CorkSport Performance

AXO-3-428 Rear Brake Pads

Installation Instructions for the CorkSport Performance Rear Brake Pads for 2019+ Mazda 3.

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INTRODUCTION

In this installation guide we have provided step by step instructions to remove the OEM rear brake pads and install the CorkSport Performance Brake Pads.

Advisory:

- Working under the vehicle requires a safe and sturdy location for the vehicle to sit on jackstands.
- Pad bedding must be done properly to prevent braking issues. Follow the instructions carefully to prevent vehicle damage or personal injury.
- If the vehicle is driven without ending maintenance mode, it could result in an accident. After performing the maintenance mode work, always end maintenance mode.

TOOLS:

- Hydraulic Jack (1)
- Jack Stand (2)
- 3/8" Ratchet (1)
- 1/2" Breaker Bar (1)
- 1/2" Torque Wrench (1)
- 21mm Socket - Deep (1)
- 7mm Allen Key Socket (1)
- Flathead Screwdriver (1)
- Pliers (1)
- Brake Caliper Piston Compressor (1)

PARTS:

- CorkSport AXO Rear Inner Brake Pads (2)
- CorkSport AXO Rear Outer Brake Pads (2)
- CorkSport AXO Rear Inner Brake Pad Backing Plates (2)
- CorkSport AXO Rear Outer Brake Pad Backing Plates (2)

Step 1 — Getting Started

- First and foremost; **THANK YOU** for becoming a part of the CorkSport Family. We hope to bring you the highest level of Parts, Customer Service, & Support

ⓘ How To Use These Instructions

- The instruction format will relate colored marking in the image to the color dot in the text to the right of the image

ⓘ The vehicle used in these instructions was a 2019 Mazda 3. Other years will be similar.

Step 2 — Put Car Into Maintenance Mode

- Put car into maintenance mode by first switching the ignition on by pushing the start button twice with your foot off of the brake pedal

⚠ Make sure your car cannot roll or move once the parking brake is released in the next step

- Now release the parking brake by pressing the electric parking brake switch while pressing on the brake
- Release the brake pedal. Depress the accelerator pedal all the way down and hold it in that position
- Hold the electric parking brake switch **DOWN**
- Press the start button three times within 5 seconds

  ⓘ You should hear the rear electric parking brake motors actuate

- Verify that the brake control system warning light is illuminated in an amber color to indicate it is switched into maintenance mode. Then switch the ignition off and and release the accelerator pedal and parking brake switch

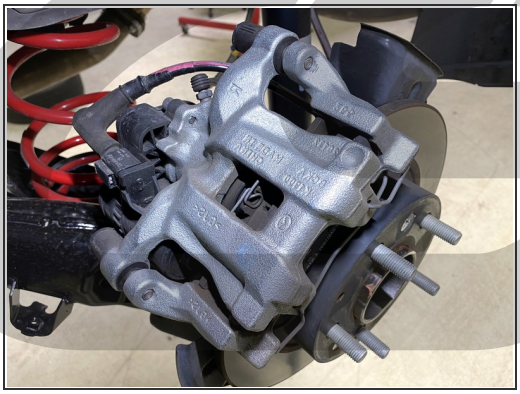
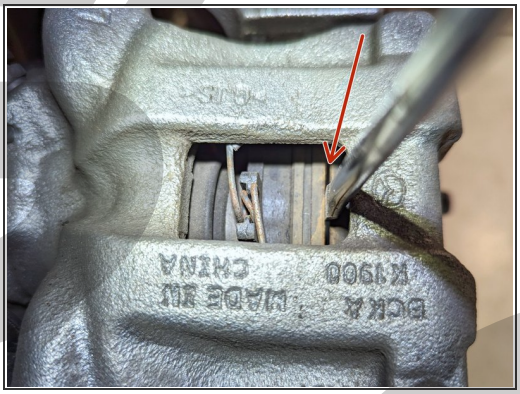
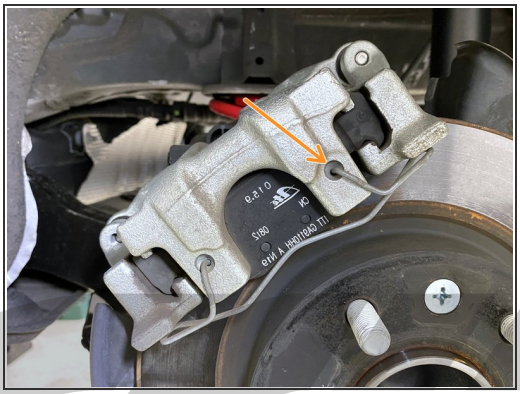
Step 3 — Lifting the Car & Removing the Rear Wheel

⚠ Ensure the vehicle is parked on a level surface before proceeding.

- Start by lifting up the rear of the car using the hydraulic jack and jack stands.
  - ⚠ Be sure to reference your owners manual for jack points and the jack manufacturer's instructions for proper practices.
- Remove the driver's side (left hand side) rear wheel from the vehicle using the 1/2" drive breaker bar or impact gun and 19mm or 21mm socket.

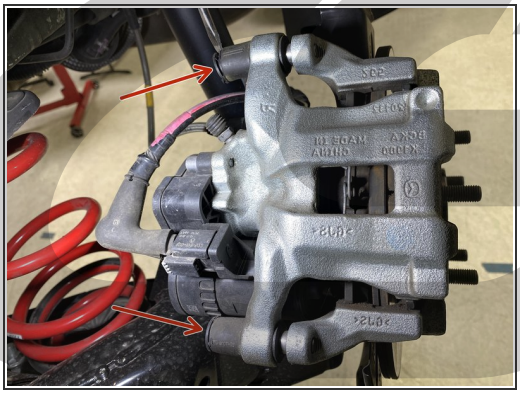
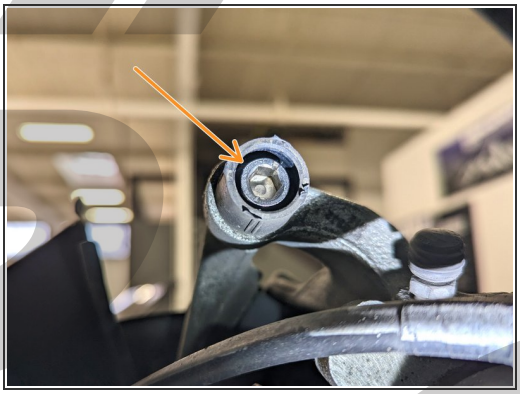
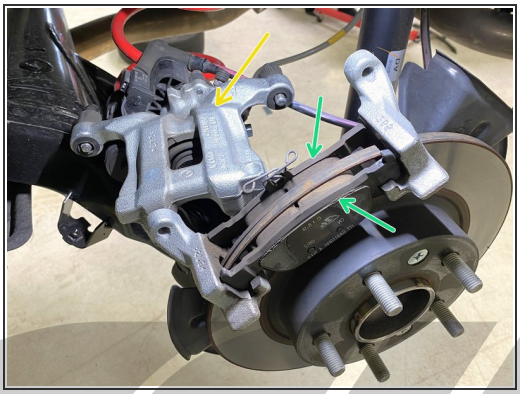
ⓘ A different socket may be required if you have aftermarket or locking lug nuts.

Step 4 — Removing the Caliper - Part 1

- Locate the rear caliper
- With a large flathead screwdriver, pry between the brake rotor and caliper to slightly compress the piston to gain clearance when removing the caliper
- Using pliers, remove the retaining clip by pulling on one side of the clip near where it goes into the caliper

Step 5 — Removing the Caliper - Part 2

- Remove the plastic caps on the back side of the caliper that are covering the bolts
- Using a 7mm Allen socket and ratchet, remove the two bolts holding the caliper
- Lift up the caliper from the bracket and set it on the torsion beam in a secure location so that it cannot move or fall
- Carefully remove both of the pads by lifting them up and away from the caliper bracket

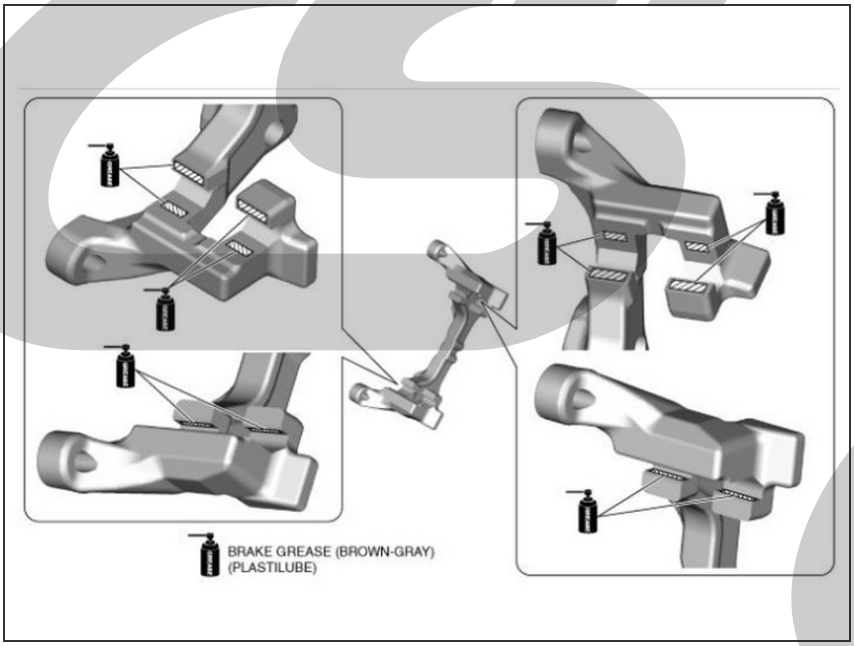
Step 6 — Compressing the Piston

- The next step requires the use of a Brake Caliper Piston Compressor. An example is shown

⚠ If the piston is pushed into the rear brake caliper while rotating the piston, the rear brake caliper internal parts and dust seal could be damaged. Be careful not to rotate the piston when pushing the piston into the rear brake caliper.

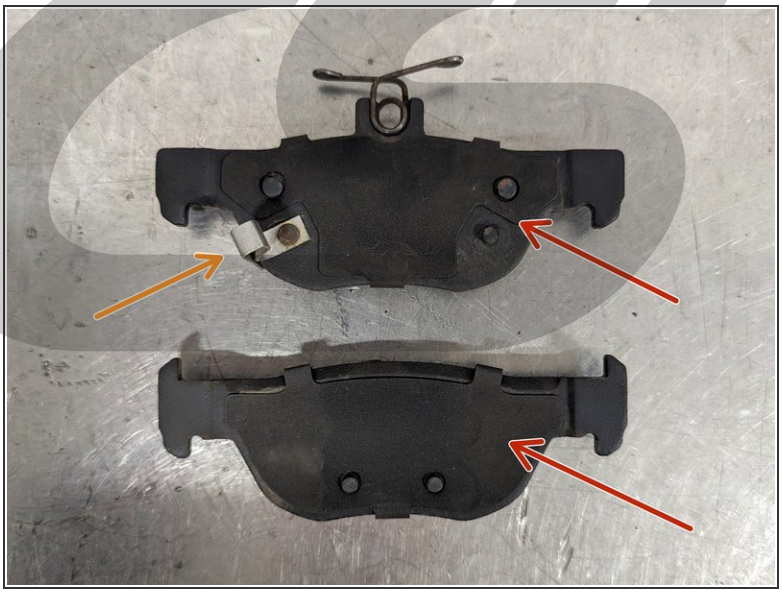
- Using the old brake pad up against the piston will provide a good surface to push against when using the tool shown
- With the tool, push the piston back into the caliper to make room for the new pads

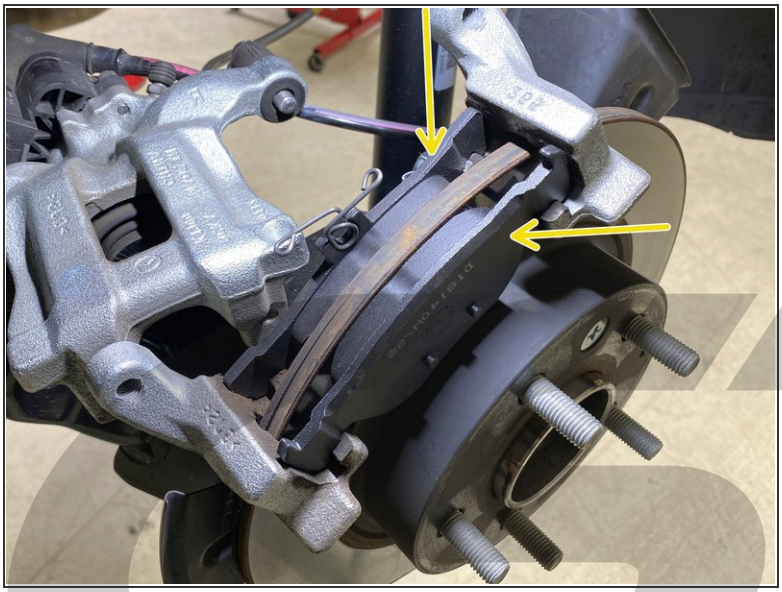
Step 7 — Optional: Applying Grease To Caliper



- Optional: To help prevent noise, a small amount of grease can be applied in the locations shown on the caliper
- Mazda recommends a grease to be used in these locations and it can be seen in the image.

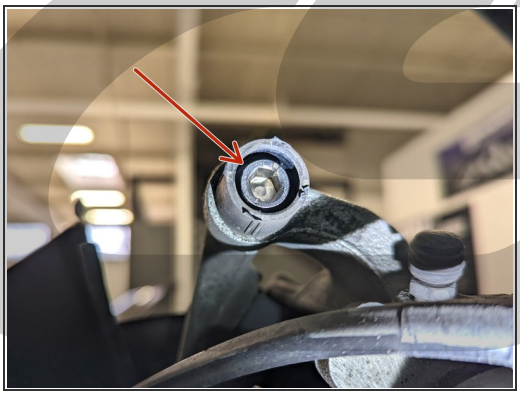
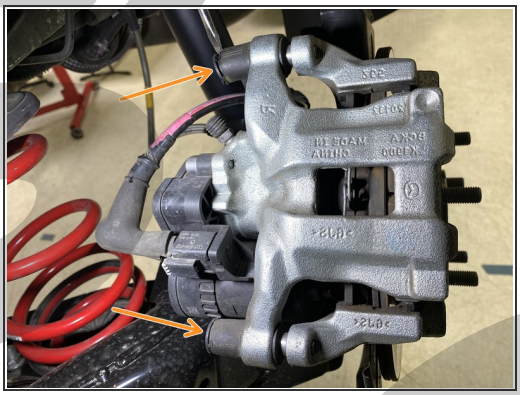
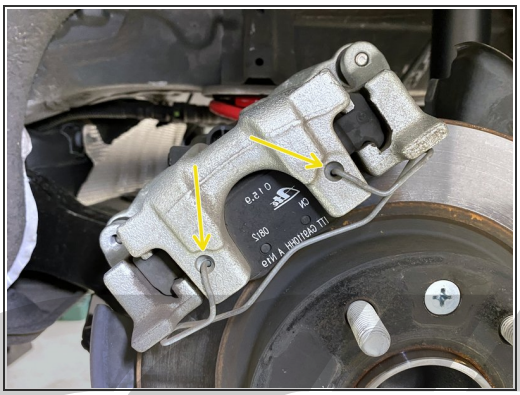
Step 8 — CorkSport Brake Pad Installation - Part 1





- Locate one inner and one outer brake pad
  - ⓘ The inner pad will have the wear bracket and spring as seen on the top brake pad
  - When installing on the driver's side, find the pad with the wear bar located on the left side of the pad when the pad is orientated as shown. This is so that the wear bar is at the top of the caliper when installed.
- Place the pads back into the bracket on their respective side

Step 9 — CorkSport Brake Pad Installation - Part 2

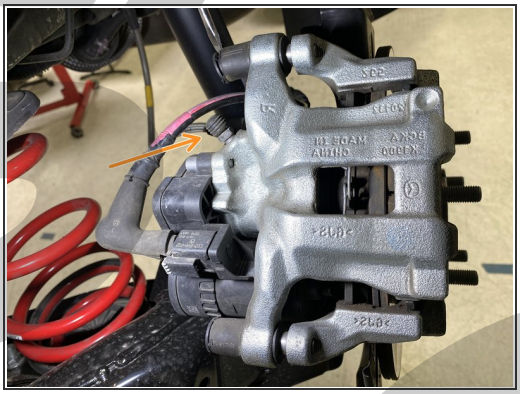




- Place the caliper back over the pads and torque the 7mm bolts to 20-22 lb-ft
- Push the plastic caps back into the rubber grommet covering the bolts
- Install the retaining clip by starting one side of the clip into the caliper and use pliers to install the opposite side

Step 10 — Passenger's Side Rear Brake Pad Installation

- Repeat steps 3-8 on the passenger's side rear (right hand side) of the vehicle

Step 11 — Optional: Brake Bleeding Part 1



- Brake bleeding is typically not required for a pad change. We include this info for reference if needed
- We strongly recommend getting a friend to help you bleed your brakes. It makes the whole process much faster & easier
- Locate the brake master cylinder under the hood of your vehicle
  - Throughout the bleeding process we will reference this unit
- Locate the bleed screw on the calipers. They will be covered with a black rubber dust boot
- Instead of buying a fancy brake bleeder, we recommend getting a plastic bottle and a short section of 5/32" (4mm) hose. Pour some brake fluid in the bottle and place the hose in the bottle like shown in the third image. Ensure the hose is sticking into the brake fluid
  - The bottle will catch excess brake fluid during the bleeding process

Step 12 — Optional: Brake Bleeding Part 2

- For proper brake bleeding, always start with the bleed screw furthest from the master cylinder. In this case we start with the bleed screw on the passenger rear, then driver rear, passenger front, and finally driver front.
- Lift the rubber dust boot from the bleed screw
- Place a wrench onto the hex of the bleed screw
- Place the other end of your 5/32" hose onto the bleed screw.
- Have your friend pump the brakes hard 3-5 times, then hold the brake pedal down
- While your friend holds the pedal, loosen the bleed screw ~1/2 turn. Fluid and air will come out of the bleed screw and the pedal will travel to the floor
- Once the pedal is on the floor, re-tighten the bleed screw. Once tight, your friend can lift their foot from the pedal

Step 13 — Optional: Brake Bleeding Part 3

- Repeat the pumping & holding procedure from the previous step 3-5 times or until no more air bubbles are coming out of the bleeder hose for each caliper
- Check fluid level in the master cylinder. Top off with SAE J1703 DOT3 fluid as needed
  - Top off brake fluid as needed between the bleeding of each caliper
- Once complete with all bleed screws, complete one final pumping & holding procedure on all bleed screws. Use the same order as before
- By this stage, there should be no air coming from the brake bleed screws and the brake pedal should be firm
- Verify there are no brake fluid leaks and top off your fluid one final time before moving on
- Clean any brake fluid off of components with brake parts cleaner

Step 14 — Reinstall the Wheels

- Torque your wheels in a star pattern to **80-90 ft-lbs** using a 19mm or 21mm socket and torque wrench

Step 15 — Take Car Out of Maintenance Mode

- Take car out of maintenance mode by first switching the ignition on by pushing the start button twice with your foot off of the brake pedal
- Depress the accelerator pedal all the way down and hold it in that position
- Hold the electric parking brake switch **UP**
- Press the start button three times within 5 seconds
  - ⓘ You should hear the rear electric parking brake motors actuate
- Verify that the brake control system warning light turns off and the maintenance mode is canceled.
- Switch the ignition off and release the accelerator pedal and electric parking brake switch

Step 16 — Brake Pad Bedding

- In order for your brake pads & rotors to wear evenly, you must complete the following procedure to "bed" in the pads & rotors
- Carefully drive to an open road with no cars around. You will be performing many accelerations & stops. Do not attempt to stomp on the brakes right after install
- You may notice a brake smell and/or some smoke during this operation. This is normal as the brakes will get very hot during bedding
- Accelerate until ~30MPH. Brake smoothly and evenly until almost stopped and then again accelerate to ~30MPH
- Repeat the previous step ~10 times
- Accelerate to ~45MPH. Brake much more aggressively until almost stopped. Then accelerate again until ~45MPH
- Repeat the previous step ~3 times
- Drive the car around for 15 minutes to let the brake system cool. The less you use the brakes the better

Step 17 — Installation Complete

- This completes your installation of the CorkSport Performance Rear Brake Pads!
- Contact us with any questions or concerns at sales@corksport.com or (360) 260-2675.
- Please leave a review here: https://corksport.com
- Share your experience using #CorkSport on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.