Apexi N1 Damper Manual



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The Apexi N1 Damper is a premium suspension component favored by car enthusiasts and professionals alike for its performance and adjustability. Designed for various applications, it combines advanced engineering with a user-friendly approach, allowing users to optimize their vehicle's handling and ride quality. This comprehensive article will provide an in-depth overview of the Apexi N1 Damper, including its features, installation process, adjustment settings, maintenance tips, and troubleshooting advice.

Overview of the Apexi N1 Damper

The Apexi N1 Damper is a coilover suspension system designed to enhance the performance of sports cars, street cars, and track vehicles. It is well-regarded for its balance between comfort and performance, making it suitable for daily drivers and competitive racing alike.

Key Features

- Adjustability: The N1 Damper allows for height adjustment and damping force tuning to suit different driving styles and conditions.
- Quality Construction: Built with high-quality materials, it features aluminum top mounts and a durable body designed to withstand the rigors of performance driving.
- Twin-Tube Design: This design improves shock absorption and provides a consistent ride quality across various terrains.
- Spring Rates: Comes with specific spring rates tailored to different vehicle models, ensuring optimal performance.

- Easy Installation: The kit includes all necessary hardware for a straightforward installation process.

Installation Process

Installing the Apexi N1 Damper requires some mechanical knowledge and the right tools. Here's a step-by-step guide to help you through the process.

Tools Required

- Socket set
- Wrench set
- Torque wrench
- Spring compressors
- Jack and jack stands
- Screwdriver set
- Measuring tape
- Leveling tool (for ride height adjustment)

Step-by-Step Installation Guide

1. Preparation:

- Park the vehicle on a flat surface and engage the parking brake.
- Gather all tools and materials needed for the installation.

2. Remove the Existing Suspension:

- Lift the vehicle using a jack and secure it with jack stands.
- Remove the wheels to access the suspension components.
- Detach the existing struts or shocks by unbolting them from the top and bottom mounts. Pay attention to any additional components such as sway bar links and brake lines.

3. Install the Apexi N1 Dampers:

- Position the new dampers in place, ensuring they are oriented correctly.
- Secure the dampers to the chassis using the provided bolts. Do not fully tighten yet to allow for adjustments.
- If applicable, install the springs onto the dampers. Use spring compressors to safely compress and install the springs if needed.

4. Reattach Other Components:

- Reattach any sway bar links, brake lines, or other components that were disconnected during removal.
- Ensure that all connections are secure and follow manufacturer specifications for torque settings.

5. Adjust Ride Height:

- Adjust the height of the dampers according to your desired ride height using the threaded collar on the coilover assembly. Ensure the vehicle is level during adjustment.

- 6. Reinstall Wheels:
- Reattach the wheels and lower the vehicle back to the ground.
- Tighten all bolts to the manufacturer's specifications using a torque wrench.

7. Final Check:

- Go around the vehicle and ensure that all components are properly secured.
- Take the vehicle for a short test drive to check for any irregularities in handling and ensure everything is working smoothly.

Adjustment Settings

One of the standout features of the Apexi N1 Damper is its adjustability. The ability to fine-tune suspension settings can significantly impact your vehicle's performance.

Damping Adjustment

The N1 Damper typically offers a range of damping adjustments:

- Soft Setting: Ideal for daily driving and comfort. This setting allows for more compression and rebound, providing a smooth ride over bumps.
- Medium Setting: A balanced option suitable for a mix of comfort and performance. It is recommended for occasional track use while retaining adequate ride quality.
- Hard Setting: Designed for track use or performance driving, this setting stiffens the suspension, reducing body roll and improving responsiveness.

To adjust the damping settings:

- 1. Locate the adjustment knob on the top of the damper.
- 2. Turn the knob clockwise to increase stiffness (hard setting) and counterclockwise to decrease stiffness (soft setting).
- 3. Make small adjustments and test drive the vehicle to find the optimal setting for your driving style.

Ride Height Adjustment

Adjusting ride height can improve handling characteristics and aesthetics. Follow these steps to adjust the ride height:

- 1. Measure Initial Height: Before making any adjustments, measure the current ride height from the ground to the fender lip.
- 2. Adjust the Collar: Loosen the locking collar on the coilover assembly and adjust the height by turning the threaded body. Raise or lower the vehicle as desired.
- 3. Recheck Height: After adjustment, remeasure the ride height to ensure accuracy.
- 4. Secure the Collar: Once the desired height is achieved, tighten the locking collar to prevent movement during driving.

Maintenance Tips

To ensure the longevity of your Apexi N1 Dampers, regular maintenance is essential. Here are some tips to keep your suspension in top condition:

- Regular Inspections: Periodically check for any signs of wear, leaks, or damage to the dampers and surrounding components.
- Clean the Components: Keep the dampers clean from dirt and debris, especially after driving in harsh conditions.
- Check Alignment: After installing the dampers, have the vehicle's alignment checked to ensure optimal handling and tire wear.
- Lubrication: Make sure any moving components are properly lubricated as per the manufacturer's recommendations.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

While the Apexi N1 Damper is a robust product, issues may arise. Here are some common problems and their solutions:

1. Excessive Noise

- Cause: Worn or damaged bushings or mounts.
- Solution: Inspect the mounts and bushings for wear. Replace any damaged components.

2. Uneven Ride Height

- Cause: Incorrect adjustment or uneven spring settling.
- Solution: Recheck and adjust the ride height on all corners to ensure uniformity.

3. Harsh Ride Quality

- Cause: Damping settings too stiff or incorrect spring rates.
- Solution: Adjust the damping settings to a softer setting and ensure the correct spring rates are installed for your application.

Conclusion

The Apexi N1 Damper is an exceptional choice for those looking to enhance their vehicle's suspension performance. With its adjustability, quality construction, and performance-oriented design, it caters to both daily drivers and track enthusiasts. By following the installation guide, utilizing the adjustment settings, performing regular maintenance, and troubleshooting common issues, you can maximize the performance and longevity of your Apexi N1 Dampers. Whether you're hitting the streets or the track, the N1 Damper is equipped to elevate your driving experience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Apex'i N1 damper?

The Apex'i N1 damper is designed to improve a vehicle's suspension performance by providing adjustable damping settings for enhanced handling and ride comfort.

Where can I find the Apex'i N1 damper manual?

The Apex'i N1 damper manual can usually be found on the official Apex'i website or through authorized retailers. It may also be available in PDF format on various automotive forums.

How do I adjust the damping settings on the Apex'i N1 damper?

To adjust the damping settings, locate the adjustment knob on the damper body and turn it clockwise for a stiffer setting or counterclockwise for a softer setting, following the guidelines in the manual.

What tools are needed for installing the Apex'i N1 dampers?

You typically need basic hand tools such as a socket set, wrenches, and a spring compressor for installation of the Apex'i N1 dampers.

Can the Apex'i N1 dampers be used for track racing?

Yes, the Apex'i N1 dampers are suitable for track racing due to their adjustable settings, allowing users to fine-tune their suspension for optimal performance on the track.

What vehicles are compatible with the Apex'i N1 dampers?

The Apex'i N1 dampers are available for a variety of makes and models, including popular Japanese sports cars. Check the product specifications for compatibility with your vehicle.

How often should I check the Apex'i N1 damper settings?

It's recommended to check the damper settings regularly, especially before track days or long drives, to ensure optimal performance and handling.

Is professional installation recommended for the Apex'i N1 dampers?

While experienced DIYers can install the dampers, professional installation is recommended for those unfamiliar with suspension work, to ensure proper setup and safety.

What maintenance is required for the Apex'i N1 dampers?

Regular maintenance includes checking for leaks, ensuring that the adjustment knobs function properly, and inspecting the dampers for any signs of wear or damage.

How do the Apex'i N1 dampers compare to other aftermarket options?

The Apex'i N1 dampers are known for their quality and adjustability, often providing a good balance between daily drivability and performance compared to other aftermarket options.

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