



Switch Suspension 67-72 C-10 cowl mounted hood hinges are the perfect solution for tire clearance or just cleaning up the engine compartment. Installation does require some drilling, cutting and welding. If you or your installer are not experienced with this type of work please seek professional help for the installation. Installation can be completed in 4-6 hours. Read these instructions completely before installation. YouTube video of the install process is also available online.

The first step is to remove your factory hood, hood hinges and wiper cowl. Next, place a piece of masking tape roughly in the center of your cowl and get two more pieces of tape ready for marking the hinge locations. Measure to find the center of your cowl and draw a vertical line on the tape. Measure out 23" from the center line (left and right) and draw a vertical line on the tape to determine the location for the hinge bases. Double check your measurements. The distance between the two outer marks should measure 46". This is the distance from the center of hinge to center of hinge.

Next you will need to make a template of the hinge face using a piece of paper or poster board. Disassemble the hinge arms from the hinge bases. Trace the face of the hinge base onto your poster board and mark the 4 holes as well as a slot for the hinge arm to come through the cowl. Line up the center of your template with the vertical line made on the cowl and mark the 4 holes for mounting the hinge base as well as marking the top and bottom of the hinge arm slot. The height of the template should be set by the hinge bases when they are sitting flat inside the cowl. Once you have marked the locations, drill all 4 hinge base mounting holes with a 5/16" drill bit. Drill the top and bottom of the hinge arm slot with a 9/16" drill bit. Finish cutting the hinge arm slot with a body saw or cutoff wheel. Set the hinge base in the cowl and bolt up to the cowl with only two bolts. The hinge base should sit completely flat against the bottom of the cowl. The hinge bases are specific to driver & passenger side. Mark the final two mounting locations for the hinge base on the inside of the cowl. Remove the hinge base and drill the final two holes inside the cowl with a 5/16" drill bit.

Insert the hinge base into the cowl and loosely install all the mounting hardware. If equipped, also include the hood lift strut bracket, sandwiching the cowl sheet metal between it and the hinge base. At this point you may need to trim the firewall pinch to make clearance for the lift strut bracket. The mounting holes for the struts will go on the bottom of the bracket when installed. Once all hardware is loosely installed torque to 25 ft lbs. Slide the hinge arm through the cowl and re-assemble with the hinge base. Run the hinge arm up and down, checking for clearances and make adjustments if necessary. Do not install the hood lift struts at this point.

The hood mounting pads for the hinges will need to be welded to the hood brace on the underside of the hood. The heat from the weld will not affect the paint on the exterior of the hood. There are two ways to tackle this task. The first way is to make the same measurements you made on the cowl. Find center of the hood and measure out (left and right) 23" and mark for center of the hood mounting pads. There is a specific left and right mounting pad. Tack weld in place and test fit the hood. Make adjustments if necessary. Once fitment is achieved, finish welding hood mounting pads. The second way is to loosely mount the hood mounting pads to the hinge arm. Remove the inner fenders and front wheels. Set the hood on the truck and latch the hood. Ensure that the hood is centered and fits correctly. Then tack weld the hood mounting pads onto the hood brace from underneath. Test for fitment, remove hood and finish welding the hood mounting pads. If equipped, install the 4 hood lift struts. Lower mounting can be on the inside of the firewall bracket or the outside of the bracket. We recommend the outside to triangulate the shocks and help stabilize the hood.