

M7 R53 Strut Tower Brace (STB)

p/n: 53-5M7102

Installation Guide



NOTE: This product DOES NOT FIT the base model MINI Cooper (Non 'S')

Tools (not included):

- 13 mm Socket
- Ratchet
- Torque Wrench
- (Optional) 6mm hex drive socket
- (Optional) 8mm hex drive socket
- (Optional) Wood block 2"x4" x 6"-12"
- (Optional) Hammer



Installation

- 1) Take a look at the top of each strut tower. Use a short 6" straight edge and inspect the tops of your strut towers. You can also use the M7 strut tower plates to check flatness. They should sit flat with no rocking or visible gaps at the mating surface. If you notice any mushrooming, where the straight edge or M7 plate does not lay flat against the steel, continue with step 1a. If your strut towers are flat, move to step 2.
 - a. If you removed the 3 nuts which hold your struts in place to check tower flatness – reinstall them now. Finger tight is OK. Final torque will be done in step 4.
 - b. Jack up the front end of your car to relieve pressure on the strut towers.

CAUTION: DO NOT HAMMER ON THE STEEL WITHOUT THE WOOD BLOCK.

- c. Place a wood block (a short scrap of 2"x4" will work) over the mushroomed portion of the strut tower and hammer on the wood until the strut tower becomes flat again. You will have to hit the block hard to get the steel structure to return flat.
- d. Check flatness by placing the appropriate M7 strut tower plate on the strut tower and check if it sits flat and does not rock.
- e. When the strut towers have flattened out, bring the car back onto the ground, guiding the 3 strut tower studs through the tower and move on to step 2.

2) Assemble the M7 Strut Tower Brace Kit: 5 pieces

Be sure the notched bar is on the left side or driver's side (US) of the car or the bar will not fit correctly. Tighten the 4 countersunk screws which connect the 3 strut bar pieces together to 35-lb-ft (47.5 Nm) Leave the 4 socket head cap screws which attach the end of the bar to the strut tower plates loose. This will allow you to align everything for proper placement of the entire unit.



CAUTION:
STEPS 3 through 5 MUST BE DONE WITH WEIGHT ON THE WHEELS - DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DO IT WITH THE CAR JACKED UP AND NO WEIGHT ON THE WHEELS



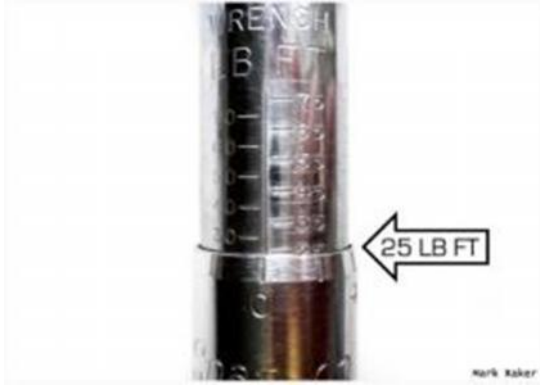
3) Using the 13mm socket, remove the 6 nuts at the top of the strut towers (3 on each side).

Line up the holes of the strut tower brace plates with the bolts from the struts and place the Strut Tower Brace plates over the strut towers.

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- 4) Using the same 6 nuts from step 3, secure the M7 Strut Tower Brace plates to the strut towers and torque down to **25 lb-ft (34 Nm)** each. Do not attempt to tighten over this specification as it may cause damage to your struts.



- 5) Center and align the Strut Tower Brace cross bar. Tighten all M7 Strut Tower Brace bolts to **35 ft-lbs (47.5 Nm)**



You are Finished. Take your car for an aggressive ride on your favorite curvy stretch of road and feel the difference in steering response and overall increased control.

Enjoy the Ride.....



If you have questions or need additional technical support, please email tech@m7tuning.com or call our office at 704-663-0094 Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm EST