

Fiat Stilo Front Coil Springs

(chassis type 192 2001-)

The front coil springs on the above vehicle are of a side load design, also known as "banana" shaped.

These springs are designed to work in conjunction with the vehicle's angled top plate, which when positioned correctly will apply force in a manner which causes the spring to straighten.

However if the top plate is positioned incorrectly the spring will bend, which can result in it touching the inner wing and creating noise.

The following test was conducted using a 2004 Fiat Stilo strut:

On both pictures the spring has been compressed to a length of 200mm, rebound is 280mm.

In this test the spring was fitted with the top spring plate in the correct position and then with the plate twisted out of position by 180 degrees.

It should also be noted that the top plate and bearing are separate parts which can easily be taken apart and put together (if accidentally dropped they will normally split into two pieces), and that it is possible to rotate the top bearing into any position and still fit it to the top plate.

It is therefore important to check that the plate and bearing are lined up correctly.

To do this the rubber tag on the top bearing should line up with the slot in the top plate, which in turn should line up with the bottom end fitting of the assembled strut.

If fitted correctly, as detailed above, the spring will straighten once force is applied to it.

Note: Although the test information detailed above relates to the Fiat Stilo, the same principles apply to Fiat Punto "banana" shaped springs.

