

## Converting 85.5-86 aluminum control arms to 83-85.1 steel control arms

Written by Aaron  
Sunday, 26 June 2011 23:07

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### Needed parts:

#### 1. Steel control arm

- [Paragon Products - Steel control arms](#)

#### 2. Front of rear caster block

- [Paragon Products - Caster block](#)

#### 3. Front of rear bushing

- [Paragon Products - Weltmeister Front of rear bushing](#) (Weltmeister bushing is recommended over the stock rubber and it is cheaper.)

#### 4. Front of front bushing

- [Paragon Products - Front of front rubber bushing](#)
- You may want to switch to Weltmesiter or Delrin(Racer's edge) bushings here, but the cost difference is pretty significant.

#### 5. Bolt in ball joint and bolts and nuts associated with them.

- [Paragon Products - Ball Joint](#)
- [Paragon Products - Ball joint hardware kit](#)

#### 6a. Sway bar end links (85.5-86 Drop links are NOT the same) and bolts and nuts

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**associated with them.**

- Part #: 5 in diagram: [Paragon Products - Sway bar bushing clamp\(end link\)](#)
- You will need both left and right.
  
- Part #: 6 & 7 in diagram for bolts and nuts: [Paragon Products - Sway bar hardware](#)
- You will need 4 of each.

**6b. ☐☐☐ If you do not want to get new end links, you can drill a hole in the steel control arm to accommodate your current sway bar drop links.☐ (Not advised)**

**7.☐ Sway bar end link bushings.☐ If you plan on running a sway bar larger than 23mm then you will need to bore out the bushing to the appropriate size for your sway bar.**

- Part #: 2 in diagram: [Paragon Products - sway bar end bushing](#)

**8.☐ If you plan on running a sway bar larger than 24mm, you will need to use the 87+ center clips and appropriate size center bushing.☐ The 86 and earlier center clips will not work as they are too small.**

- Part #: 5 in diagram (use 87-): [Paragon Products - Part #: PP944.343.731.02](#)

**That should be everything needed to make your conversion to steel control arms.☐ Porsche put out a TSB about 85.5-86 aluminum control arms not being used for serious competition, which is why it is recommended to switch to steel control arms.☐ Not to mention they are easier to replace and extremely cheap if you ever have to replace the control arm, bushings, or ball joints.**

**Good luck out there!**