



1928–31 Ford Model A Front Four-Bar Kit Installation Guide

This guide summarizes the typical installation procedure for 1928–31 Ford Model A front four-bar suspension kit. The kit includes four bars, rod ends, batwing axle brackets, frame brackets, and mounting hardware.

1. Verify Parts

Confirm the kit contains the following components: four stainless four-bar tubes, four rod ends with bushings, two batwing axle brackets, 2 frame mounting brackets, and Bolt mounting hardware.

2. Install Batwings on the Front Axle

Install the batwing brackets over the Perch bolt bosses of the axle and then insert the spring perch bolt through the batwing and axle. Align them parallel with the axle centerline and lightly tighten the perch nuts. Do not fully torque them until final alignment.

3. Assemble the Four Bars

Install nylon bushings into the rod ends. Thread the rod ends halfway into each bar to allow adjustment later. Leave the jam nuts loose. Anti-seize on the threads is a good idea for future adjustments.

4. Attach Bars to Batwings

Attach the front rod ends of each bar to the batwing brackets. Use the adjustable end for the batwing attachment. Two bars are installed per side. Tighten bolts snug but leave enough movement for final adjustment.

5. Position and Weld Frame Brackets

This step usually requires welding.

1. Set the car at **final ride height**.
2. Hold the bars level with the ground.
3. Position frame brackets so the **rear rod ends line up naturally**.
4. Clamp brackets to the frame.
5. When satisfied, Tack weld brackets
6. Re-check measurements and cycle the front suspension meaning from compression to droop to check to see if axle and 4 bars are moving in a smooth motion and not binding.
7. Final welding can be completed to chassis brackets can be done once the below points have been checked off.

Important:

- Bars must be **parallel left-to-right**
- Bars should **not bind when moved through travel.**
- verify measurements, before final welding
- Frame brackets require welding. The front section of the Model A frame should ideally be boxed for strength. Ensure both four bars are equal length to avoid suspension binding or steering issues.
- Final welding Should be undertaken be a trained professional.

6. Panhard Bar

A panhard bar is recommended to control side-to-side axle movement.

IMPORTANT NOTE: A panhard bar is recommended but is NOT included in this kit and must be purchased separately. When installed, it typically mounts from one batwing to the opposite frame rail and should be level at ride height.

Alternative to a panhard Bar:

Using an adjustable perch bolt with dead perch can remove the need for a panhard bar set up.

7. Final Suspension Setup

Adjust both four-bar assemblies so they are equal length on each side. Confirm the axle is centered and square to the chassis.

Typical Alignment Targets

| Alignment Setting | Typical Target |
|-------------------|--|
| Caster | 6-8° positive |
| Camber | 0° (can vary -0.5 - + 0.5 and fixed on most axles) |
| Toein | 1/16" - 1/8" |