



**AMERICAN CAR CRAFT INSTRUCTIONS**

## **C7 CORVETTE POLISHED HOOD BRACE**

**PART #053008**<sub>patent pending</sub>



### **PARTS INCLUDED:**

- 1-Stainless Hood Brace
- 1-Small Scotch Pad
- 1-Adhesive Promoter Packs
- 1-Tube Clear Silicone
- 8-Self Stick Plastic Segments

Your new hood brace is a unique accessory designed to set into the factory hood and offer you a beautiful option to enhance your engine bay not offered by any other manufacturer. In the next step by step instructions you will learn how to install this accessory and transform your C7 into a truly special show car.

**Your new hood brace comes to you with a protective liner. Do not remove liner until installation is complete.**

1. The first step will be to remove the factory thermal barrier pad by detaching all of the large black plastic fasteners and remove the pad. Your new stainless hood brace will provide an adequate thermal barrier.

## REMOVAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CORVETTE HOOD LAMP

One of the first things to consider when applying the ACC hood brace is if you really want to leave the factory hood lamp in place. Although it is not necessary to remove it for the installation of your stainless hood brace it is recommended because the lamp itself is not very good looking or efficient and the wire harness leading up the lamp is out in the open and will really distract from the overall look of your new custom hood brace. Because of this we recommend that it be removed.

The first step will be to locate the harness connector and separate the lamp from the car. This can easily be done by removing the plastic locking pin or sometimes it's just a matter of unlatching the two parts from each other. The wire harness is pushed into the hood at several locations along the route to the lamp. These will need to be forcibly pulled out of the attachment locations. The last thing to do would be to drill out the two rivets securing the lamp to the hood. Using the appropriate drill bit carefully drill into the head of the rivets so that you can remove the head and detach the lamp. You may have to drill further to remove the rivet completely from the two locations. Be very careful not to poke the outer skin of the hood itself.

2. You have been provided with a small scotch pad. Use this pad to scuff the entire area of both insets including the 1" border. This will create a nice bondable surface. Once you have scuffed both areas you will need to thoroughly clean the surfaces by scrubbing them with rubbing alcohol and wiping off any and all residues with paper towels.

3. You will notice that each of the two hood insets contain a 1" border. This inner border will need to be specially treated by swiping them once with the adhesive promoter provided. This will provide an accelerated bondable surface for the inserts to attach to. NOTE: The adhesive promoter is to be applied to this 1" border only and not to the larger main surface areas.

4. Although hood brace comes to you pre shaped for installation you will need to set the brace in place to check the overall fit and make any adjustments by hand so that it conforms to its position nicely without having to force it. This will eliminate any possibility of the hood brace popping out of place long term. PLEASE NOTE: Metal will not bend out of place by itself so if it is properly formed and installed it will remain in place permanently.

5. Now that you have the hood brace nicely shaped to the insets you may begin to finish installation. You will notice that hood brace contains attachment tape along the outer edge and a series of "X" marks at the center. Start by peeling the red release liner from

the attachment tape at the outer edge, then apply about a golf ball sized dab of clear 100% silicone adhesive provided to each of the “X” marks. With the help of a friend carefully place the brace into position and press firmly along the perimeter to set it to the hood. This attachment system has been formulated to allow the attachment tape to secure the hood brace in place well enough to allow the silicone to set. The attachment tape alone is NOT sufficient enough to permanently secure the hood brace by itself but works in unison with the silicone to provide a reliable bond and permanent attachment. Allow the silicone to permanently bond the hood brace as it is left in position at least overnight and if possible for twenty four hours for a complete cure. You have been supplied with several self stick plastic segments. Use these segments to aid in the securing of the brace in any areas that may seem to need a little help keeping in place. Once the brace is cured the next day, simply remove the segments and the clear protective liner from both panels.

## 7. ADVANCED INSTALLATION TECHNIQUE.....

Although removing the hood is not necessary this simple step offers some advantages. The first most significant advantage is that with the hood face down on a protected surface the brace can be weighted down into the hood thusly creating valuable clearance space between the hood brace and the engine. Should you elect to perform this type of installation follow these few steps.

### REMOVE HOOD:

1. It is important to mark the four hood bolts to the hinges by circling them with a silver marker.

This will allow you to replace the hood without the tedious task of adjusting its position. You will just simply re-bolt the hood to the original placement.

2. In order to do this you will need three people, two to hold and manipulate the hood and one person to bolt and unbolt the hood. Before you begin this you will need to unplug the factory hood light harness. Once you have unbolted the hood be sure to place it on a stable table with plenty of blankets to protect the paint. With the hood in a nice solid position face down you can begin the installation procedures outlined in steps 1 thru 5.

3. With the hood brace installed in this position you can now take this opportunity to weight the brace into a nice bottomed out position closest to the hoods outer skin. Anything can be used such as sand bags, paint buckets, gym weights. Just be sure to apply a blanket to the hood brace and any additional panels to protect them from scratches. Also you may want to be careful not to place anything that will be too heavy and dent the brace/panels. Allow to set overnight remove the weights then reinstall the hood. Start with the lower hood bolts first as these are pivot bolts then the top ones tightening them to the silver marks placed earlier. **IMPORTANT TECH TIP:** It is important to be aware that the outer skin of the C7 hood is a very flexible composite. If the hood is set flat on the center hump it could flatten under its own weight thusly causing the silicone adhesive to set the hood in this flattened shape! In order to avoid this

prop the hood at the two sides. Do this by using a couple of full rolls of paper towels it works great. Also if you are going to weight the brace/panels into the hood be sure NOT to apply too much weight as this will create the same problem when you take the weight off. We find that about 5lbs of weight works perfectly.

**If any questions occur during installation, please contact American Car Craft:**

**727-861-1500.**

**Thank you and enjoy your new hood brace.**

Note: Care must be taken when cleaning your brace. It is a good idea to lightly dust your brace with a clean soft cloth first in order to prevent any particles from scratching it.

Then wipe (using a new clean soft cloth) with a good quality streak free glass cleaner.

PLEASE REFER TO CARE SHEET ENCLOSED!

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