



How to change front  
suspension strut on  
**Dodge Caliber SRT4** –  
replacement guide

## VIDEO TUTORIAL



### **ⓘ Important!**

This replacement procedure can be used for:

DODGE Caliber 1.8, DODGE Caliber 2.4, DODGE Caliber 2.0 CRD, DODGE Caliber 2.4 Turbo, DODGE Caliber 2.2 CRD

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – DODGE  
CALIBER SRT4. TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Ceramic grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #17
- Combination spanner #18
- Combination spanner #21
- Torx bit T30
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 15
- Drive socket # 21
- Wheel impact socket #19
- Ratchet wrench
- Adjustable wrench
- Hammer
- Pin punch
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

**BUY TOOLS**

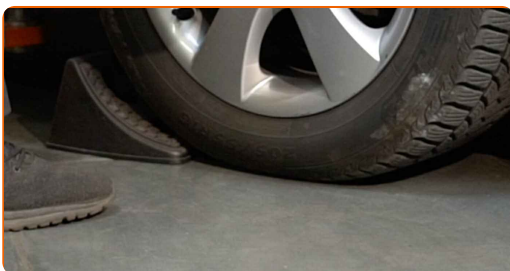
Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. AUTODOC recommends:

- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- Warning! Shut down the engine before starting any work – Dodge Caliber SRT4.

**CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

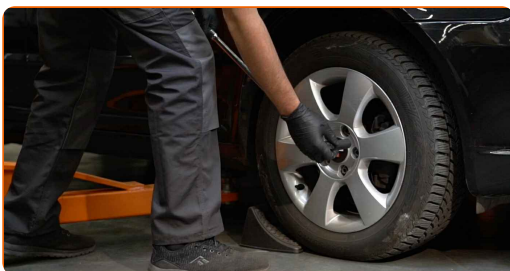
1

Secure the wheels with chocks.



2

Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19.



3

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



4

Unscrew the wheel bolts.

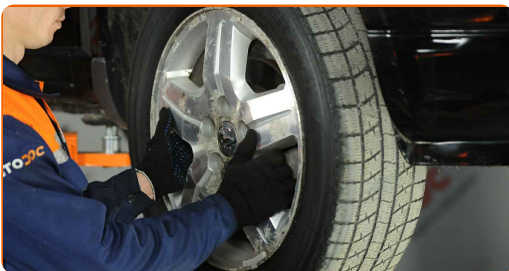


Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Tip:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

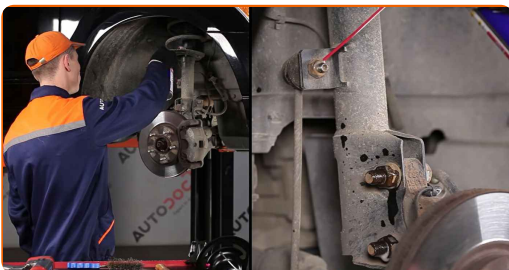
5

Remove the wheel.



6

Clean the fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Clean the fastener that connects the sway bar link to the suspension strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



- 7** Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #17. Use Torx T30. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 8** Remove the stabilizer rod.

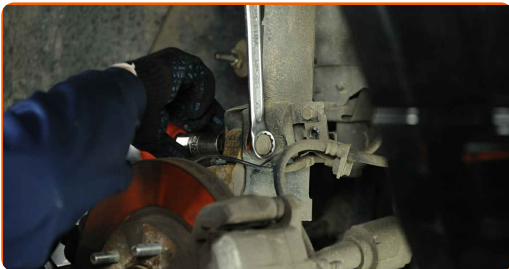
- 9** Unscrew the fastener that connects the brake hose bracket to the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



- 10** Remove the brake hose bracket.



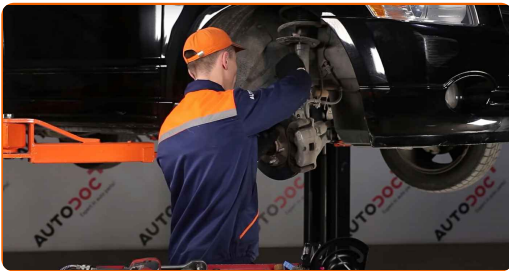
- 11** Unscrew the fasteners connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a drive socket #21. Use a ratchet wrench.



12 Remove the fastening bolts. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.



13 Disconnect the steering knuckle from the shock absorber strut.



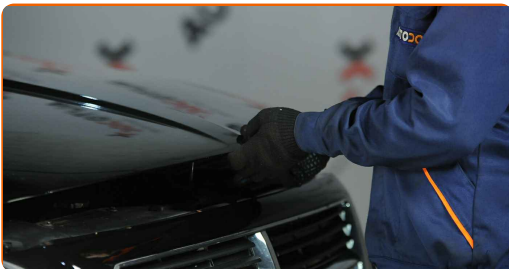
Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Make sure that the steering knuckle is supported.

14 Lower the car.



15 Open the bonnet.



**16** Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.

**17** Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

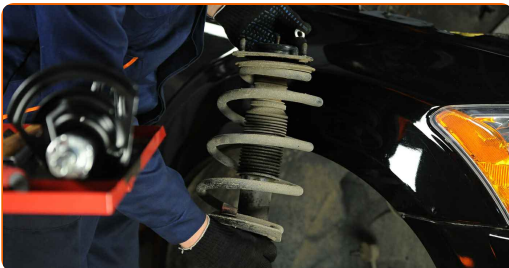
**18** Unscrew the upper fasteners of the shock strut. Use a drive socket #15. Use a ratchet wrench.



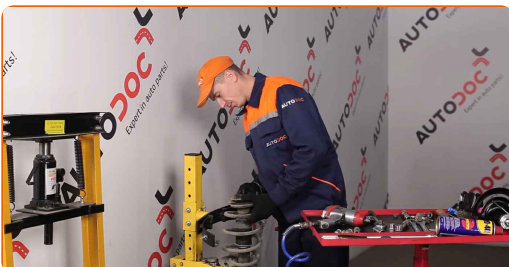
**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Dodge Caliber SRT4 – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

**19** Remove the suspension strut.



**20** Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.





Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

21

Compress the spring.

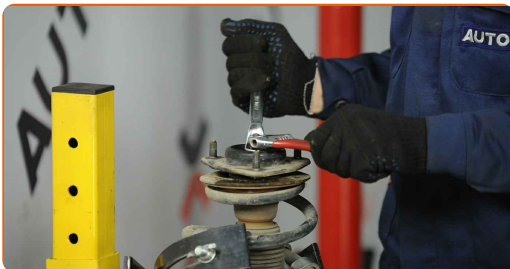


22

Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

23

Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use an adjustable wrench.



24 Remove the top strut mount. Use a crowbar.

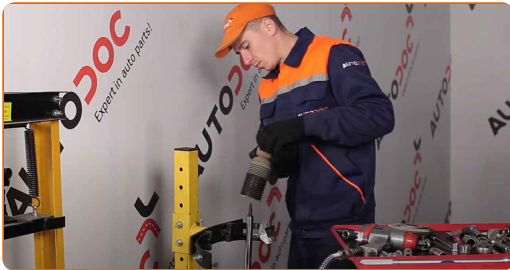


25 Release the coil spring.

26 Remove the spring.



27 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

28

Remove the rubber spring spacer.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Inspect the rubber mounts of the suspension spring. Replace if necessary.

29

Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



**Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Tip:**

- Inspect the rubber mounts of the suspension spring. Replace if necessary.
- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

30

Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



31

Install the rubber spring spacer.

32

Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.



33

Install the spring on the shock absorber.



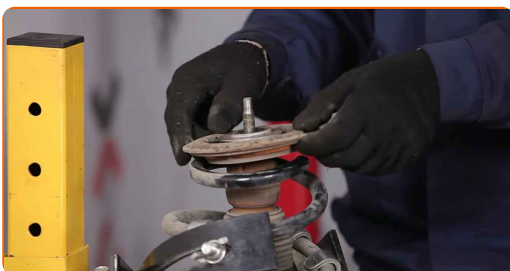
34

Compress the spring.



35

Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



- 36** Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use an adjustable wrench. Tighten it to 60 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. AUTODOC recommends:

- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

- 37** Decompress the spring.

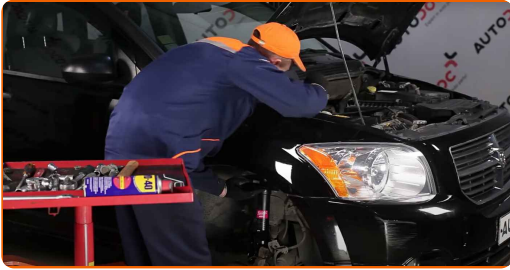
- 38** Remove the assembled shock strut.



- 39** Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



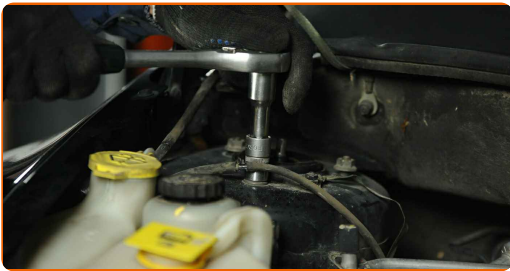
40 Secure the upper fasteners of the shock strut (3 pieces).



Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Tip from AUTODOC:

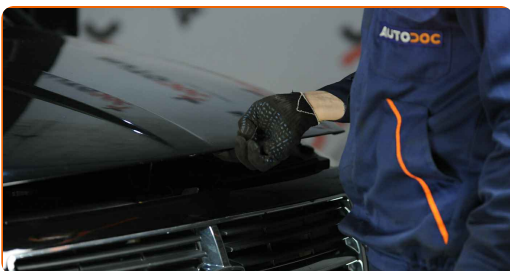
- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when screwing the fastening bolts in.

41 Tighten the upper fasteners of the shock strut. Use a drive socket #15. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 48 Nm torque.



42 Remove the fender protection cover.

43 Close the hood.



44

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



45

Treat the shock strut mounting seat on the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

46

Fix the shock absorber strut on the steering knuckle.



47

Install the fastening bolts. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.



48

Tighten the lower fasteners connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #21. Use a drive socket #21. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 84 Nm torque.



49 Install the brake hose bracket.



50 Tighten the fastener that connects the brake hose bracket to the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



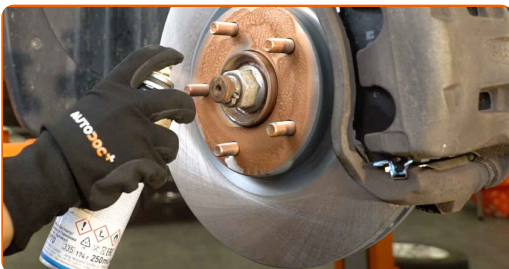
51 Install the transverse stabilizer link.

52 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #17. Use Torx T30. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 58 Nm torque.



53 Treat the shock strut fasteners. Treat all joints of the stabiliser link. Use copper grease.

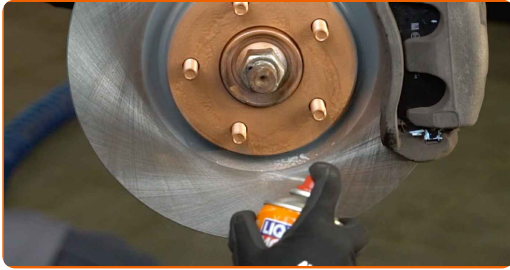
54 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use ceramic grease.





55

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



**AUTODOC recommends:**

- Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

56

Install the wheel.

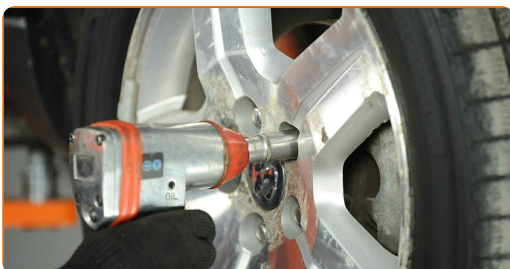


**Replacement: suspension strut – Dodge Caliber SRT4. Tip from AUTODOC experts:**

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

57

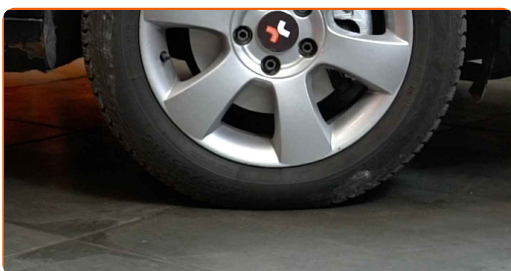
Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19.



- 58** Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #19. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 135 nm torque.



- 59** Remove the jacks and chocks.



**WELL DONE!** 

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