

#### Attachment Tab Height: 21-1/2"

#### Attachment Tab Width: 18-1/2"

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

- Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge necessary to do " it work".
- Many Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> 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 speci ied in the installation instructions.



Bolt Torque Specifications Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bol		
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 - 0	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117
16MM	161	230
18MM	222	318



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.

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

**Instruction Notes:** The fascia, hood latch, air baffle, air dams, windshield washer fluid reservoir and (if equipped) coolant lines are removed and reinstalled for the baseplate installation. Some drilling and trimming 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.
- 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<sup>®</sup> Red on all bolt threads before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the torque chart provided unless otherwise specified.
- 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.





 Using a phillips screwdriver, remove eleven (11) pushpins from the fascia cover. There are six (6) on the driver side and five (5) on the passenger side.



2. Using a 10MM socket, remove bolt on top edge of fascia. Do this both sides.





4. Using a 10MM socket, remove the screw directly below the license plate on the fascia. Further underneath are three (3) pushpins to remove.

3. Using a 7MM socket, remove the screw just forward the front tire (left) and the screw from the fascia joint (right). Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



 VUE/CAPTIVA MODELS Just forward the front tire, underneath the fascia, use a 7MM socket to remove two (2) screws (white). Using a 10MM socket, remove one screw (gray) as shown. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



REDLINE MODEL
 On the underside of the fascia, using
 a 7MM socket, remove two (2) screws
 (white). Using a 10MM socket, remove one
 screw (gray). Do this to both sides of the
 vehicle.





- Straight down in front of the latch and just behind upper grille, using a phillips screwdriver, remove the black push pin. Pull fascia corners out to the side of vehicle, both sides, then pull fascia forward and set aside carefully.
- 7. On the driver side, disconnect all hoses and electrical connections from the washer reservoir. Also unplug the one main plug in the front (gray arrow).



8. Using a 10MM socket, remove two (2) bolts just forward the front tire (8A) and the lower bolt (8B) to remove the washer reservoir.



9. On the passenger side, using a 10MM socket, remove the two (2) bolts from the air baffle.



10. On the passenger side only, remove the push pin that is on the backside of bumper, just below the headlight, by pushing the center piece out.



11. Remove four (4) bolts using a 12MM socket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set aside metal bumper for later reinstallation.



12. Using a 10MM socket, remove one (1) bolt from the center of metal H-frame bumper. Also remove two (2) pushpins located behind metal piece (gray arrows) from the wire harness (left).

If equipped, unistall the coolant line bolts and push pins on the front of the vehicle and from the passenger side (below). Carefully move the coolant line aside for baseplate installation.







13. In the center of the metal bumper is a temperature sensor that needs to be removed. Depress clips on the front side of bracket and push the sensor back and set up out of the way. This will all be reinstalled in the same place later. Pull H-Frame bumper forward to release.



14. On the passenger side, remove the push pin from the top of the air dam. Do this to both sides.



15. On the driver's side, remove the Christmas tree pin holding the wire loom. Pull wire loom out of the way.



16. To remove frame extension, remove four (4) bolts, two (2)on top(16A), two (2) on bottom (16B), using a 12MM socket. Do this to both sides.



17. Measure and mark on the side of frame end 1-1/2" wide. Do this to both sides.
\*\*NOTE: 1-1/2" measurement may vary depending on the model of vehicle and is intended to be flush with side of the frame (see photo in Step 19).



18. Using a reciprocating saw, start a horizontal cut flush with the frame 1-3/4" down from the top and go down to 8" then down at an angle to miss the bolt hole (see gray arrow). Do this to both sides.



19. Reinstall frame extension, mark and remove same area as step 18 with reciprocating saw. The photos show the extensions after completion. It may be necessary to remove the extensions to cut them. NOTE, leave the weld nut on the passenger's side, and the threaded stud for the water reservoir on the to be reinstalled on the driver's side. Reinstall the passenger's side frame extension. The driver's side will be reinstalled later.



20. With a 1-1/4" hole saw, drill a hole into the center of the indent on the frame extension to set wire nut for baseplate installation. Do this to both sides.



21. Remove two (2) bolts holding hood latch in with a 10MM socket. Set aside for later reinstallation BEFORE bumper bracket.



22. With a utility knife, trim the air dam 1-1/2" wide by 2" tall. This is done only on the passengers side.



23. Reinstall driver's side frame extension while sliding baseplate onto frame end, then reinstall extension. Clamp and align lower edge of baseplate flush with ridge on side of extension and 1/4" above top ridge of frame extension (see photos in steps 24 and 25 for correct placement). Align large hole on passenger side with existing large hole on frame extension and adjust driver side an equal distance forward. Using the baseplate as a template drill all holes into frame and extension with 13/32" drill bit. Do this to both sides.



24. Be sure that the baseplate is level with the frame extension ridge before tightening (see gray arrows). Insert nut plates into frame extension end and align with baseplate holes, install all 3/8-16 x 1 1/2" hex bolts with 3/8" lock washers into nut plates and tighten down. Do this to both sides.



25. Place two 5/16" or 3/8" flat washers between the baseplate and extension as needed to fill gap, then insert a 3/8"-16 x 1-1/2" hex bolt and 3/8" lock washer, tighten into nut plate.



26. Reinstall hood latch assembly and metal bumper by using existing holes and bolts. NOTE: If equipped with coolant lines, reinstall it into the existing hole as shown (inset) before bumper reinstallation, using the supplied 1/4" hardware (gray). Reconnect the coolant line on the passenger side using the supplied self tapping screw.



27. Reinstall the washer reservoir with the existing bolts, clip fluid and electrical lines back into place.



28. Reattach air baffle with existing holes and existing bolts.



30. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate. The photo above 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 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.



29. VUE / CAPTIVA MODELS Keeping a 3/16" gap to the right of the center on the lower metal bumper support, place the connector as high as you can on the webbing and install with #10-16 selfdrilling screws and 1/4" flat washers.



29. REDLINE MODEL

Use the existing bolt in the top hole of the connector and install with 6MM x 30MM hex bolt and 6MM lock washers with two (2) 5/16" washers behind to get the bracket flush.



#### 31. REDLINE MODEL

Hold fascia as close to it's original position as possible, trim grille opening as needed. Reinstall fascia, then install connector plug using appropriate hardware for either a 4-way connector plug or 6-way connector plug.



#### 32. VUE/CAPTIVA MODELS

Hold fascia as close to it's original position as possible, trim grille opening as needed. Reinstall fascia, then install connector plug using appropriate hardware for either a 4-way connector plug or 6-way connector plug.



# **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<sup>®</sup> 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.





(Baseplates with out Convenience Link Tabs)



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