JEEP XJ CHEROKEE REAR BUMPER INSTALL INSTRUCTIONS





Please read the mounting instructions below carefully before attempting to install.

XJRV / XJRC – VANGUARD / CRUSADER REAR BUMPER
XJ CHEROKEE

Item Code Legend
EX: XJRV-PC
V : Vanguard
C : Crusader
-PC : Powdercoated
-BARE : Bare Metal



Bumper (Vanguard shown)



Spindle Reenforcement Bracket 1 and 2 (Vanguard Only)



Rear Body Tie Ins



Spindle Sleeve Cap x2 (Vanguard Only)

Frame Horn/Mounts Left and Right

Bolt Pack:
XJRB-BP:
- 4 - 5/8 x 1 1/2 Hex Bolt
- 4 - 5/8 Hex Nut
- 8 - 9/16 Flat Washer

XJUNR-BP
- 6 - 1/2 x 1 1/2 Hex Bolt
- 6 - 1/2 Hex Nut
- 4 - 1/2 Lock Washer
- 6 - 1/2 Flat Washer

XJRV-BP:
(Vanguard Only)
- 4 - 7/16 Flat Washer
- 4 - 7/16 Flange Nut
- 2 - 1/2 x 1 Hex Bolt
- 2 - 1/2 Flat Washer
- 2 - 1/2 Flange Nut

Tools Needed:
- 15mm socket/wrench (shallow)
- 3/4” socket/wrench
- 15/16” socket/wrench

Vanguard Only:
- 11/16 socket/wrench
- 5/8 socket/wrench
- 1/2 drill bit

1 Remove the factory rear bumper. There are two mounting brackets attaching the bumper to the back of the bulkhead with 4 bolts each. You will need a 13mm socket for this.



2 For 97 and up Cherokees that are not installing our lower 1/4 panel armor, you have the option of cutting the plastic side skirts on the lower 1/4 panels and leaving much of it behind. Draw a straight line from where the taillights attach to the body and trim the factory plastic with a utility knife.



3 If our nutstrips were purchased, remove whatever factory nut strips were inside the frame rails first. (If installed) You will need to unbolt any hitches, skids, or exhaust mounts that are bolted under the frame.



4 Insert the new nutstrips into frame. The nutstrips are left and right. You can tell by the side the tab is on. Install the nutstrips tab first. You may want to loosely install one bolt on the forward most hole to help keep them aligned.

5 If not using nutstrips, the uniframe tie-in brackets will need to be loosely installed before the bumper. By utilizing the lock washer inside the frame, the tie-ins will later be able to be tightened down without needing a wrench on the nut. Just remember to keep them somewhat movable for alignment purposes at this time.



6 Install frame side bumper brackets with the slotted holes facing out and the offset down. Reusing factory bolts, center brackets with slots/holes. The outside width should be roughly 39 3/4".





* NOTE: The following is only if you are installing a Vanguard bumper, if you are installing a Crusader bumper please skip to step 12.

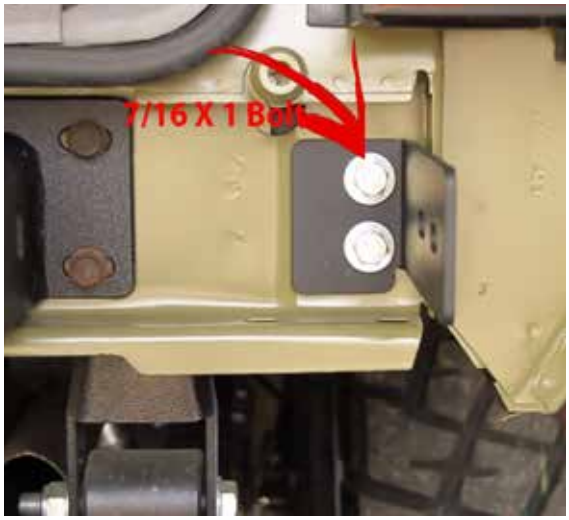
7 Remove the passenger side interior plastic from the cargo compartment and pull back the carpet that was under the plastic.



8 Install the spindle reinforcement brackets by finding the rectangular access hole in the bulkhead located on the passenger side above and to the right of the passenger leaf spring shackle. You will see two holes in the access hole that will need to be enlarged to a 1/2 inch.



9 Place the L shaped bracket with the short leg against the two holes that you just enlarged and the long side facing the passenger side. Place the second bracket with the gusset facing the passenger side and the long portion facing up. Insert two 7/16x1 bolts with 3/8 washers through one bracket, the bulkhead and the second bracket and tighten with the 7/16 flanged nuts.





10 Using a 1/2” drill bit out the two top holes in the spindle reenforcement bracket, see the photo below. You can do this by marking the holes and removing the bracket or by carefully drilling right through bracket.



11 Insert the 1/2x1 bolt with 7/16 washer from the top through the holes you just drilled into the cargo floor, through the bracket and loosely tighten the 1/2 flanged nuts.

12 Lift the bumper into place over the frame mounts. Make sure that the rear unibody tie-ins are under the bumper when placing the bumper on the frame mounts. Thread the 5/8” bolts with washers though the bumper mounts and the frame mounts. Keep these loose.



13 Adjust bumper pitch and height with the 5/8” bolts, or left and right with the frame side bolts/ slots. Check the operation of the tailgate, lower the bumper down if the gate hits the top of the bumper.

14 For Vanguard Only: Insert two 7/16 bolts through the spindle reinforcement bracket and the bracket on the bumper extending from the spindle. Tighten with the 7/16 flanged nuts. Now tighten all the bolts through the spindle reinforcement brackets.



15 Once you are happy with the alignment, tighten all hardware. *If you have access, a one or two foot extension can be used to more easily reach the 5/8” nuts.

16 If you're using nutstrips, install any additional skids and the unibody tie-in's at this point. Their orientation (Bend facing up or down) will depend on what options you have on your Jeep. With no skids or receivers the bend will be down. With any additional basketry under the frame, you may need to flip the brackets side to side and leave the bend up.

17 If you chose to purchase our integrated lower 1/4 panels, install them at this time using the instructions located on that product page. The only difference being, you will need to drill the holes where they set over the bumpers to install that hardware. Be sure to do this after the bumpers have been correctly aligned.

18 If your are installing a tire carrier, do so at this time following the separate tire carrier instructions.

19 Enjoy your new bumper!