

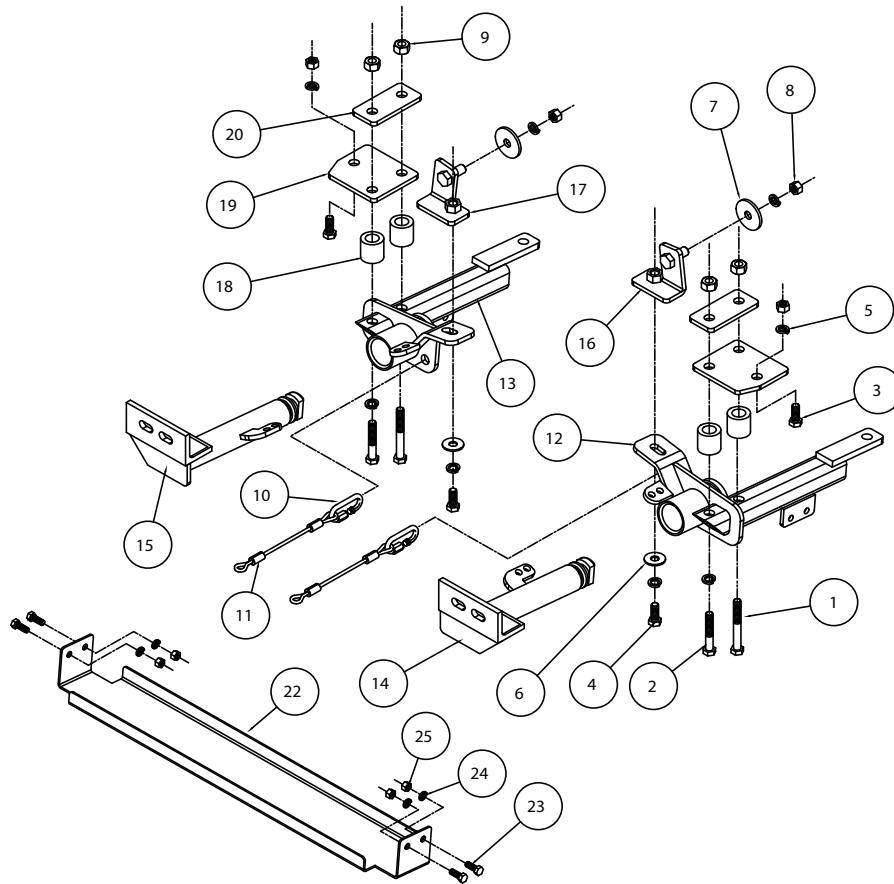


# BASEPLATE KIT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**KIT# 521434-1**

09/19/12  
KS

ROADMASTER, Inc. 6110 NE 127th Ave. Vancouver, WA 98682 1-800-669-9690 fax 360-735-9300 www.roadmasterinc.com



ITEM	QTY	NAME	MATERIAL
1.....	2 .....	1/2" x 4 1/2" BOLT .....	350106-00
2.....	2 .....	1/2" x 3" BOLT .....	350101-00
3.....	2 .....	1/2" x 1 1/4" BOLT .....	350094-00
4.....	2 .....	1/2" x 1 1/2" BOLT .....	350095-00
5.....	8 .....	1/2" LOCK WASHER .....	350309-00
6.....	2 .....	1/2" FLAT WASHER .....	350308-00
7.....	2 .....	1/2" PLATE WASHER .....	A-003086
8.....	4 .....	1/2" NUT .....	350258-00
9.....	4 .....	1/2" NYLOCK NUT .....	350259-00
10.....	2 .....	QUICK LINK .....	200008-00
11.....	2 .....	10" SAFETY CABLE .....	500646-10
12.....	1 .....	DRIVER SIDE RECEIVER .....	C-001661
13.....	1 .....	PASSENGER SIDE RECEIVER .....	C-001662
14.....	1 .....	DRIVER SIDE ARM .....	C-001588
15.....	1 .....	PASSENGER SIDE ARM .....	C-001589
16.....	1 .....	DRIVER SIDE BUMPER CORE BRACE .....	C-000208
17.....	1 .....	PASSENGER SIDE BUMPER CORE BRACE .....	C-000209
18.....	4 .....	1 1/4" O.D. x 1" ROUND TUBE .....	A-001027
19.....	2 .....	BACKING PLATE - 3 HOLES .....	A-000965
20.....	2 .....	BACKING PLATE - 2 HOLES .....	A-000966
21.....	8 .....	PLASTIC RIVET .....	350431-00
22.....	1 .....	ROCK GUARD .....	B-001146
23.....	4 .....	3/8" x 1" BOLT .....	350055-00
24.....	4 .....	3/8" LOCK WASHER .....	350305-00
25.....	4 .....	3/8" HEX NUT .....	350254-00



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This is one of our EZ series brackets, which allows the visible front portion of the bracket to be easily removed from the front of the vehicle (Fig.A and Fig.B). The bracket consists of two main receiver braces, two removable front braces and a hardware pack.

The main receiver brace mounts below the bumper core behind the front bumper fascia and through existing openings in the bumper fascia. The front grille and bumper fascia must be removed to install the main receiver braces, and fascia fender rivets will have to be removed and replaced with new rivets included in the hardware kit. The removable front braces install in the receiver braces by inserting and twisting 90 degrees to lock.

Before starting the installation, lay out the kit components in order, as they will be used. This will give you a visual idea of how the components work, and will also confirm that everything is present and accounted for.



**IMPORTANT:** All baseplates **must** be assembled with all the bolts left loose for final adjustment and positioning (before tightening) unless otherwise instructed. All bolts **must** be torqued for proper strength. If more than one bolt is used per fastening point, the diagram may only show one. Use flat washers over all slotted holes and lock washers on all fasteners.

## **WARNING**

Failure to heed these warnings or follow the installation instructions may result in a voided warranty, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

- Do not weld or modify this baseplate or its components. Welding or modification will void the warranty.
- Do not use this document as a basis to design/fabricate a baseplate, as it may not show all parts or structural components.
- We strongly recommend professional installation.
- If the towed vehicle has been in an accident, it must be properly repaired before attaching the baseplate. Do not install the baseplate if any structural frame damage is found.
- The installer must use all bolts and parts supplied. If running changes were made by the vehicle manufacturer after this kit was designed, some bolts or other fasteners may no longer be the correct size. It is the installer's responsibility to verify this kit is securely fastened to the vehicle.
- Use Loctite® Red on all bolts used to secure this baseplate. Torque all bolts to the specifications found at the end of these instructions. Do not over-torque the bolts or failure may occur.
- The installer must inspect the baseplate to ensure adequate clearance, particularly around hoses, air conditioner lines, radiators, etc. or non-warranty failure may result.
- Roadmaster manufactures many styles of baseplates. If your baseplate has removable arms, they must be removed before driving the vehicle, unless the arms can be pinned or padlocked in place. If not secured, the arms could vibrate out.
- Some motorhome chassis have such a tight turning radius that you can damage your motorhome, towed vehicle, tow bar or baseplate while turning sharply. Before getting on the road, test your turning radius in an empty parking lot. Turning too sharply could result in non-warranty damage to your towing system, motorhome and/or towed vehicle.
- Do not back up with the towed vehicle attached or non-warranty damage will occur to your towing system or vehicles.
- The safety cables must connect the towing vehicle to the towed vehicle frame to frame, with the cables crossed, with enough slack for sharp turns. See cable instructions for proper routing. Failure to do so will result in non-warranty damage and/or the loss of the towed vehicle.
- This kit is designed for use with ROADMASTER tow bars and ROADMASTER adapters only. Using this kit with other brands, without an approved ROADMASTER adapter, may result in non-warranty damage or injury.
- Receiver extensions and out-of-level towing situations of 3 inches or more. This can cause the system to swing much higher and lower, causing excessive strain on the tow bar, baseplate and frame. That can cause the towing system to fail, causing property damage, personal injury or even death. If you must use a receiver extension or drop hitch to tow, it will reduce your receiver's weight capacity by 1/3 to avoid damaging your system. Never use more than one extension and/or drop hitch, as this will void your warranty.
- Every 3,000 miles, the owner must inspect all mounting points for cracks or fatigue, and check the fasteners for proper torque, according to the bolt torque requirements chart on the last page of these instructions.
- The owner must follow the vehicle manufacturer's instructions to prepare the vehicle for towing. Failure to do so may cause severe damage to the vehicle.
- This baseplate is only warranted for the original installation. Installing a used baseplate on another vehicle is not recommended and will void the warranty.

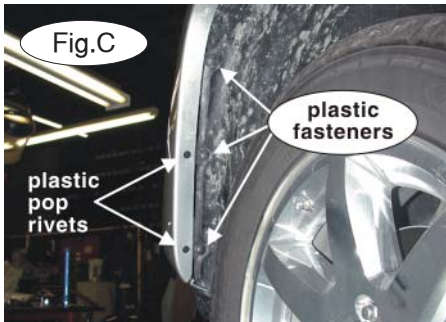


# BASEPLATE KIT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

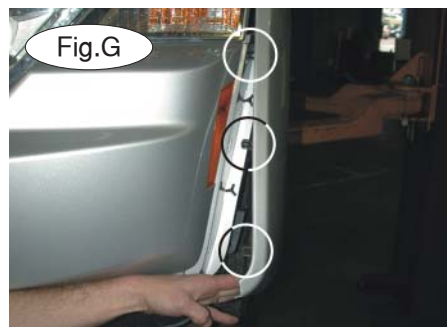
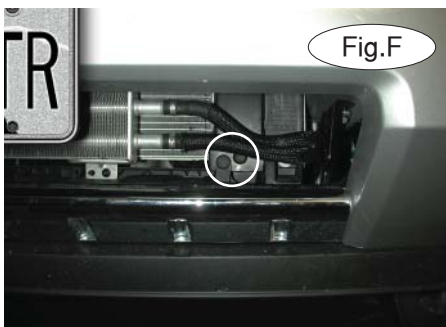
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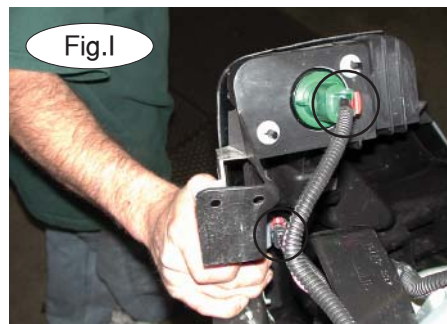
1. **Important:** please use all supplied bolts and parts and read all instructions carefully before beginning this installation. The majority of questions you may have can be answered within the text, and proper installation will ensure safe and secure travel. Now, begin the installation. On each side, remove three plastic fasteners and two plastic pop rivets (Fig.C) attaching the fender liner to the fascia. *Note:* use side cutters to cut the heads off the pop rivets.
2. On each side, remove one push fastener (Fig.D) attaching the bottom of the fender liner to the bottom of the fascia.
3. On each side, remove one 10mm (head) screw (Fig.E) attaching the back of the fascia to the support bracket.



4. On each side, remove two plastic fasteners (Fig.F) attaching the lower grille opening to the radiator support. The fasteners are located inside the grille opening, on each side of the transmission cooler. *Note:* if the vehicle has a ribbed grille opening, it will not be necessary to remove these fasteners.
5. On each side, pull out on the fascia lip while simultaneously squeezing each of the three side clips (Fig.G) to release them. Start with the bottom clip on each side.
6. Push down and pull out on both corners of the fascia (Fig.H). Then, unplug the turn signal and side marker lights on each side (Fig.I), and remove the fascia.

7. If the vehicle is so equipped, remove the front rock guard – remove the two 16mm (head) bolts at the center, toward the rear of the rock guard (Fig.J), plus the two 16mm (head) bolts at the outside edges, underneath the frame rail (Fig.J).

*Note:* the factory rock guard will not be replaced. Retain the rock guard and attachment hardware so it can be replaced in case the tow bar bracket is ever removed. There is a replacement rock guard included in the hardware pack. It will be installed in a later step.





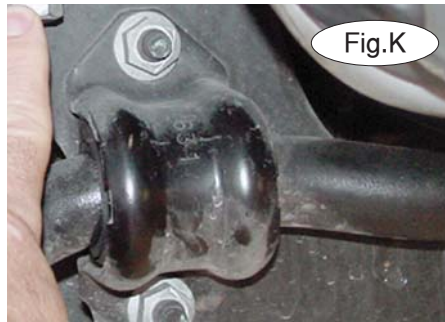
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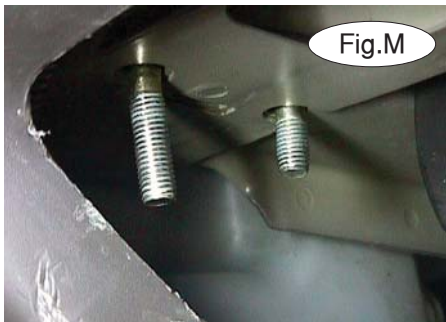
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8. Remove four nuts (17mm or 18mm) holding the sway bar to the bottom of the frame (two per side), then remove the sway bar mounts and pull down on the sway bar (Fig.K).

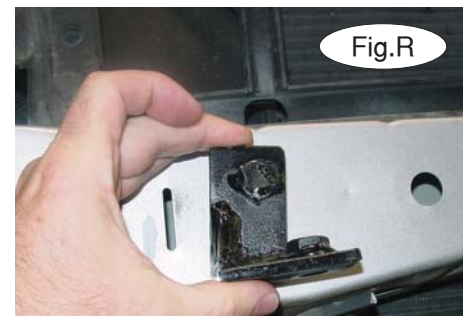
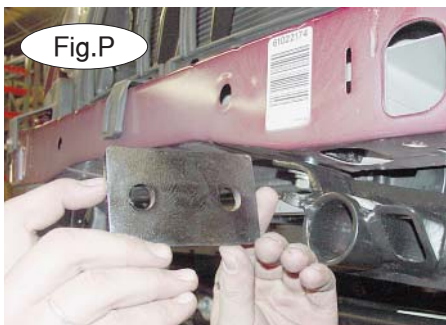


9. Remove the black covers over the frame openings on each side (two 10mm head bolts – Fig.L).



10. If tow hooks are present, remove them at this time – remove three 15mm nuts per hook, as well as the mounting U-bolt and spring nut (Fig.M,N,O). They will not be replaced. *Note:* retain the tow hooks and replacement hardware in case the bracket is ever removed.

11. Enlarge the tow hook mounting holes to 17/32" (two holes per side, under the frame – Fig.M).



12. Insert the two-hole backing plates in the frame on each side over the tow hook mounting holes (Fig.P).

13. Locate the large square holes in the bottom of the bumper core on each side (Fig.Q). Position the driver side backing plate weldment through these holes on each side over the existing holes located approximately 1½" inboard from the large access holes. Put the bolts in the braces through the existing holes in the back of the bumper core. *Note:* use Loctite® Red on all bolts used for mounting this bracket.

*Note:* these two weldments are not interchangeable; if they don't line up you may have the passenger side weldment instead of the driver side weldment. Try switching them around (Fig.R).

Bolt the braces to the rear of the bumper core into the upper braces with the provided ½" nuts, plate washers and lock washers.

*Note:* the bottom of the braces should be in line with the existing holes in the bottom of the bumper core.



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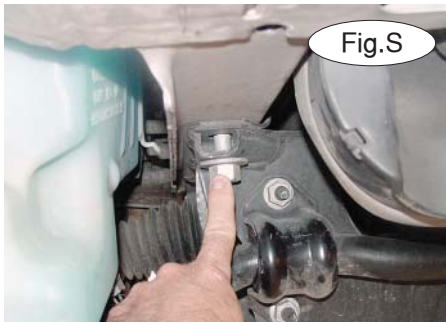


Fig.S



Fig.T

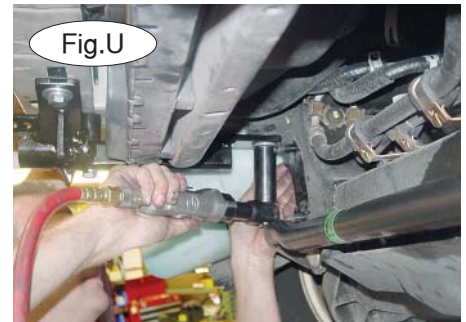


Fig.U

14. Starting with the driver's side, remove a large subframe bolt (19mm or 21mm head) located above the sway bar mount (Fig.S). Then, attach the driver side receiver brace with the subframe bolt, through the rear mounting hole in the receiver brace and into the same hole from which you removed the subframe bolt (Fig.T and Fig.U).



Fig.V

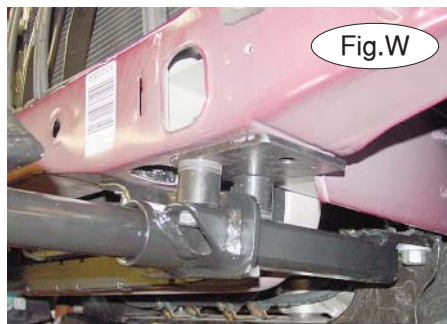


Fig.W



Fig.X

15. There are two holes located in the front outside of the receiver braces. Using one of the supplied  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4" bolts and nylock nuts, bolt through the second hole back in the driver side receiver brace, one of the supplied three-hole lower backing plates, the frame, and one of the supplied two-hole backing plates and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " spacers (Fig.V).

16. Using one of the supplied  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3" bolts and nylock nuts, bolt through the front mounting hole in the driver's side receiver brace, one of the supplied three-hole backing plates, the frame, and one of the supplied two-hole backing plates and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " spacers (Fig.W).

17. Bolt through the lower side of the receiver brace and into the bottom of the bumper core and the top brace installed in step 14. Use one of the supplied  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " bolts, lock washers and flat washers.

18. Repeat steps 14 through 17 for the passenger side.

19. Torque all mounting bolts to the specifications listed at the bottom of these instructions. Then, on each side, use the three-hole backing plates as drill templates, and drill two  $\frac{17}{32}$ " holes into the frame (Fig.X).

20. On both sides, bolt through these holes with two of the supplied  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " bolts, lock washers and nuts (Fig.Y). *Note:* loosen the water bottle on the passenger side (two 10mm head bolts) to gain access to the rear of the frame, then remount the water bottle (Fig.Y).

21. Reinstall the sway bar, reversing step 8 (Fig.Z).

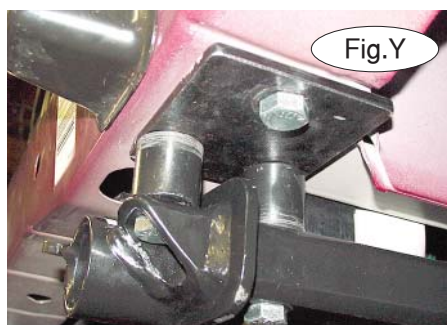


Fig.Y

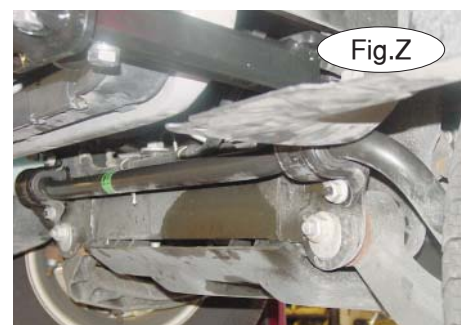


Fig.Z



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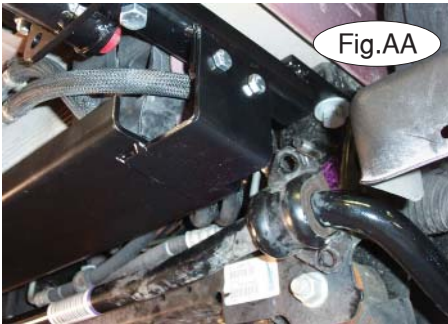


Fig.AA



Fig.BB



Fig.CC

22. Place the replacement rock guard against the mounting tabs on the bottom of the passenger and driver's side braces. Bolt the rock guard into place using four 3/8" x 1" bolts, 3/8" lock washers and 3/8" nuts (Fig.AA).

23. In order to accommodate the removable front braces, trim the air deflector (inside the grille opening) on both sides.

**For '08 to '10 models:** refer to the yellow lines in Figure BB as a reference for trimming.

To avoid trimming too much material, trim the air deflectors in steps, and test-fit the fascia between steps. Figure CC shows the final trim on one side.

**For '11 to '12 models:** refer to the yellow lines in Figure DD as a reference for trimming.

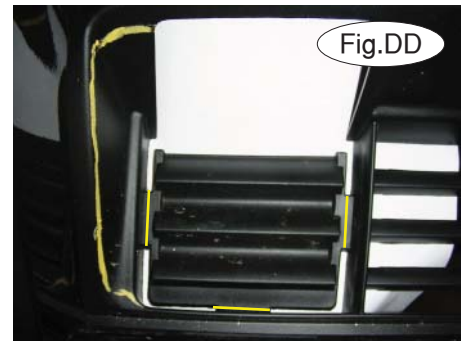


Fig.DD

24. Reinstall the fascia, reversing steps 1 through 6. *Note:* new pop rivets are supplied in the hardware pack.

25. Insert the removable front braces into the main receiver braces, and twist each one 90 degrees to lock. Attach the 10" safety cables with the cable connectors (Q-links) to the front of the receiver braces.

26. Attach the ends of the safety cables to the tow vehicle's safety cables.

27. Install the tow bar to the mounting bracket according to the manufacturer's instructions.

## BOLT TORQUE REQUIREMENTS

Note: The torque values represented below are intended as general guidelines. Torque requirements for specific applications may vary. Roadmaster does not warrant this information to be accurate for all applications and disclaims all liability for any claims or damages which may result from its use.

### STANDARD BOLTS

Thread Size	Grade	Torque
5/16.....	5.....	13 ft./lb.
3/8.....	5.....	23 ft./lb.
7/16.....	5.....	37 ft./lb.
1/2.....	5.....	56 ft./lb.
5/8.....	5.....	150 ft./lb.

### METRIC BOLTS

Thread Size	Grade	Plated / Unplated
8mm-1.0 .....	8.8 .....	20 ft./lb. 18 ft./lb.
8mm-1.25 .....	8.8 .....	19 ft./lb. 18 ft./lb.
10mm-1.25 .....	8.8 .....	38 ft./lb. 36 ft./lb.
10mm-1.5 .....	8.8 .....	37 ft./lb. 35 ft./lb.

### METRIC BOLTS

Thread Size	Grade	Plated / Unplated
12mm-1.25 .....	8.8 .....	70 ft./lb. 65 ft./lb.
12mm-1.5 .....	8.8 .....	66 ft./lb. 61 ft./lb.
12mm-1.75 .....	8.8 .....	65 ft./lb. 60 ft./lb.
14mm-2.0 .....	8.8 .....	104 ft./lb. 97 ft./lb.

All illustrations and specifications contained herein are based on the latest information available at the time of publication approval. ROADMASTER, INC. reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice in material, specification and models or to discontinue models.