

Attachment Tab Height: 12"

Attachment Tab Width: 24"

Serial	Number	

# Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Instructions prior to installing or operating this equipment.

- Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge necessary to do "fit work". If needed, Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at www.blueox.com or by contacting our Customer Care Department at (402) 385-3051.
- 2. Many Blue Ox® baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use the hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware as specified in the installation instructions.



If the front of your vehicle looks different than this, please contact us at (402)385-3051.

Reference your vehicle owner's manual for manufacturer's towing specifications.

# **Bolt Torque Specifications**Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4"	10	14
5/16"	19	29
3/8"	33	47
7/16"	54	78
1/2"	78	119
5/8"	154	230
3/4"	257	380

## **Bolt Torque Specifications**

Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts

<b>Bolt Size</b>	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117
16MM	161	230
18MM	222	318

# WARNING

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

**Instruction Notes:** The fascia, air deflector shroud, belly pan and bumper core are removed and reinstalled for the baseplate installation. Some drilling and trimming is required.

Place all components that are removed on a flat, sturdy surface. All items will be reinstalled unless otherwise noted after the baseplate is installed.

The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for vehicle manufacturer's tolerances.

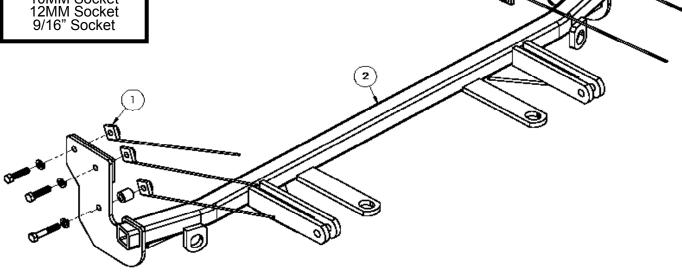
The BX8869 Tail Light Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

#### NOTICE

- Handling of some cosmetic parts when installing this product may require the use of protective covers, rags, specialty tools, etc. to prevent damage.
- When using power drills be aware of the dangers of torque and drill bit length.
- When using a reciprocating saw be aware of objects behind the cutting surface.
- Use a good quality paint to spray cut edges of frame to prevent rusting.
- Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in and accessories are functioning properly before reinstalling the fascia.
- The baseplate is computer tested to your vehicle's GVWR, exceeding this weight will void the manufacturer's warranty.
- Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the torque chart provided.
- Dealer or installer be certain the user receives these instruction sheet.
- If the baseplate is in an accident, it must be replaced. DO NOT use it again! An accident can
  cause unseen damage and using it again could result in more damage or serious injury. DO NOT
  use the baseplate if it is damaged or missing parts.



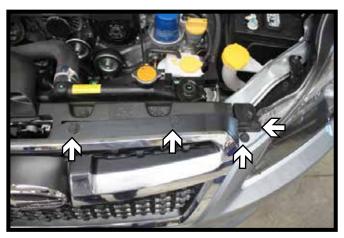
Large Vise Grip Flat Screwdriver Utility Knife 1-1/4" Hole Saw Torque Wrench Drill Tape Measure Loctite® RED 13/32" Drill Bit 10MM Socket 12MM Socket 9/16" Socket



Item No.	Part No.	Description	Qty.
1	61-5208	Nut Plate, 3/8"-16 w/14" Wire	6
2	61-7102	BX3618 Baseplate	1
3	107-1753	Spacer Tube, 3/4"	2
4	201-0440	3/8"-16 x 1-1/2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP	4
5	201-0444	3/8"-16 x 2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP	2
6	203-0010	3/8" Lock Washer, ZP	6
		Class III Safety Cables	
	•	3/8" Quicklink, ZP	

#### **Important:**

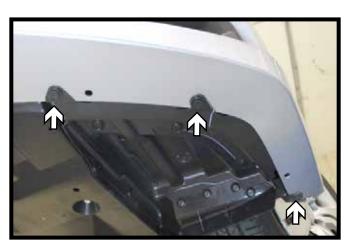
Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do **NOT** substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor. Failing to follow and/ or altering these installation instructions in either installation or required equipment will void the manufacturer's warranty. Towing behind a non-motorized vehicle will void the warranty.



Using a flat screwdriver, remove the four
 push pins on the topside of the fascia.
 Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



2. Ahead of the front tire, along the upper edge of the wheel well, using a flat screwdriver, remove the push pin. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



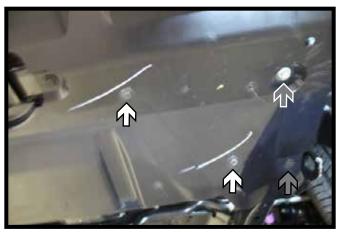
Using a flat screwdriver, remove the three
 push pins on the bottom side edge of the fascia. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



 Using a flat screwdriver, remove the center push pin (gray) and the two (2) push pins on either side of the center (white). Remove the fascia from the vehicle and set aside.



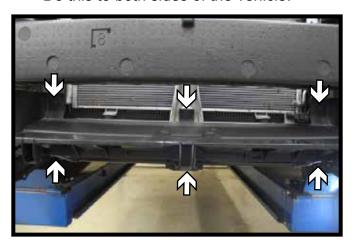
Underneath the vehicle on the belly pan, using a flat screwdriver, remove the two(2) push pins from the side of the pan. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



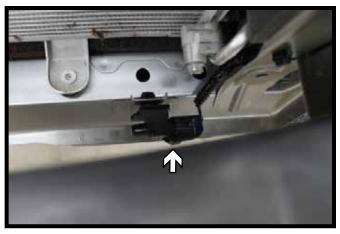
Using a 10MM socket remove the two (2) bolts (white/black). Using a 12MM socket, remove one (1) 12MM bolt (gray/white). Using a flat screwdriver, remove one (1) push pin (gray/black) from the belly pan. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

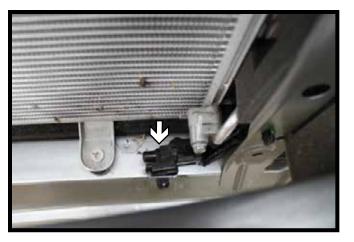


7. Using a flat screwdriver, remove the two (2) push pins from the center of the belly pan and remove the pan from the vehicle.



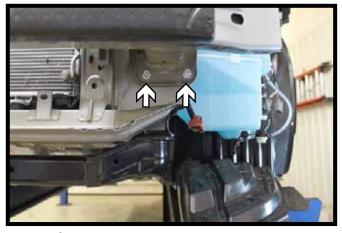
3. On the air deflector shroud, using a flat screwdriver, remove three (3) push pins on the top side and the three (3) push pins underneath. Then remove from the vehicle.



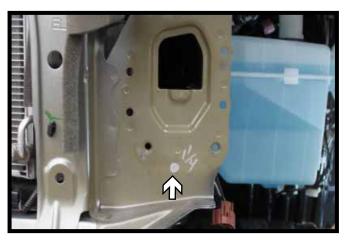


9. Unclip the air temperature sensor from the bracket (left). Relocate the sensor to the backside of the bracket, closer to the radiator to clear the baseplate when installed (right).

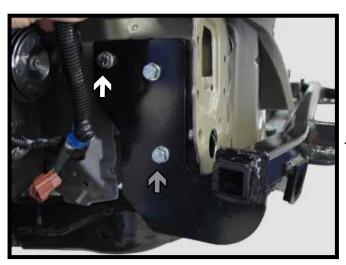


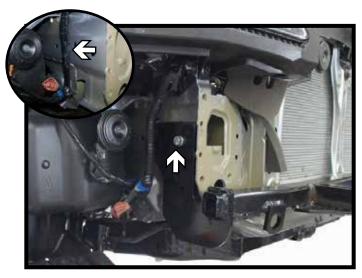


10 Using a 12MM socket, remove the two (2) upper (left) and the two (2) lower (right) bolts from the bumper core. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set the bumper core aside.



11 Using a 1-1/4" hole saw, drill a hole in the frame at the approximate location shown. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. These holes will be used for the nut plates during the baseplate installation.





12. Unclip the wire loom from the side of the frame and pull aside. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.

Slide the baseplate into place, using the existing hole in the frame, fasten the baseplate to frame with a 3/8" x 1-1/2" bolt and 3/8" nut. Do this on both sides of the vehilcle. Insure baseplate is level before tightening hardware.

13 Using the holes in the baseplate as a guide, drill the remaining two (2) holes out with a 13/32" bit. Install a 3/8" x 1-1/2" bolt and 3/8" nut into upper hole (white) then a 3/8" x 2" bolt and 3/8" nut into lower hole (gray). Do this on both sides of the vehicle.



- Reinstall the air deflector shroud trimming both ends as needed to fit around the baseplate.
- 16. Reinstall the belly pan and fascia.



15. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate. Additional options may interfere with suggested mounting; in this case, secure the cables to a solid piece of the frame as described in the instructions included with the permanent baseplate safety cables. Be sure the safety cables do not rub against any hoses or moving parts. Do this on **BOTH** sides of the vehicle.

#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT**

Blue Ox® is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call (402) 385-3051 and you can speak with our customer care team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it's in proper working condition. Also, as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory, you can stay at our full service Blue Ox® campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again, thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.

© 2013 Blue Ox One Mill Road, Industrial Park Pender, Nebraska 68047 Phone: (402) 385-3051 Fax: (402) 385-3360 www.blueox.com

#### **General Information**

- 1. Ensure that your product(s) are registered online at www.blueox.com. It is crucial to register your product(s) so that you may be alerted of product offerings, updates, upgrades, maintenance and safety bulletins, and/ or recalls.
- 2. It is the owner's responsibility to inspect all towing equipment for cracked welds, missing or worn parts and loose bolts before each towing trip. Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts and tighten to the recommended specifications.
- 3. It is the owner's responsibility to hook up all towing equipment per manufacturer's instructions/recommendations.
- 4. Remove the attachment tabs when not in use (if applicable).

## **Notice To Baseplate Installer**

- 1. It is YOUR responsibility to watch for:
  - Oil cooler and air conditioner lines
  - Electrical wires and hoses
  - Missing parts or attaching points on the frame
  - \*\* If the baseplate is improperly installed and is against a wire or hose, it could cause fluid leaks or electrical shorts some time after the actual baseplate installation.

#### Permanent Baseplate Safety Cable Installation

Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails or becomes disconnected. The cables must be connected from the baseplate to the frame rail or cross member of the vehicle's frame. The illustrations below show the possible arrangements recommended by Blue Ox®. Each permanent baseplate safety cable must have an adequate weight rating for the towing system. The weight rating of the two (2) cables together will not qualify.

#### Do not mount the permanent baseplate safety cables against wires, hoses or brake lines.

These permanent baseplate safety cables should remain installed as long as the baseplate is installed on the vehicle. Permanent baseplate safety cables are to be used in conjunction with, and NOT a replacement for legally required safety cables attaching the towed vehicle to the towing vehicle.

