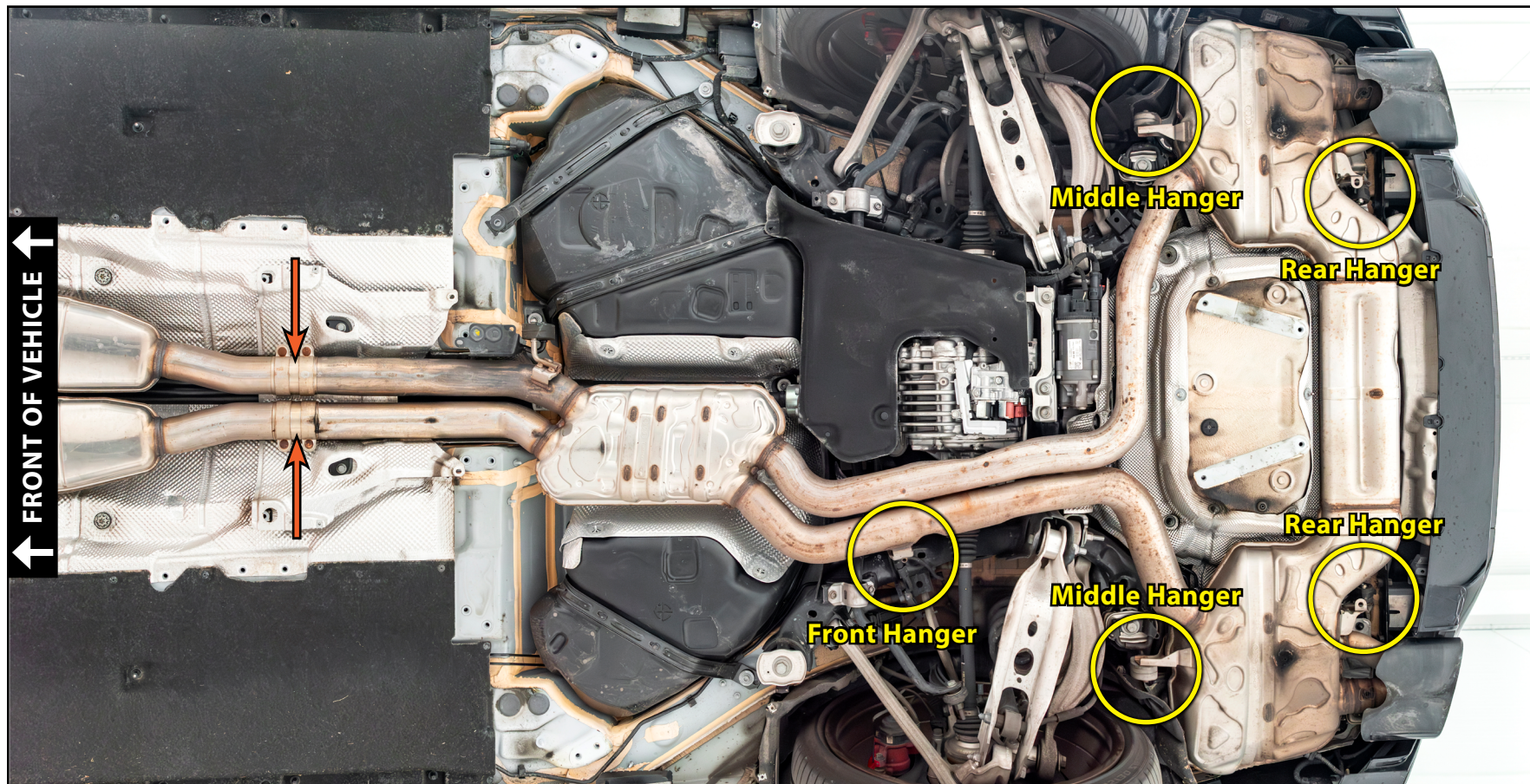
Remove the eight bolts (**RED** circles), then support the rear subframe from below with a pole jack while you remove the two frontmost subframe bolts (arrows) and remove the rear diagonal braces from the underside of the vehicle. Reinstall the subframe bolts, tightening until snug, then remove the pole jack.



REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 5: 13mm Socket & Ratchet, Exhaust Hanger Removal Pliers

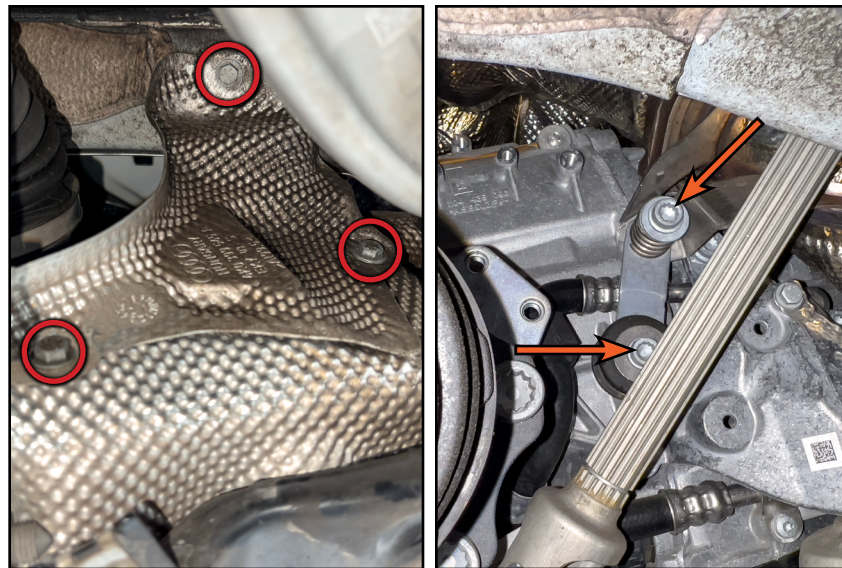
Loosen the two nuts on each sleeve clamp (arrows), then slide them rearward onto the stock exhaust. Support the exhaust from below while you unbolt the rear hangers (circled in **YELLOW**) and disconnect the front and middle hangers (circled in **YELLOW**) from the exhaust system and carefully remove the exhaust system from the vehicle.



REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

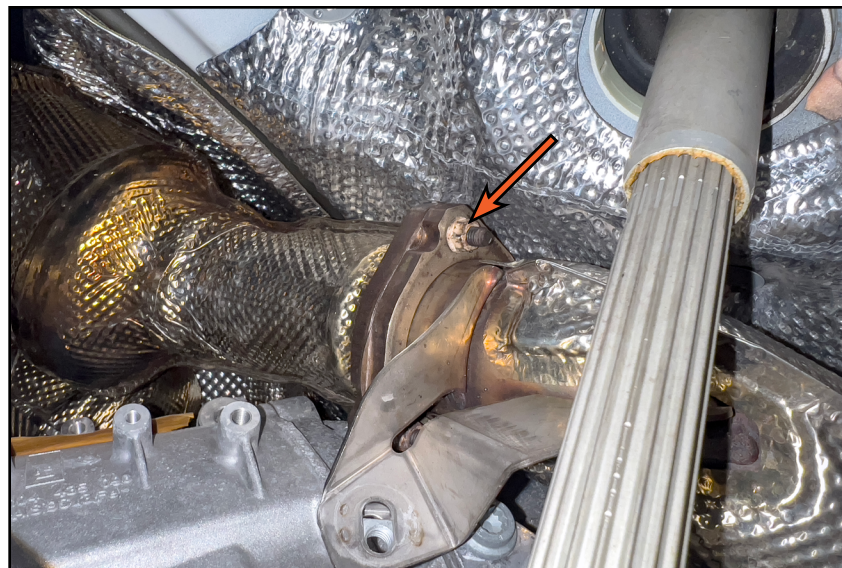
Step 6: 10mm, M10 Triple Square Socket & Ratchet

Remove the three bolts (circled in **RED** in **Photo #1**) and remove the small heat shield from either side of the front subframe (near the inner tie rod). Remove the two bolts (arrows in **Photo #2**) and remove the downpipe hanger from either side.



Step 7: 12mm Socket & Ratchet

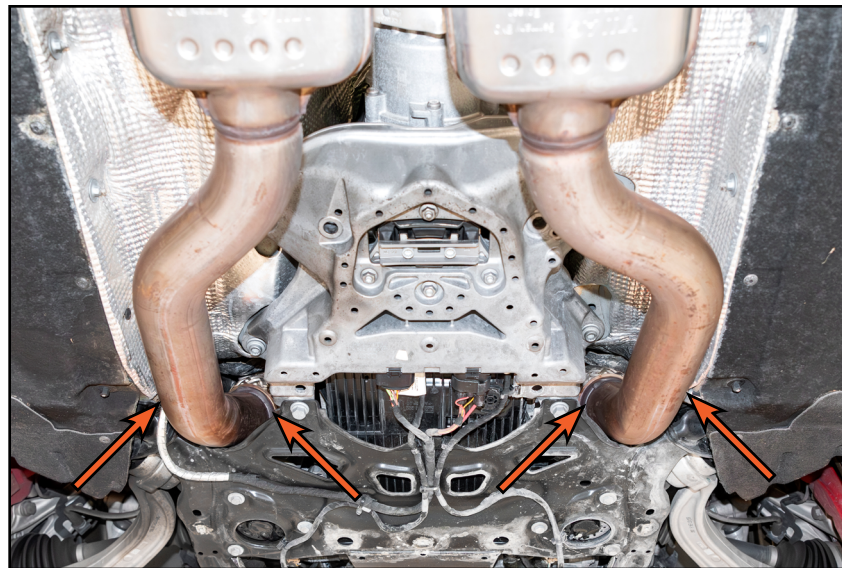
Remove the upper nut (arrow) that secures each downpipe to the catalytic converter.



REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 8: 12mm Socket, Extensions & Ratchet

Remove the remaining nuts (arrows) that secure the downpipes to the catalytic converters and carefully remove the downpipes.



Step 9:

Remove the gasket (arrow) from each catalytic converter flange and replace them with the replacements provided in the kit.

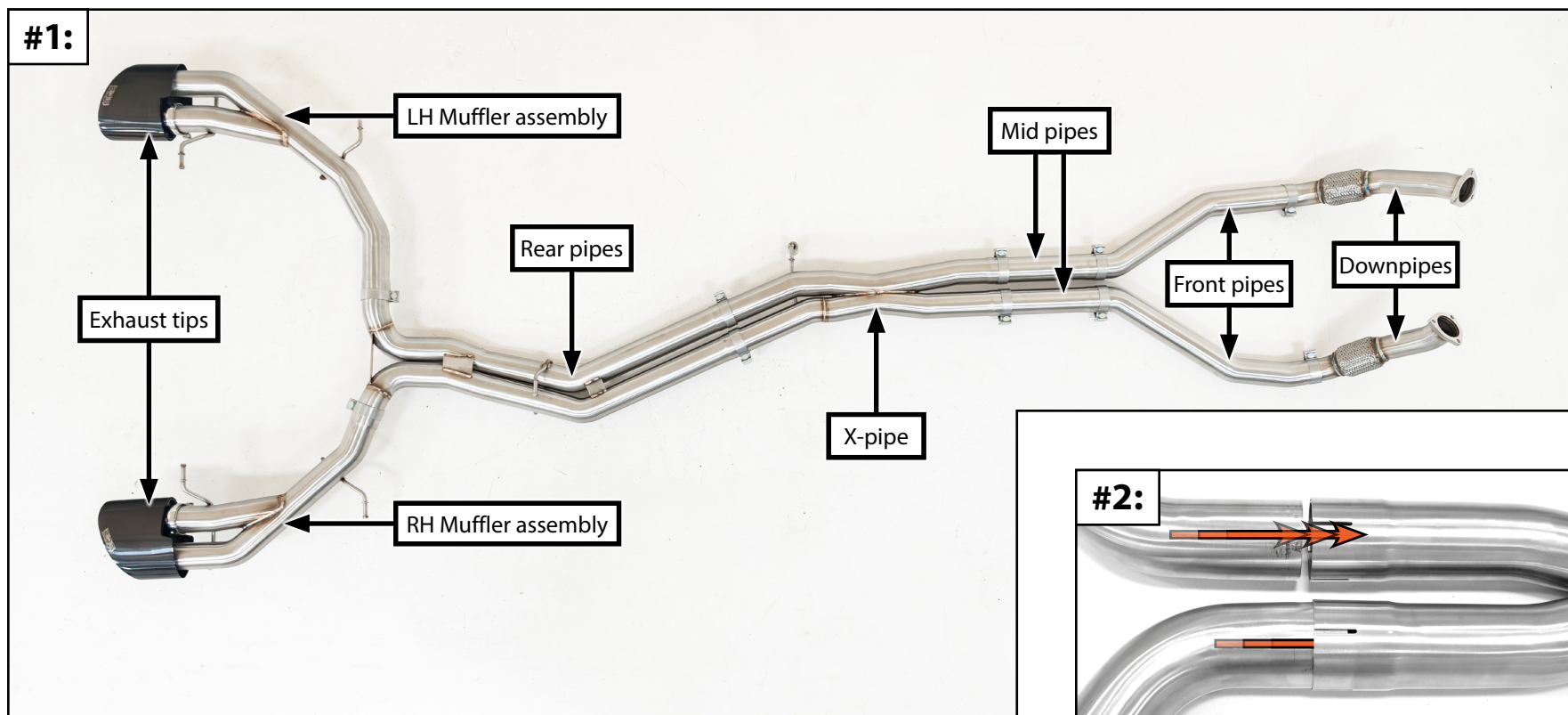


INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 1: Pipe Expander, Ball Pein Hammer

Before we begin installation, it's a good idea to unpack your new exhaust system and carefully lay it out on the floor (**Photo #1**). Test fit the pipes together at every slip joint to make sure they slide together easily (**Photo #2**). If they do not slide together easily, use a pipe expander or gently tap on the ends of the pipes with a ball pein hammer to straighten them, then recheck fitment.

Please note that during this installation, you will be installing the exhaust from front-to-back **WITHOUT** tightening any of the clamps. Once the system is installed, we will then show you how to position the system properly and you will tighten the clamps **AFTER** that is complete. Proceed to the next page once all of the slip joints slide together easily.



INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

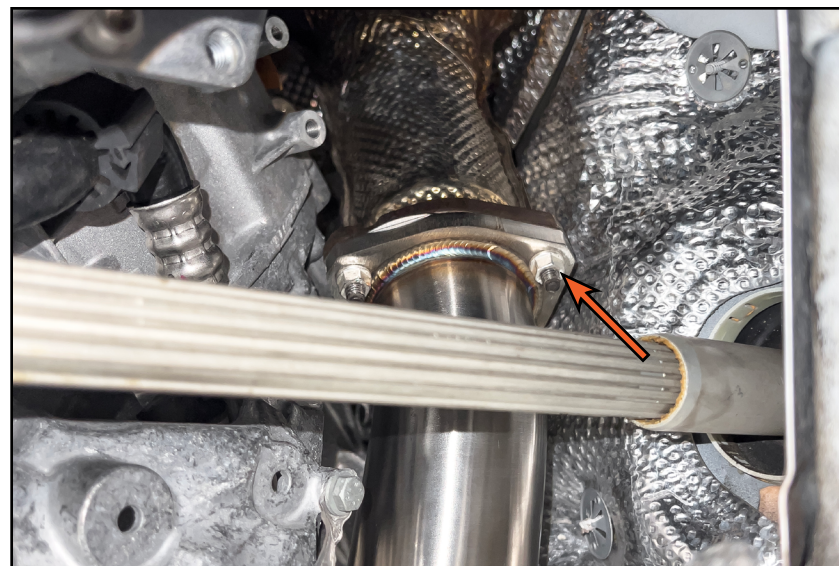
Step 2: 12mm Socket, Extensions & Torque Wrench

Slide the new downpipes onto the studs on the catalytic converters and replace the lower nuts (arrows), torquing them to 23 Nm (17 Ft-lbs).



Step 3: 12mm Socket & Torque Wrench

Replace the upper nut on each downpipe and torque it to 23 Nm (17 Ft-lbs), then reinstall the subframe heat shields (not shown).

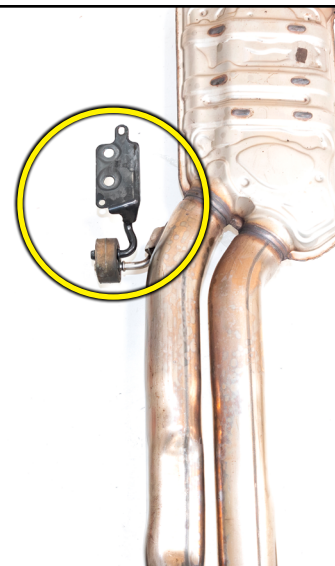


INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

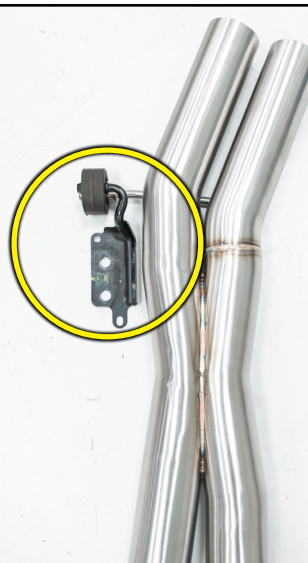
Step 4: Exhaust Hanger Removal Pliers

Transfer the front exhaust hanger (circled in **YELLOW**) from the stock exhaust system to the new exhaust system. Be sure to orient it exactly as it was before (**Photo #1 & Photo #2**).

#1:



#2:

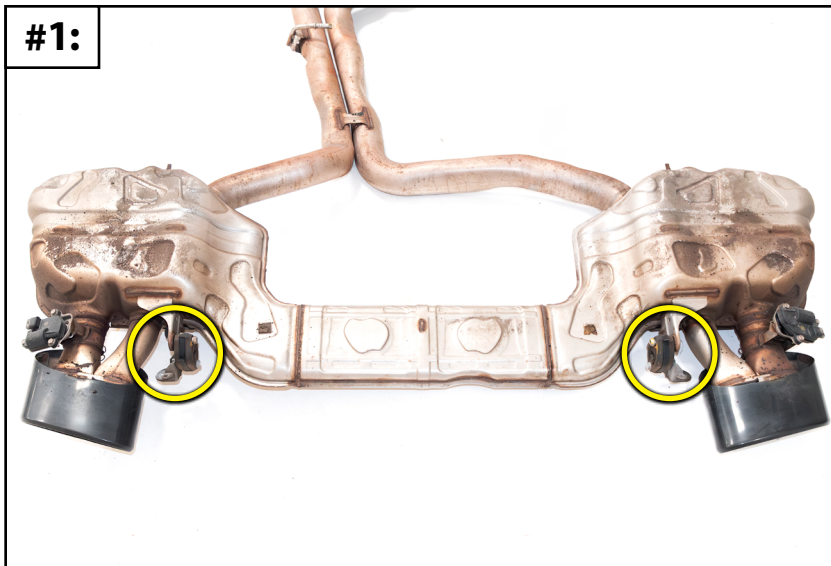


INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

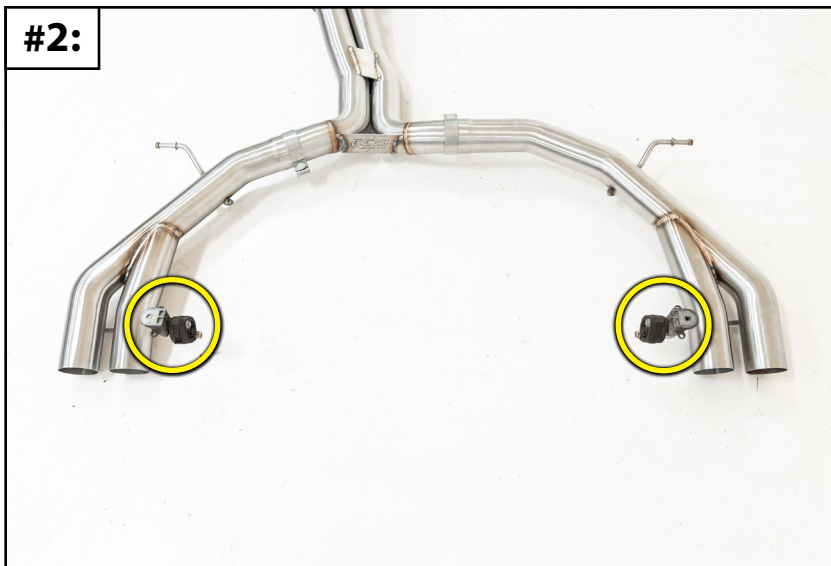
Step 5: Exhaust Hanger Removal Pliers

Transfer the rear exhaust hangers (circled in **YELLOW**) from the stock muffler to the new tail pipes. Be sure to orient them exactly as they were before (**Photo #1 & Photo #2**).

#1:



#2:



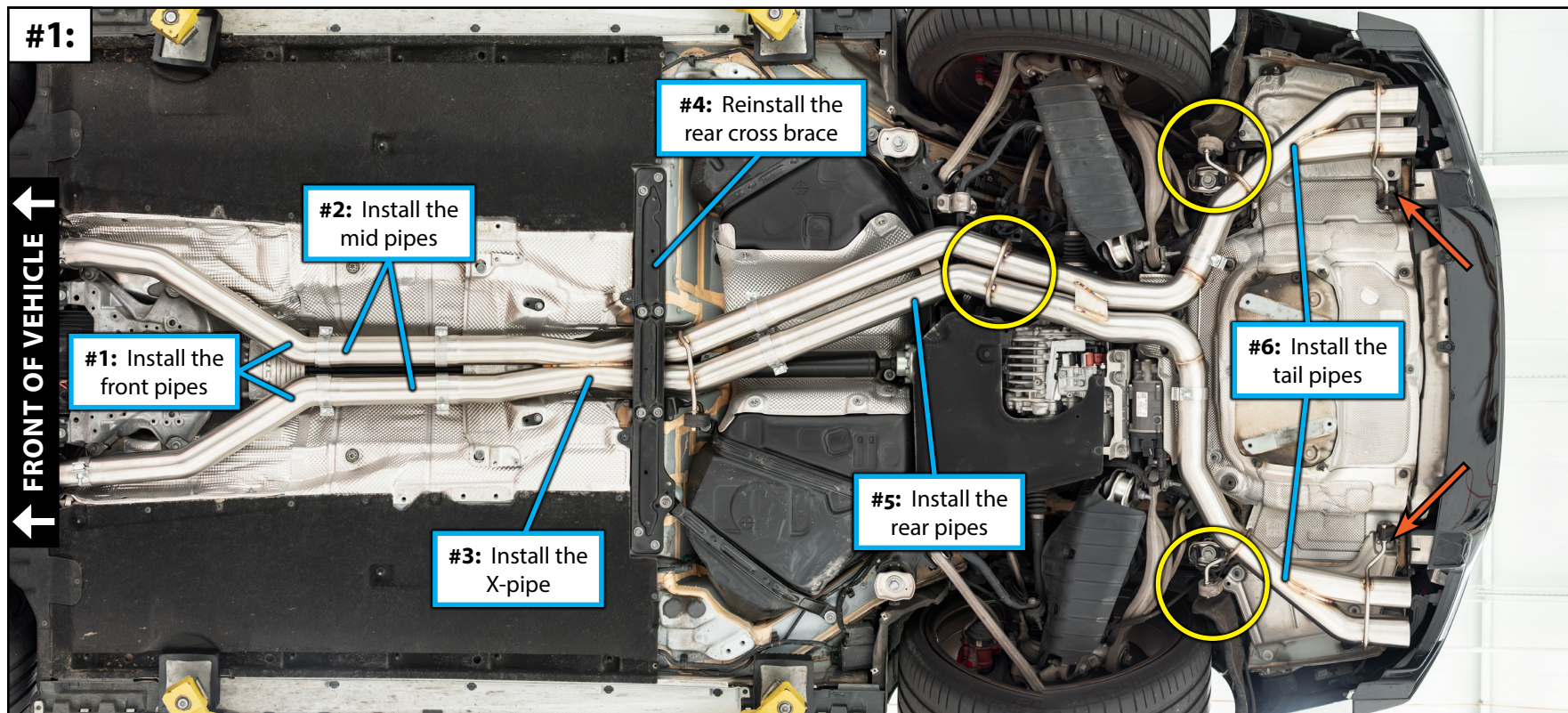
INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 6: 13mm, 15mm, M10 Triple Square Socket, Ratchet & Torque Wrench

Install the exhaust system in the order shown in **Photo #1** below. Reconnect the exhaust hangers (circled in **YELLOW**), reinstall the rear muffler hangers (arrows), and torque the cross brace bolts to 55 Nm (41 Ft-lbs). Adjust the exhaust system for proper fitment and snug the clamps but **DO NOT** fully tighten any of the clamps until **AFTER** you've performed all of the steps up through page 15. Closely inspect the exhaust system from front to back to ensure clearance between the pipes and nearby vehicle components.



CAUTION: You can tighten the exhaust clamps until they are “snug”, but **DO NOT USE AN IMPACT WRENCH** and do not fully tighten them yet!

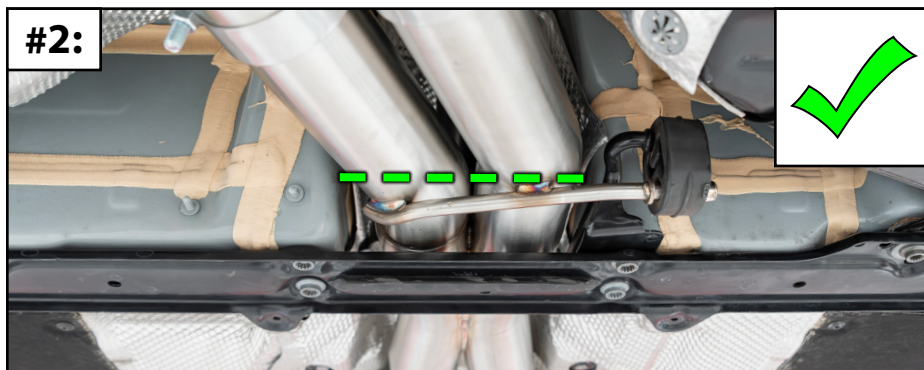


INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 7: 13mm, 15mm Sockets, Ratchet & Torque Wrench

Adjust the front pipes so that they are as tucked up as high as possible, while still allowing clearance for the transmission crossmember and heat shields. Ensure they are sitting level side-to-side (**Photo #1 below**) then tighten the clamps until snug. Inspect the X-pipe and ensure it is sitting level side-to-side (**Photo #2 below**) then tighten the clamps until snug. Adjust the tail pipes until they are level side-to-side and front-to-back inside the bumper cutouts (**Photos #3 & #4 below**). Ensure the tail pipes are the same distance from the rear valance on both sides of the vehicle then tighten the clamps until snug.

Once satisfied with the fitment, lift up on the system while you fully tighten each clamp, then allow the system to settle and check again for clearance around all pipes before proceeding.



INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 8: 13mm & 15mm Sockets, Ratchet

Check the hangers on the exhaust pipes to ensure that they are sitting level side-to-side (**Photo #1 & Photo #2 below**).

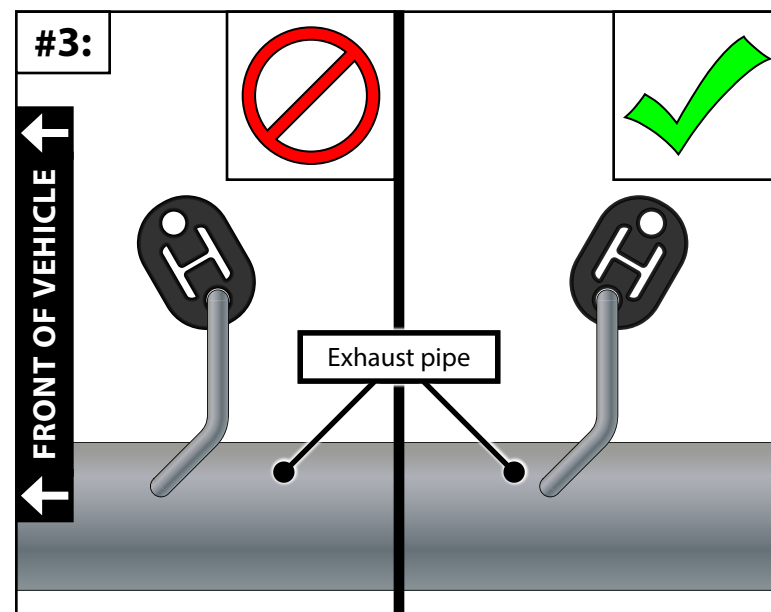
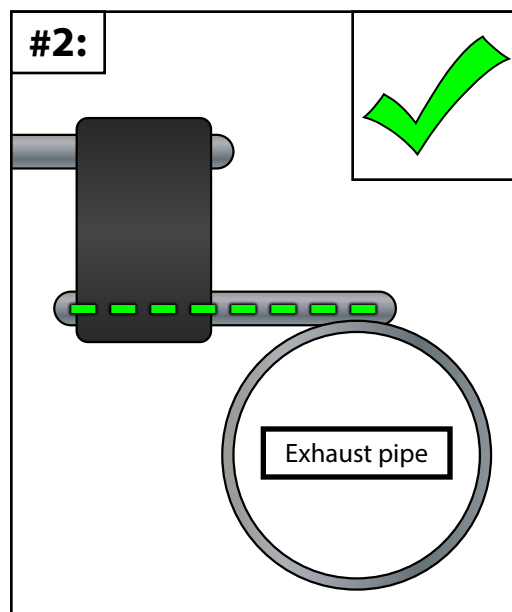
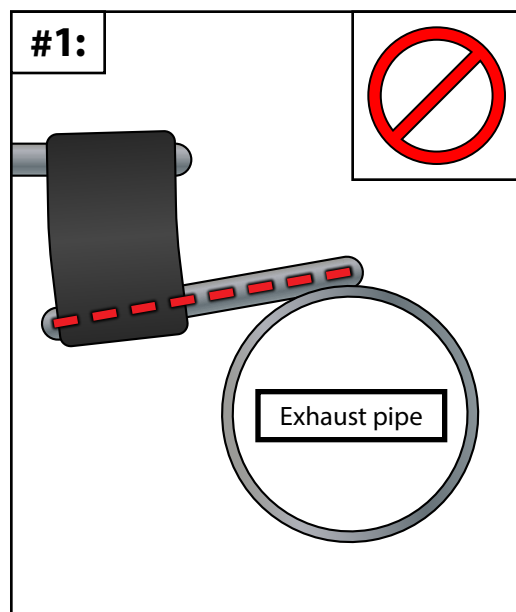
Finally, we want to ensure that the exhaust hangers are rotated at least slightly toward the front of the vehicle (**Photo #3 below**). The exhaust hangers should be inclined toward the front of the vehicle so that lower hole is approximately 10-15mm forward of the upper hole, this will allow the hangers to pivot backwards as the system heats up and expands.



Due to differences in manufacturing, as well as variations from one car to another, you might not be able to get all of your hangers to pitch forward. This is acceptable as long as they are at least close to vertical.



CAUTION: You can tighten the exhaust clamps until they are “snug”, but **DO NOT USE AN IMPACT WRENCH** and do not fully tighten them yet!



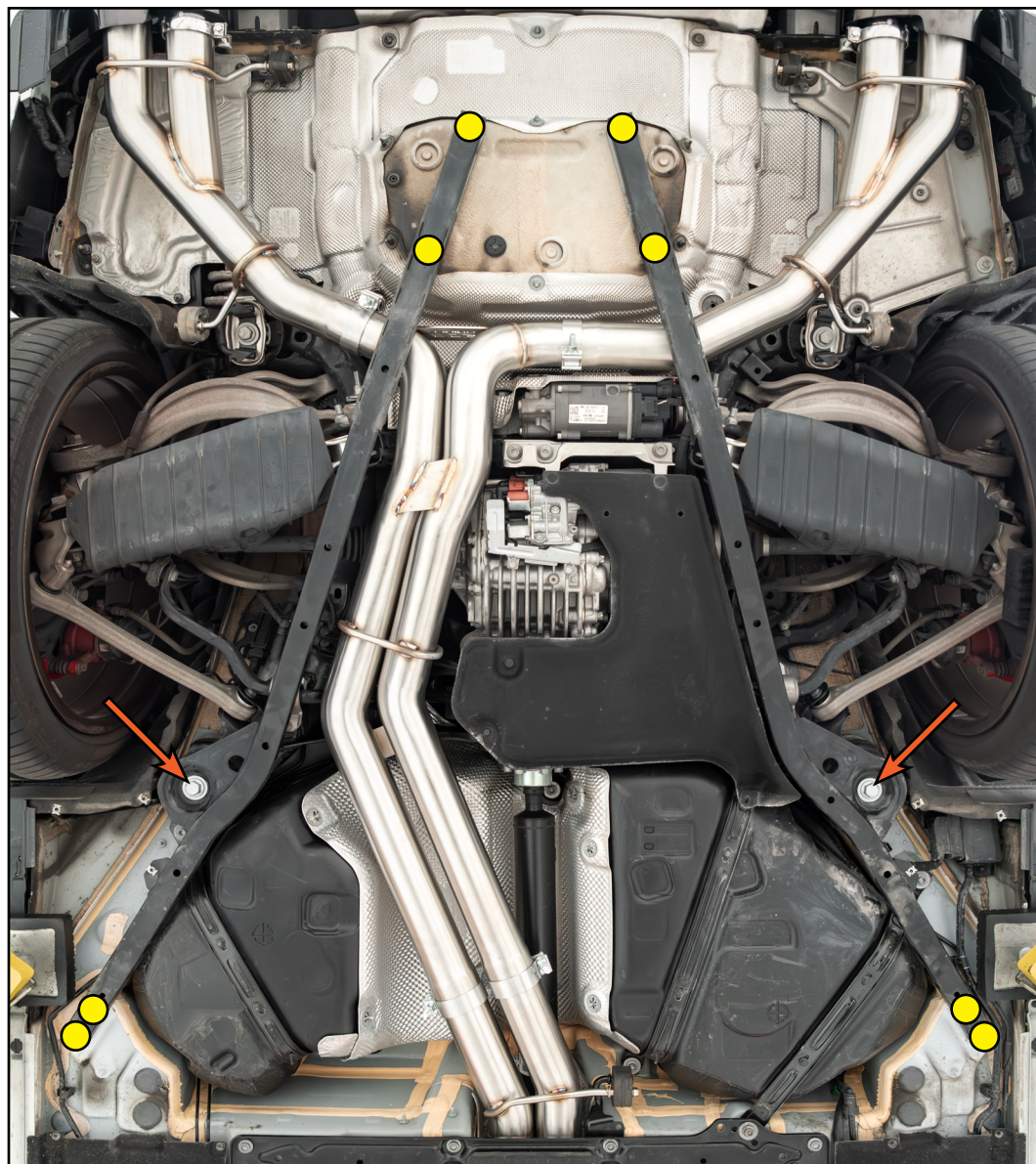
REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 9: Pole Jack, 21mm, 16mm Socket & Torque Wrench

Support the subframe from below with a pole jack, then remove the two frontmost subframe bolts. Reinstall the rear diagonal braces and loosely install the eight screws (YELLOW circles) to secure it in place. Replace the subframe bolts with the replacements provided in the kit (arrows), torquing them to 130 Nm (96 Ft-lbs) + 180 degrees, then torque the brace bolts to 40 Nm (30 Ft-lbs) + 90 degrees.

Verify proper clearance between the braces and the exhaust system, adjusting the exhaust system as needed to ensure clearance.

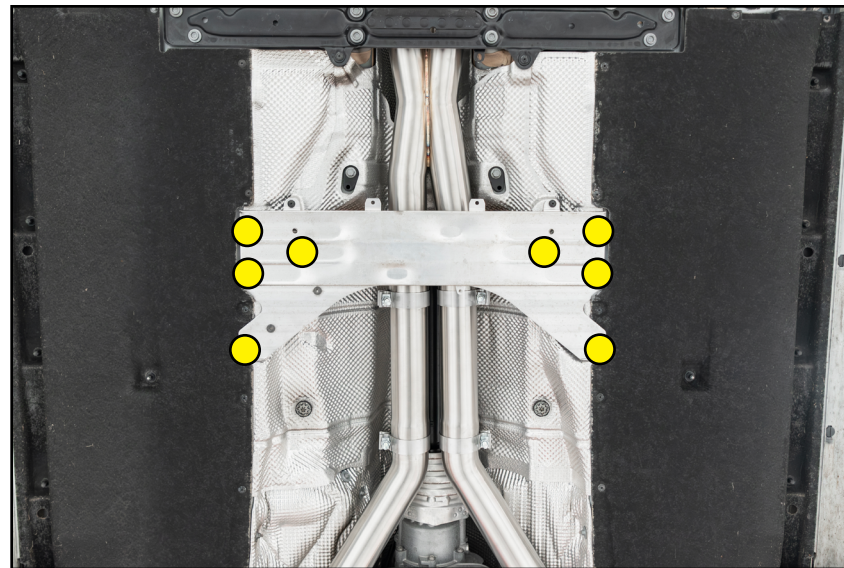
Reinstall the two rear plastic underbody panels (not shown).



REMOVING THE STOCK EXHAUST SYSTEM

Step 10: T25 Torx, M10 Triple Square Socket & Torque Wrench

Reinstall the front cross brace and tighten the screws (**YELLOW** circles) to 55 Nm (41 Ft-lbs).



Step 11: 13mm Socket & Ratchet

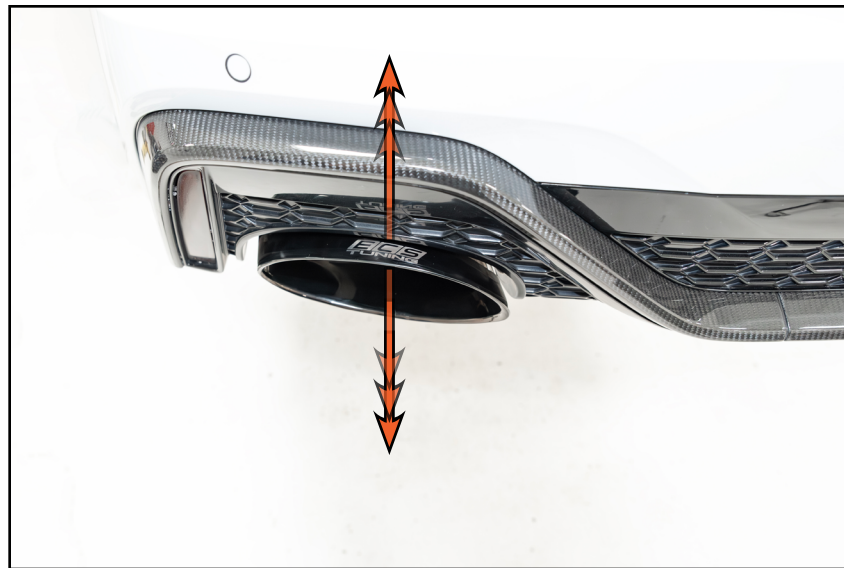
Slide the exhaust tips onto the tail pipes as shown, being sure to orient the clamps so that they can be easily accessed from below.



INSTALLING THE NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM

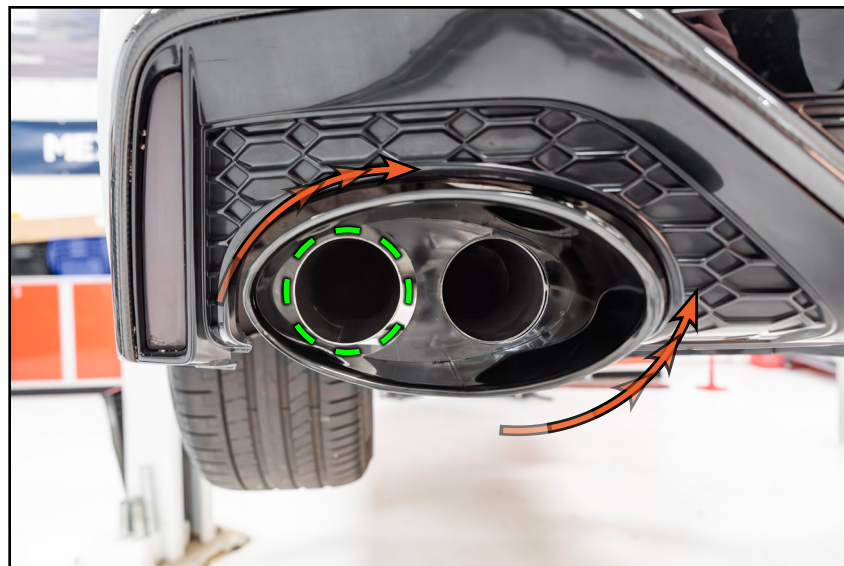
Step 12:

Slide the exhaust tips in or out until your desired depth is achieved.



Step 13: 13mm Socket & Ratchet

Rotate the exhaust tips to ensure the outer tail pipe is centered in the opening in each exhaust tip (**GREEN** lines), then tighten the clamp on each exhaust tip until fully snug.



Congratulations, your installation is complete!

Your Valved Exhaust System installation is complete!



These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning

Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

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