BAL Hide-a-Spare Installation Instructions

Before installing, be sure to review placement on trailer frame and inspect for potential obstacles. Consider the locations of the entry step, slide room components, electrical or LP or plumbing lines, waste tanks and outlets. You will need open area on both sides of the trailer for the Pivot Bracket (A) and the Storage Bracket (B). Mounting the carrier closer to the axles offers less of a chance of ground clearance issues. You can mount the carrier to either side of the trailer based on your preference and frame limitations.

1) After determining the location for the Hide-a-Spare, use the Pivot Bracket (A) as a template for marking the screw locations. If you are installing a Hide-a-Spare on a trailer without enclosed underbelly, you can mount the Pivot Bracket on the interior of the frame rail (if sufficient frame rail height is available). Trailers that have enclosed underbellies will mount on the exterior of the frame rail. Depending on your frame, pre drill for bolts (minimum of 2 bolts 5/16" diameter X proper length required) and you can also use self tapping screws for extra support. Before drilling or using self tapping screws to mount Pivot Bracket, make sure you will not be damaging any electrical, LP, or plumbing lines. If there are obstructions, either relocate the Pivot Bracket or move obstacles.

2) Once the Pivot Bracket is securely mounted to the frame, move to the opposite frame rail and temporarily lift the Hide-a-Spare up to the frame. Measure the distance between the bottom of your trailer floor or enclosure to the Spare Tire mount location (D). Compare this measurement to the width of your spare tire. If there is not enough clearance, you will need to lower the Hide-a-Spare's Storage Bracket (B) to a location on the frame rail to increase the clearance to accommodate the spare tire. After determining the proper location, use the Storage Bracket as a template to mark the bolt/screw locations just as you did with the Pivot Bracket while considering all obstructions.

3) Now that the Storage Bracket is securely fastened to the exterior frame rail, lift the Hide-a-Spare up and over the Storage Bracket and align the hole for the plastic Locking Knob. Insert the Locking Knob (C) thru the two holes and insert the Cotter Pin to keep Knob in place. Stretch the Lanyard attached to the Locking Knob out to a location on the Hide-a-Spare plate or to the trailer frame that you can secure the Lanyard with a self tapping screw.

4) Remove the Locking Knob and drop the Hide-a-Spare to the ground. Telescope the carrier away from the trailer by pulling outward. Once the mount location plate (D) is accessible, place the spare tire on the carrier and fasten with included bolts. Push the carrier back into place under trailer and lift up to secure to Storage Bracket as done in Step 3.
Hide-a-Spare Model Identifier

MODEL 28210: 65” to 69” frame, Recessed mount for trailers without underbelly enclosure
MODEL 28215: 70” to 75” frame, Recessed mount for trailers without enclosed underbelly
MODEL 28216: 70” to 75” frame, Underslung mount for trailers with enclosed underbelly
MODEL 28217: 70” to 75” frame, I-Beam Recessed mount for trailers without underbelly enclosure
MODEL 28218: 70” to 75” frame, I-Beam Underslung mount for trailers with enclosed underbelly

*Measurements are from side to side of each exterior edge of the vertical frame.*

The following descriptions and tips will help identify which Hide-a-Spare will work for the intended trailer:

**Terminology:**

1) **Enclosed Underbelly** – when a trailer has a sheet of plastic, fiberglass, aluminum or other material that is installed horizontally beneath the trailer frame. This sheet is attached from front to back and from Driver’s to Passenger’s side frame rail. It protects the bottom of the trailer from road debris and the elements. A Hide-a-Spare that is ‘underslung’ will work on an Enclosed Underbelly trailer.

2) **Underslung** – this details the model of Hide-a-Spare that is used with Enclosed Underbelly trailers. It allows the spare tire to be positioned below the frame as opposed to recess into the cavity between the frame rails. Underslung models should be mounted as close to the axles as possible as it decreases ground clearance.

3) **Recessed Underbelly** – this is a trailer that has no material concealing the bottom of the trailer frame. When looking underneath the trailer, you will be able to see waste tanks, electrical and plumbing lines, wiring, and the bottom of your trailer floor. You will also see the exposed frame rails and crossmembers (steel supports running from one frame rail across to the other frame rail). Using this model will allow you to recess the spare tire up into the frame limiting ground clearance loss.

4) **‘I’-Beam frame** – each frame rail will look like a capital ‘I’ from the end of the trailer. Each side of the frame (passenger and driver) will have a horizontal lip on the lower, exterior edge. The Hide-a-Spare fitting the ‘I’-beam frame will have brackets that are designed to avoid this lip.

5) **All other frames** – frames that are not ‘I’-beams will have a flat, smooth vertical surface. These are called Box, Channel, ‘C’-frame, or ‘Z’-frame. They will not have the lip the ‘I’-beam and will have a flat, vertical bracket can be used on the Hide-a-Spare.

6) **Pivot bracket** – the Hide-a-Spare bracket that is mounted permanently to the Driver’s side and acts as a hinge when the Hide-a-Spare is lowered to remove the tire.

7) **Storage bracket** – this mounts permanently to the Passenger’s side and allows the Hide-a-Spare to secure to the trailer using a removable Locking Knob and Cotter Pin.
Pivot Bracket diagrams:

- BLUE = trailer frame
- RED = Pivot Bracket
- GREEN = Hide-a-Spare

A = interior of trailer frame  B = Pivot bracket  C = Telescoping Arms

Driver's side profile of NON 'I'-Beam frame

Storage Bracket diagrams:

- BLUE = trailer frame
- RED = Storage Bracket
- GREEN = Hide-a-Spare

A = interior of trailer frame  B = Storage bracket  C = Telescoping Arms

Passenger side profile of NON 'I'-Beam frame (Except 28217 which fits I-Beam frame)
### Pivot Bracket Measurements:

**Model No.**

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### Storage Bracket Measurements:

**Model No.**

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