



Turbo Dodge Parts L-Body Quick Fit Shift Rod Installation

Installation of the TurboDodgeParts.com l-body quick-fit shift rods is very easy and straight forward. In brief, all you have to do is remove the existing shift rods and pop on the new ones and set the locks in place. Typical installation time should be less than thirty minutes and will only require a common mechanic hand tools such as a screwdriver and open ended wrench or two. These are the only tools needed to pop off the old shift rods and loosen/tighten the jam nut on the shift rod tube connector.

STEP 1: Remove the old shift rods from the shift levers. These are usually not difficult to remove and can often be removed with a little upward pressure from a screw driver or other suitable prying tool. Get under the old plastic end connector of the old rod and apply upward pressure. The old rod should pop off it's 13mm attachment ball.

STEP 2: Remove the shift rod tube connector from the differential bracket lever. This plastic connector is at the opposite end of the long shift tube where it is connected to the bottom of the shift handle. On the transmission end of this long shift tube, there is a plastic connector that locates on the differential cover shift lever assembly. It is attached to the lever on the 13mm attachment ball. Using a screwdriver or similar prying tool, upward force will cause the plastic connector to be released from the 13mm attachment ball.

STEP 3: Remove the plastic connector from the end of the shift tube. Using a 15 mm open end wrench, loosen the jam nut on the end of the long shift tube and turn the plastic connector counter-clockwise to remove the connector. Sometimes, these can be very stubborn to remove and you may have to apply heat and/or a penetrating oil and force to get the bolt to turn initially. No need to be concerned about breaking the plastic connector apart to get to the bolt with a pair of vice-grips for more force. If you can't get it to turn with a pair of grips, use a torch to heat the end of the rod, and then try again while it is still quite hot. It will come out if you get it hot enough. Just don't use so much force that you snap off the bolt in the tube requiring you to then drill and tap the 10mm x 1.5 thread hole out again. If it is stubborn, heat is the answer. Use caution, safety glasses and have a lot of respect for the properties of hot metal on skin! It's easy to get in a hurry and forget this....Ouch!

STEP 4. Install the two shift rods on to the shift levers. First remove the simple lock-wire spring by pushing up on its little handle located at the base of the ball housing. Note that the rod with three bends should be installed so that the bends hang downward towards the floor, not outward towards the firewall. If it's not hanging down, it is on backwards. The balls have an internal lock also. when the ball slides over the 13mm attachment ball, you will hear or feel a definite snap when it goes into place. Once the balls have been installed on the levers, reinstall the spring lock-wire by inserting the straight end through the small ball holes and then set the spring-lock down into the locked position by pushing the handle in the locked position over the base of the ball.



STEP 5: Install the shift rod tube end on the end of the shift tube. This is done by placing the larger jam nut as CLOSE to the smaller silver nut as possible. Then apply some red locktite to the exposed threads and screw the new connector into your shift tube, with the opening of the ball finally pointing down once the stud is fully inserted. Then tighten ONLY THE LARGER JAM NUT. The smaller silver nut has been locktite'd into place and you should avoid moving it. The ball has also been locktite'd onto the stud so that it will not easily be moved. Once you have the shift tube rod connector in place, install the spring-lock by inserting the straight portion of the lock wire through the small ball holes and then pushing the lock handle down around the base of the ball just like on the shift rods in step 4.



L-Body Quick Fit Shift Rods

