INSTALLATION MANUAL:

COR-4209800

Jeep Wrangler Exhaust/Resonator Skid Plate
Jeep JL 2018+

CLAYTON OFF ROAD

REV: A | DATE: 05/29/2026 | AUTH: KW17

DISCLAIMER

WARNING:

Suspension systems and their components are designed to enhance your vehicle's off-road performance. This may cause your vehicle to handle differently, on and off-road. Always wear your seatbelt and take extra care when driving a modified vehicle. Failure to do so can result in loss of control which may result in a rollover causing serious injury, or even death to the driver and/or passengers of the vehicle. Regular maintenance and consistent inspections are required to keep your modified vehicle safe and functioning properly. These suspension systems and any components should be installed by certified technicians only. Attempts to install these products without proper knowledge can lead to poor performance, or possible failure, which may jeopardize the safety of the vehicle and its passengers. The installer is responsible for proper installation ensuring a safe and properly functioning vehicle. Take extra care when operating a modified vehicle and thoroughly inspect your vehicle before and after every off-road use.

Read the instruction set in its entirety before attempting the installation.

NOTE:

This product may require general welding, fabrication, and automotive mechanic skills. Welding should only be done by a competent welder. Clayton Off Road implies no guarantees or warranties and is not liable for improper installation. Some grinding and fitment may be required when installing this product. Every vehicle varies slightly, and some fabrication and/or modification may be required.

ATTENTION:

It is the customer's responsibility to thoroughly inspect all received parts to ensure they are assembled correctly and fully welded. Please carefully examine all weld seams and verify that bolt-through holes are properly aligned. Some Clayton Off Road products are permanent, non-removable, weld-on solutions. **If a defect or issue is found after installation, especially with permanent weld-on components, it may be difficult or impossible to correct.** Inspecting the part(s) received beforehand helps prevent unnecessary and avoidable complications.

All Clayton Off Road products are engineered and tested on U.S. spec, left-hand drive vehicles. Compatibility with right-hand drive vehicles is not guaranteed. Customer verification is highly recommended to ensure proper fitment prior to purchase.

ATTENTION: TORQUE SPECIFICATION

When working on any vehicle, it is good practice to torque suspension/weight-bearing components while the vehicle is resting under its load. This instruction set, as well as any other Clayton Off Road instruction set, assumes the installer will tighten any suspension-related components properly, to the recommended torque specification, when the vehicle is resting safely under its own weight.

INCLUDED ITEMS

4209800 – Jeep Wrangler Exhaust/Resonator Skid Plate (JL, 2018+)			
QTY	Part Number	Description	Class/Grade
1	4209820	JL/JT Exhaust/Resonator Skid Plate ONLY	N/A
1	4209822	JL/JT Exhaust/Resonator Skid Plate Hardware	N/A

Product Notes and Features:

- 3/16” thick steel construction engineered using advanced CAD software and modern manufacturing techniques
- Shields the expensive exhaust and resonator of the JL from high-rise obstructions during extreme off-road driving scenarios
- Installs in conjunction with COR-4209300 (Transfer case skid plate and skid support member) or full Clayton skid plate system. **Cannot be installed standalone**
- Countersunk hardware where it matters prevents unnecessary wear and tear
- No exhaust modification required
- All hardware included, **skid ships raw steel**
- **Compatible with OEM exhaust ONLY**
- Clayton long arm compatible (removable skid plate extension included)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

TOOLS REQUIRED FOR INSTALLATION

- *Basic hand tools*
- *Hex key set, 7/16"*
- *Metric wrench/socket set, 18mm, 13mm*
- *Standard wrench/socket set, 9/16"*
- *Adjustable long travel jack stand*
- *Vehicle lift*

*****Take this product to a licensed professional if you are hesitant about the installation process!*****

1. Begin by safely parking the vehicle on a shop lift. It is recommended that this installation be performed on a 4-post lift; however, it can be done on a 2-post lift with additional care. The figure below shows the vehicle set up and ready to be raised to a safe working height. **The new skid plate is heavy, so recruit a friend or use an adjustable long-travel jack stand to aid you in the installation.**

Figure 1: 2021 Jeep JL 392 ready for installation

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

2. Note that the new exhaust/resonator skid plate can **only** be installed in conjunction with the Clayton Off Road Transfer Case Skid Plate and Skid Support Member. Installation of the skid plate standalone sacrifices strength and proper function. Verify that the transfer case skid plate and skid support member have been properly installed before proceeding with the installation.

This product uses 4x M12-1.5 x 40mm factory frame bolts. If you've installed our full skid plate system, you should have enough left-over frame bolts. Make sure you have 4x bolts leftover before continuing with the installation!

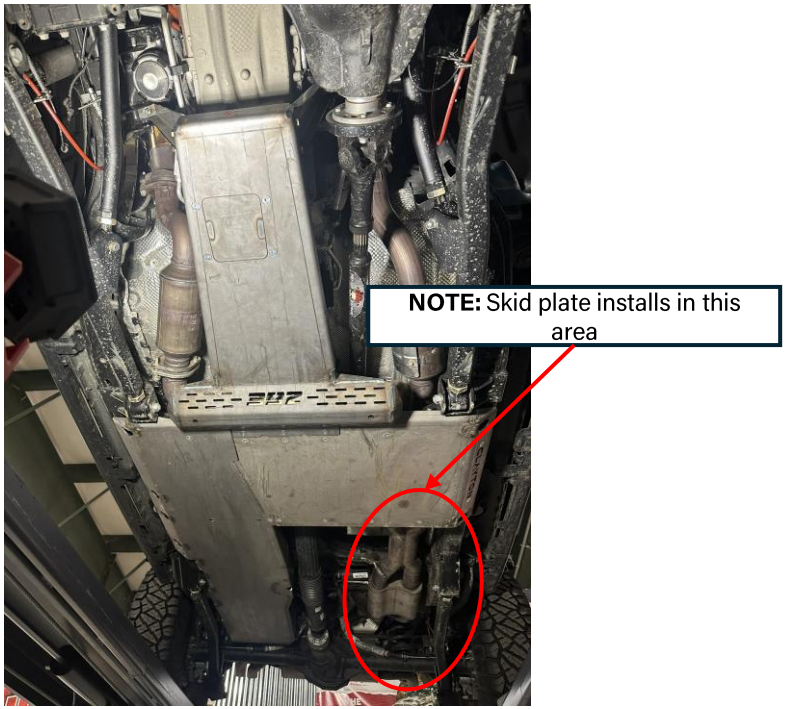


Figure 2: Underside view of Clayton 392 Skid Plate System (4209006) fully installed

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

3. Note that the new exhaust/resonator skid plate is compatible with **BOTH** short arm and Clayton long arm suspension systems. Please see the figure below. If you have Clayton long arm frame brackets, remove the bracket by backing out the 6x 5/16"-18 countersunk bolts. You can then discard the bracket, as it will not be reused.

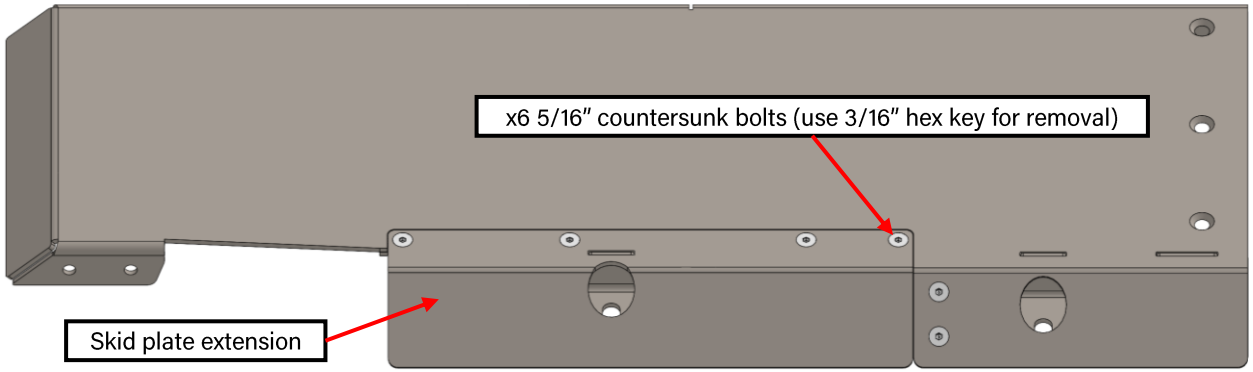


Figure 3: Removable skid plate extension for Clayton long arm suspension compatibility

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

4a. Locate the bracket that connects the skid plate to the skid support member. See Figure 4 below for reference. This bracket mates up to the pre-existing skid support member (COR-4209700) and transfer case skid plate (COR-4209300). Use 2x 3/8"-16 x 1" bolts to fasten to the skid support member, and 1x 3/8"-16 x 1" countersunk bolt to feed through the transfer case skid plate and into the bracket. See Figure 5 and 6 for reference on how this bracket installs.

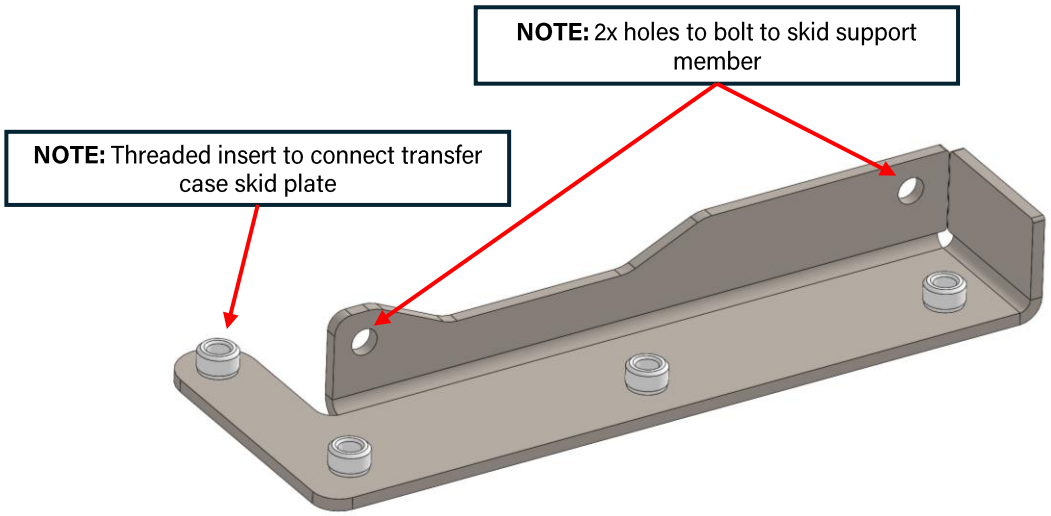


Figure 4: Skid support bracket

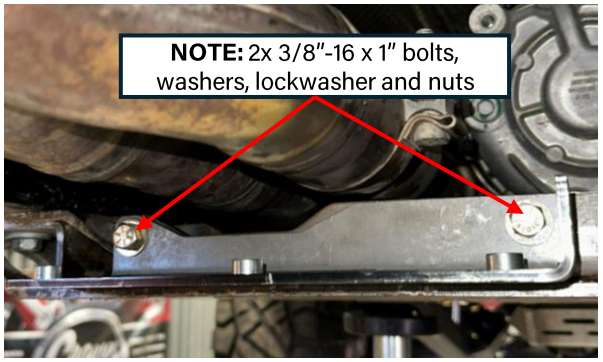


Figure 5: Support bracket connection to skid support member

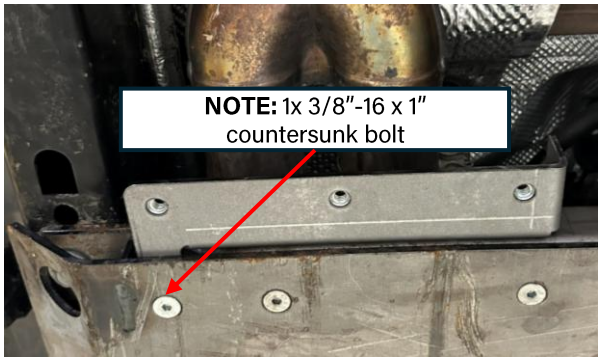


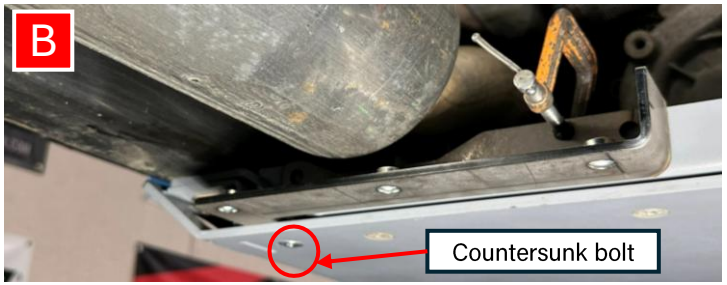
Figure 6: Support bracket connection to transfer case skid plate

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

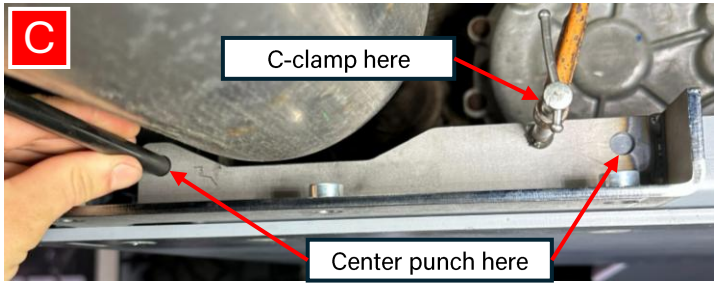
4b. **NOTE:** If you have an earlier version of the Clayton skid system, you may be missing the mounting locations located on the skid support member. Follow the steps below to locate the new bracket and drill the mounting holes.

A. Inspect the area where the support bracket will install. Make sure the area is clean and free of any dirt or debris.

B. Locate the bracket using the open countersunk hole on the transfer case skid plate. Use one of the provided 3/8"-16 x 1" countersunk bolts from the hardware kit. Tighten the bracket.



C. Line up the bottom of the support bracket with the inside surface of the transfer case skid. You can also line up the exhaust tube cutout with each other. Use a small C-clamp to ensure the bracket is flush against the skid support member surface. **Use a 3/8" center punch to locate the drill hole.**



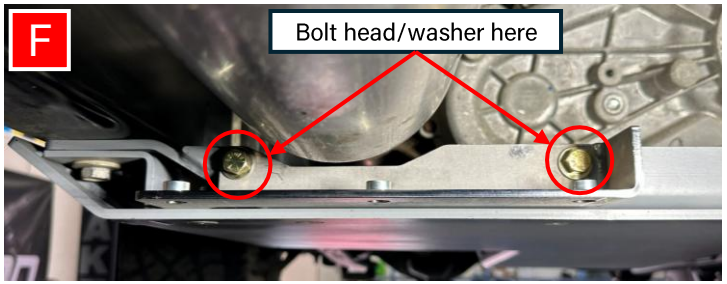
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

4c. **NOTE:** If you have an earlier version of the Clayton skid system, you may be missing the mounting locations located on the skid support member. Continue with the steps below to locate the new bracket and drill the mounting holes.

D. Remove the support bracket. Make sure that your center punches are deep enough to begin drilling.

E. Drill out the two locations. Start with a ¼" drill bit, then step-up to a 7/16" bit. Keep the drill as straight as possible and be sure to start drilling lightly so the bit does not walk off the center punch location. Ream/clean the hole locations of any burrs.

F. Line up the support bracket again and loosely start all the bolts. Use 2x supplied 3/8"-16 x 1" hex bolts with lock washers and nuts. Use a washer on the open side of the bracket with the bolt head, and the lock washer and nut on the inside of the skid support member. **Don't forget to reinstall the countersunk bolt at the transfer case!**



TIP: To tighten the left bolt, sneak a wrench **under** the exhaust on the inside of the skid support member! **Completely tighten the bolts now, as they will be hard to get later.**

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

5. Mount the rear support bracket with 1x OEM M12-1.5 x 40mm bolt. You may need to tug the emergency brake cable out of the way to access the threaded insert. See Figure 7 below for the mounting location- the bracket mounts near the rear axle just above the rear axle pinion.

Do not tighten the bolts; leave the bracket loose for now. Do not bring the skid up yet!

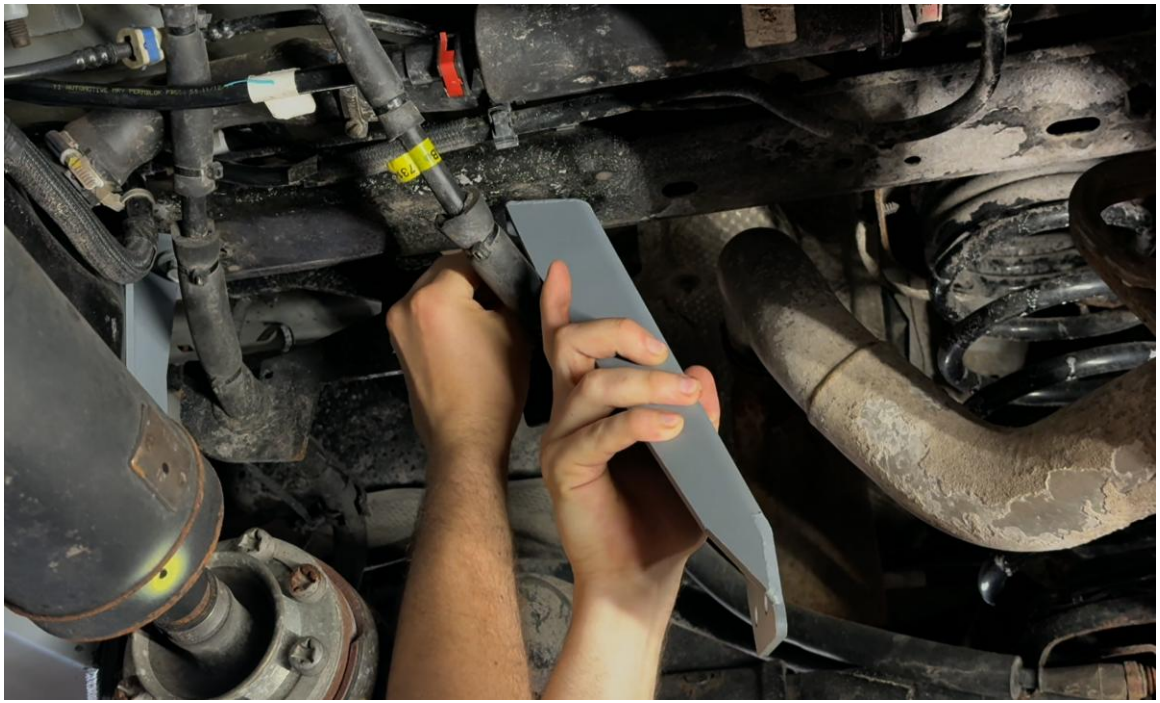


Figure 7: Rear skid support bracket

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

6. Mount the middle support bracket with 1x OEM M12-1.5 x 40mm bolt. See Figure 8 below for the mounting location- the bracket mounts near the middle of the rear driveshaft at the mid-frame cross-member.

Do not tighten the bolts; leave the bracket loose for now. Do not bring the skid up yet!

Figure 8: Middle skid support bracket

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

7. Bring the new skid plate into position. Recruit a friend, or the help of an adjustable jack stand at the rear of the skid plate (see Figure 9 below). **Loosely** thread the 3 countersunk bolts through the skid plate and into the support bracket.

Also, **loosely** install 1x OEM M12-1.5" x 40mm frame bolt at the location shown on the right.

Do not tighten the bolts; simply leave the skid plate loosely attached for now.

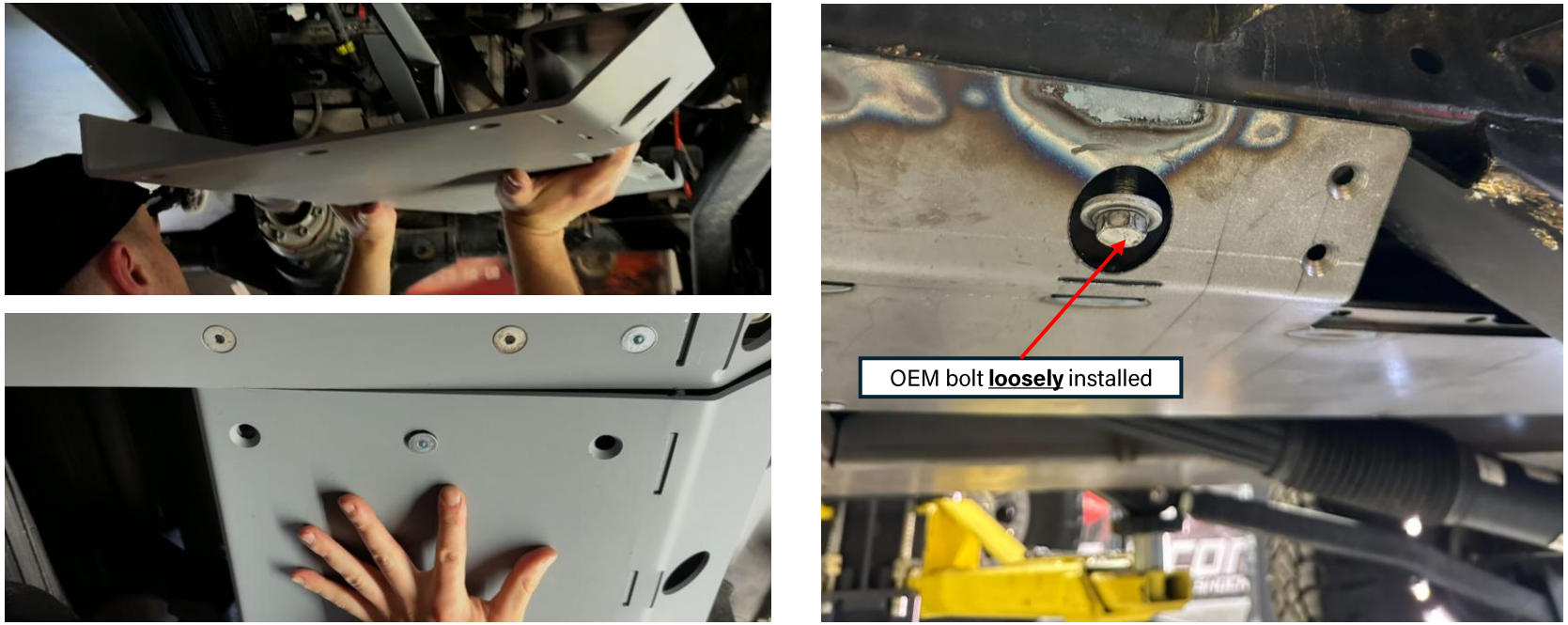


Figure 9: Skid plate loosely mounted at front bracket and OEM frame bolt

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

8. Mount the rear support bracket with 2 of the provided 3/8"-16 x 1" bolts, washers, lock washers, and nuts. The bracket mounts on the **OUTSIDE** of the skid plate.

Do not tighten the bolts; leave the skid support loosely attached for now.

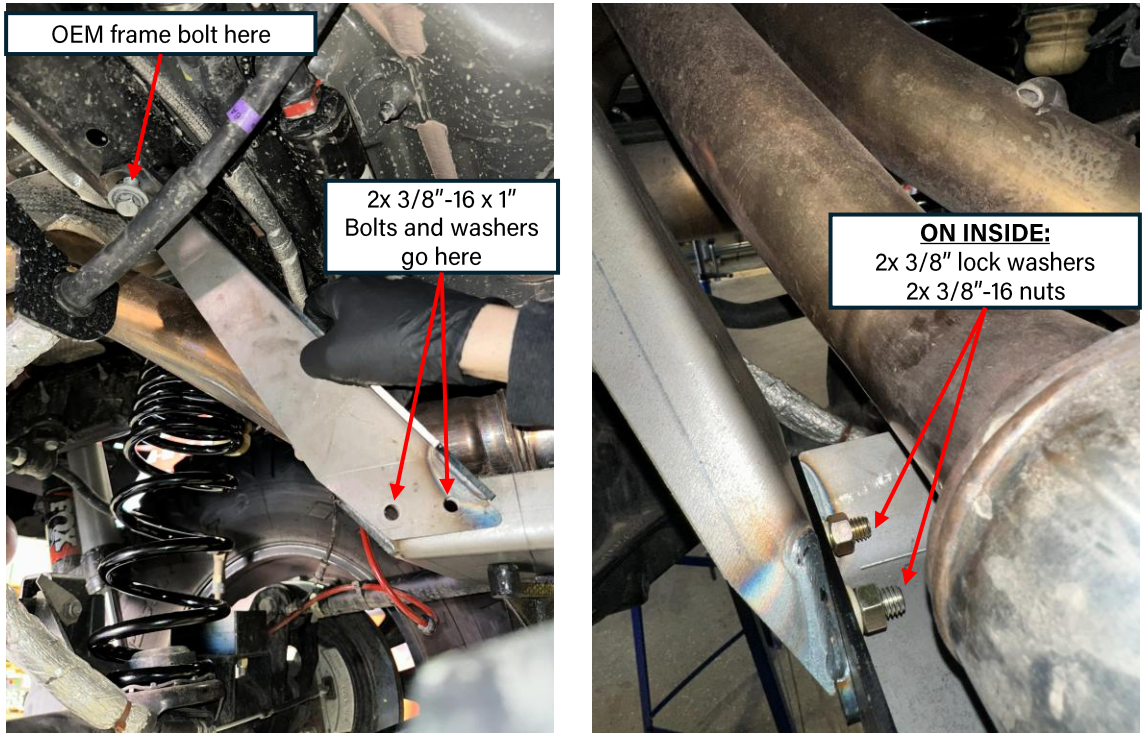


Figure 10: Rear support bracket loosely installed

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

9. Mount the middle support bracket with 2 of the provided 3/8″-16 x 1″ bolts, washers, lock washers, and nuts. The bracket mounts on the **INSIDE** of the skid plate.

Do not tighten the bolts; leave the skid support loosely attached for now.

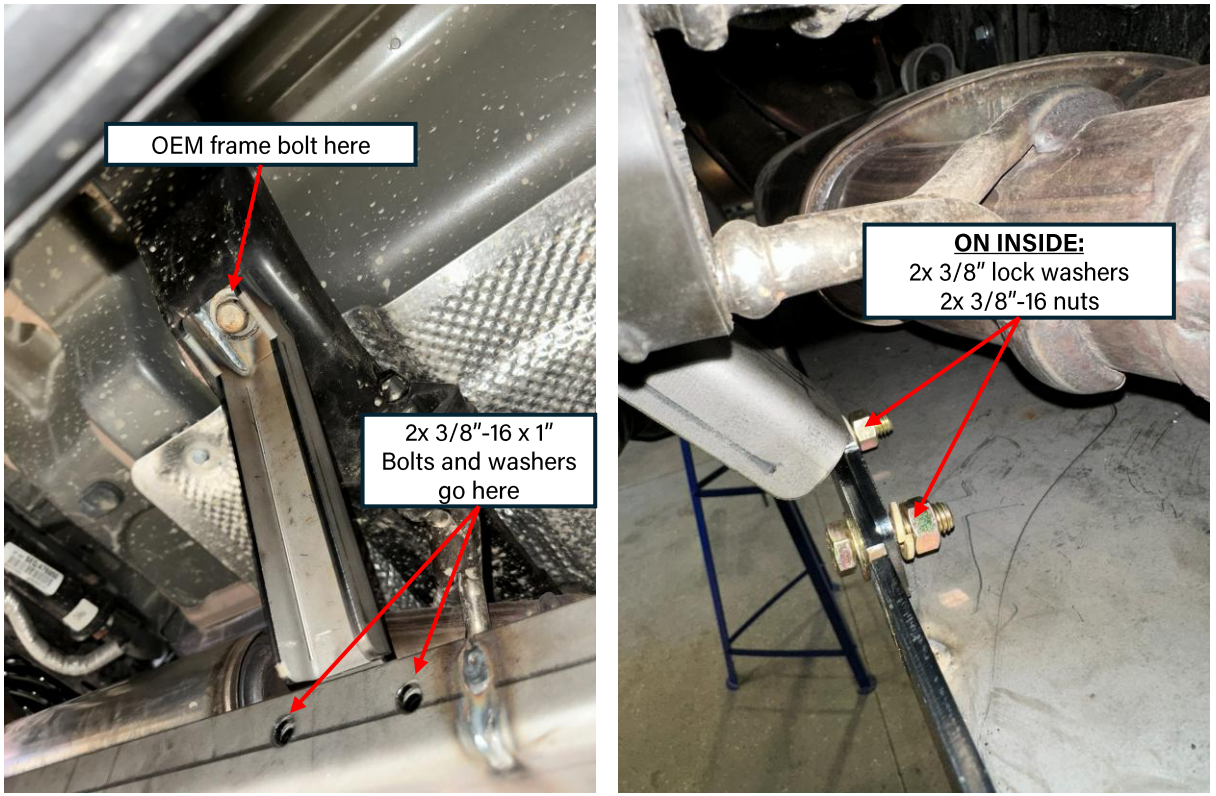


Figure 11: Middle support bracket loosely installed

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

10. Mount the rear frame bracket with the provided ½"-13 flange bolt and flag nut. Feed the flag nut through the large open hole in the frame, then bring the bracket with the bolt up into position and start the threads by hand. The bracket mounts on the **OUTSIDE** of the skid plate. Use 2 of the provided 3/8"-16 x 1" countersunk bolts, along with lock washers and nuts on the inside.

Do not tighten the bolts; leave the skid support loosely attached for now.

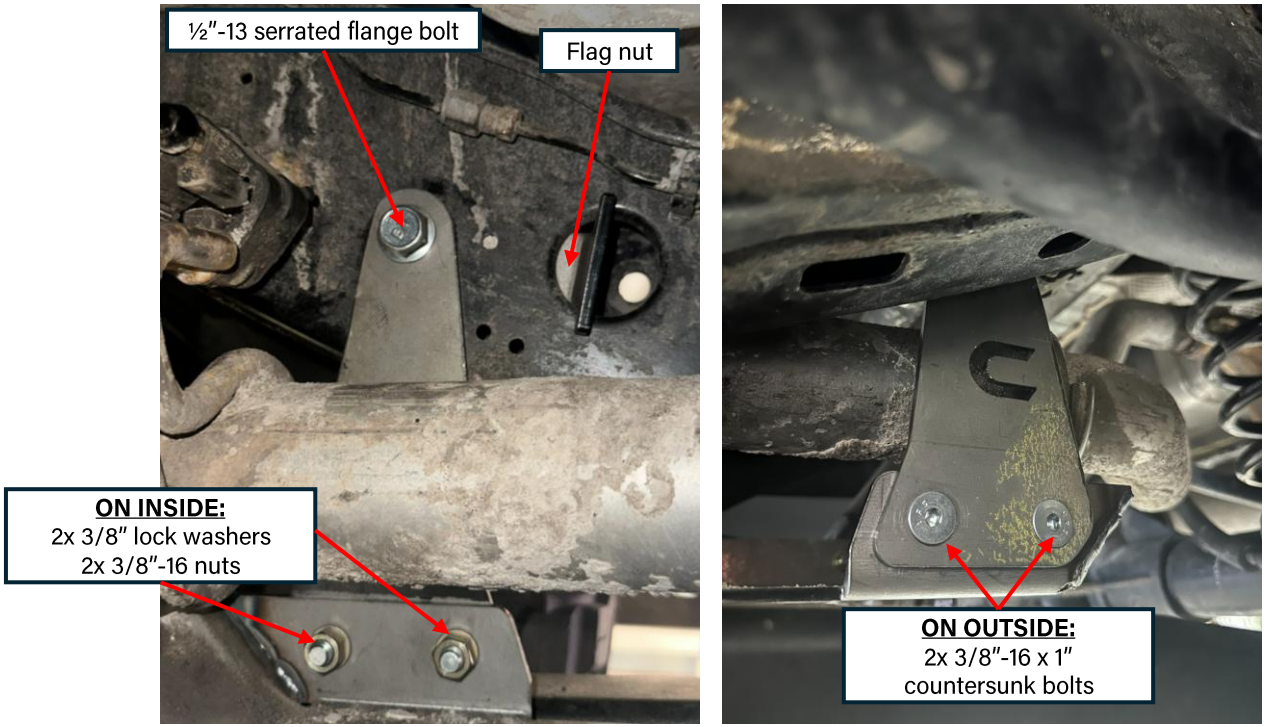
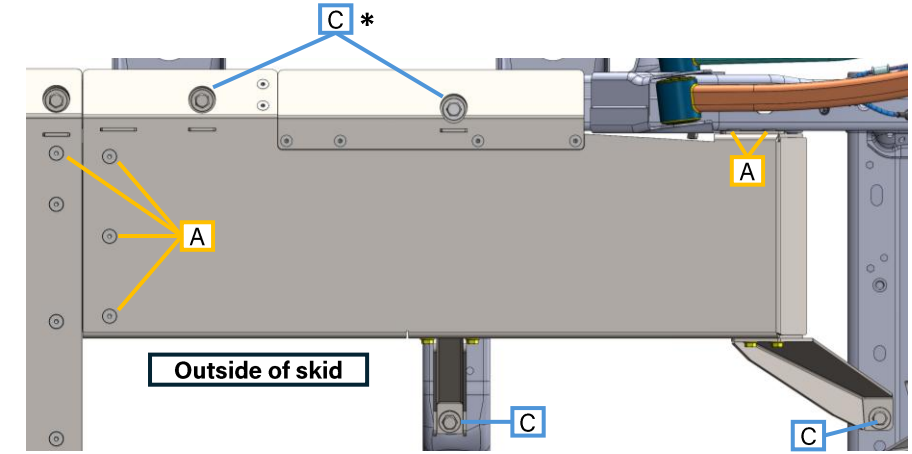


Figure 12: Rear frame support bracket loosely installed

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

11. With all the brackets **loosely** installed, you may now begin tightening the bolts. Follow the graphic and Table 1 below for helpful bolt locations, wrench sizes, and torque values.



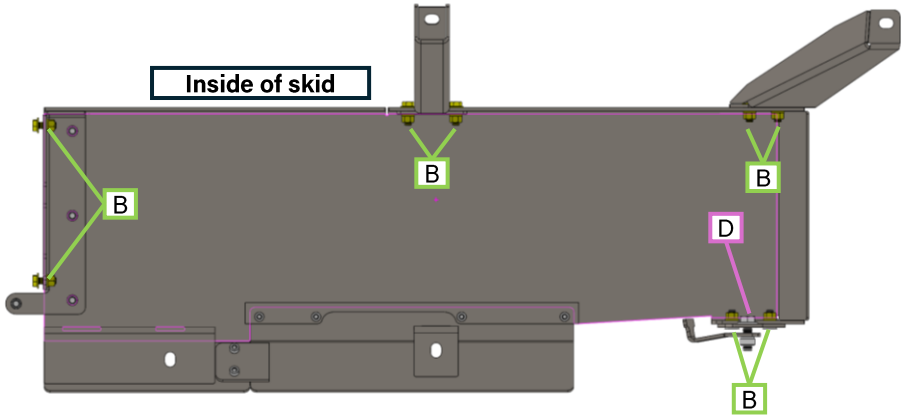


Table 1: Torquing procedure for exhaust skid plate hardware

BOLT ID	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	TORQUE (ft-lb)	TOOL SIZE
A	6	3/8”-16 x 1” Countersunk bolts	25	7/16” hex
B	8	3/8”-16 x 1” hex bolts	40	9/16”
C	4	OEM M12-1.5 x 40mm Frame bolts	48	18mm
D	1	1/2”-13 x 1.5” Serrated flange bolt	75	3/4”

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

12. The exhaust skid plate is now fully installed. Please retorque each bolt after around 500 miles of driving.

Be sure to inspect your skid plate system regularly. Skid plates are engineered to withstand harsh off-road use and to protect critical vehicle components; however, they are designed as sacrificial components. Severe impacts or sustained abuse can still result in cosmetic or structural damage. Regular inspection ensures continued protection and proper function, letting you hit the trails protected and insured.

Figure 13: Installation complete