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## **JK HOOD HINGE REINFORCEMENT PLATES** **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS** **WAR 1542A 07-15 Wrangler**

**NOTE:** This kit consists of (1) pair of hinge reinforcement plates. In extremely rare instances, customers have experienced some deflection of the OEM hinges due to the increased weight put upon them. The installation of these reinforcement plates is not necessary for everyday driving, but if you will be constantly driving your Jeep in extreme off-road conditions we encourage you to consider having them installed by a professional welder as they will double the strength of the stock hinges.

### **INSTALLATION** - *Installing the Hinge Reinforcement Plates onto the OEM hinges.*

1. Remove the four screws that fasten the cowl to the body of the Jeep, just behind the hood. The windshield wipers also pass through this panel. To allow the cowl to lift up and out of the way so that you can access the hinge to body bolts, you will also need to remove the windshield wiper arms. The wiper arms are mounted onto tapered, splined shafts. To remove them, loosen the wiper arm shaft nut, but leave it on the shaft to protect the threads. Take note of the orientation of the arms on the splined shafts so that you can install them back the way there were. Lightly tap on the nut with a small hammer or mallet while pulling on the wiper arm and it should break free and lift away.
2. The cowl will still have 4 attachment points in the center that need to be popped loose before the panel will lift free. Utilizing a moulding removal tool or a flat-tipped screwdriver, carefully pry out these plastic push pin connectors taking care not to damage them or scratch the surrounding paint. Lift the cowl away and set it aside.
3. Remove the Torx head bolts from the top of each hood hinge. These bolts can be tough to remove as they're painted over and somewhat tight. Ensure you have the proper size Torx and that it is in good condition so you do not damage the screw heads.
4. Go back to the hood hinge bolts on the body and remove these with a 13mm wrench. The hinges are now able to be completely removed from the vehicle.
5. Take the hood hinges and remove the paint from the outside surface of the body side. An angle grinder with a sanding disc attachment works great for this.
6. Align the reinforcement plate so the slight bend coincides with the bend in the hinge plate and the bolt holes line up. Weld around the perimeter and fill-weld the center hole. Next, grind the welds smooth and prep the surface for paint.





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7. Mask off the forward half of the hinge and utilize the proper Mopar color for your vehicle. Apply 4-5 'light' coats allowing the paint to 'flash' between coats. (available at your local Mopar parts counter)



8. After the paint has sufficiently dried, reinstall the modified hinges, cowl and reattach the hood. The hinge holes on the hood side are oversized so you have some adjustability to align the hood with the cowl.



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