



**BX3831**

# 2011-12 VW Jetta TDI Installation Instructions

Serial Number

**Attachment Tab Height: 14"**

**Attachment Tab Width: 20"**

**Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Instructions prior to installing or operating this equipment.**

- Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge necessary to do "fit work". If needed, Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at [www.blueox.com](http://www.blueox.com) or by contacting our Customer Care Department at (402) 385-3051.
- Many Blue Ox® baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use the hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware as specified in the installation instructions.

**Bolt Torque Specifications**  
Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117

**Bolt Torque Specifications**  
Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4"	10	14
5/16"	19	29
3/8"	33	47
7/16"	54	78
1/2"	78	119
5/8"	154	230



If the front of your vehicle looks different than this, please contact us at (402)385-3051.

**Reference your vehicle owner's manual for manufacturer's towing specifications.**

**! WARNING**

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

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**Instruction Notes:** The upper grille, front fascia, styrofoam & metal bumpers, temperature sensor, horn brackets and windshield washer fluid reservoir are removed and reinstalled for the baseplate installation. Some drilling and trimming of the frame end, metal bumper and air dam is required.

Place all components that are removed on a flat, sturdy surface. All items will be reinstalled unless otherwise noted after the baseplate is installed.

The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for vehicle manufacturer's tolerances.

The BX8869 Tail Light Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.



Drill a hole according to the tail  
light wiring kit instructions.

### ***NOTICE***

- Handling of some cosmetic parts when installing this product may require the use of protective covers, rags, specialty tools, etc. to prevent damage.
- When using power drills be aware of the dangers of torque and drill bit length.
- Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning before reinstalling the fascia.
- Do not use the towed vehicle for storing luggage, equipment, etc. This may cause you to exceed the towing capacity of the tow bar, baseplate and its accessories.
- Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the torque chart provided.
- **Attachment Tabs:** Motorhome mount tow bars are recommended for use with this baseplate. Due to the design of the removable tabs, the RangeFinder II and Ambassador tow bars can not be used. Adapters, except for the BX8833 and the BX88151, can not be used with this baseplate.

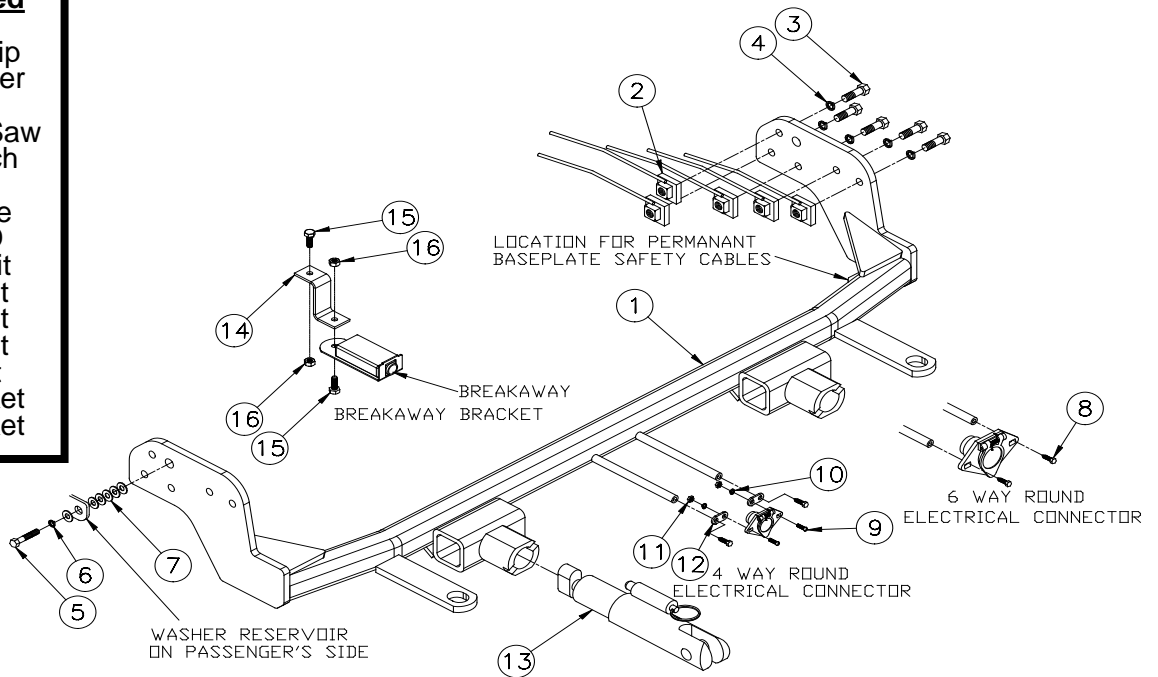
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## 2011-12 VW Jetta TDI

### Installation Instructions

- Tools Required**

  - Large Vise Grip
  - Flat Screwdriver
  - Utility Knife
  - Reciprocating Saw
  - Torque Wrench
  - Drill
  - Tape Measure
  - Loctite® RED
  - 13/32" Drill Bit
  - 10MM Socket
  - 13MM Socket
  - 16MM Socket
  - 9/16" Socket
  - T25 Torx Socket
  - T30 Torx Socket

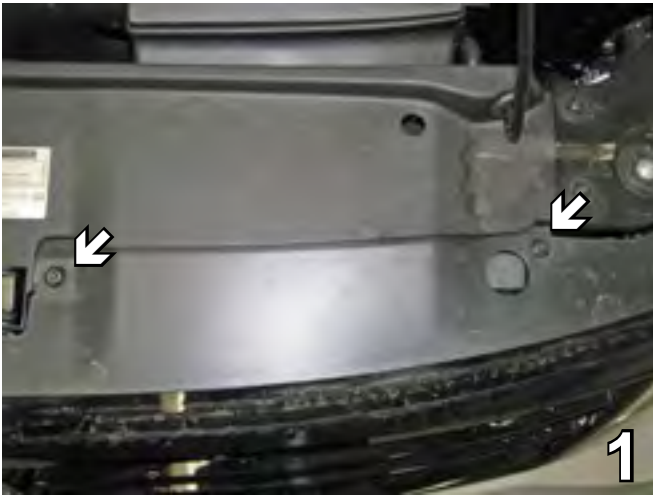


Item No.	Part No.	Description	Qty.
1.....	61-6835.....	BX3831 Baseplate.....	1
2.....	61-5208.....	3/8"-16 Nut Plate w/14" Wire.....	10
3.....	201-0440.....	3/8"-16 x 1-1/2" Hex Bolt, Grade 5, ZP.....	10
4.....	203-0010.....	3/8" Lock Washer, ZP.....	10
5.....	201-0702.....	6MM-1.0 x 45MM Hex Head Bolt, Grade 8.8, ZP.....	1
6.....	203-0161.....	6MM Lock Washer, ZP.....	1
7.....	203-0002.....	5/16" Flat Washer, ZP.....	7
8.....	201-0553.....	1/4"-20 x 1/2" Hex Wshd Bolt Type F TCS, ZP.....	2
9.....	201-0192.....	#10-32 1/2" Round Slotted Head Screw.....	2
10.....	203-0054.....	#10 Lock Washer, ZP.....	2
11.....	202-0047.....	#10-32 Hex Nut.....	2
12.....	101-5822.....	4 Way Connector Adapter.....	2
13.....	62-3468.....	Attachment Assembly, SF/SB (R).....	2
14.....	102-7056.....	Breakaway Bracket.....	1
15.....	201-0050.....	1/4"-20 x 3/4" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP.....	2
16.....	202-0102.....	1/4"-20 Hex Nylon Nut, ZP.....	3
17.....	201-0071(not shown).....	1/4"-20 x 1" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP.....	2
18.....	226-0046(not shown).....	Class III Safety Cables.....	2
19.....	229-0359(not shown).....	3/8" Quicklink, ZP.....	2
20.....	290-0437(not shown).....	Black Cap Plug Receiver.....	2

**Important:**

Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do NOT substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor, or call our Customer Care Team at (402)385-3051. Failing to follow and/or altering these installation instructions in either installation or required equipment will void the manufacturer's warranty.

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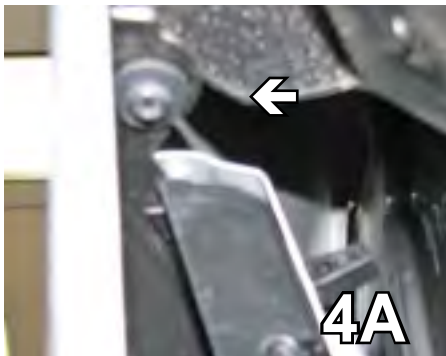
1. Using the 25 Torx socket, remove the two metric bolts from the top edge of the fascia. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.



2. Grasp the top of the grille, pull forward and it will release. Set the grille aside to be reinstalled later.



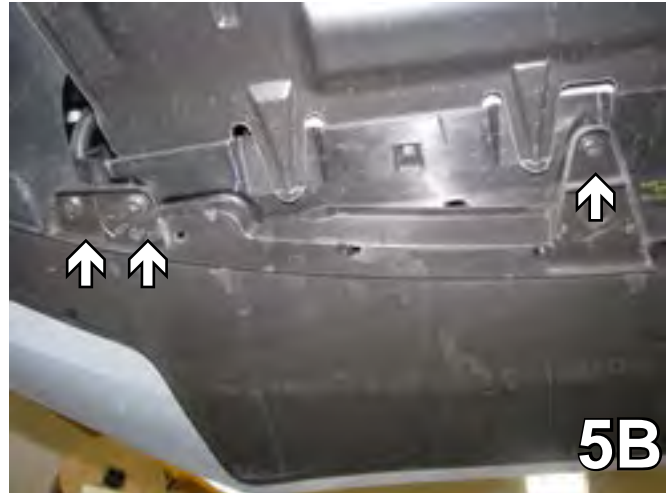
3. Using the 30 Torx socket, remove the two (2) metric bolts from the lower grille, one on each side. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.



4. Using the 25 Torx socket, remove the five (5) metric bolts just forward of the front tire on the edge of the wheel well. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.



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5. Using the 25 Torx socket, remove the four (4) metric bolts from the lower edge of the fascia. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.

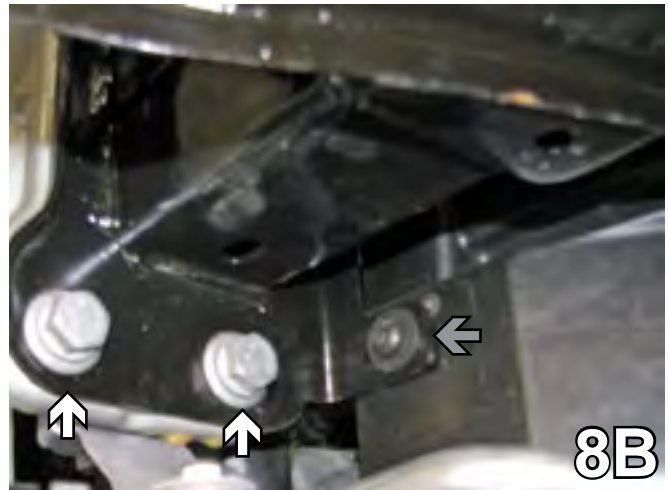
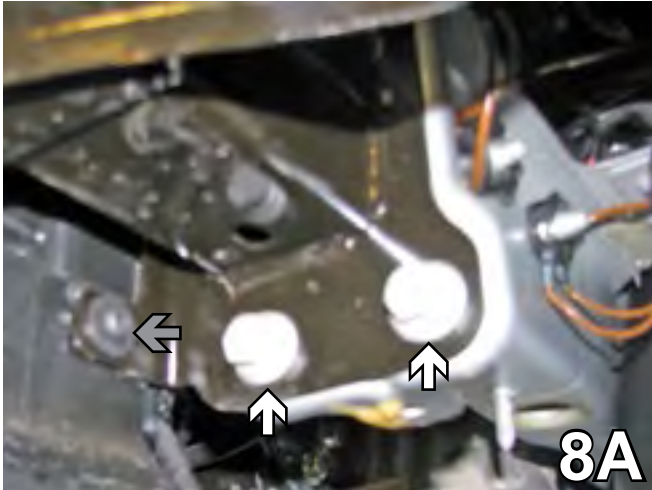


6. Remove the glued styrofoam bumper by prying gently in multiple locations. Set styrofoam aside to be reinstalled later.



7. Unplug and remove the temperature sensor (white arrow). Take the center piece off for now. It will be reinstalled later. Using the 10MM socket, remove the two (2) bolts (gray arrows) above the middle of the metal bumper. Set the bolts aside to re-install later.

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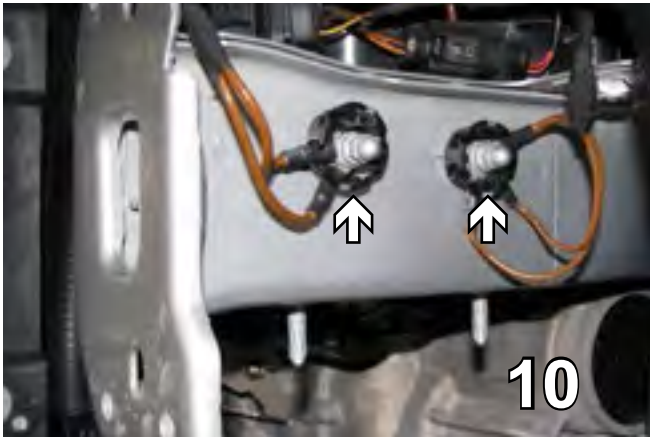


8. Above the metal bumper (8A), using the 16MM socket remove the two (2) metric hex bolts (white arrows). Using the 30 Torx socket, remove the Torx bolt (gray arrow). Below the metal bumper (8B), using the 16MM socket remove the two (2) metric hex bolts (white arrows). Using the 30 Torx socket, remove the Torx bolt (gray arrow). Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Pull the bumper forward and set it and the bolts aside to reinstall later.



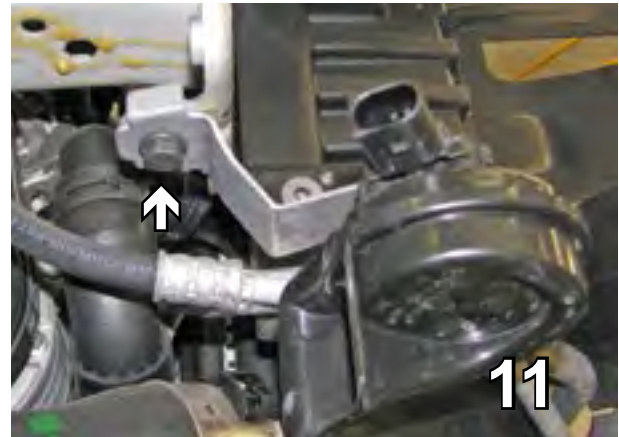
9. On the passenger's side, using the 10MM socket, remove the metric bolt from the right side of the washer reservoir (9A). Using the 10MM socket, remove the two (2) metric hex nuts between the wheel well and the reservoir (9B). Disconnect all the electrical and fluid lines, plug the reservoir port (9C). Pull the bottom of the reservoir away from the frame to clear the back studs, then pull the reservoir down. Set the reservoir, bolts and nuts aside to reinstall later.

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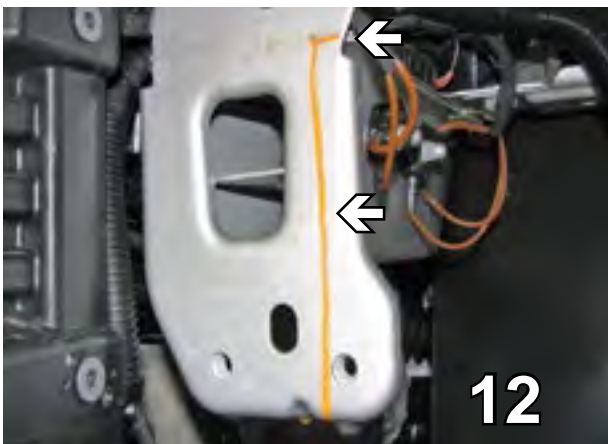


10. **2011 Model:** On the driver side, using a 10MM socket remove the nuts holding the ground wires. They will be remounted after the baseplate is installed. (As Shown)

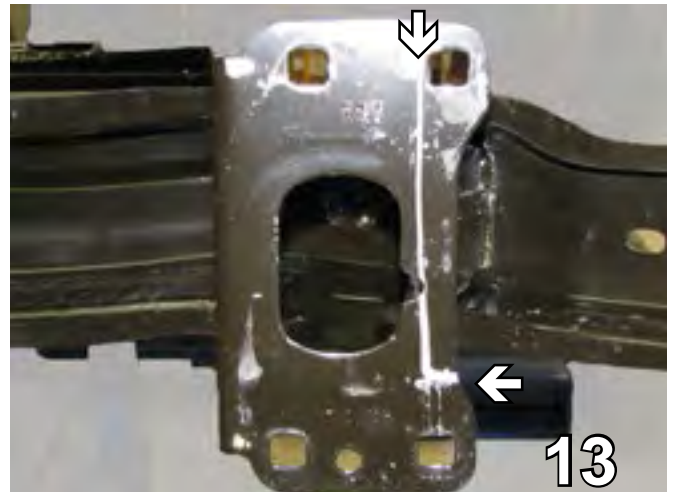
**2012 Model:** On the driver side using a 10MM socket remove the one (1) ground wire nut and relocate to the top of frame on the existing stud.



11. Using the 13MM socket, remove the metric bolt from the horn bracket. Unplug the electrical connections, set the horn and bracket aside. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



12. Using the reciprocating saw, cut the webbing to the side of the frame rail and make a vertical cut flush with the side of the frame straight down to the end. Remove this area on both sides of the vehicle to prepare for the base plate installation. **Using a good quality spray paint, coat the cut edges to prevent corrosion.** Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



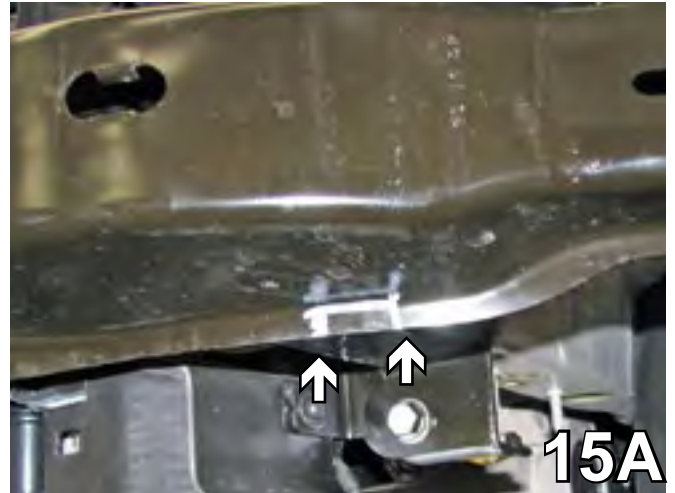
13. Reinstall the metal bumper using one (1) metric hex bolt. Do this on both sides. (Adjust the height of the metal bumper to its original position). Mark the back side of the webbing where the frame webbing was removed. Remove the bumper, cut with the reciprocating saw and remove this area. Then reinstall the bumper. Do this on both sides. **Using a good quality spray paint, coat the cut edges to prevent corrosion.**



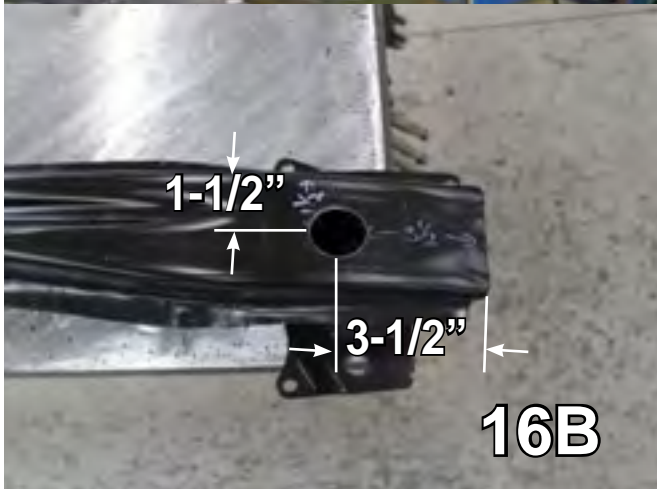
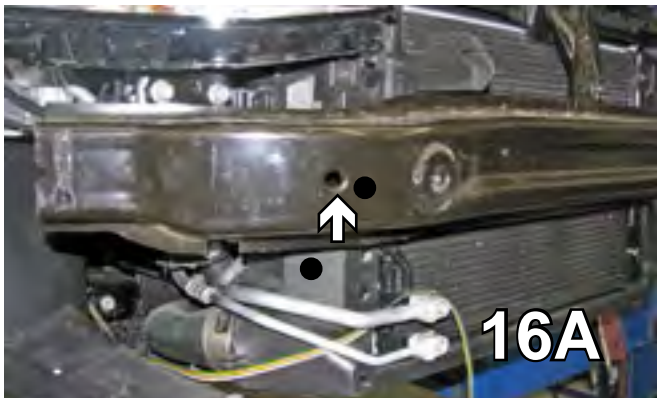
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14. Mark the air dam just below the metal bumper. Using a utility knife, cut and remove that portion. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



15. Make a notch for the baseplate to go through on the bottom side of the bumper. The best way to do this is to slant a straight edge against the frame and mark 1 1/4" wide. Cut slices on the two edges. Use a vise grip and move back and forth until the piece breaks off. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



16. On the passenger side, enlarge the hole on the front of the metal bumper just forward of the center of the frame end. Using a saw, make a slot similar to the driver's side and break off the extra piece. (16A)

If there are no existing holes in bumper. Use a 1-1/4" holesaw and drill a hole 3-1/2" from end and 1-1/2" from top of the bumper on each end of bumper. (16B)

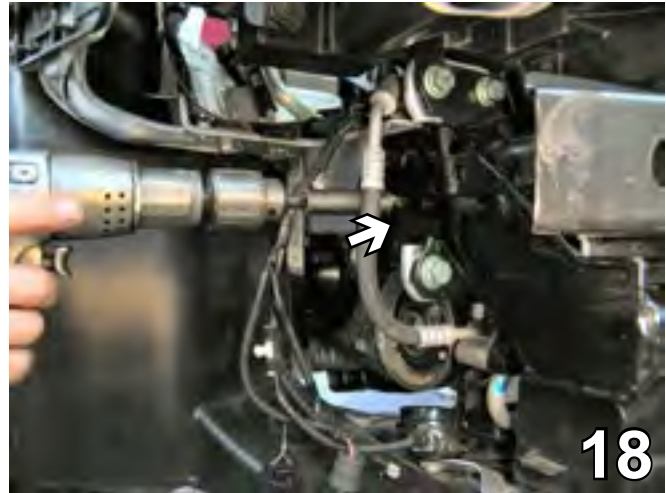
This will allow access to the inside of the frame end to insert the nut plates for the base plate installation.



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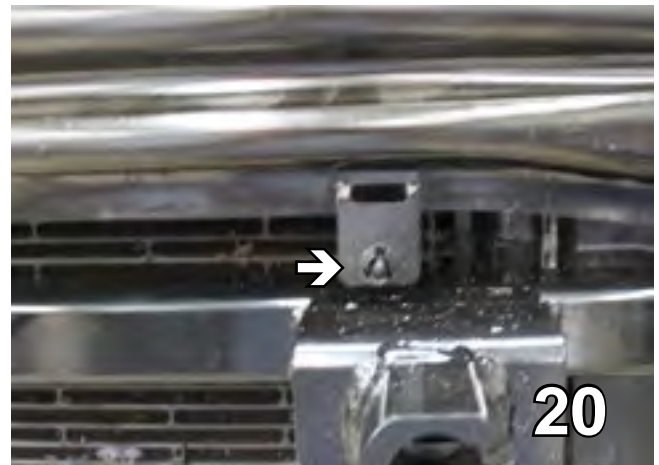
17. Slide the base plate onto the side of the frame with the attachment tabs down. Push the baseplate back toward the rear of the vehicle while lifting the cross tube up. The bottom edge of the end plate should be even with the bottom edge of the frame. Align the top center hole with the existing bolt location for the front of the washer reservoir on the passenger's side, clamp to the frame with vise grips.



18. Using the baseplate as a template, drill the holes in the side of the frame rail with the 13/32" drill bit. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



19. Insert the 3/8"-16 nut plates into the drilled hole in the front of the bumper to align with the drilled holes in the frame. Tighten the 3/8"-16 x 1-1/2" bolts and 3/8" lock washers on both sides. Keep the baseplate attachment tabs level with the vehicle. **Be sure to use Loctite red on all the bolts before tightening. Tighten all the bolts according to Torque Chart in the General Instruction Sheet.**



20. Drill a 1/2" hole in the plate as shown above and insert temperature sensor into hole.

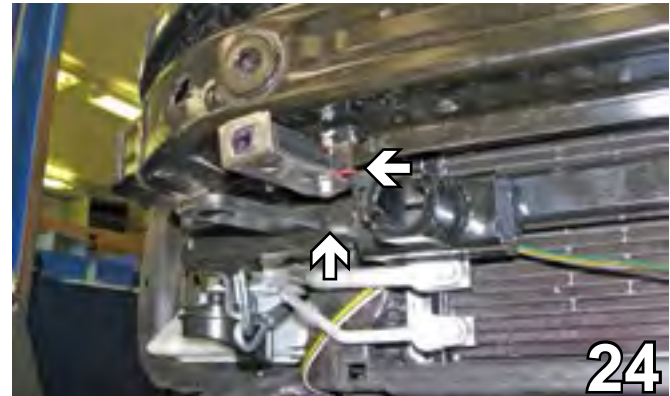
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21. Flatten the horn bracket on the passenger side only. Reattach the horn brackets and plug in the electrical connections.



22. Put the washer reservoir in place on the back two studs (22A) and install the two (2) hex nuts (Do not tighten). Replace the front metric bolt with the 6MM hex bolt provided. Install flat washers and lock washer provided (22B). **Be sure that the webbing does not touch on the back side of the reservoir. This will prevent webbing from rubbing a hole in the reservoir tank (22A).** Reconnect all the electrical and fluid lines to the reservoir (22C). Notice the position of the horn next to the washer reservoir.



23. On the driver's side, drill a 1/4" hole in the edge of the frame. Attach all the ground wires together with a 1/4"-20 x 1" hex bolt and 1/4"-20 hex nut. **(2011 Models Only)**

24. Drill a 1/4" hole in the center of the metal bumper. Attach the breakaway bracket to the bumper with 1/4"-20 x 3/4" hex bolt and 1/4"-20 hex nut. Also attach the breakaway to the bracket with 1/4"-20 x 3/4" hex bolt and 1/4"-20 hex nut.



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25. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate (see grey arrow). The photo above shows the recommended installation of the cables to frame of vehicle (see white arrow). Additional options may interfere with suggested mounting; in this case secure the cables to a solid piece of the frame as described in the instructions included with the permanent baseplate safety cables. Be sure the safety cables do not rub against any hoses or moving parts. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

26. Pop the styrofoam bumper back in place on the front of the metal bumper. Reinstall the upper grille.



27. Hold the fascia to its original position and carefully cut the lower grille with a utility knife or a hack saw blade, to allow attachment receivers to come through. Do this on both sides. Reinstall the fascia. The installation of the baseplate is complete.

28. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical cars can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturers' tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods, adding shims and/or bending endplates.

29. Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in their packages. When demonstrating this to the customer. Be sure to include all the contents and packages.

30. Do **NOT** substitute other devices if the tow bar pins and clips are misplaced.



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31. Dealer or installer be certain the user receives the instruction sheet.



**Shown without removable tabs installed.**



**Shown with removable tabs installed.**

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT**

Blue Ox® is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call (402) 385-3051 and you can speak with our customer care team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it's in proper working condition. Also, as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory, you can stay at our full service Blue Ox® campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again, thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.

**If the baseplate is in an accident, it must be replaced. DO NOT use it again! An accident can cause unseen damage and using it again could result in more damage or serious injury. DO NOT use the baseplate if it is damaged or missing parts.**

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