



# BX2631 2011-16 Ford F350 Installation Instructions

**Attachment Tab Height: 22-1/4"**

**Attachment Tab Width: 31-7/8"**

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

1. 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 "it work".
2. 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 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     |
| 3/4"      | 257     | 380     |



**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        |
| 16MM      | 161       | 230        |
| 18MM      | 222       | 318        |

**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 fascia and lower valance are removed and reinstalled for the baseplate installation. Some drilling and trimming is required. If equipped with tow hooks they must be removed and not reinstalled.

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 BX8848 4-Diode Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

## ***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.
- When using a reciprocating saw be aware of objects behind the cutting surface.
- Use a good quality paint to spray cut edges of frame to prevent rusting.
- Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in and accessories are functioning properly before reinstalling the fascia.
- The baseplate is computer tested to your vehicle's GVWR, exceeding this weight will void the manufacturer's warranty.
- Be sure to use a sufficient amount of Loctite® Red on all bolt threads before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the torque chart provided.
- Dealer or installer be certain the user receives these instruction sheets.
- 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.

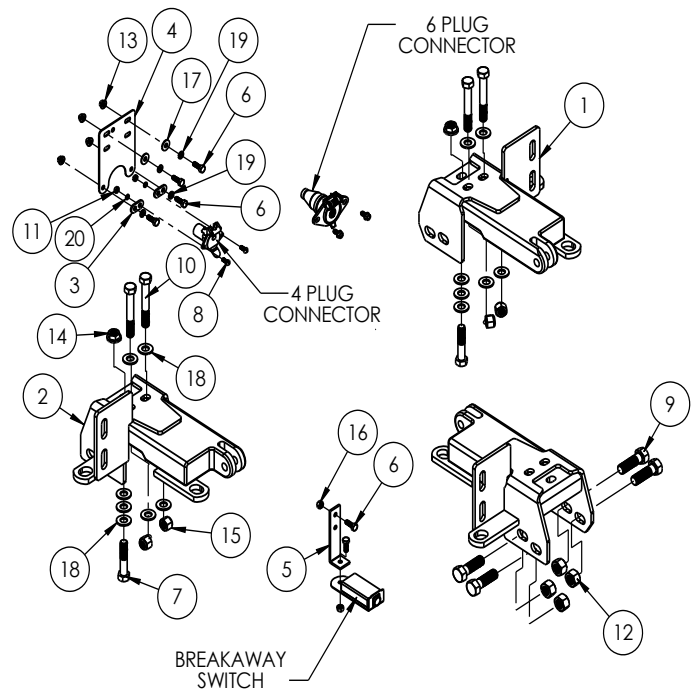
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#### Tools Required

13MM Socket  
Torque Wrench  
15MM Socket  
Tape Measure  
18MM Socket  
Drill  
3/4" Socket/Wrench  
17/32" Drill Bit  
15/16" Socket/Wrench  
5/16" Drill Bit  
Large Vise Grips  
21/32" Drill Bit  
Flat Screwdriver  
5/8" Drill Bit  
Loctite® RED



| Item No.            | Part No.       | Description                                      | Qty. |
|---------------------|----------------|--|------|
| 1.....              | 61-6865 .....  | BX2631 Baseplate, Driver Side .....              | 1    |
| 2.....              | 61-6866 .....  | BX2631 Baseplate, Passenger Side.....            | 1    |
| 3.....              | 101-5822 ..... | 4 Way Connector Adapter .....                    | 2    |
| 4.....              | 101-6739 ..... | Electrical Bracket .....                         | 1    |
| 5.....              | 102-7186 ..... | Breakaway Bracket.....                           | 1    |
| 6.....              | 201-0050 ..... | 1/4"-20 x 3/4" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP .....  | 6    |
| 7.....              | 201-0153 ..... | 1/2"-13 x 2-1/2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 8, ZP..... | 2    |
| 8.....              | 201-0192 ..... | #10-32 1/2" Round Slotted Head Screw .....       | 2    |
| 9.....              | 201-0351 ..... | 5/8"-11 x 2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP .....    | 4    |
| 10.....             | 201-0369 ..... | 1/2"-13 x 3-1/2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP..... | 4    |
| 11.....             | 202-0047 ..... | #10-32 Hex Nut.....                              | 2    |
| 12.....             | 202-0064 ..... | 5/8"-11 Hex Nylon Insert Lock Nut, ZP.....       | 4    |
| 13.....             | 202-0069 ..... | 1/4"-20 Hex Flange Whiz Lock Nut, ZP.....        | 4    |
| 14.....             | 202-0072 ..... | 1/2"-13 Hex Flange Whiz Lock Nut, ZP.....        | 2    |
| 15.....             | 202-0094 ..... | 1/2"-13 Hex Nylon Insert Lock Nut, ZP .....      | 4    |
| 16.....             | 202-0102 ..... | 1/4"-20 Hex Nylon Insert Nut, ZP .....           | 2    |
| 17.....             | 203-0001 ..... | 1/4" Flat Washer, ZP .....                       | 2    |
| 18.....             | 203-0005 ..... | 1/2" Flat Washer, ZP .....                       | 14   |
| 19.....             | 203-0008 ..... | 1/4" Lock Washer, ZP.....                        | 4    |
| 20.....             | 203-0054 ..... | #10 Lock Washer .....                            | 2    |
| 21 (not shown)..... | 226-0049 ..... | 36" Class IV Baseplate Safety Cable.....         | 2    |
| 22 (not shown)..... | 229-0512 ..... | 1/2" Quicklink , ZP.....                         | 2    |
| 23 (not shown)..... | 290-0437 ..... | Black Cap Plug Receiver .....                    | 2    |

#### **Important:**

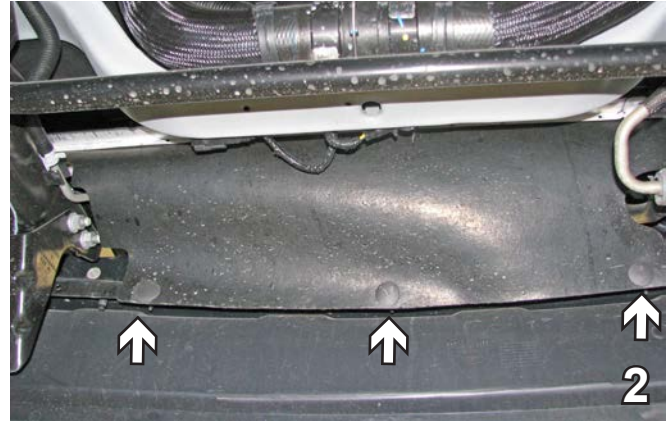
Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do **NOT** substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5,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



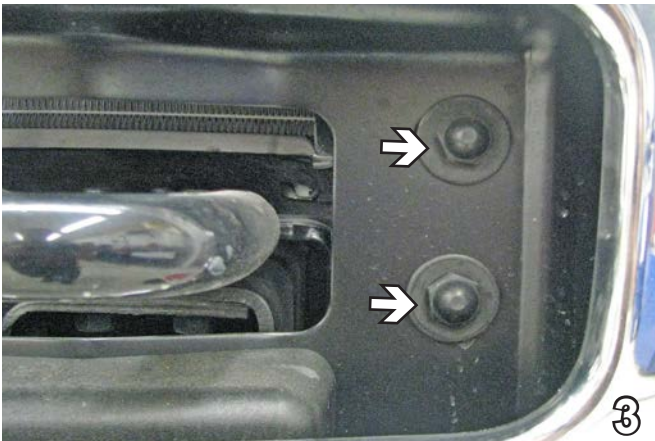
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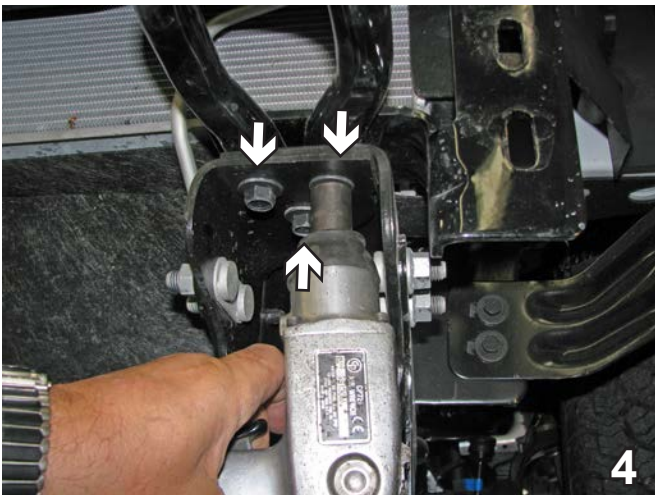
1. Using a 13MM socket, remove two metric bolts located just forward of the front tire. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.



2. Remove three push pins from the bottom edge of the plastic cover. Set cover and push pins aside to be reinstalled later.



3. Using an 18MM socket, remove the two bolts on the side of the bumper. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set the bolts and the bumper aside to be reinstalled later.  
**NOTE:** If some vehicles have a heater core element plug, the Christmas tree pin will need to be released on the passenger side (see gray arrow on step 16).



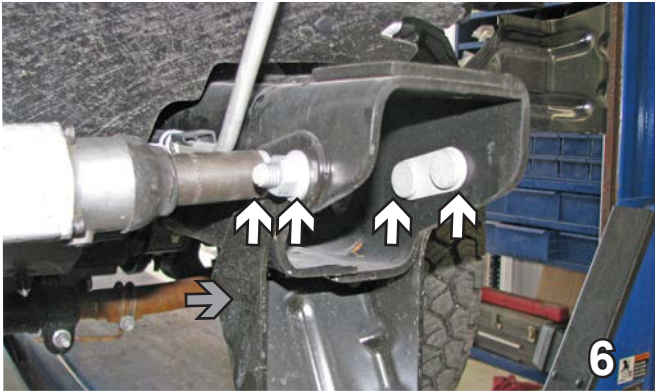
4. Remove the tow hook by removing the three bolts underneath it using a 15MM socket. Set tow hooks and bolts aside--they will not be used again. Use a 17/32" drill bit to ream the two front holes. Do this on both sides.



5. On the driver's side, it will be necessary to pull the Christmas tree pin from the coolant line bracket that goes into the frame in order to position the baseplate. It will be reinstalled later.



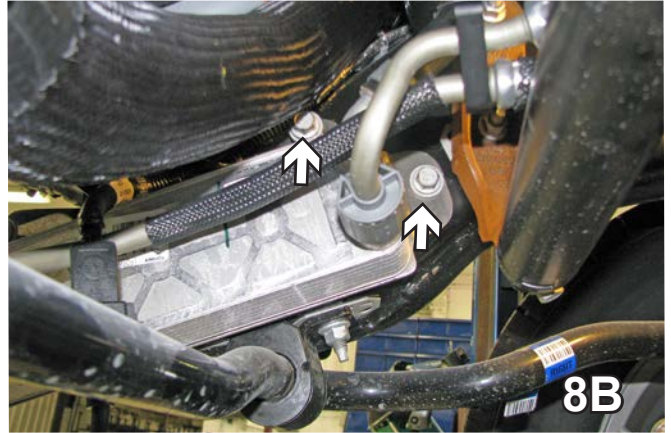
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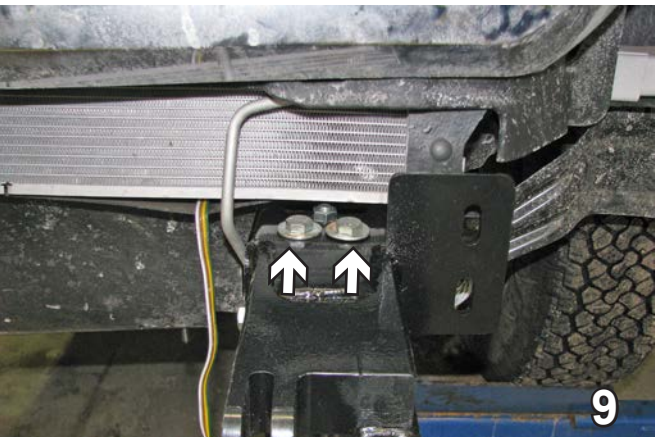
6. Using an 18MM socket, remove the two bolts on each side of the bumper support. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts and support aside to be reinstalled later.



7. On the passenger side, on the back bottom of the lower radiator, remove the push pin from the rubber air dam. Set the pin and the air dam aside to be reinstalled later.



8. Using a 13MM socket remove the three metric bolts from the coolant transfer box on the passenger side to be reinstalled later. Pull the box out of the way so that the side holes can be drilled in step 12 using the baseplate as a template.



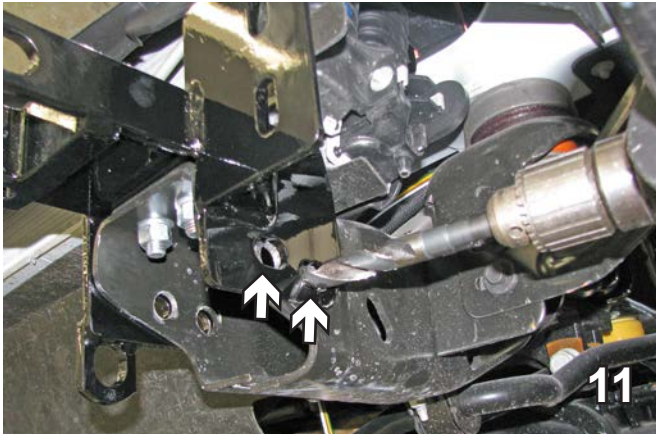
9. Slide the baseplate over the frame rail, tabs to the inside. Align with the top holes. Insert 1/2-13 x 3 1/2" hex bolts with 1/2" flat washers on the top and bottom and 1/2-13 hex nuts in the front holes. Do this on both sides. Tighten with Loctite Red.



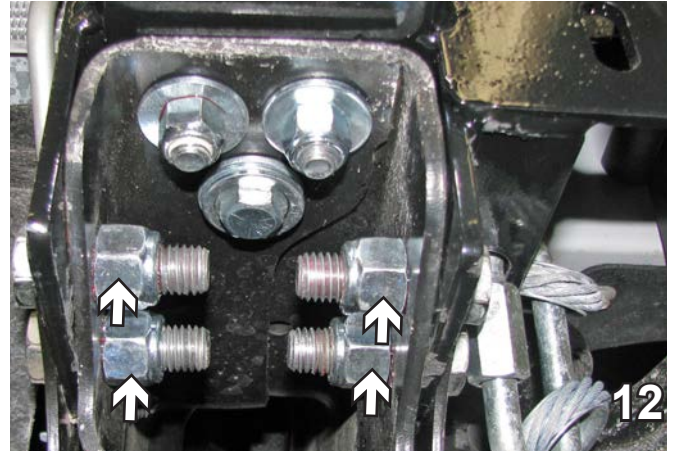
10. Insert 1/2-13 x 2 1/2" hex bolt into the back hole bottom side up with three 1/2" flat washers on the bottom and attaches with a 1/2-13 whiz nut on the top side. Do this on both sides. Tighten with Loctite Red.



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11. With the baseplate as a template, use a 5/8" drill bit to ream out the holes on both sides of the frame rail if needed. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.

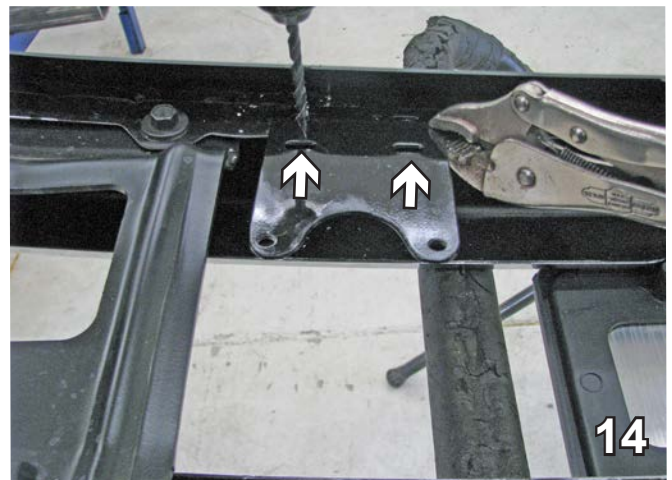


12. Slide the lower support bumper brace (removed in step 7) over the baseplate to align with the reamed holes. The brace may need to be widened to fit. Tighten all four 5/8-11 x 2" bolts attached to 5/8-11 hex nuts on the inside. Use Loctite Red on all bolts. Do this on both sides.

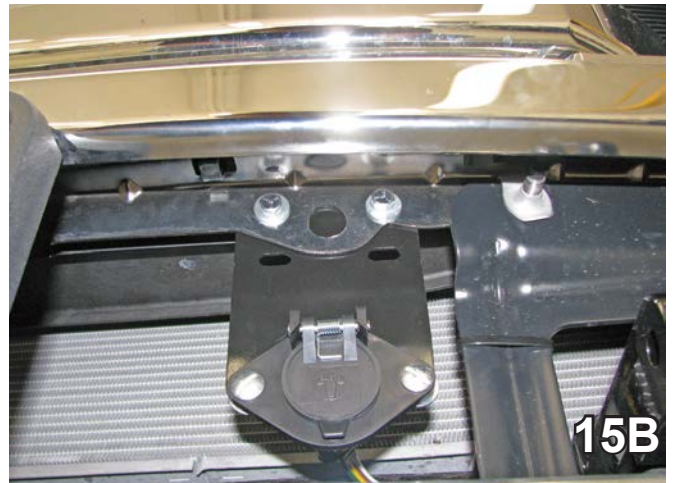
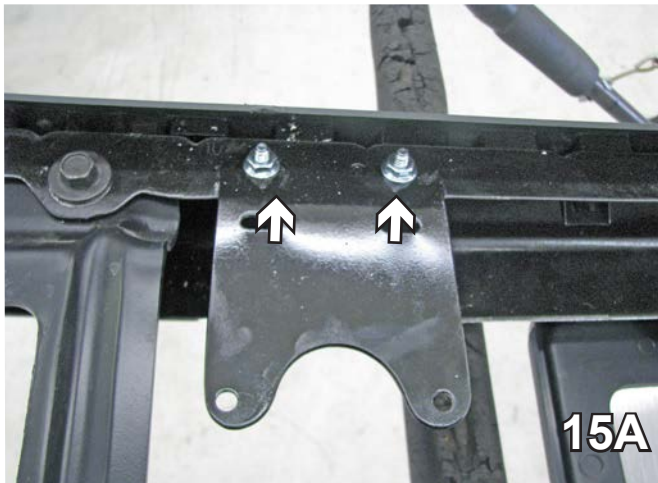


13. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate. The photo shows the recommended installation of the cables to frame of vehicle. Additional options may interfere with suggested mounting; in this case, secure the cables to a solid piece of the frame as described in the General Information sheet. Be sure the safety cables do not rub against any hoses or moving parts. Do this on BOTH sides of the vehicle.

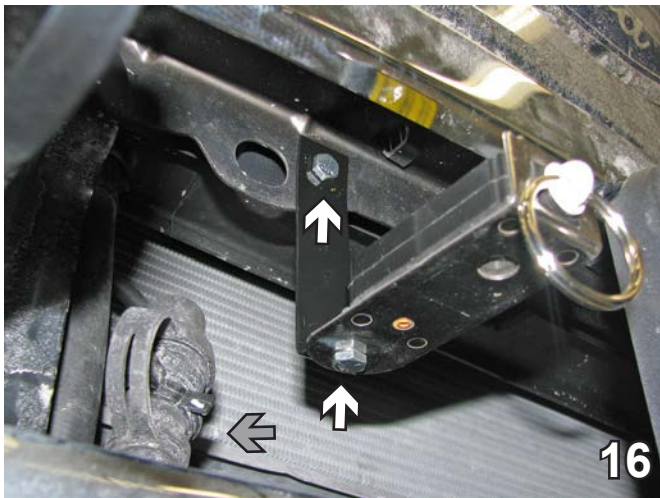
14. Place the metal bumper face down. Position the electrical bracket over the two existing holes on the inside top driver's side. Drill out the hole on the left using a 5/16" drill bit.



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15. Install 1/4-20 x 3/4" bolts with 1/4" flat washers, 1/4" lock washers and 1/4-20 whiz nuts. Reinstall the air dam, coolant transfer box, Christmas tree pins, heat core plug, bumper, cover, push pins, bolts and reconnect wiring.



16. **Optional:** Install the breakaway bracket in the existing hole on the passenger side next to the license plate. Insert a 1/4-20 x 3/4" hex bolt with 1/4-20 hex nut. Also attach the breakaway to the bracket with a 1/4-20 x 3/4" hex bolt with 1/4-20 hex nut.

# General Information

1. It is the owner's responsibility to inspect all towing equipment for cracked welds, missing or worn parts and loose bolts before each towing trip. Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts and tighten to the recommended specifications.
2. It is the owner's responsibility to hook up all towing equipment per manufacturer's instructions/recommendations.
3. Remove the attachment tabs when not in use (if applicable).

## Notice To Baseplate Installer

### 1. It is YOUR responsibility to watch for:

- Oil cooler and air conditioner lines
- Electrical wires and hoses
- Missing parts or attaching points on the frame

\*\* If the baseplate is improperly installed and is against a wire or hose, it could cause fluid leaks or electrical shorts some time after the actual baseplate installation.

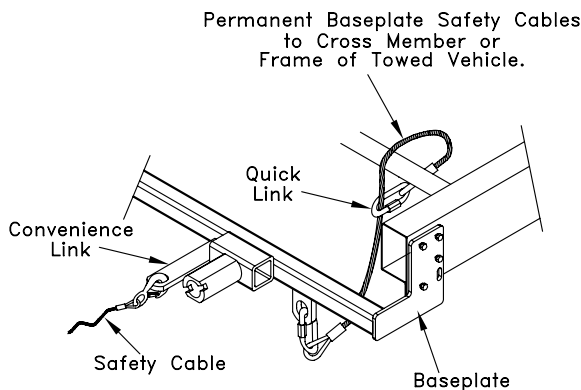
## Permanent Baseplate Safety Cable Installation

Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails or becomes disconnected. The cables must be connected from the baseplate to the frame rail or cross member of the vehicle's frame. The illustrations below show the possible arrangements recommended by Blue Ox®. Each permanent baseplate safety cable must have an adequate weight rating for the towing system. The weight rating of the two (2) cables together will not qualify.

***Do not mount the permanent baseplate safety cables against wires, hoses or brake lines.***

These permanent baseplate safety cables should remain installed as long as the baseplate is installed on the vehicle. Permanent baseplate safety cables are to be used in conjunction with, and NOT a replacement for legally required safety cables attaching the towed vehicle to the towing vehicle.

### OPTION #1



### OPTION #2

