

# Myth buster #1:

## **Bilstein Shocks**

Strapped compressed or un-strapped

Bilstein shocks come both ways from the factory, with a plastic strap or without. Reason: If the box used is short, they will more then likely strap it so they can use a shorter box. There is NO effect to the shock whether or not is has been strapped or not during shipment or storage.

Setting vertical for a time period before installation:

NO reason for this at all. All mono-tube shocks made by Bilstein have no pre-charging state and will self prime after installation almost immediately. Shelf life is un-affected by storage position, extension or compression.

Ride height is higher after installation but will settle in a short time:

The Bilstein shocks are gas pressure shocks and as such will exert an extending pressure that aids the springs in supporting the vehicle. If replacing OEM, used, or worn out shocks, there should be a noticeable ride height change, BUT the ride height should not lower as there is NO “settling in” period for a gas pressure shock. The only reason for a lowering of ride height later would be loss of pressure in the shock and that would be considered a defective shock! Seal friction may (will) reduce in time but does not affect ride height.

Many times springs are replaced with shocks and the ride height will be higher and change (lower) in the first month or so of use, this is due to the springs settling in and not the shocks. Furthermore if the vehicle has been sitting with the weight off the springs for some period of time, ride height may be slightly higher when first setting the vehicle back on the wheels and they may “settle in” slightly again.

This information is quoted from Dan (customer service) at Bilstein West (858) 386-5900 and Scott at Bilstein East (704) 663-7563 with their permission.

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