

Gas Tank Skid Plate
Installation Instructions
for
2004-2006 Jeep® LJ Wrangler Unlimited

Thank you for purchasing your new Skid Row Offroad gas tank skid plate. It is designed to give you peace of mind while traversing even the toughest trails.

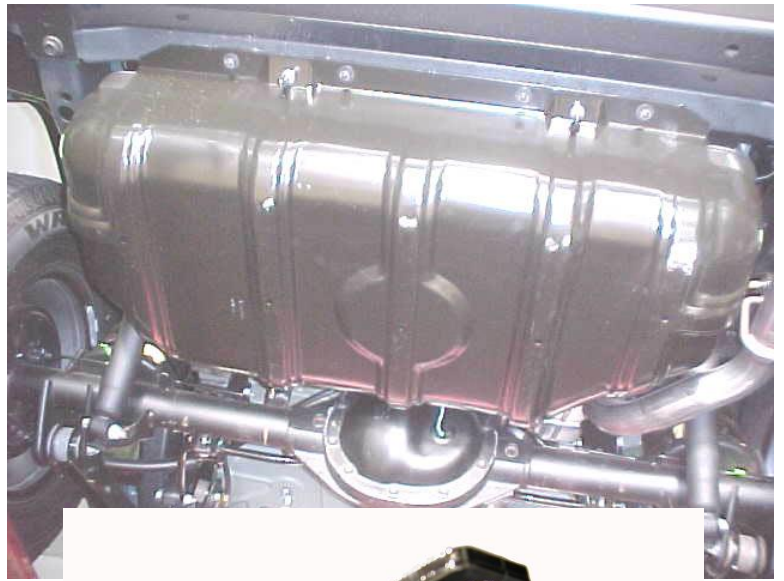


Your skid plate package should come complete with the following parts:

1. (1) Gas Tank Skid Plate
2. (1) Left Mounting Bracket (shown below)
3. (1) Right Mounting Bracket (shown below)
4. (1) Front Mounting Bracket
5. (6) 5/16-18 UNC x 1" Carriage Head Bolts
6. (6) 5/16-18 UNC Hex Nuts
7. (6) 5/16" Lock Washers
8. (6) 5/16" Flat Washers
9. (2) 7/16-14 UNC x 1.5" Hex Head Bolts
10. (2) 7/16-14 Nut Plates (shown below)
11. (2) 7/16" Flat Washers
12. (2) 7/16" Lock Washers



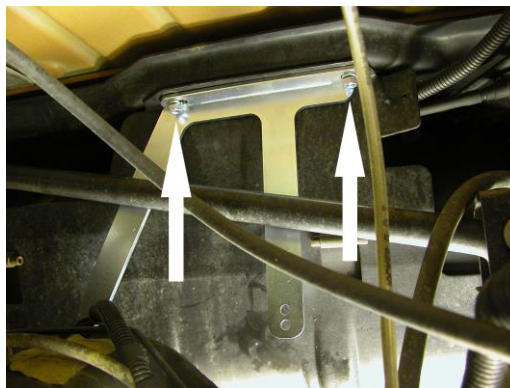
Step 1: Loosely attach both rear mounting brackets to the skid plate using the 5/16-18x1.0” carriage bolts, 5/16-18 nuts, and washers provided. The bolts should be installed from the inside of the skid plate. The longer bracket is installed on the passenger side of the vehicle to reach over the exhaust pipe. In addition, use the lowest slots in the brackets so that the top of the brackets are above the top of the skid plate side as shown in the photos below.



Step 2: Insert the remaining two 5/16-18x1.0” carriage bolts into the two square holes at the front of the skid plate with the threads facing outward. Place a small piece of tape around the threads to prevent them from falling out while positioning the skid plate as shown to the right.

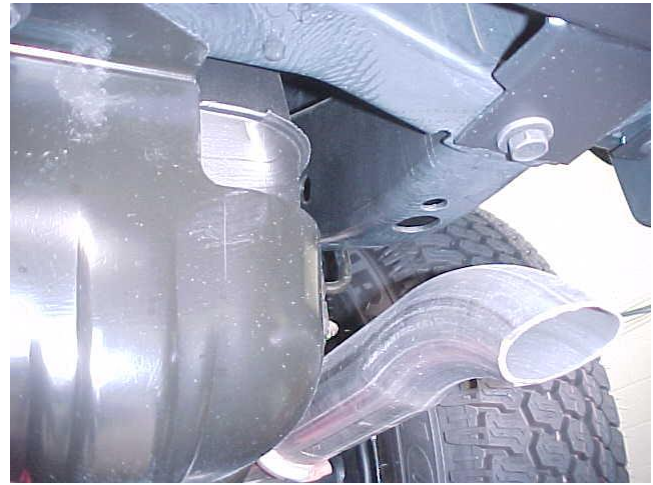


Step 3: Remove the two nuts at the front of the factory skid plate (Shown by arrows in photo below) and loosely install the front bracket using the original nuts just removed. On some models, these nuts may have a large flange and will not fit with the bracket installed. In this case use the 5/16-18 nuts and lock washers included in the hardware packet.



Step 4: Raise the skid plate into position under the gas tank using a floor jack. While raising the skid plate fit the two carriage bolts at the front of the skid plate into the holes in the front bracket. Use the lowermost holes on the bracket. Push the skid plate as far rearward as possible for maximum differential clearance. Also, push the skid plate as far as possible to the driver's side to gain clearance for the exhaust system. However, it probably won't move much.

Step 5: If your LJ did not have the smaller holes in the chassis (as shown below on a TJ) they will have to be drilled. It will be easier to get it right if you first position the skid plate with the side brackets installed, as described above. First center punch the hole locations, and then drill a small hole of about 1/8" in size. Then drill the holes to 1/2" diameter.



Yes, the photos above and on the next page are NOT an LJ, but the installation is virtually the same as a TJ so we used them.

TIP: Use a piece of 2x4 wood to push the exhaust system out of the way as shown in the photo below.

Step 6: Install the 7/16" nut plates through the large holes in the chassis and then bolt the brackets to the chassis from below using the 7/16-14x1.5" bolts, lock washers, and flat washers.

Step 7: Install the 5/16" nuts and washers at the front of the skid plate. Tighten all hardware once everything is fit together.







Step 8: You may find that you need additional exhaust system clearance as shown in the photo below left. Simply bend the exhaust hanger bracket shown below right to gain this clearance. You can also remove the threads that are protruding past the nut with a hacksaw or grinder.



We hope you enjoy your Skid Row Offroad gas tank skid plate!

Sincerely,
Your friends at Skid Row Offroad

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