



2001 Chevrolet Suburban Rear Window Struts Replacement

Replace the rear window struts (also known as lift supports or lift support struts) on a 2001 Chevy Suburban.

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INTRODUCTION

If the rear window of your 2001 Chevrolet Suburban won't stay open, the struts (also known as lift supports or lift support struts) that hold it up need to be replaced. This guide will walk you through replacing these struts. It's important to replace failing struts because an unsupported window has the potential to dangerously drop on your head or shatter against any cargo sticking out.

Special Considerations

You'll want to consider the following:

- *Having a partner is immensely helpful.* Having someone hold the window open is easier (and safer) than propping it open.
- *Some users may need a step stool.* Due to the height of the upper strut joints, some users may find it more comfortable to use a step stool or step ladder.

Hazards

This procedure isn't dangerous, but be aware of the following hazards:

- *The window could fall and hurt you.* Be sure it's secure.
- *The tabs on the struts could be flung into your eyes.* The risk of this is low unless you try to completely remove the tabs or use excessive force when loosening them.
- *The grease on the strut joints and mounting studs is toxic.* Wash your hands when you're done.



TOOLS:

- [Flathead Screwdriver](#) (2)
one small (about 1/8" by 2") and one large (about 1/4" by 4")
The smaller screwdriver loosens the tabs on the struts. The larger one can loosen the tabs further, if needed.



PARTS:

- [2001 - 2006 Chevrolet Suburban Rear Window Lift Strut](#) (2)
Several manufacturers produce struts for '01 Suburbans - you can consult with your local auto parts dealer to find a brand that suits your needs.

Step 1 — Rear Window Struts



- Open the window.
 - Support the window with either a partner's hands or a sturdy prop.
- i** A prop is used in the photos.

Step 2



- Position the small screwdriver on the indentation in the lower joint of the strut.
- Gently wedge the screwdriver under the metal locking tab and pop it out.
- ⓘ You don't have to completely remove the tab—just make sure it doesn't pop back into place. Getting a screwdriver completely under it (as shown) is usually enough.
- ⓘ If needed, use the larger screwdriver to help loosen the tab.

Step 3



- Position the screwdriver on the indentation in the upper joint.
- Gently wedge the screwdriver under the metal locking tab and pop it out.

Step 4



- Stand at the back of the vehicle (behind the rear bumper) and face the lower joint of the strut.
- Grab the lower joint.
- Pull firmly, straight towards you and slightly upwards until the joint pops off.

Step 5



- Stand at the side of the vehicle and face the upper joint of the strut.
- Grab the upper joint.
- Pull firmly, straight towards you until the joint pops off. Do not pull upwards or downwards.

Step 6



- Remove the new strut from its packaging.
- Align the socket of the upper joint with the mounting stud.
- ⓘ The upper joint is on the end with the thick black plastic.
- Firmly press the joint until it snaps on.

Step 7



- Align the socket of the bottom joint with the mounting stud.
- ⓘ The bottom joint is on the end with the bare metal rod.
- Firmly press the joint until it snaps on.

Repeat this process for the other strut. That's it!