



**Audi B9 SQ5 3.0T ECS Center X-Pipe  
Installation Instructions - [ES4164364](#)**



**Skill Level  
2 - Moderate  
Some Experience  
Recommended**



Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

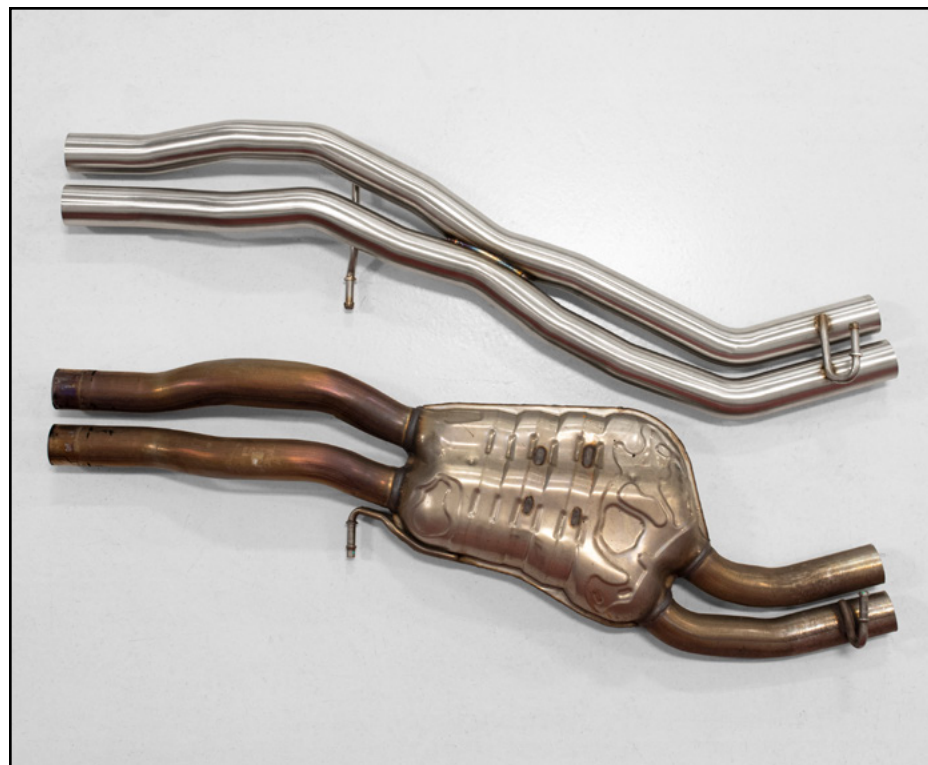
## INTRODUCTION

### The Project:

Today we are going to install our center X-pipe onto a B9 SQ5 3.0T. This pipe has been designed by the engineering team at ECS Tuning to improve the flow of exhaust and give your SQ5 a subtle, deep tone without the need for a costly full cat-back exhaust system. This job requires only a few basic tools and we provide all the clamps so installation is a breeze! Patience and attention to detail are crucial for proper installation of this product, so take your time and remember: measure twice, cut once!

The photo on the right shows the new X-pipe next to the stock resonator that we will be removing today. As you can see, the new pipe will be a direct replacement for the stock center resonator, and will utilize the stock hanger location and clamps.

Be sure to read these instructions completely before you begin the project, and don't be afraid to refer back if you get stuck. Thank you for choosing ECS Tuning for all your performance and repair needs, we appreciate your business!



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**KIT CONTENTS**



Center X-Pipe (QTY 1)



Sleeve Clamp (QTY 4)

**REQUIRED TOOLS**

Note: The tools required for each step will be listed by the step number throughout these instructions.

**Standard Automotive Tools**

- Protecta-Sockets (for lug nuts)..... [ES#2221243](#)
- **3/8" Drive Ratchet**..... [ES#2765902](#)
- 3/8" Drive Torque Wrench..... [ES#2221245](#)
- **3/8" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets** ..... [ES#2763772](#)
- 3/8" Drive Extensions ..... [ES#2804822](#)
- **Hydraulic Floor Jack** ..... [ES#2834951](#)
- **Torx Drivers and Sockets** ..... [ES#11417/8](#)
- **1/2" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets**..... [ES#2839106](#)
- **1/2" Drive Ratchet**
- 1/2" Drive Extensions
- 1/2" Drive Torque Wrench..... [ES#2221244](#)
- **1/2" Drive Breaker Bar** ..... [ES#2776653](#)
- Bench Mounted Vice
- Crows Foot Wrenches
- Hook and Pick Tool Set ..... [ES#2778980](#)

**Required For This Install**

- 1/4" Drive Ratchet..... [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets ..... [ES#2823235](#)
- 1/4" Drive Extensions ..... [ES#2823235](#)
- Plier and Cutter Set..... [ES#2804496](#)
- Flat and Phillips Screwdrivers ..... [ES#2225921](#)
- **Jack Stands** ..... [ES#2763355](#)
- Ball Pein Hammers
- Pry Bar Set..... [ES#1899378](#)
- Electric/Cordless Drill
- Wire Strippers/Crimpers
- Drill Bits
- Punch and Chisel Set
- Hex Bit (Allen) Wrenches and Sockets ..... [ES#11420](#)
- Thread Repair Tools ..... [ES#1306824](#)
- Open/Boxed End Wrench Set ..... [ES#2765907](#)

**Available On Our Website**

**Specialty Tools**

- **Exhaust Hanger Removal Pliers** ..... [ES#2784927](#)
- **Exhaust Pipe Cutter** ..... [ES#3106581](#)
- **Die Grinder - OR - Metal File**



## INSTALLATION NOTES

- **RH** refers to the *passenger side* of the vehicle.
- **LH** refers to the *driver side* of the vehicle.
- Always use the proper torque specifications.
- If applicable to this installation, torque specifications will be listed throughout the document and at the end as well.
- Please read all of these instructions and familiarize yourself with the complete process **BEFORE** you begin.

## GENERAL PREPARATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

ECS Tuning cares about your health and safety, please read the following safety information. This information pertains to automotive service in general, and while it may not pertain to every job you do, please remember and share these important safety tips.

- Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses.
- Make sure the parking brake is applied until the vehicle is safely lifted and supported.
- Whether lifting a vehicle using an automotive lift or a hydraulic jack, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points.
- Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- **ALWAYS** support the vehicle with jack stands.
- **ALWAYS** read and follow all safety information and warnings for the equipment you are using.

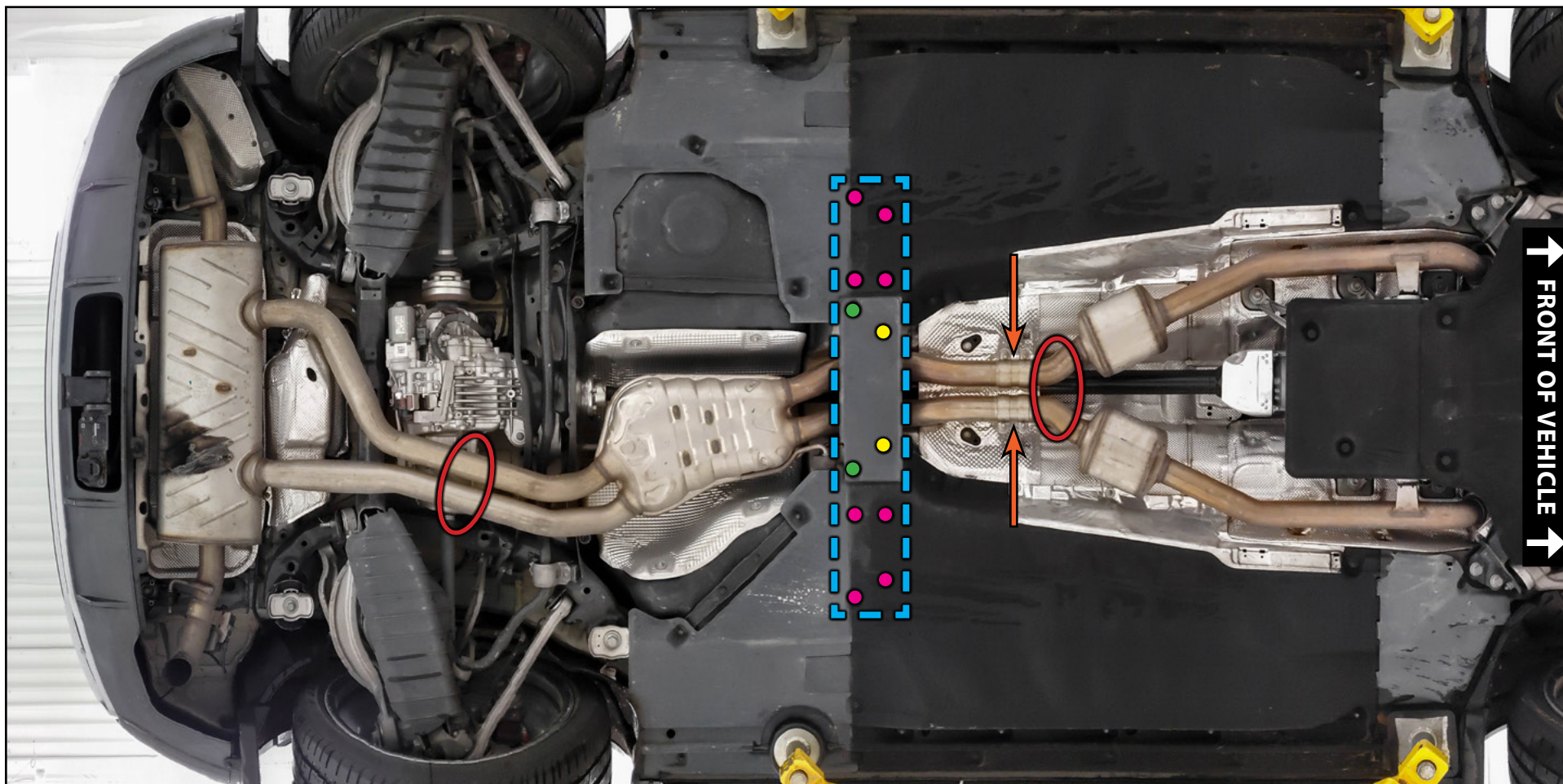


**NEVER** get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and **ALWAYS** make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.

## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

### Step 1: 13mm Socket & Ratchet

Support the front of the exhaust system from below (circled in **RED**). Loosen the sleeve clamps (arrows), then slide them rearward onto the stock resonator pipe. Next we need to remove the rear cross brace (represented by a **BLUE** dashed line). Remove two T25 screws (**GREEN**) and two 10mm plastic nuts (**YELLOW**) from the plastic panel underneath the cross brace. Loosen the plastic panels underneath the vehicle to gain access to the eight 16mm bolts (**PINK**) which secure the rear cross brace to the vehicle. Remove the cross brace.

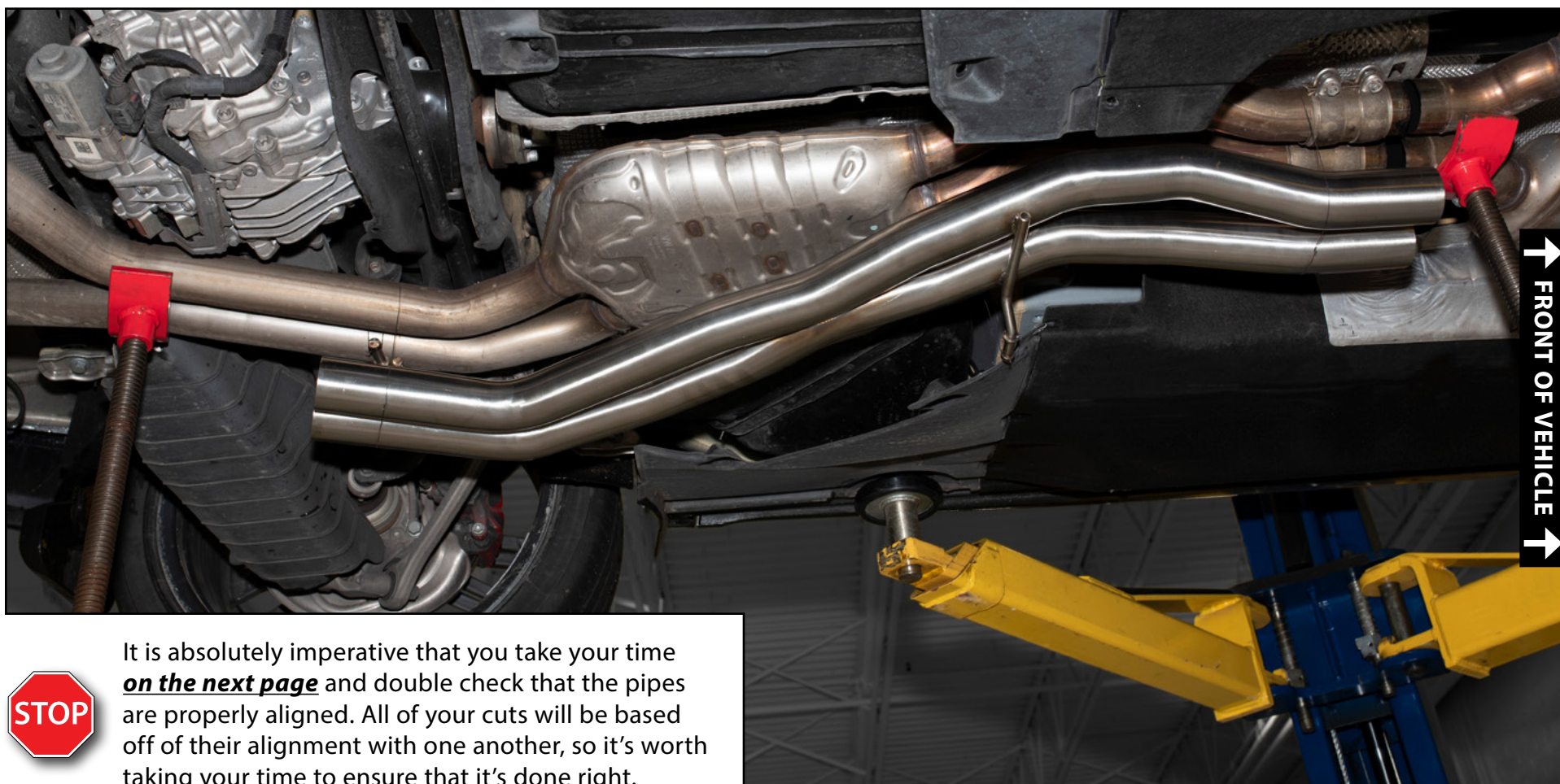




## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

### Step 2: Mechanic's Wire

Loosely secure the new ECS X-pipe up against the stock center resonator with mechanic's wire.

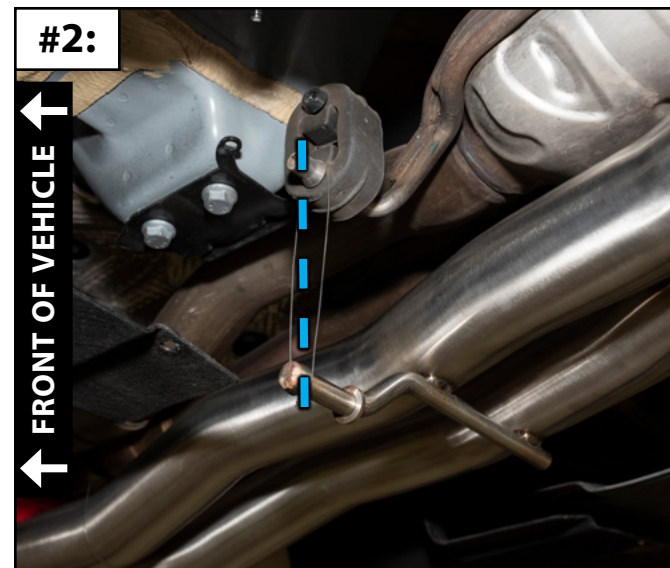
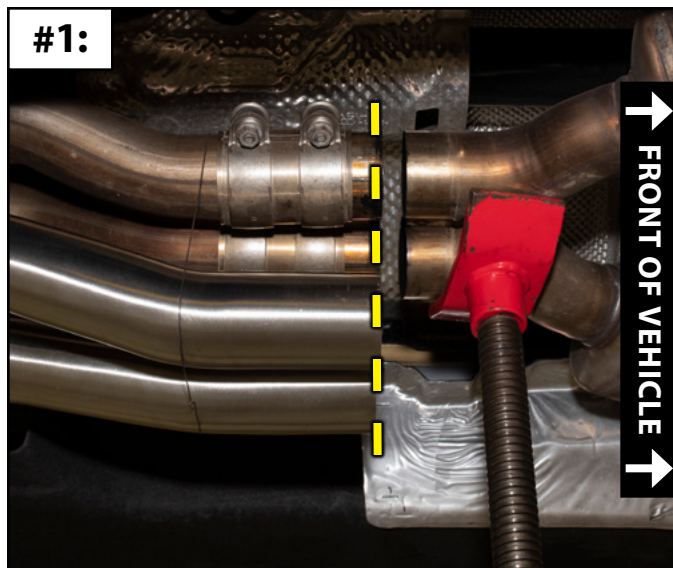


It is absolutely imperative that you take your time ***on the next page*** and double check that the pipes are properly aligned. All of your cuts will be based off of their alignment with one another, so it's worth taking your time to ensure that it's done right.

## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

### Step 3:

- #1 Align the front edge of the X-pipe with the front edge of the stock resonator (**YELLOW** line in **photo #1**).
- #2 Align the hanger rods with one another (**BLUE** line in **photo #2**).
- #3 Draw an imaginary line from the rear of the X-pipe up to the stock resonator. Make a mark on the stock pipes here with a permanent marker (**GREEN** line in **photo #3**). Masking tape can be used as a guide.
- #4 Support the rear of the exhaust from below (not shown). Cut along the lines we just made in #3, being sure to cut as straight as possible until you cut all the way through the pipe, then ***proceed to the next page.***

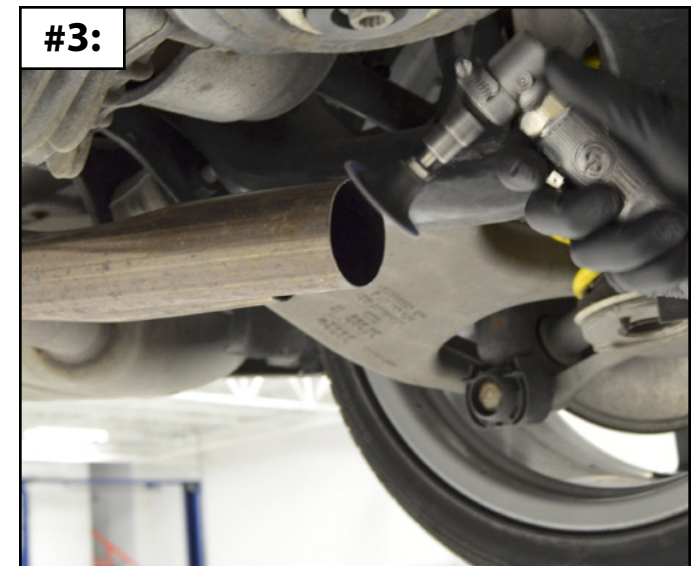




## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

### Step 4:

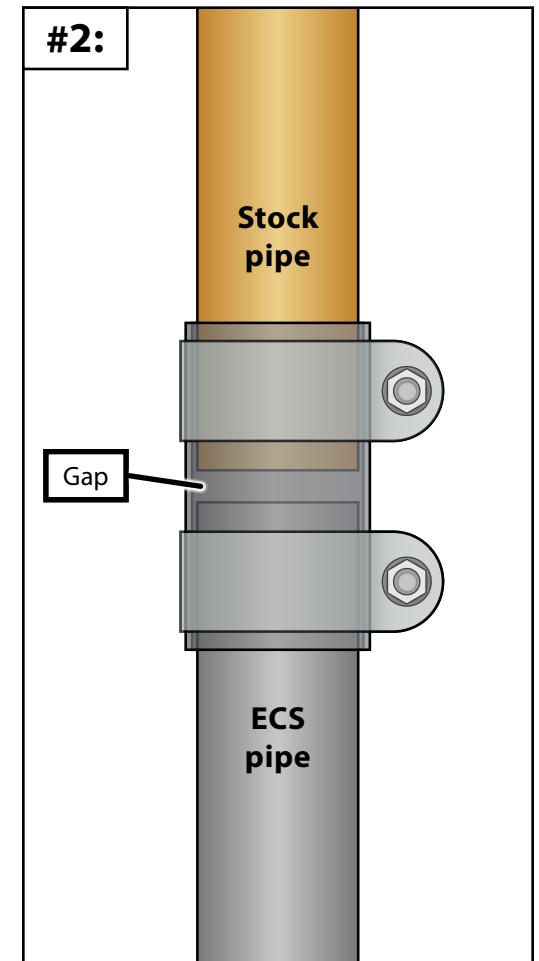
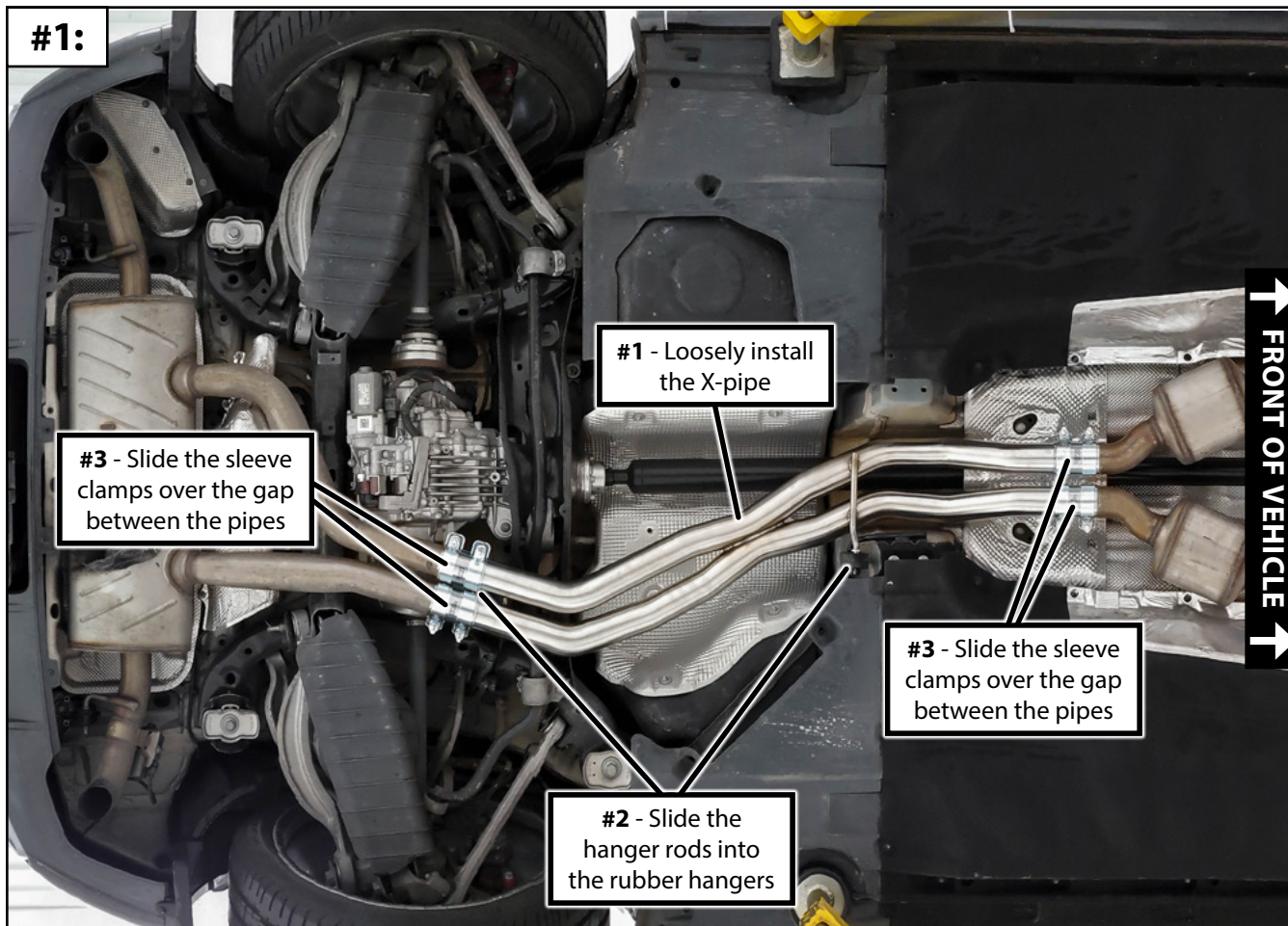
- #1 Release the front and rear exhaust hangers from the stock resonator (front only shown in **photo #1**).
- #2 Remove the stock resonator from the vehicle (**photo #2**).
- #3 Use a metal file or die grinder to remove any burrs from the exhaust pipe that we cut, this will ensure a proper fit and seal once the new pipe is installed (**photo #3**).



## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

**Step 5:** 17mm Socket & Ratchet

Slide the clamps onto the X-pipe, then loosely install it into place (**photo #1**). Ensure that the hanger rods are fully inserted into the rubber isolators. Center the sleeve clamps over the gap between the pipes (**photo #2**), then tighten them until they make contact, but leave everything loose for now while we work to fine-tune the exhaust system for proper fitment.

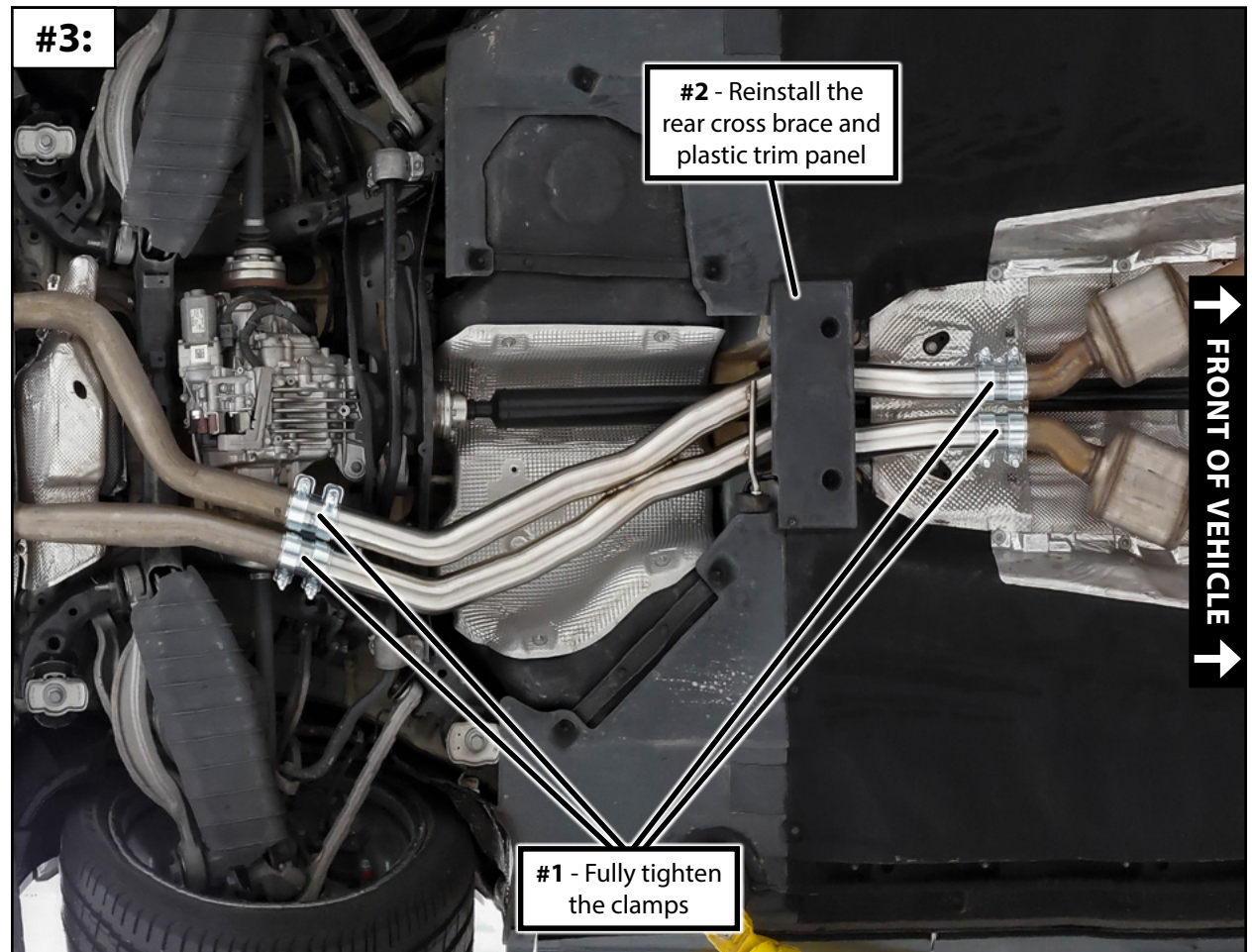
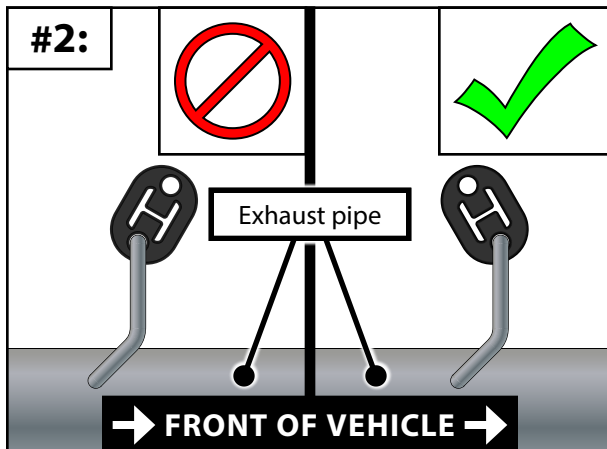
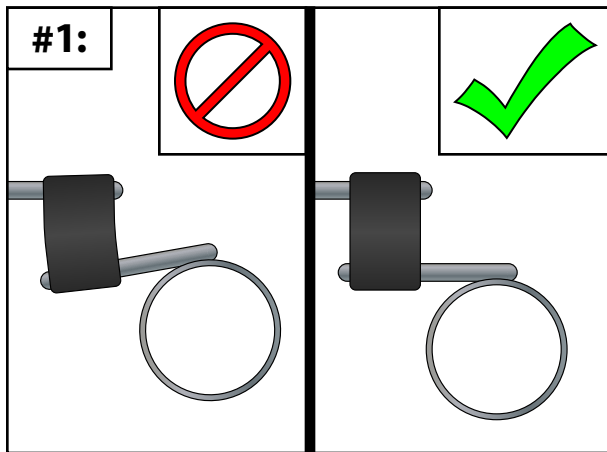




## INSTALLING THE CENTER X-PIPE

### Step 6: 17mm Socket & Ratchet

Level the hanger rods side-to-side (**photo #1**). Ensure that the rubber exhaust hangers are rotated at least slightly toward the front of the vehicle (**photo #2**). Once the system is all adjusted you can push upward on the exhaust system while fully tightening each of the clamps (**photo #3**). Check for clearance around all pipes. Wipe any oil, grease, or fingerprints from the exhaust system. Reinstall the rear cross brace and plastic trim panel (**photo #3**). Recheck all fasteners after the vehicle has been driven 500 miles.



***Congratulations, your center X-pipe kit installation is complete!***



## Your ECS Center X-Pipe installation is complete!



### **These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning**

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