



# HD GRILLE GUARD

Assembly, Installation, Operation,  
and Maintenance Instructions

**PART NUMBER:**  
**1241B**

**INSTALL TIME:**  
**120 minutes**

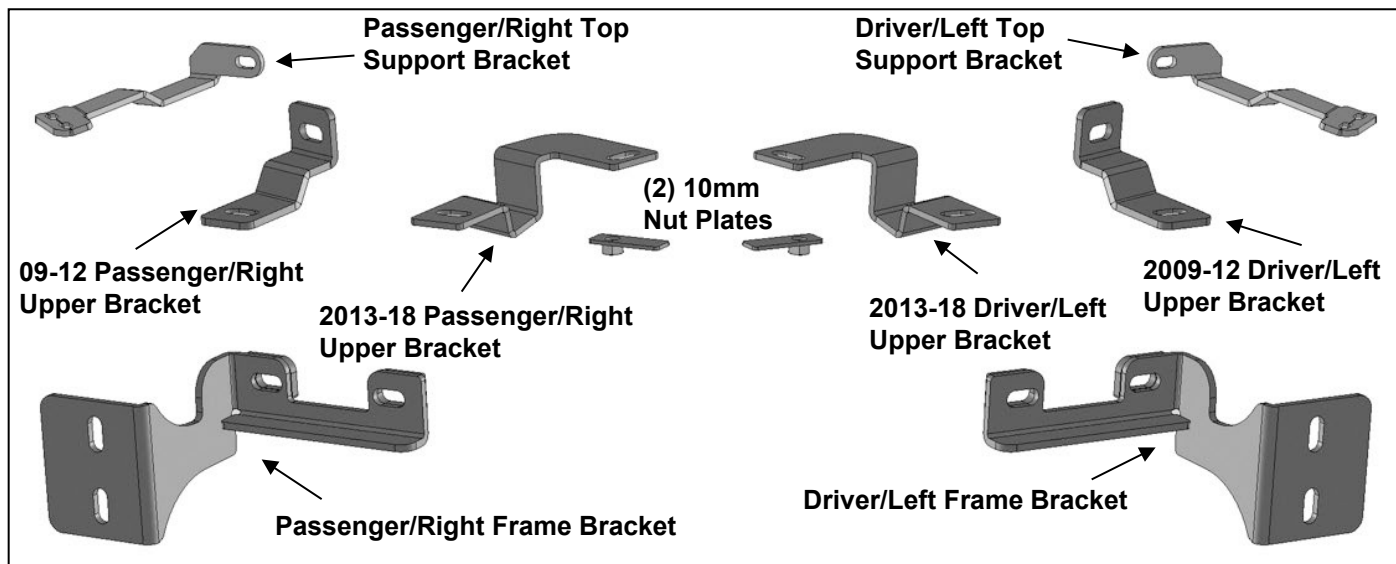
**09-18 RAM 1500 (Excl. Rebel & Warlock Trims & Incl. 19-24 Ram 1500 Classic)**

**Dealer / Installer:** Provide a copy of these instructions to the end user of this product. These instructions provide important operating and safety information for proper usage of this product. Demonstrate the proper use of the product with the end user. Have the end user demonstrate that they understand the proper use of the product.

**End User:** Read and follow all instructions included in this manual. Ask your Dealer / Installer for assistance if you do not understand the proper use of the product. Never remove any decals from the product. Failure to follow these instructions can result in injury or death.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

| Qty | Item Description                        | Qty | Item Description                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1   | Grille Guard Assembly                   | 16  | 12mm x 32mm OD x 3mm Flat Washers  |
| 1   | Driver/Left Frame Mounting Bracket      | 10  | 12mm Lock Washers                  |
| 1   | Passenger/Right Frame Mounting Bracket  | 10  | 12mm Hex Nuts                      |
| 1   | Driver/Left Upper Bracket (2009-12)     | 2   | 10-1.5mm x 40mm Hex Bolts          |
| 1   | Passenger/Right Upper Bracket (2009-12) | 4   | 10mm x 27mm OD x 3mm Flat Washers  |
| 1   | Driver/Left Upper Bracket (2013-18)     | 2   | 10mm Lock Washers                  |
| 1   | Passenger/Right Upper Bracket (2013-18) | 2   | 10mm Hex Nuts                      |
| 1   | Driver/Left Top Support Bracket         | 2   | 10mm Nut Plate                     |
| 1   | Passenger/Right Top Support Bracket     | 4   | 8mm x 20mm Button Head Allen Bolts |
| 4   | 12-1.75mm x 60mm Gr. 10.9 Hex Bolts     | 4   | 8mm x 22mm OD x 2mm Flat Washers   |
| 6   | 12-1.75mm x 35mm Gr. 10.9 Hex Bolts     | 4   | 8mm Lock Washers                   |
| 4   | 12mm x 24mm OD x 2.5mm Flat Washers     | 1   | Allen Wrench                       |



## PROCEDURE:

1. **REMOVE CONTENTS FROM BOX. VERIFY ALL PARTS ARE PRESENT. READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE STARTING INSTALLATION. ASSISTANCE IS RECOMMENDED. EXCLUDES ALL MODELS WITH FULL 1-PIECE PLASTIC BUMPER COVER.**
2. Determine if the vehicle is equipped with or without the factory tow hooks.

**On vehicles without factory tow hooks:** Remove the plastic fill panel on the front bumper by removing the 2-piece plastic clips at the top of the panel, **(Figure 1)**. **NOTE:** Use a flat-blade screwdriver to first pop the center pin out to release the clip. Next, from behind the driver side of the front bumper, remove the (2) hex nuts on the bottom of the bumper bracket securing the bumper to the frame, **(Figure 2)**.

**On vehicles with factory tow hooks:** Start the installation on the driver side, behind the front bumper. Remove the factory tow hook, **(Figure 3)**. Remove the two hex nuts on the bottom of the bumper bracket securing the 2-bolt tow hook mounting bracket to the frame.
1. Next, drive the (2) carriage bolts in the bumper bracket out of the bracket by striking the end of the bolts with a hammer, **(Figure 4)**. Discard the tin retaining washers. Insert the driver side Mounting Bracket into the opening in the front of the bumper. Line up the (2) mounting holes with the holes in the bumper bracket. Insert (2) 12mm x 60mm Hex Bolts and (2) 12mm x 32mm OD Large Flat Washers through the driver side Frame Mounting Bracket and bumper bracket. Use the supplied (2) 12mm x 24mm Flat Washers, (2) 12mm Lock Washers and (2) 12mm Hex Nuts, **(Figures 5 & 6)**. Snug but do not tighten hardware.

**On vehicles with factory tow hooks:** Reinstall the factory 2-bolt tow hook bracket and secure with the supplied (2) 12mm x 24mm Flat Washers, (2) 12mm Lock Washers and (2) 12mm Hex Nuts. Snug but do not tighten hardware at this time. Reinstall the tow hook using the factory hardware.
4. Repeat **Steps 2 & 3** to install the passenger/right Frame Bracket.
5. Next, determine the correct procedure for your model year.

**2009-12 Models:**

  - a. Carefully pull up on the plastic bumper cover, (on top of the bumper), to locate the carriage bolt securing the top of the steel bumper to the inner bumper bracket. Remove the carriage bolt, **(Figures 7 & 8)**. **NOTE:** Use a socket with extension to reach the hex nut on the carriage bolt from behind the bumper. Access the hex nut from above the bumper bracket, **(Figure 7)**.
  - b. Attach the driver side 09-12 Top Mounting Bracket to the bumper by inserting (1) 10mm x 40mm Hex Bolt and (1) 10mm Flat Washer through the Bracket and hole in the bumper, **(Figures 9 & 10)**. Secure with (1) 10mm Flat Washer, (1) 10mm Lock Washer and (1) 10mm Hex Nut. Do not tighten hardware at this time.
  - c. Repeat **Steps a & b** for passenger side Upper Bracket installation.

**2013-18 Models:**

  - a. Remove the plastic facia cover from the top of the bumper, **(Figure 11)**.
  - b. Lift up on the plastic inner cover to locate the top bumper bolt, **(Figure 14)**. Remove the bolt and clip nut. Insert the driver side 2013-18 Upper Bracket between the tab on the inner bumper bracket and the top of the bumper, **(Figure 13)**.
  - c. Insert (1) 10mm Nut Plate into the slot in the top of the bumper. Line up the Nut Plate with the holes in the Upper Bracket and the inner bumper bracket. Attach the Upper Bracket to the Nut Plate with (1) 10mm x 40mm Hex Bolt, (1) 10mm Lock Washer and (1) 10mm Flat Washer inserted down through the tab on the factory bumper bracket, the Upper Bracket, the bumper and into the Nut Plate, **(Figure 12—14)**. Do not fully tighten at this time.

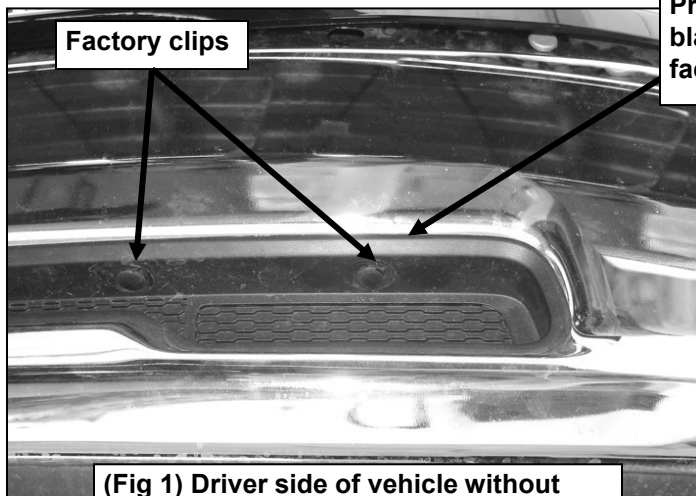
- a. Repeat Steps a—c for passenger side Upper Bracket installation.
  - b. Reinstall the plastic facia cover on the top of the bumper but leave loose.
6. With assistance, position the Grille Guard up to the Frame Mounting Brackets and on top of the Upper Mounting Brackets. Use the included (4) 12mm x 35mm Hex Bolts, (8) 12mm STD Flat Washers, (4) 12mm Lock Washers and (4) 12mm Hex Nuts to attach the Grille Guard to the Frame Mounting Brackets, **(Figure 15)**. Snug but do not tighten at this time.
7. Attach the Grille Guard to the Upper Brackets using the included (2) 12mm x 35mm Hex Bolts, (4) 12mm STD Flat Washers, (2) 12mm Lock Washers and (2) 12mm Hex Nuts, **(Figures 16—19)**. Snug but do not tighten hardware at this time.
8. Next, open the hood. Locate and remove the inner top mounting screw attaching the headlight assembly to the radiator cross member, **(Figure 20)**. Select the driver side Top Support Bracket. Insert the Support Bracket between the tab on the headlight and the cross member. Reuse the factory screw to attach the Support Bracket, **(Figure 21)**.
9. Line up the Support Bracket with the (2) mounting holes in the bottom of the headlight guard. Attach the Bracket to the Grille Guard with (2) 8mm Button Head Screws, (2) 8mm Lock Washers and (2) 8mm Flat washers, **(Figures 22 & 23)**. Do not fully tighten at this time.
10. Repeat **Steps 8 & 9** to attach the passenger side Top Support Bracket.
11. With assistance, align and adjust the Grille Guard and tighten all hardware including the Top Mounting Bracket and tow hook hardware. **IMPORTANT:** On **2013-18 models**, finish reattaching the plastic facia cover to the bumper after Upper Bracket to bumper hardware has been adjusted and fully tightened.
12. **On vehicles without factory tow hooks:** The plastic fill panel in the front bumper removed in **Step 2** may be discarded or can be reinstalled but will require cutting to clear the Frame Mounting Brackets. Once modified, use the factory hardware to reinstall.
13. Do periodic inspections to the installation to make sure that all hardware is secure and tight.

**To protect your investment**, wax this product after installing. Regular waxing is recommended to add a protective layer over the finish. Do not use any type of polish or wax that may contain abrasives that could damage the finish.

**For stainless steel:** Aluminum polish may be used to polish small scratches and scuffs on the finish. Mild soap may be used also to clean the Grille Guard.

**For gloss black finishes:** Mild soap may be used to clean the Grille Guard

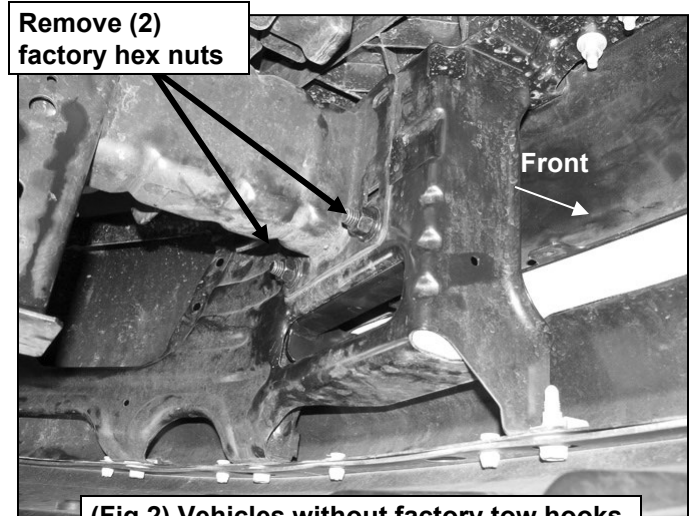
## Driver Side Installation Pictured



Factory clips

Pry up center pin with a flat blade screwdriver to release factory clip. Remove entire clip

(Fig 1) Driver side of vehicle without factory tow hook pictured from below

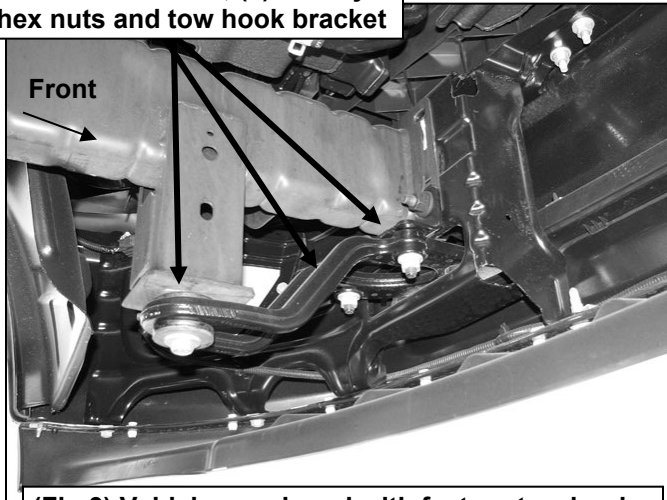


Remove (2) factory hex nuts

Front

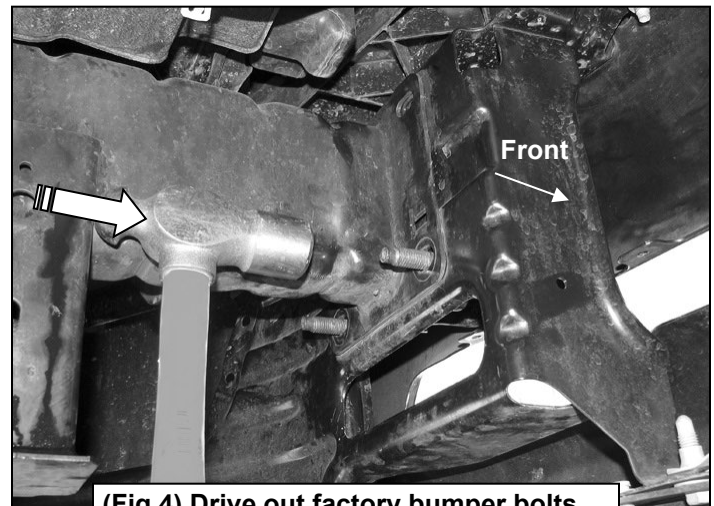
(Fig 2) Vehicles without factory tow hooks

Remove tow hook, (2) factory hex nuts and tow hook bracket



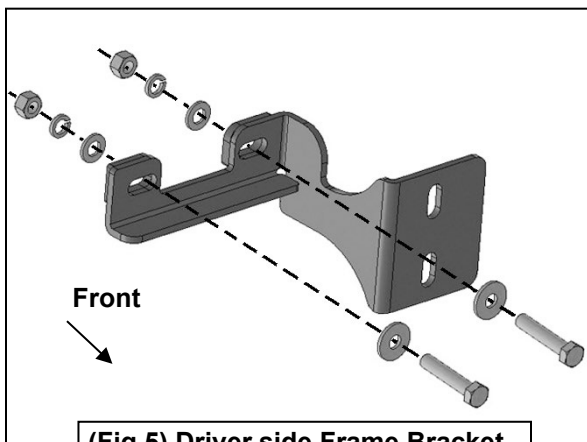
Front

(Fig 3) Vehicles equipped with factory tow hooks



Front

(Fig 4) Drive out factory bumper bolts

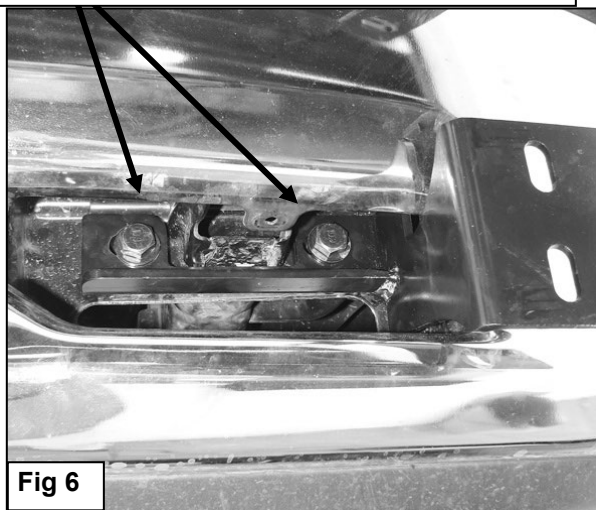
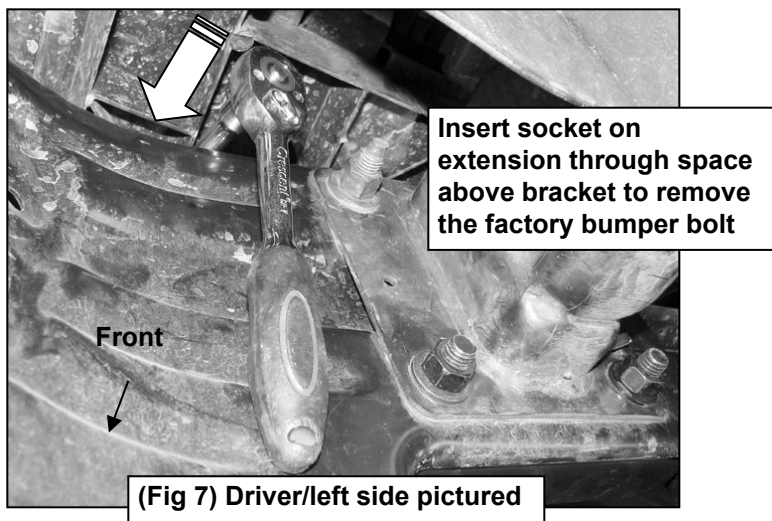


Front

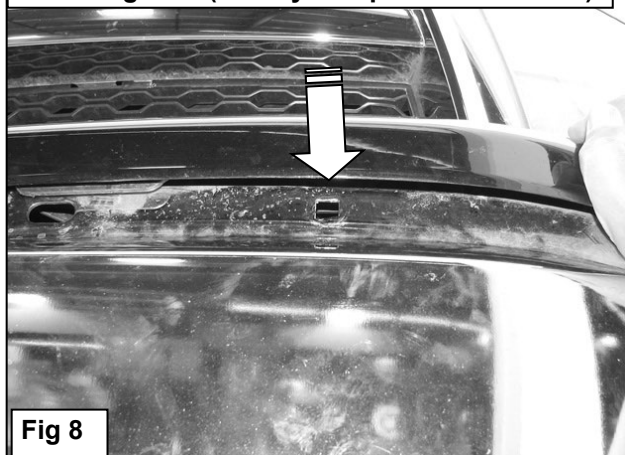
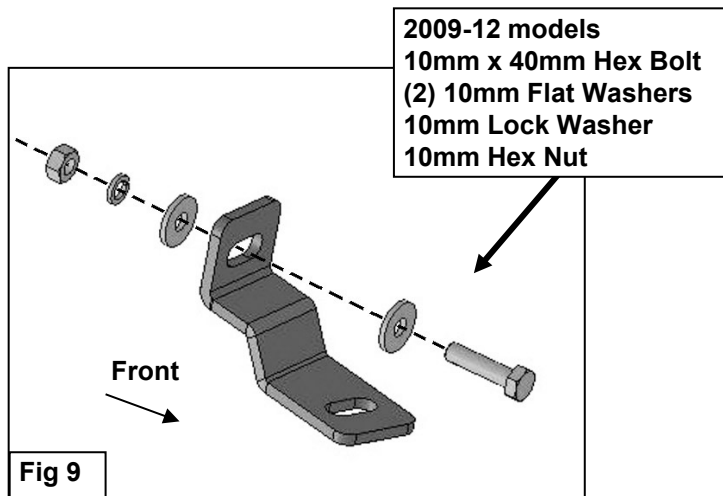
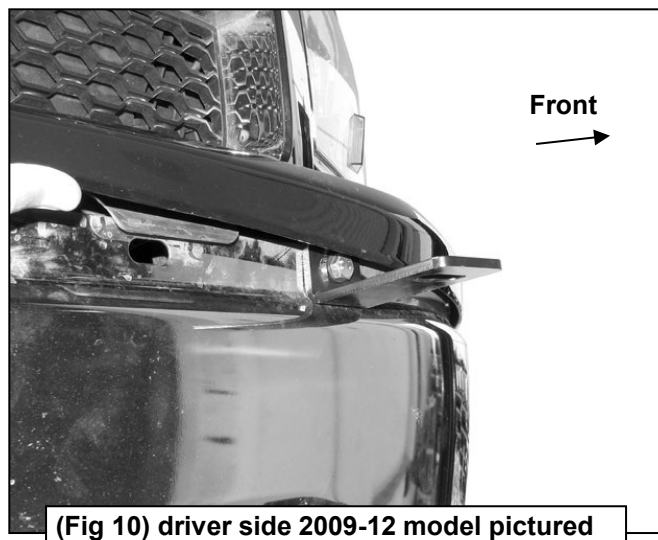
(Fig 5) Driver side Frame Bracket

## Driver Side Installation Pictured

- (2) 12mm x 60mm Hex Bolts
- (2) 12mm x 32mm Large Flat Washers (outer)
- (2) 12mm x 24mm STD Flat Washers (inner)
- (2) 12mm Lock Washers
- (2) 12mm Hex Nuts

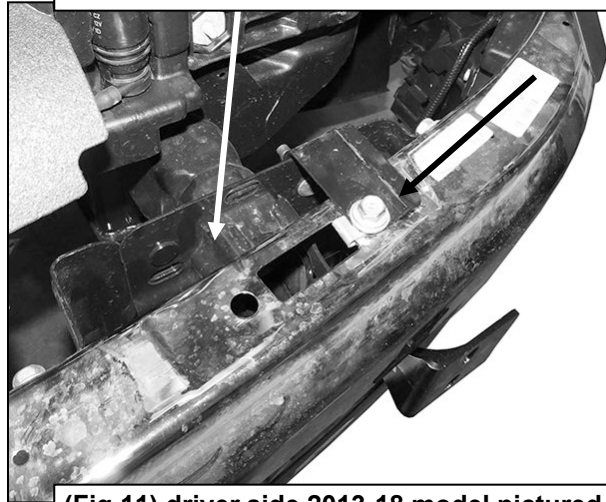


(2009-12) Raise plastic facia cover to access mounting hole (factory bumper bolt removed)

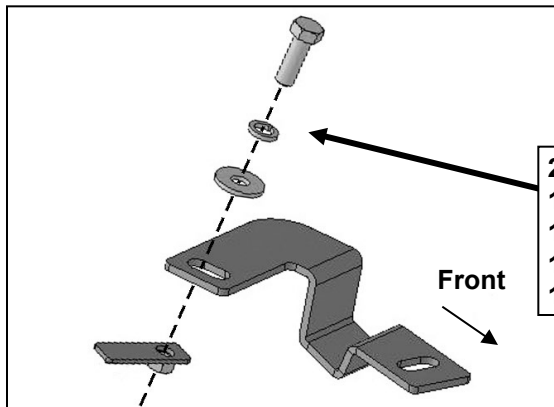


## Driver Side Installation Pictured

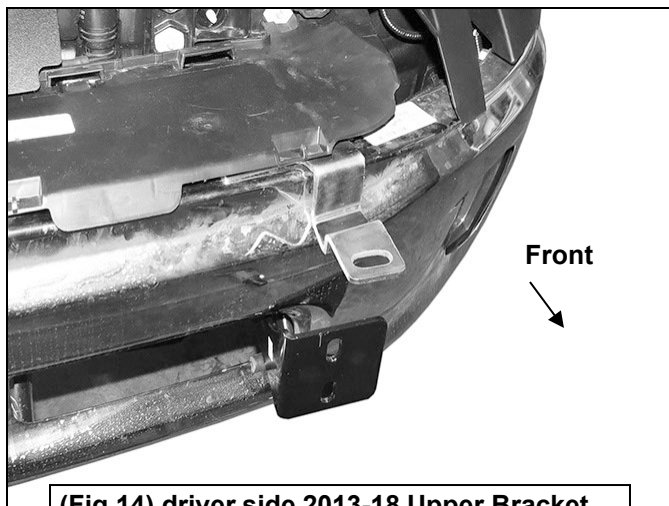
Remove plastic facia cover from top of bumper. NOTE, do not remove inner plastic cover from bottom of grille (Fig 14). Pictured here removed for instruction purposes only



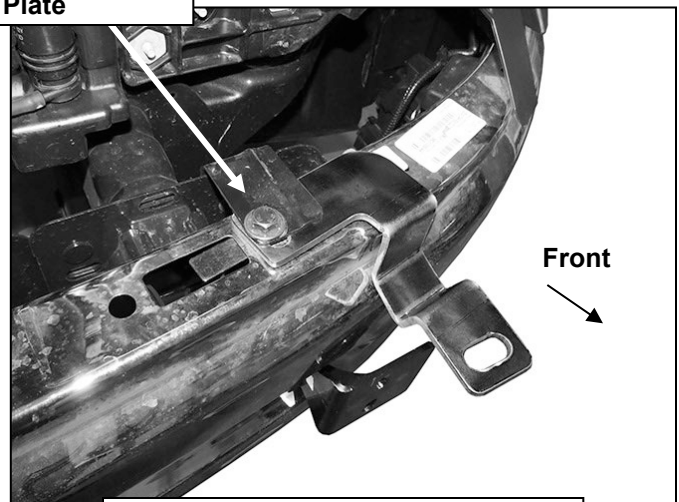
(Fig 11) driver side 2013-18 model pictured



(Fig 12) driver side 2013-18 Upper Bracket

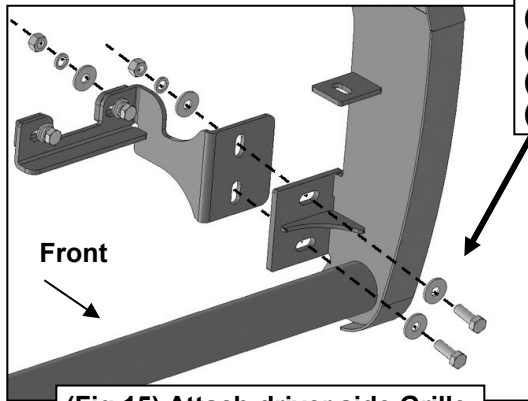


(Fig 14) driver side 2013-18 Upper Bracket



(Fig 13) Insert driver side 2013-18 Upper Bracket between tab on inner bumper bracket and top of bumper

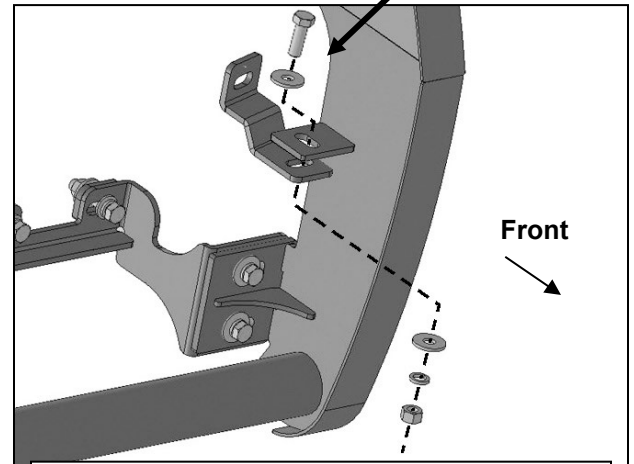
## Driver Side Installation Pictured



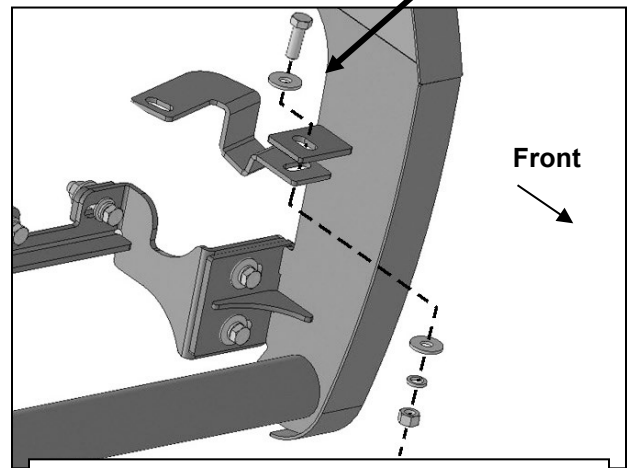
(Fig 15) Attach driver side Grille Guard to Frame Bracket



(Fig 17) driver side 2009-12 installation



(Fig 16) driver side 2009-12 Upper Bracket



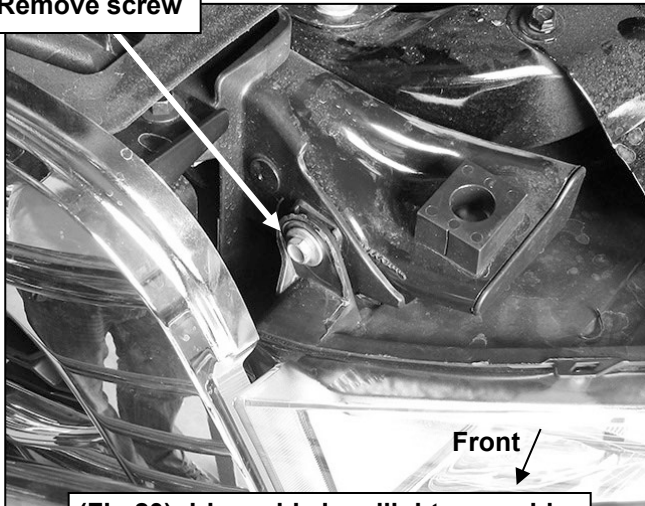
(Fig 18) driver side 2013-18 Upper Bracket



(Fig 19) driver side 2013-18 installation

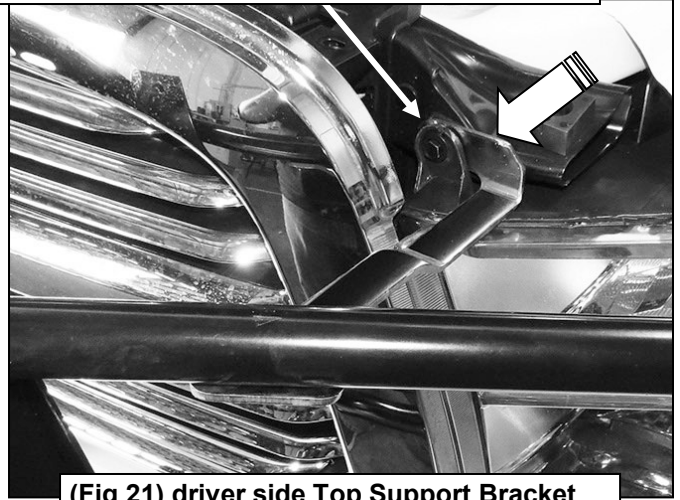
## Driver Side Installation Pictured

Remove screw

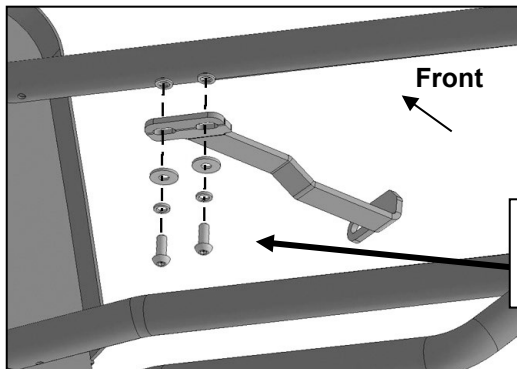


(Fig 20) driver side headlight assembly

Insert Support Bracket between tab on headlight assembly and cross member (arrow). Reuse factory screw to attach Bracket and headlight assembly. Do not overtighten screw

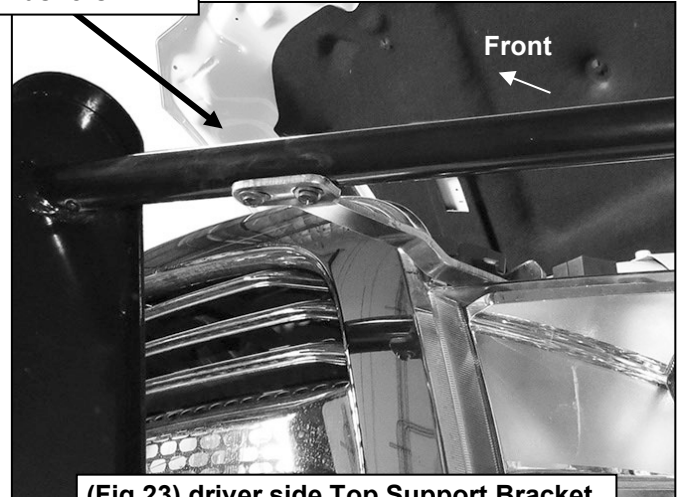


(Fig 21) driver side Top Support Bracket



(Fig 22) driver side Top Support Bracket

(2) 8mm Button Head Bolts  
(2) 8mm Lock Washers  
(2) 8mm Flat Washers



(Fig 23) driver side Top Support Bracket



Complete Installation

## **PRODUCT CARE**

- Periodically check the product to ensure all fasteners are tight and components are intact.
- Regular waxing is recommended to protect the finish of the product.
- Use ONLY Non-Abrasive automotive wax. Use of any soap, polish or wax that contains an abrasive is detrimental and can scratch the finish leading to corrosion.
- Mild soap may be used to clean the product for Black finish.

## **FAQ's**

### **1. Hardware and mounting brackets are not aligning properly**

Ensure that hardware is being used on the correct side of vehicle. In some cases, the hardware may appear the same for driver and passenger side but may alter the alignment of mounting location. Check mounting brackets for both sides.

### **2. Products are thumping / rattling after Installation**

Ensure that all required mounting brackets / hardware's are installed & tightened correctly.

Suggest using white Lithium / regular grease between metal-to-metal contact.

### **3. Missing / Excess Hardware**

Recheck hardware count as per the part list.

### **4. Product not installing properly**

Ensure the Year / Make / Model as well as cab and bed dimensions are correct for the application. Review all steps for installation to ensure they were followed correctly.

### **5. Who should be contacted for questions regarding product / installation assistance?**

www.trailfx.com / [support@trailfx.com](mailto:support@trailfx.com) or 1-(866) 638-4870

# Warranty Terms:

## **Black Powder Coated:**

## **Limited 3 Year Warranty**

Cattleman and Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. make no guarantees or warranties for products not manufactured by Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. Such products are covered solely under any applicable warranty of the manufacturer. It is always recommended that the operating instructions and warranty instructions provided by the manufacturer are followed.

Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. warrants its products to be free from manufacturing and material defects to the original purchaser for the length of warranty stated above from the date of retail purchase. If any products are found to have a manufacturing or material defect, the product will be replaced or repaired at the option of Cattleman and Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. with proof of purchase by the original purchaser. The original purchaser shall pay all transportation and shipping costs associated with the return of the defective product and the defective product shall become the property of Keystone Automotive Operations Inc.

The Warranty applies to Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. products used for individual and recreational purposes. Commercial usage of the Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. products limits the warranty to 90-days from date of purchase.

The Warranty applies only to Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. products which are found to be defective in manufacturing or material. This warranty does not apply to normal wear and tear of the finish placed on Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. products.

Cattleman and Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. are not responsible for any labor costs incurred for removal or replacement of the defective product.

Cattleman and Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. are not responsible for repair or replacement of any product under the limited warranty where the product was improperly installed, misapplied, altered, abused, neglected, overloaded, misused or damaged as a result of an accident, including any use of the product not in accordance with all product operating and safety instructions.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Cattleman and Keystone Automotive Operations Inc. shall under no circumstances be liable for any incidental or consequential loss or damage whatsoever arising out of, or in any way relating to any such breach of warranty or claimed defect in, or non-performance of the products. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusion or limitation may not apply to you.

This limited warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights that vary from state to state.