

**Side-load springs, also known as 'banana springs' or 'lateral-load springs,' are commonplace in the suspension systems of modern cars.**

The design of the MacPherson strut causes lateral forces to be exerted upon the shock absorber. Left unchecked, these forces work to bend the shock absorber, reducing its life expectancy while affecting ride smoothness.

Side-load springs are designed and assembled in such a way that they exert a lateral force on the shock absorber in the opposite direction, creating a balance and allowing the strut to operate at the optimal level.

During fitment, it is important to make note of the spring's position relative to the spring pans before disassembly.

**Whilst uncompressed side-load springs are banana-shaped, they become straight under fitment load, provided they have been installed correctly.**

If fitted incorrectly however, damage to the top mount can result and the spring may remain bent. This could lead to a spring touching the inner wing, creating noise and causing damage.

