

The purpose of this article is to compare upgrade struts that are fitted to Escorts to change the ride height, strengthen the suspension. and or upgrade the brakes.

Table 1 is a comparison of changes to the suspension geometry and ride height for the various strut options. These are all in comparison to the Australian 2lt Mk2 Escort Strut. It is assumed identical springs, shock absorbers and wheels are fitted to each. Comparison to the Australian Mk1/2 Crossflow vehicle strut is not made because these have different spring diameters and heights.

| <u>TABLE 1</u> | <u>RIDE HEIGHT CHANGE</u> | <u>TCA OUTER HEIGHT CHANGE</u> | <u>GAP FROM TYRE TO STRUT CHANGE</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Aus. Capri 1600 & V6 | -20mm | -20mm | +1mm |
| UK 2.8i Capri | -35mm | -20mm | +1mm |
| Mk1 RS2000 Gp1 | -20mm | -20mm | -3mm |

Table 2 compares the dimensions of the strut tube, which houses the strut insert (shock absorber). The 2lt insert can be fitted to the Aus. Capri strut if adjustment is made for the internal lengths of the strut. This adjustment can be made by cutting 3mm from the top of the Capri strut or fitting a 3mm thick packer to the bottom of the strut tube.

| <u>TABLE 2</u> | <u>TUBE OD</u> | <u>TUBE THICK.</u> | <u>STRUT TUBE LENGTH INSIDE</u> | <u>SLEEVE BUSH ID</u> | <u>SLEEVE BUSH OD</u> | <u>TUBE TOP THREADED</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Aus. MK2 2Lt | 50.8mm | 2.0mm | 275mm | N/A | N/A | Yes |
| Aus. Capri 1600 & V6 | 50.4mm | 2.5mm | 278mm | N/A | N/A | Yes |
| UK 2.8i Capri | 50.4mm | 3.2mm | 275mm | 40.0mm | 44.0mm | No |
| Mk1 RS2000 Gp1 | 50.4mm | 3.2mm | | | | |

Table 3 compares the bearing and seal dimensions of the various struts. Bearing ID also shows the difference in stub axle dimension.

| <u>TABLE 3</u> | <u>INNER BEARING ID</u> | <u>INNER BEARING OD</u> | <u>OUTER BEARING ID</u> | <u>OUTER BEARING OD</u> | <u>SEAL ID</u> | <u>SEAL OD</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Aus. MK2 2Lt | 27.0mm | 50.3mm | 17.4mm | 40.3mm | 39.8mm | 55.0mm |
| Aus. Capri 1600 & V6 | 28.5mm | 57.2mm | 19.0mm | 45.3mm | 41.1mm | 60.2mm |
| UK 2.8i Capri | 28.5mm | 57.2mm | 19.0mm | 45.3mm | 41.1mm | 60.2mm |
| Mk1 RS2000 Gp1 | mm | mm | | | | |

| | Mk1 Escort Std | Mk2 Escort Std | 3 Litre Capri Std | World Cup |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tube Diameter (O/D) | 48mm | N/A | 50mm | 50mm |
| Stub axle centre to bottom of tube | Stub axle 20mm below bottom of tube | N/A | Stub axle 10mm above bottom of tube | Stub axle 20mm below bottom of tube |
| Stub Axle Centre to top of tube | 420mm | N/A | 390mm | 420mm |
| Stub Axle Diameter at rear bearing journal | N/A | N/A | 1:1/8 inch | N/A |
| Spring diameter | 125mm | N/A | 140mm | 2:1/2 inch |
| Spring seat to top of tube | 70mm | N/A | 60mm | Adjustable |