

Installation Instructions

RX-8 Race Exhaust System

Read All Steps Before Proceeding.

Removal Steps:

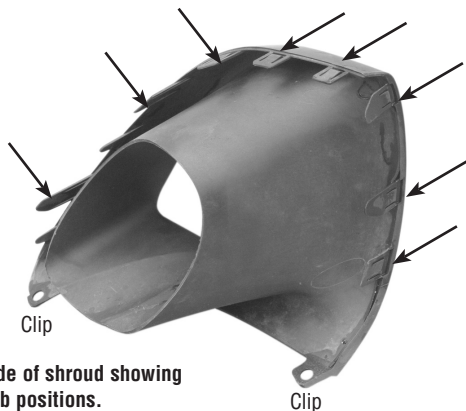
It is suggested that the stock exhaust be “cold” before attempting to install these components. Exhaust components (especially the catalytic converter) may retain heat for a substantial period of time after the car has been shut off. Further, you may experience difficulty removing the nuts on “hot” exhaust components. If you experience difficulty removing the nuts on a “cold” component, apply a loosening agent (i.e. WD 40) and slowly and carefully work the nuts off the studs. It is recommended that a “non-seizing” agent be applied to all threaded components during installation.

1. Raise the car and place it on jack stands. Never work on a car supported only by a floor jack.
2. Remove the grounding wire that is attached to the driver’s side of the muffler canister.
3. **We suggest that you chose one of the following steps when removing the stock exhaust system:**

2004-2008 RX-8 (2009-11 See Option 2)

Removal Option 1 - Requires removal of the plastic shrouds around the muffler tips

A. Remove the plastic shrouds from around the muffler tips. Locate and remove the two (2) retaining clips from the bottom of each shroud. Pry the head of the clip downward, then remove the clips. The shrouds are attached by a series of tabs (8 per shroud) that extend into the bumper. Gently pry each shroud away from the bumper, taking care not to damage these tabs. See the following photos for the location of these tabs.



Reverse side of shroud showing tab positions.

Clip



Opening showing tab positions. Take care not to damage tabs during removal!

B. Remove the two nuts (17mm head) that retain the stock exhaust to the catalytic converter section. Retain the springs and nuts for later use. To ease removal of the muffler and connecting pipe, spray the exhaust system hangers at the point at which they extend into the rubber hangers with a spray lubricant. (i.e. silicone spray, WD40, etc..) There are four (4) rubber hangers on the muffler, and one (1) on the connecting pipe.

D. The rubber hangers on the RX-8 are produced using a very firm rubber material and require moderate sideways force to remove them from the stock exhaust components. We suggest using a screwdriver to gently pry the rubber hangers off the end of each exhaust system hanger. Carefully lower the stock exhaust system to the ground.

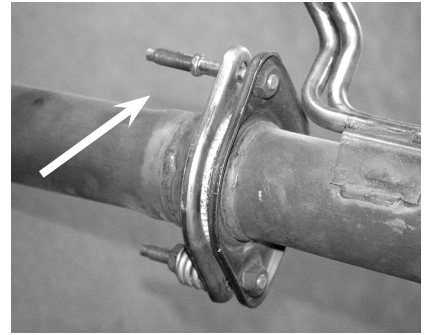
2004-11 RX-8

Removal Option 2 - Does NOT require removal of the muffler tip bumper shrouds:

Note: The 2009-11 RX-8 bumper does not feature the muffler tip shrouds found on the earlier models. When following these instructions, disregard references to these shrouds during the removal or installation.

This process requires the car to be supported by four (4) jack stands.

A. Remove the two nuts (17mm head) that retain the stock exhaust to the catalytic converter section. Retain the springs and nuts for later use. Remove the two studs that are threaded into the catalytic converter pipe section. To ease removal of the muffler and connecting pipe, spray the exhaust system hangers at the point at which they extend into the rubber hangers with a spray lubricant. (i.e. silicone spray, WD40, etc..) There are four (4) hangers on the muffler, and one (1) on the connecting pipe.



Remove retaining nuts, springs, and studs.

B. The rubber hangers on the RX-8 are produced using a very firm rubber material and require moderate sideways force to remove them from the stock exhaust components. We suggest using a screwdriver to gently pry the rubber hangers off the end of each exhaust system hanger. On 2004-08 models, to prevent damage to the plastic bumper shrouds, do not allow the muffler tips to rest on the shrouds.

C. Once the system has been removed from the hangers, lower the front of the connecting pipe and pull the system forward in the chassis, allowing the muffler tips to clear the plastic shrouds. Once the stock system has been removed, re-install the retaining studs onto the catalytic converter section.

Installation Steps:

Race Exhaust System Only: Attach the supplied extension hanger to the side of the muffler canister using the supplied washers and nuts. Mount the extension with the hanger positioned upwards.

4. Spray the rubber hangers with a lubricating spray. Lift the muffler section into position and install the rubber hangers [Four (4) hangers for the street exhaust, three (3) hangers for the race exhaust] onto the muffler hangers. This step may be facilitated through the use of an assistant.

5. Install the connecting pipe onto the chassis. Insert the supplied “ring” gasket into the recessed groove on the end of the connecting pipe flange. At the connection of the muffler and connecting pipe, install and tighten the supplied nuts/bolts to 28 ft/lbs.

6. Reuse the stock “donut” gasket between the connecting pipe and catalytic converter section. Install the studs, retaining springs, and nuts and tighten the nuts to 33-44 ft/lbs.

7. Attach the grounding wire to the muffler canister. Replace the plastic shrouds on the 2004-2008 RX8 if needed. CAUTION: These tips can become very hot during extended track use and damage may occur to these bumper shrouds depending on usage. You may decide to leave these off the vehicle during track use.

8. Lower the vehicle and start the car. Check for exhaust leaks at the muffler/connecting pipe junction.

Street Exhaust Adjustment Note: On some chassis it may be necessary to adjust the position of the muffler tips in relationship to the opening in the rear bumper. With the car “cool”, have an assistant loosen the nuts on the muffler/connecting pipe joint. Reposition the tips in the bumper opening, and while holding the muffler in this new position have your assistant tighten the nuts. Repeat this set as necessary. (If necessary, you can also loosen the connecting pipe/ catalytic converter section nuts and repeat these same steps.)