

## How to Install a Mishimoto Radiator for a 1979-1993 Mustang 5.0L

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**The below installation instructions work for the following products:**

- [Mishimoto Performance Aluminum Radiator - Manual \(79-93 5.0L\)](#)

Here at American Muscle, we're all about DIY (do it yourself). Of course, there's nothing wrong with seeking out a little bit of tech help prior to taking on an installation on your own. Our Mustang installation guides will provide valuable instructions and hopefully answer any how-to questions that you may have along the way.

### **Installation of the Mishimoto Performance Aluminum Mustang Radiator - Manual - (79-93)**

**Install Time: 3 Hours**

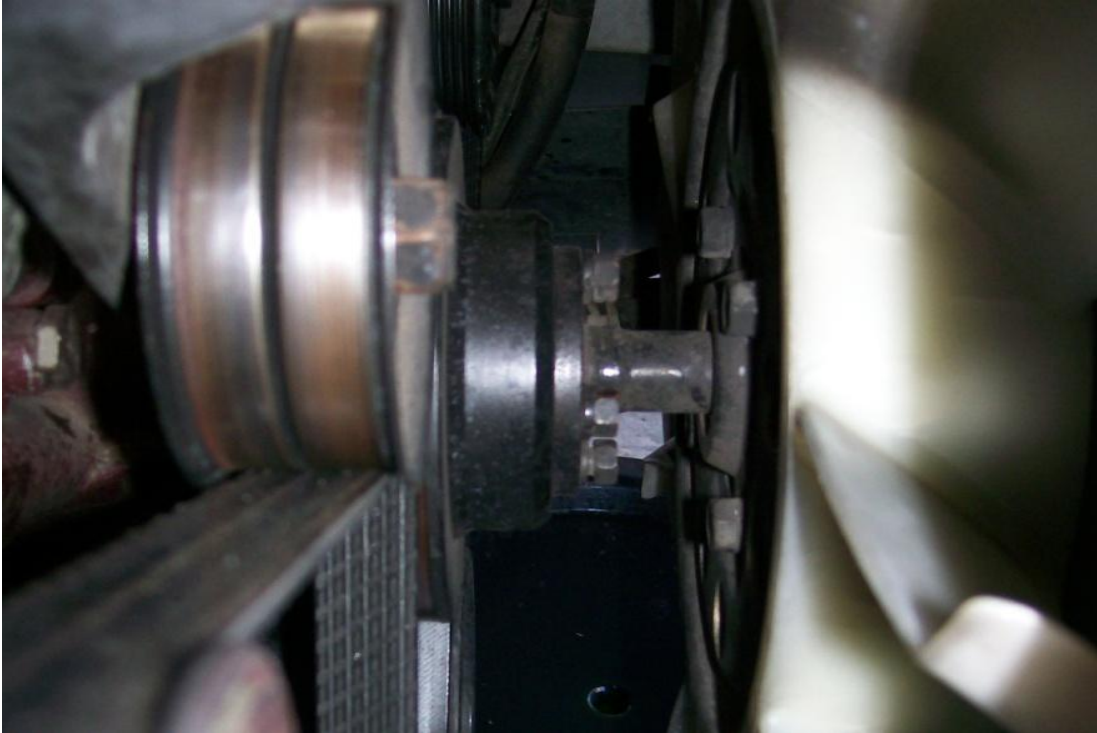
**Difficulty: Medium to Advanced**

**What's in the Box:**

- Radiator
- Radiator Cap
- Cool Sticker

**Tools needed:**

- 15 Quart Drain Pan
  - 1.5" - 2.5" Radiator Hose Clamps - 4
  - New Upper Radiator Hose
  - New Lower Radiator Hose
  - New Heavy-Duty Water Pump (**Optional**)
  - 50/50 Coolant Mixture – 2 Gallons
  - M6x16 Bolts (or SAE equivalent) - 4
  - M6 Nuts (or SAE equivalent) - 4
  - M6 Flat Washers (or SAE equivalent) - 4
  - M6 Split Washers (or SAE equivalent) - 4
  - 7/16" Box End Wrench
  - 18mm Box End Wrench (or Crescent Wrench)
  - 3/8" Wrench
  - 5/16" Nut Driver
  - Adjustable Pliers
  - Metric Allen Wrench and/or Box End Wrench (for the M6 (or SAE equivalent) bolt and nut)
1. **Remove the mechanical fan and fan shroud.**
    - a. Disconnect the negative battery cable.
    - b. Using the 7/16" wrench, loosen the four bolts holding the stock fan in place.



- Using the 18mm wrench (or crescent wrench), loosen the tension (see white arrow in photo above) and remove the serpentine belt.
- Remove only three of the fan bolts.
- Using the 3/8" wrench, remove the two fan shroud bolts.





- Disconnect the low coolant connector from the overflow tank cap.



- Remove the overflow tank rubber hose from the radiator.



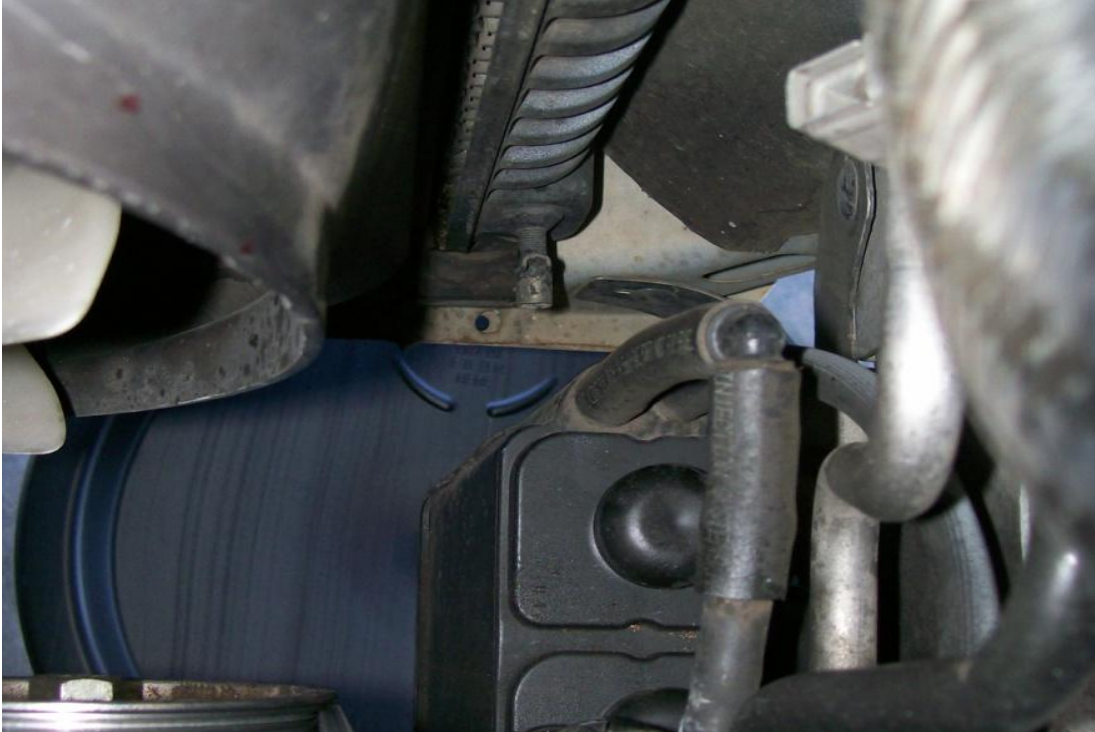
- Remove the bolt holding the fan in place and wiggle the fan loose.
- REMEMBER THIS STEP; YOU WILL HAVE TO REVERSE IT LATER. Lift the shroud and fan up and out of the car at the same time.

## 2) Drain the radiator.

**CAUTION:** do NOT drain the radiator when the engine is hot.

- Place a 15 quart drain pan under the car below the radiator drain petcock (on the passenger side of the radiator).
- Remove the radiator cap and slowly loosen the radiator drain petcock.

**NOTE:** if you open the petcock too much, coolant will flow quickly and splash out of the drain pan and onto the floor.



- Once coolant has stopped flowing, close the petcock and move the drain pan under the lower radiator hose.
- Using the 5/16" nut driver or adjustable pliers, disconnect the lower radiator hose at the radiator and allow the coolant to drain.



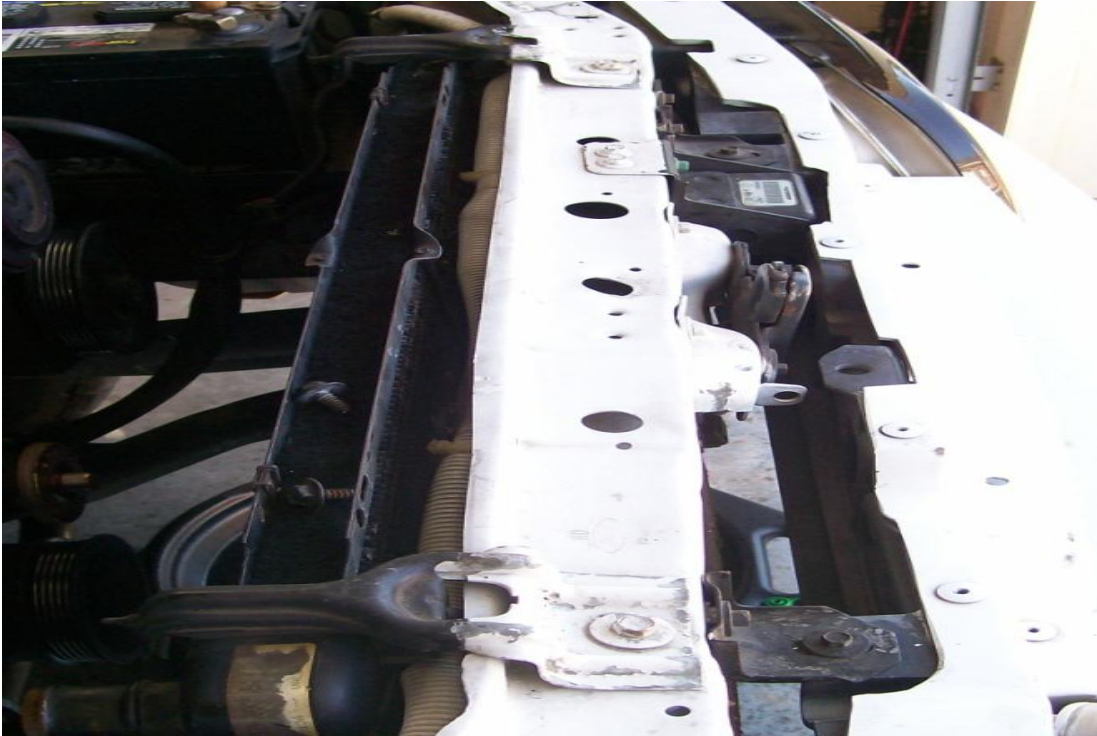


- Using the 5/16" nut driver or adjustable pliers, disconnect the upper radiator hose from the top of the radiator.



### 3) Remove the radiator.

- Using the 3/8" wrench, loosen the radiator bracket bolts and remove the brackets.



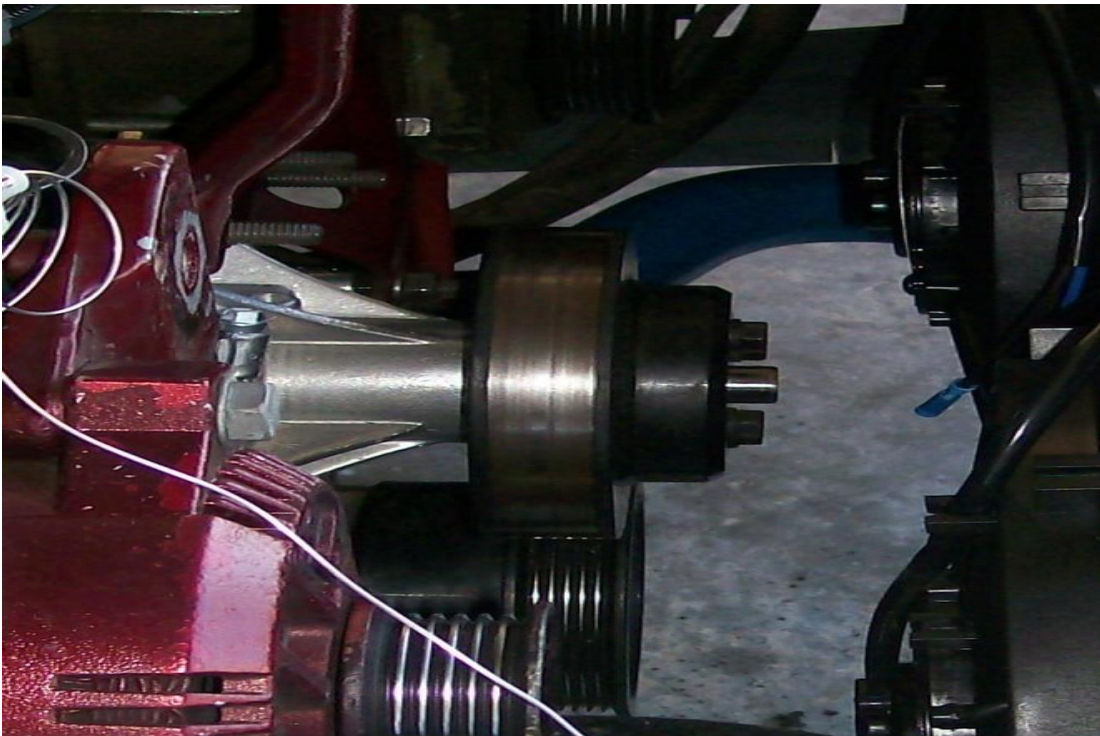
- Lift the radiator out of the car making sure not to dump any **coolant** out of the lower radiator opening.
- Pour any remaining coolant out of the lower radiator opening into the drain pan.
- **OPTIONAL:** at this point it is recommended that you replace the water pump with a heavy-duty version. That procedure is not covered in this guide.
- Using the 5/16" nut driver, loosely connect the new lower radiator hose to the water pump using a new hose clamp.





**4) Install the new Mishimoto aluminum radiator.**

**NOTE:** Take care not to bump the radiator against any objects (such as the water pump pulley – see photo). This will damage the cooling fins.



- Place the radiator on the rubber pads at the bottom of the radiator support.



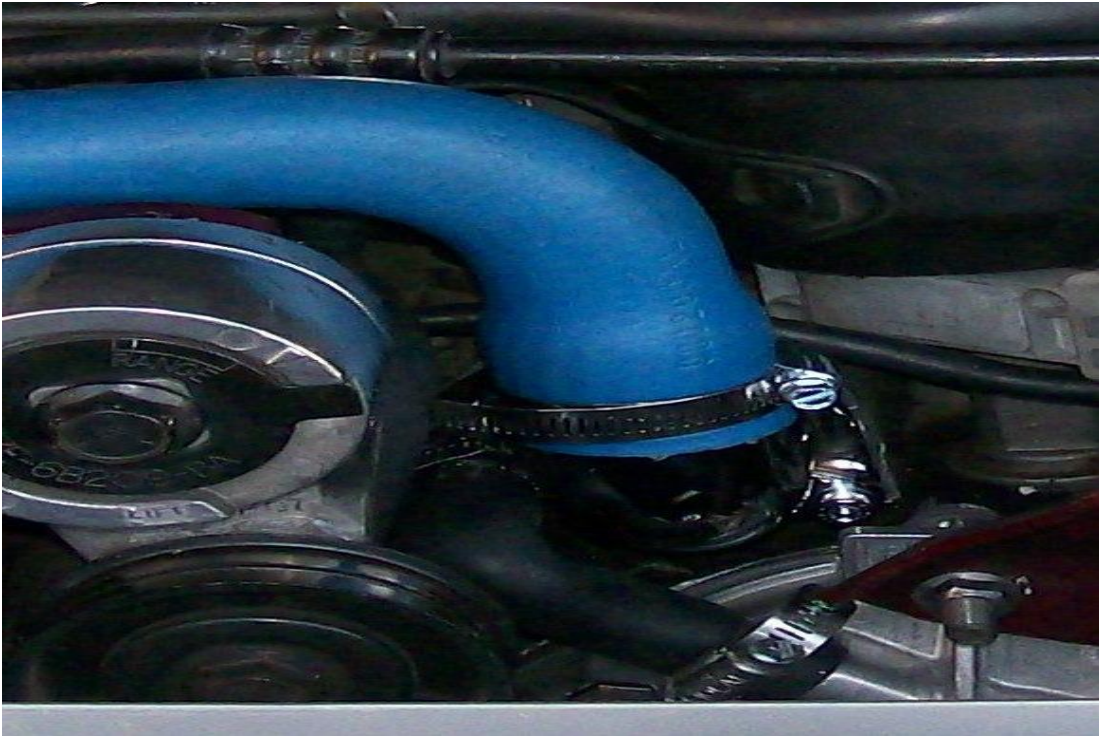
- Secure the radiator using the brackets and bolts removed in step 3a.

NOTE: Once the brackets are bolted down, you may need to bend the brackets down to secure the radiator.





- Using the 5/16" nut driver, connect the lower radiator hose to the radiator using a new hose clamp.
- Using the 5/16" nut driver, tighten the lower radiator hose at the water pump.
- Using the 5/16" nut driver, connect the new upper radiator hose to the water pump and radiator using a new hose clamps.



### 5) Install the fan and fan shroud.

- Lower the shroud and fan together into place (reverse step 1i).
- Use two fan bolts to hold the fan in place.
- Position the shroud against the new radiator.
- Use two new M6 bolts, flat washers, split washers, and nuts (or SAE equivalent) to attach the stock shroud to the radiator.



- Use two new M6 bolts, washers, and nuts (or SAE equivalent) to attach the bottom of the shroud to the radiator.
- Install the serpentine belt.
- Install the remaining fan bolts and tighten all four.
- Connect the rubber hose from the overflow tank to the radiator.
- Connect the low coolant connector to the overflow tank cap.

### 6) Fill the radiator.

- Using a 50/50 coolant solution, slowly fill the radiator until the solution almost reaches the top.
- Connect the battery cable.
- Leave the radiator cap off and start the car.
- Slowly pour more coolant into the radiator until it almost reaches the top.
- Secure the radiator cap to the radiator and allow the car to reach operating temperature.
- Allow the engine to cool.
- Once the engine is cool, remove the radiator cap and fill the radiator with Coolant.





**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

**(WITH A MISHIMOTO LIGHTWEIGHT ALUMINUM SHROUD KIT W/ DUAL HIGH FLOW 12IN FANS)**