



BLUE OX®

Baseplate Installation Instructions

BX1976

2007-11 Dodge Nitro

**2008-11 Jeep Liberty Limited 4x4
Installation Instructions**

Serial Number

Please read BOTH the Installation Instructions and the General Towing Instructions before attempting to install or operate 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 to do “fit work”. When necessary Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at 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 hardware supplied in the hardware kit or existing hardware specified in the Baseplate Towing Installation Instructions.

Attachment Tab Height: 17 1/2”
Attachment Tab Width: 20”

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

Confirm the towability and pre-towing procedures for your vehicle with the owner’s manual or contact the vehicle’s manufacturer for specific towing procedures.

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

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.



If the front of your vehicle looks different than these vehicles, call us at (402) 385-3051.

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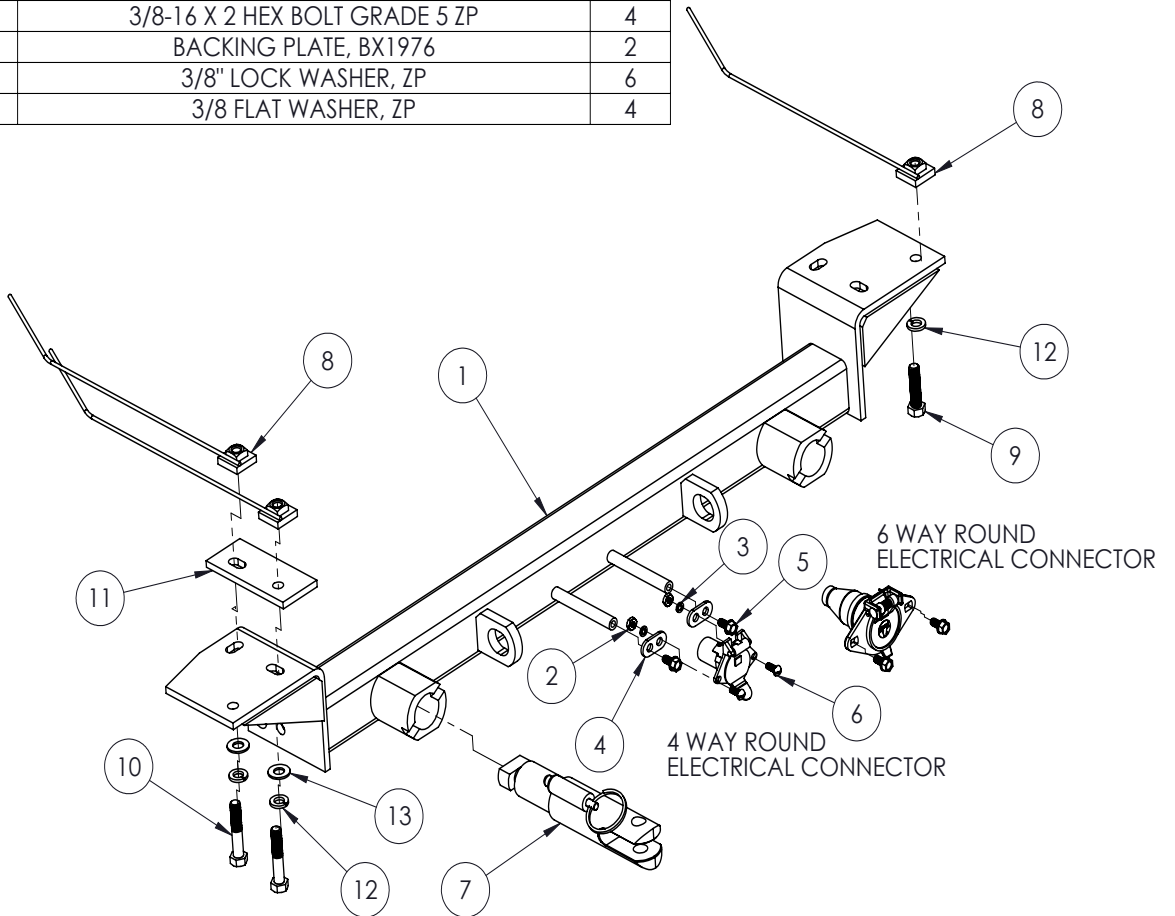
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Tools Required		
10MM Socket	9/16" Socket	13/32" Drill Bit
25 Torx Bit	Flat Screwdriver	Vise Grip
Diagonal Cutters	Loctite® RED	

ITEM NO.	PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
1	61-6357	WLD MN'T, BP, BX1976	1
2	202-0047	#10-32 HEX NUT	2
3	203-0054	#10 LOCK WASHER	2
4	101-5822	ADAPTER, 4 WAY CONNECTOR	4
5	201-0553	1/4-20 X 1/2" HEX WASHED, TYPE F, ZP	2
6	201-0192	#10-32-1/2" SLOT, ROUND HEAD SCREW	2
7	62-3468	ATT TAB ASSY, REM, SF/SB, 1 HOLE	2
8	61-5208	WLD, NUT PLATE, 1/4 X 1 X 1(3/8-16)w/ 14" WIRE	6
9	201-0440	3/8-16 X 1 1/2" HEX BOLT, GRD. 5, ZP	2
10	201-0444	3/8-16 X 2 HEX BOLT GRADE 5 ZP	4
11	102-6572	BACKING PLATE, BX1976	2
12	203-0010	3/8" LOCK WASHER, ZP	6
13	203-0003	3/8 FLAT WASHER, ZP	4

Parts Not Pictured:		
Qty.	Part #	Description
4	229-0536	6.33MM Plastic Rivet
2	226-0046	Baseplate Safety Cables
2	229-0359	Quicklink, 3/8, ZP
2	290-0437	Cap Plug, Black



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. 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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! 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.

Removable Tabs: Motorhome mount 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.

Instructions: The upper grille (Dodge only) and front fascia are removed and reinstalled during the baseplate installation. Drilling is required.

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 auto manufacturer's tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods or bending end plates.

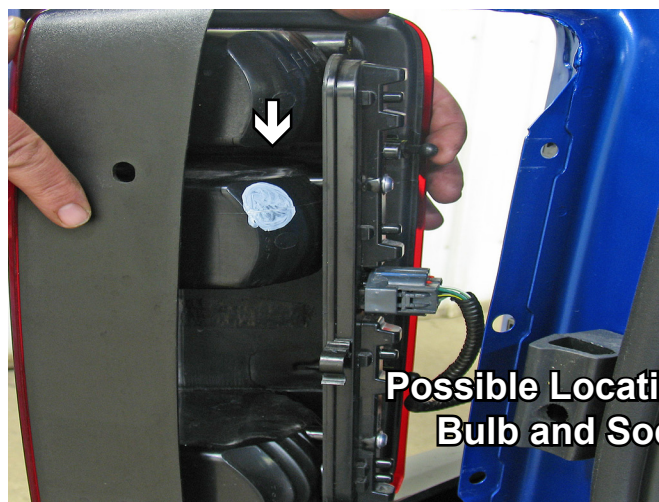
The BX8869 Bulb and Socket Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

Installation Instructions:



1. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a flat screwdriver, remove two pushpins just forward the front tire, on the wheel well. Set pushpins aside to be reinstalled later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

Handling of some cosmetic parts when installing this product may require the use of protective covers, rags, specialty tools, etc. to prevent damage.



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Possible Location for the BX8869 Bulb and Socket Wiring Kit.

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2. **JEEP ONLY:** Remove three push pins and lower two pop rivets with the flat screwdriver and side cutters. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

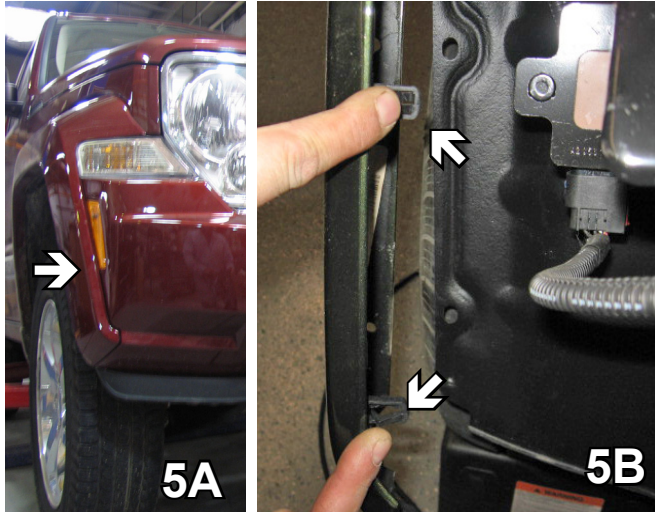


3. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a diagonal cutters, cut off pop rivet located above the top pushpin (see photo 3A). Then pull plastic back to locate and remove pushpin. The pop rivet will be replaced with a new one from the bolt bag and the pushpin will be set aside to be reinstalled later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

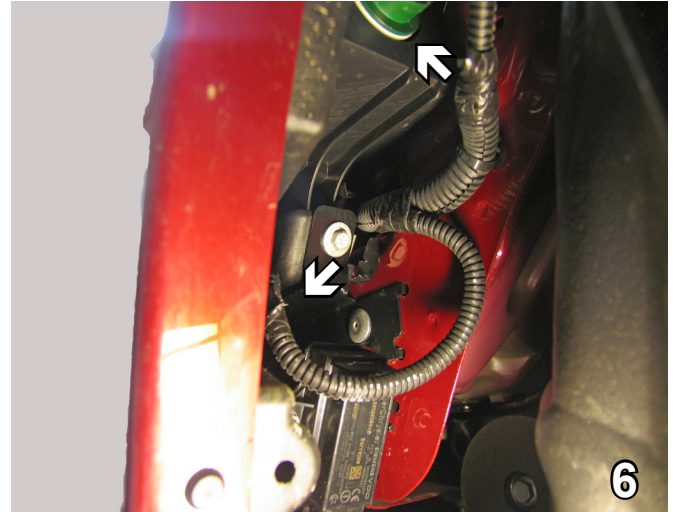


4. **BOTH VEHICLES:** After removing the pop rivet and pushpin, pull plastic back far enough to reach the top silver bolt. Using a 10MM socket, remove bolt and set aside to be reinstalled later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

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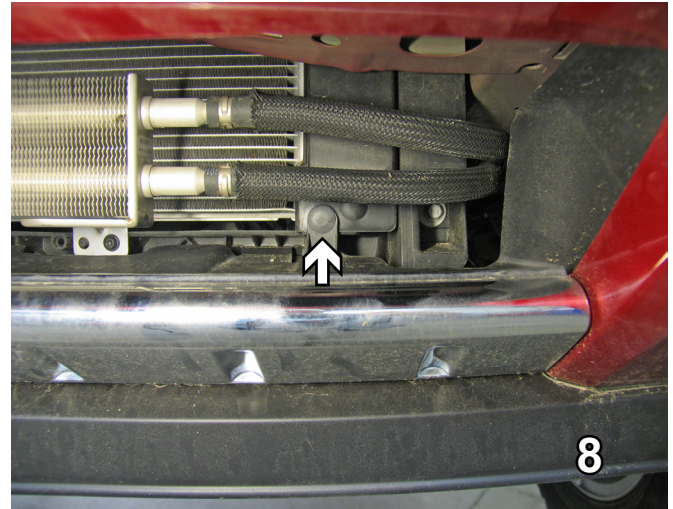
5. **JEEP ONLY:** While pulling fender flare out to the side, release the three clips forward of front tire wheel well on lower fascia cover. Do this to both sides.



6. **JEEP ONLY:** Unplug two lights, the green one and the black one. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

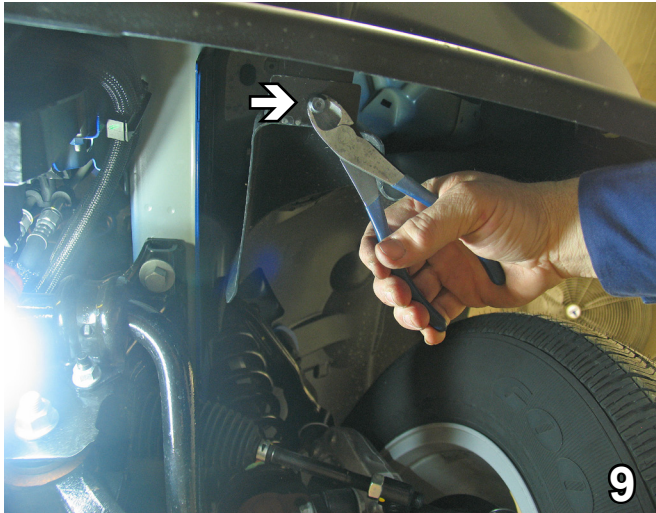


7. **JEEP ONLY:** Underneath the front fascia, using a flat screwdriver remove the plastic push pin. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

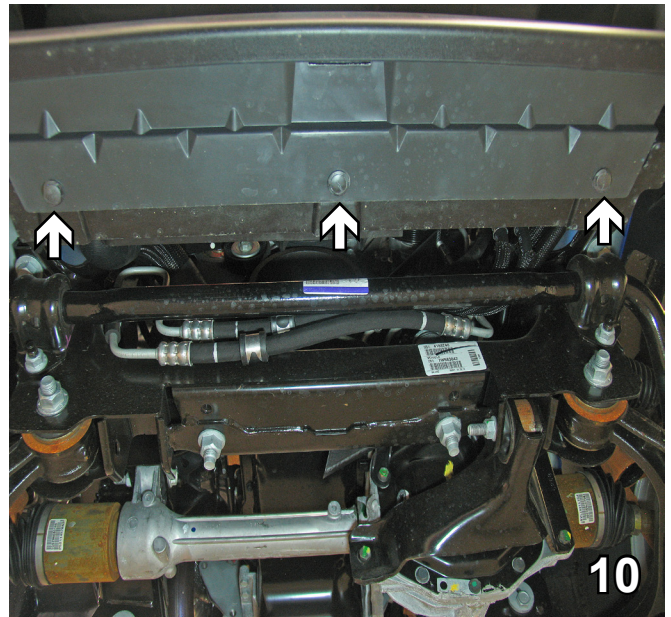


8. **JEEP ONLY:** Using a flat screwdriver in front remove two more push pins, one on each side. (Some models may have three pushpins.) Pull fascia corners out to the side and then forward to release. Set fascia aside carefully to be reinstalled later. (JEEP: Go to Step 14)

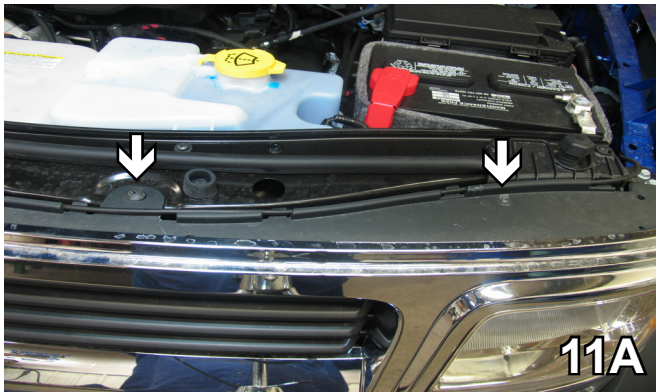
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9. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a diagonal cutters, remove the pop rivet from the plastic skid pan underneath bumper. New pop rivets found in the bolt bag, will be installed later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

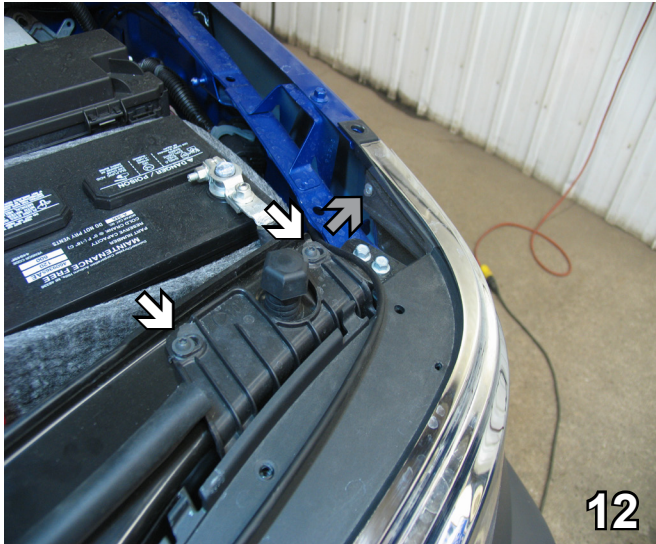


10. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a flat screwdriver, remove three pushpins from underneath the bumper. Set pushpins aside to be reinstalled later.

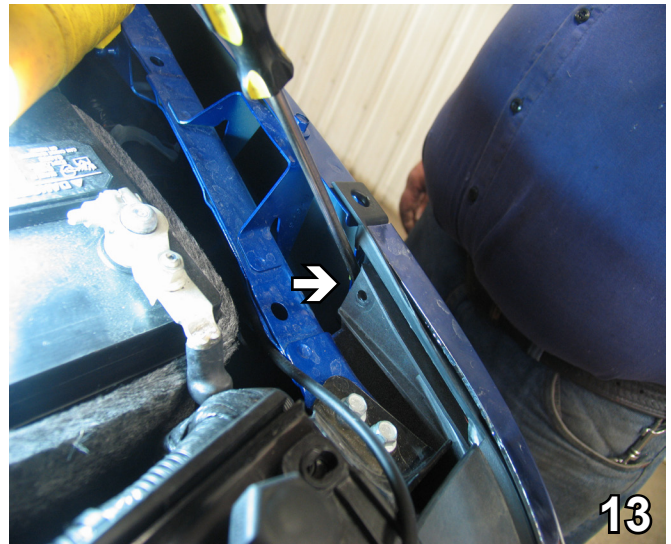


11. **DODGE ONLY:** Remove two pushpins with a flat screwdriver (see photo 11B) and a metric bolt with a 25 torx bit from the top edge of the grille (see photo 11A). Set pushpins and bolt aside to be reinstalled later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

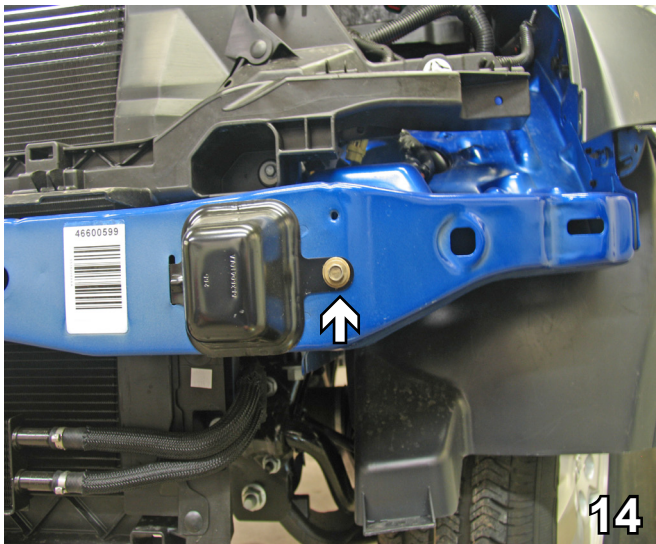
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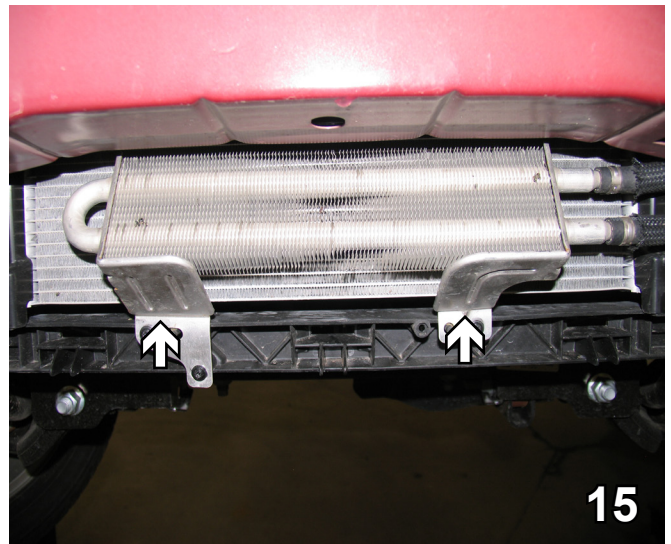
12. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a 25 torx bit, remove two metric bolts right in front of the battery (see white arrow). Then remove a metric bolt located in the corner, from both sides of the vehicle (see grey arrow). Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.



13. **DODGE ONLY:** Using a flat screwdriver, pull plastic forward to loosen. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. The bumper and grille can then be removed and carefully set aside to be reinstalled later.

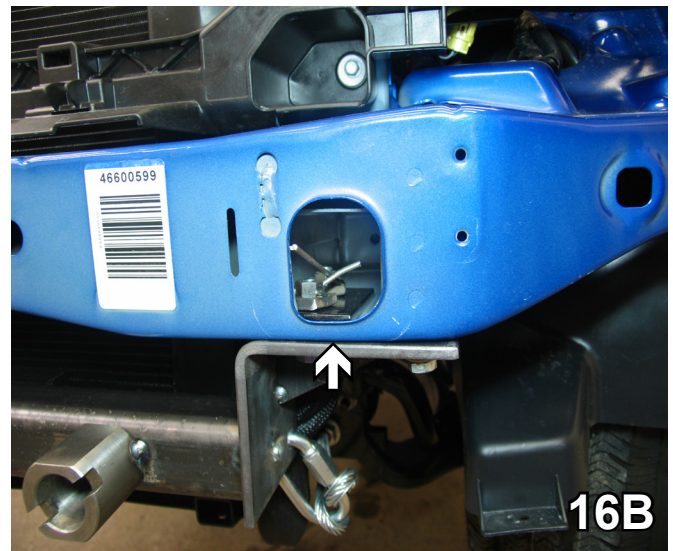
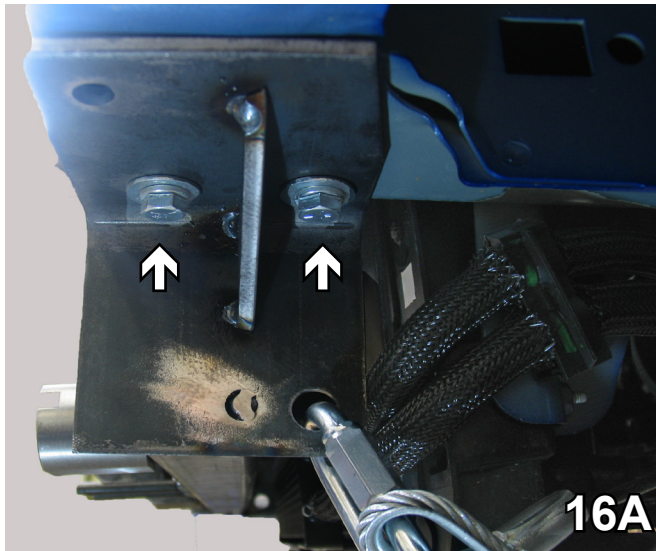


14. **BOTH VEHICLES:** Remove the metric bolt from the bumper hub with a 10MM socket. Set hub and bolt aside to be reinstalled later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



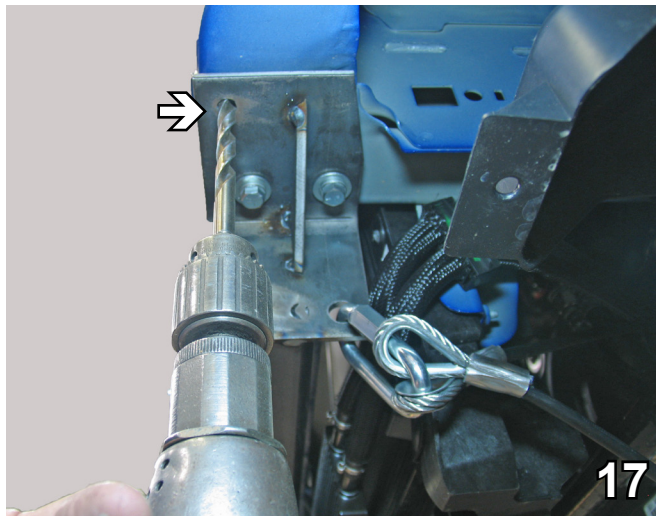
15. **JEEP ONLY:** Under the transmission cooler, bend the brace brackets up to 45°. Being careful not to damage radiator behind transmission cooler.

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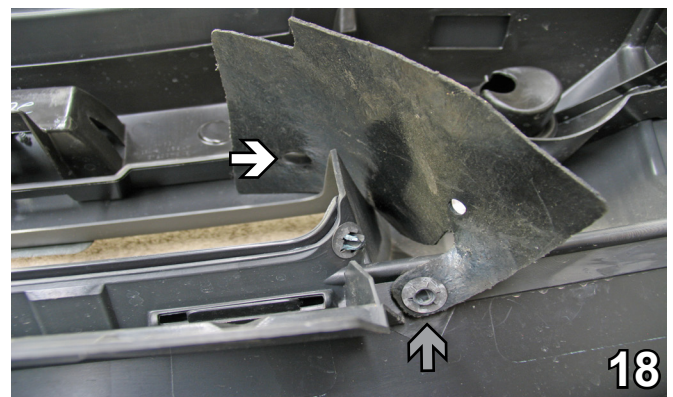
16. **BOTH VEHICLES:** Align the baseplate with the two existing holes in the bottom of the frame, insert backing plate and 3/8-16 nut plates into the opening on the end of the frame rail to align with these existing holes. Some vehicles may need to have these existing holes reamed with the 13/32" drill bit to acquire the proper fit. Tighten the 3/8-16x2" hex bolts, 3/8" flat washers and 3/8" lock washers with the 9/16" socket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

BE SURE TO USE LOCTITE® RED ON ALL BOLTS BEFORE TIGHTENING. TIGHTEN ALL BOLTS ACCORDING TO THE TORQUE CHART ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR ON PAGE 3 OF THE BASEPLATE TOWING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.



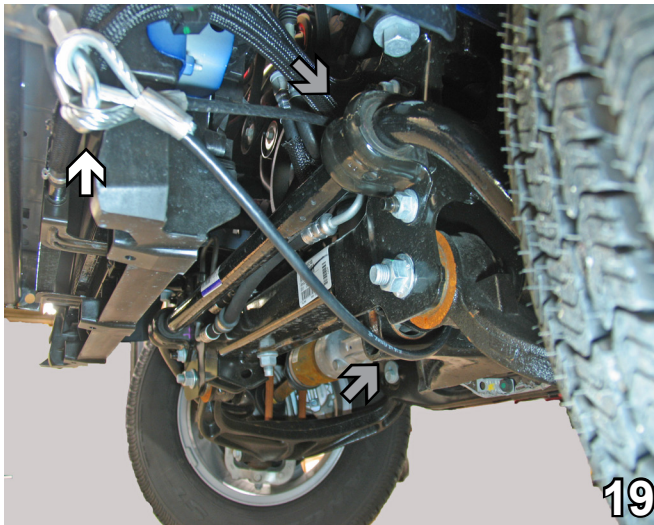
17. **BOTH VEHICLES:** Using the baseplate as a template, drill a hole into the frame rail with the 13/32" drill bit. Insert the 3/8-16 nut plate into the opening on the back side of the frame support to align with the drilled hole, tighten the 3/8-16 1 1/2" hex bolt and 3/8" lock washer with the 9/16" socket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

When using power drills be aware of the dangers of torque and drill bit length.



18. **DODGE ONLY:** Remove rubber piece from the backside of the fascia, by first removing the pushpin with a flat screwdriver (white arrow) and then cutting right next to the clip with a utility knife (gray arrow). The rubber piece should be completely removed and discarded. Do this to both sides of the fascia.

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19. **BOTH VEHICLES:** Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate (see white arrow). The photo above shows the recommended installation of the cables to frame of vehicle (see gray arrows). 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.



20. **DODGE ONLY:** Trim corner of fascia as shown in photos above. The amount of trimming required will vary, depending on what you need to get fascia reinstalled around baseplate. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



21. **JEEP ONLY:** On the back side of the fascia, trim corner 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" as shown in photos above. Do this to both corners of the fascia.

22. Reinstall bumper hubs, bumper and the grille. Replace the plastic rivets for Step 2, 3 and Step 8 with the ones provided.

Be sure that ALL electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning BEFORE reinstalling the fascia.

Install the tow bar and safety cables according to their instructions. When demonstrating this to the customer, be sure to include all of the Blue Ox packaging and contents.

DO NOT substitute other devices if the tow bar pins and clips are misplaced.

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DEALER or INSTALLER:
Be certain the user receives the instruction sheets for their products.

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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