

Installation Tips: Steering Cylinder



When installing any cylinder it is important to ensure that the rod ends or clevises are mounted in the same plane. This plane should be that which the steering arms create as they move. They should be installed flat (horizontal). This will allow the greatest range of motion and help ensure that no binding occurs. The cylinder should be pushing the steering arm side to side only, not up or down.

Double ended cylinders should be centered between the two steering arms. This will keep the tie-rods the same length allowing the steering system to work consistently throughout its range of motion.

Proper placement in front of (or behind) the axle is crucial for optimal performance and reliability. The following is the ideal method for determining this position:

- 1. Measure and record the greatest distance achievable between the axle center line and the tie-rod mounting hole by turning the knuckle as if to steer.
- 2. Measure and record the shortest distance achievable between the axle center line and the tie-rod mounting hole by turning the knuckle.
- 3. Take the average of these two numbers by adding them together and dividing by two. This is the ideal distance from the axle center line to the cylinder center line. Example: the greatest distance is measured at 8" and the shortest distance is measured at 4." Add these together to get 12." Divide this by two to get the mounting distance from the center line of the axle to the center line of the cylinder of 6."

