



PRODUCT: JL Heavy Duty SportGate Tire Carrier

REV: A | 07-01-2025 | II-6951

READ INSTRUCTIONS IN FULL BEFORE INSTALLATION.
QUESTIONS? CALL 916-631-8071 M-F 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM PST

The MetalCloak experience includes the ease of installation of our products. We design for most contingencies, but installation may be different based on different Jeep condition, configuration and/or year.

We are continually trying to improve our products and instructions – please help us by providing feedback and pictures if you find any part of the instructions that do not match your particular Jeep or are not easily understandable.

If you have any difficulties at all, please give us a call. Thank you and enjoy your MetalCloak Products!

IMPORTANT NOTE: We use Stainless Steel Hardware where possible. Therefore, a tube of Silver Anti-seize is provided and should be used on all bolts—only a small amount is needed.

WARRANTY INFORMATION: This article is sold without warranty expressed or implied. No warranty or representation is made as to this products ability to protect the user from injury or death. The user assumes that risk. The effectiveness, warranty and longevity of this equipment are directly related to the manner in which it is INSTALLED, USED and/or MAINTAINED. THE USER ASSUMES ALL RISK. By purchasing this product and opening the packaging, purchasers expressly acknowledge, understand and agree that they take, select and purchase these MetalCloak products from Armored Works, LLC, its affiliates and distributors and agents as is and with all faults. The entire risk as to the quality and performance of these MetalCloak products is with the purchaser. Working on your vehicle can be a dangerous activity. If you are unsure of what you are doing, please leave mechanical or safety critical work to a skilled mechanic. We take no responsibility for the incorrect use and/or installation of MetalCloak products.

Section 1: Tools & Notes on Installation



Tools Required: This list is the recommended tools for ease of installation. Other versions of the same tool can be used. For example, Allen Wrenches instead of Allen Drive Sockets.



Socket Wrench

T8 Torx
T30 Torx

T25 Torx
T40 Torx
T55 Torx



9/16 Wrench
13mm Wrench
17mm Wrench

13mm Socket
1/4 Socket

17mm Wrench
9/16 Socket



Pry bar

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE: The installation guide contains ALL steps for installation. Please read and follow the instructions in order of each page from top to bottom, and left to right.

Jeep Model: Instructions may apply to multiple Jeep models, but are labeled separately where appropriate (i.e. TJ vs. LJ).

Options: Because of the number of component options we offer, these instructions may contain steps that will not match your particular configuration. You can skip these steps.

Images: Pictures are provided and parts are labeled throughout the instructions. Each text box contains guidance based on the pictures next to it. The text will refer to alphabetical labels (A, B, etc.) found in the images.

Installation Notes: Terms may be used in the body of the instructions that you may not be familiar with, if you have any questions feel free to contact us at the number below, or email techhelp@metalcloak.com

QUESTIONS: Any questions or comments about the instructions? Call us at 916-631-8071 M-F 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM PST.

Section 2: Product Components

DC-0001 Rev C

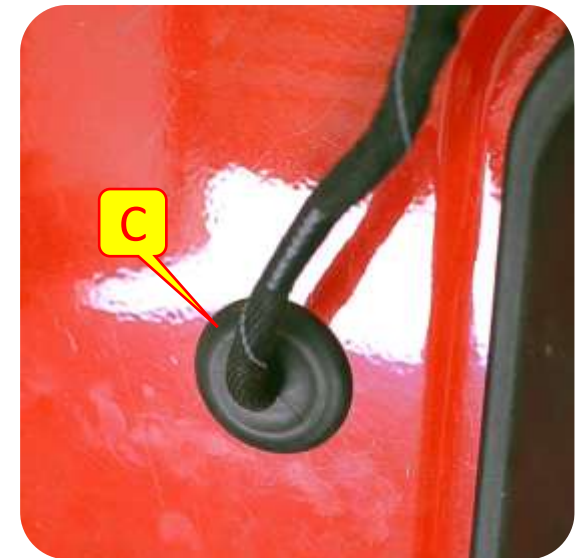
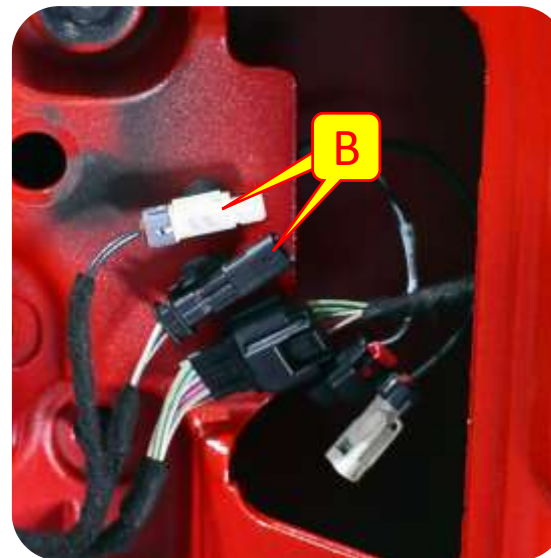
SHEET 1 OF 1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ITEM	PART NUMBER/DESCRIPTION			QTY.			
E	1	CP-6998 BILLET, HINGE, HD SPORTGATE, JL			2			
	2	CP-6999 PLATE, HINGE BRIDGE, HD SPORTGATE, JL			1			
	3	WM-6972 WELDMENT, HD SPORTGATE, JL			1			
	HARDWARE							
	4	FA-6291 BRONZE SLEEVE BEARING, FLANGED, .50 ID x .63 OD x .38 L			4			
	5	FM-08056 HHCS, M8-1.25 X 40L STL C8.8 ZINC			10			
	6	FM-08058 WASHER, 8.4ID X 15OD X 1.6TH STL ZINC			8			
	7	FM-08139 HHCS, M8-1.25 X 60L STL C10.9 ZINC, FULL THREAD			6			
	8	FM-08159 NYLOCK NUT, M8-1.25 X 8H STL C8 ZINC			8			
D	9	FM-10113 LOCK WASHER SPLIT, 10.5ID X 17.5OD X 2.2TH STL ZINC			4			
	10	FM-10139 WASHER, 10.5ID X 20OD X 1.8TH STL ZINC			4			
	11	FM-10213 HHCS, M10-1.5 X 40L STL C10.9 ZINC, FULL THREAD			4			
	12	FS-05046 WASHER, 0.34ID X 0.75OD X 0.04TH SS 18-8			6			
	13	FS-05102 WASHER, 0.31ID X 0.94OD X 0.10TH STL ZINC			10			
	14	FS-06001-BZ SBHCS, 0.38-16 X 0.75L STL G5 BLACK ZINC			4			
	15	FS-08127 NYLOCK FLANGE NUT, 0.5-13 X 0.56H STL GF ZINC			2			
	16	FS-08187 HHCS FLANGE, 0.5-13 X 4.0L STL G8 ZINC			2			
C								
B								
	OPTION: 6954 SPORTGATE TIRE MOUNT, 3.75 TO 5.25 MOUNT 6955 SPORTGATE TIRE MOUNT, 4.75 TO 6.20 MOUNT (FACTORY WHEELS)							
A	THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS DRAWING IS THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF ARMORED WORKS, LLC. UNAUTHORIZED REPRODUCTION IS PROHIBITED. DO NOT SCALE DRAWING					Metal Cloak A DIVISION OF ARMORED WORKS, LLC		
	PART NUMBER/DESCRIPTION					6951 HD SPORTGATE, JL		

Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

- A. Open the tail gate and remove the plastic trim using a pry tool.
- B. Disconnect the third brake light and camera wiring connectors.
- C. Remove the rubber grommet from the tail gate and pull the taillight wiring out of the tail gate.

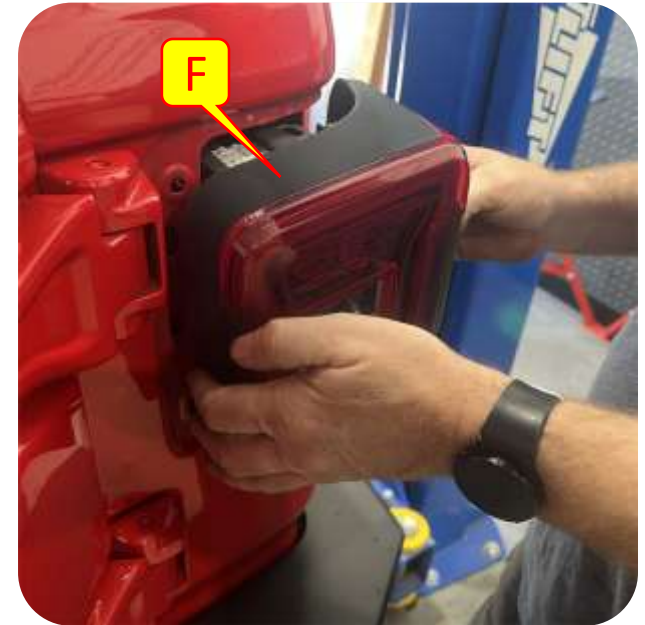


Section 3: Installation Instructions



Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

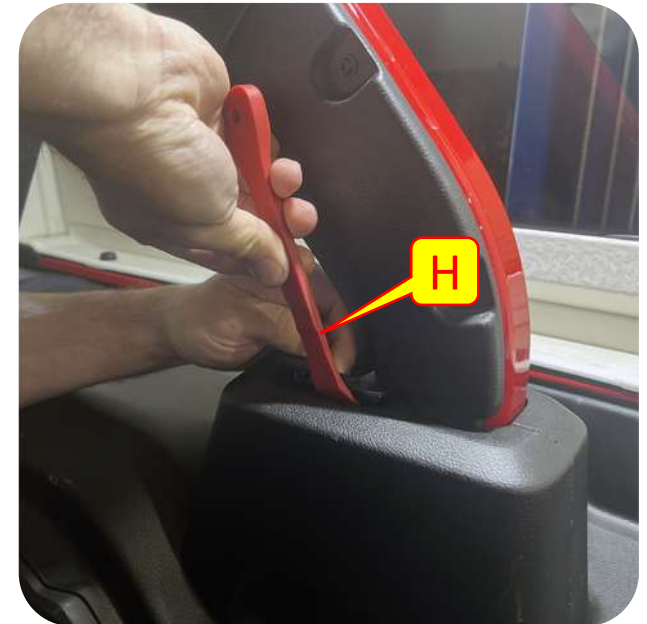
- D. Open the tailgate and on the interior of the jeep behind each taillight is a rubber cover. Remove the rubber cover to gain access to the taillight retention screw
- E. Using a T40 torx bit remove the taillight retention screw.
- F. Remove the taillight from the jeep body.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

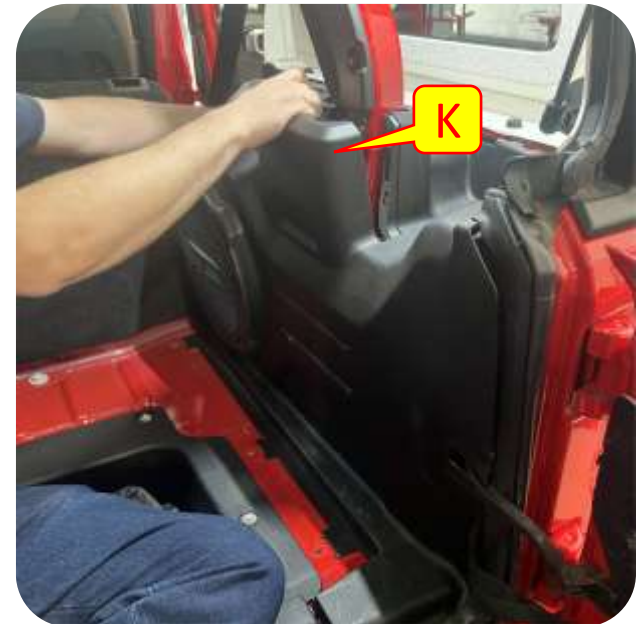
- G. Using a T25 to remove the plastic moldings.
- H. Using the pry tool remove the interior passenger side panel from the cargo area.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

- I. Using a pry tool pop the tabs on the floor hooks to expose the bolts and using a T30 remove the bolts. Then remove the floor pieces.
- J. Remove the center plastic panel to allow the passenger side panel to be removed.
- K. Remove the plastic panel on the passenger side to expose the wheel well.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

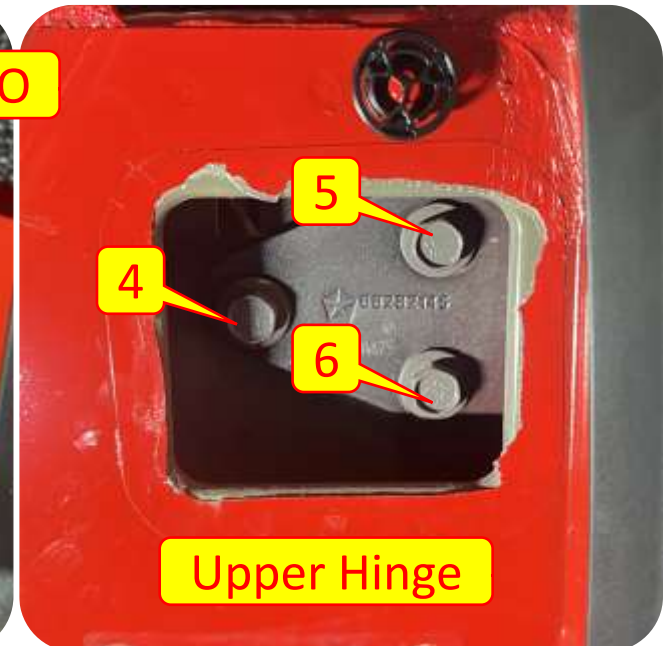
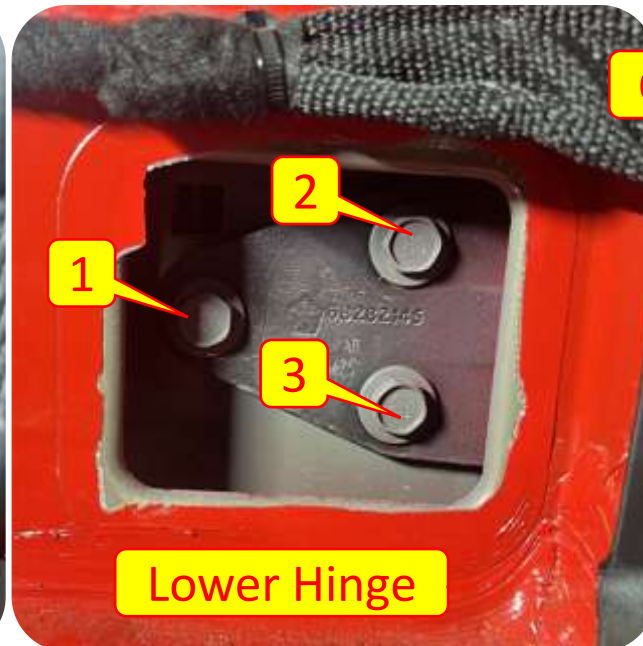
- L. If any of the round connectors pop off when removing the passenger side panel reinstall them.
- M. Using a T40 disconnect the tailgate hinge from the tub and tailgate.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

- N. Using a razor blade remove the tape to expose the tailgate hinge brackets.
- O. Unbolt the six hinge bolts using a 13mm socket.

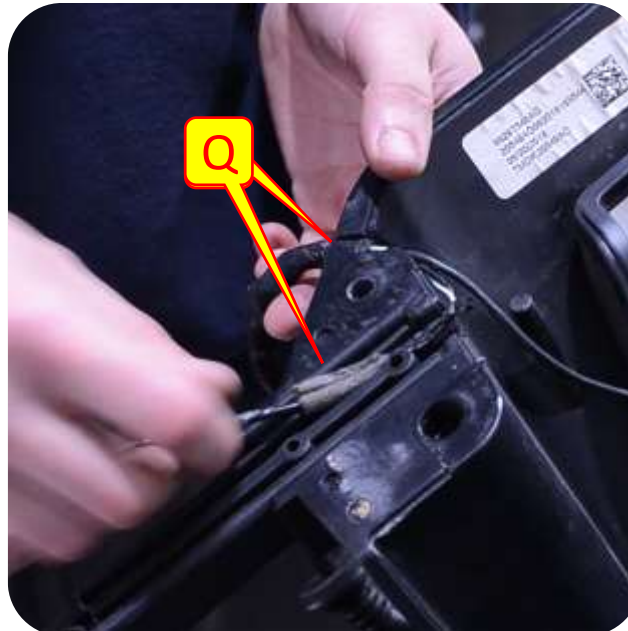


Section 3: Installation Instructions



Step 2: Backup Camera Removal

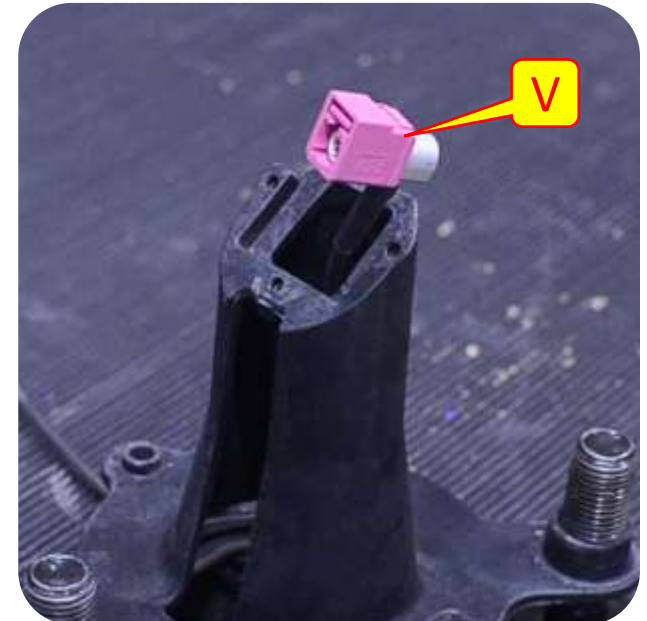
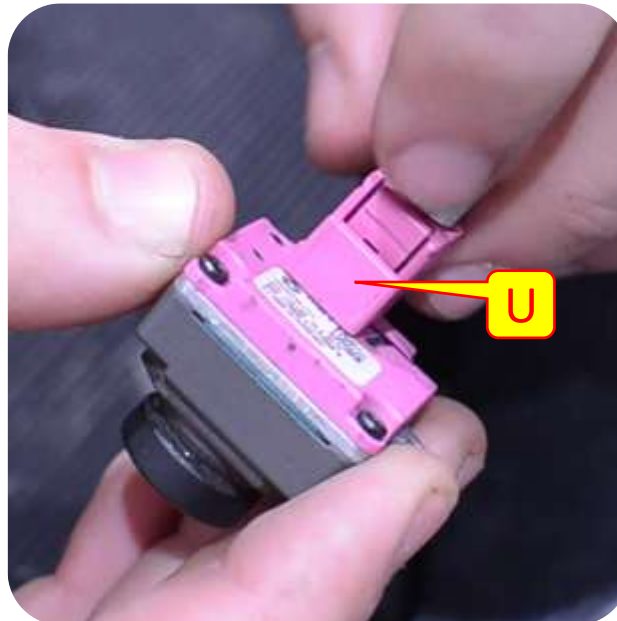
- P. Using a 13mm socket remove the stock tire carrier mount. If the spare tire is mounted remove the spare tire.
- Q. Remove the back up camera wiring from the stock spare tire mount.
- R. Using a T25 torx wrench remove the bolts holding the camera mount into place on the spare tire mount.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 2: Backup Camera Removal

- S. Remove the camera mount from the inside of the tire mount.
- T. Using a T8 torx wrench remove the 3 screws holding the rear camera into place. **SAVE HARDWARE.**
- U. Disconnect the rear camera from the wiring.
- V. Remove the wiring from the camera mount. **SAVE WIRING.**

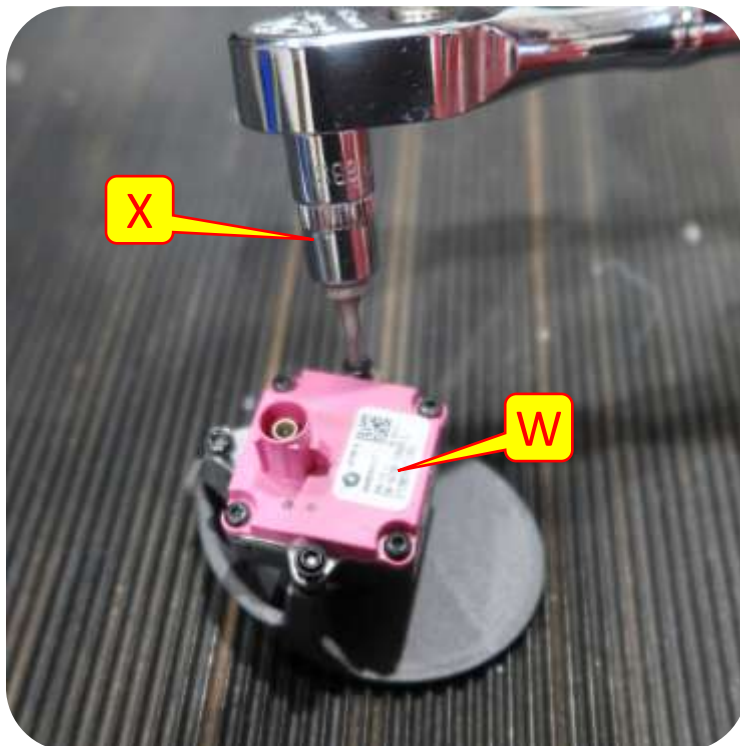


Section 3: Installation Instructions



Step 3: Backup Camera Installation

- W. Place the back up camera on the outside of the provided camera mount.
- X. Using a T8 torx wrench install the stock camera screws to the new camera mount and camera backing. Tighten fully.
- Y. We will be disconnecting the tail gate hinge bolts. Use tape to help hold the tailgate in alignment.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

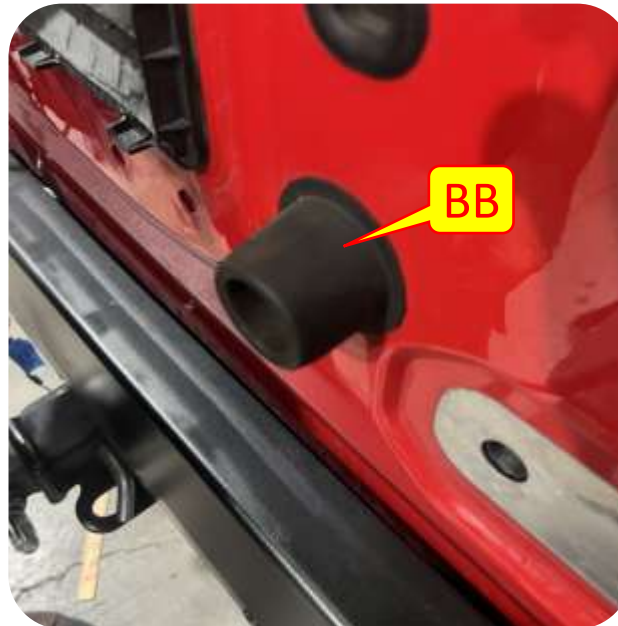
Step 3: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Installation

Z. Using a T55 torx wrench remove the stock hinge bolts. **DO NOT OPEN TAIL GATE.**

AA. Remove the stock hinges.

BB. Remove the rubber bumper from the tailgate.

CC. Install the provided billet hinges.



Section 2: Installation Instructions

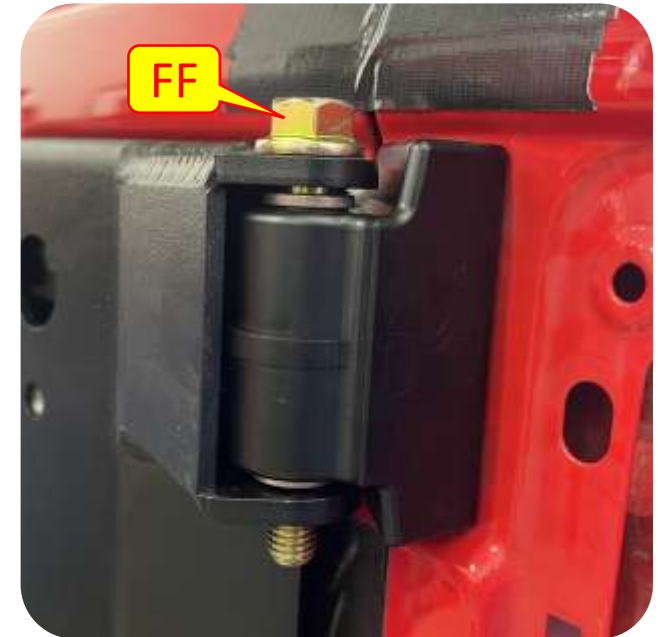
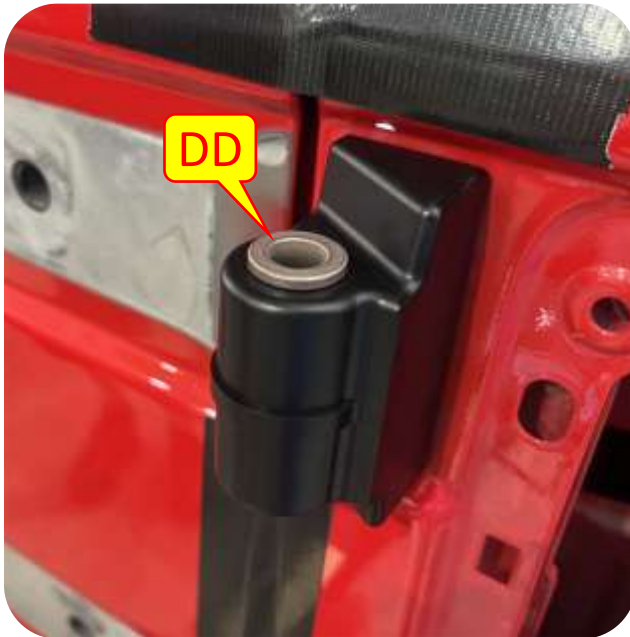


Step 3: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Installation

DD. Install the bronze sleeve bearings into the billet hinges.

EE. Install the MetalCloak tire carrier over the bronze sleeve bearings.

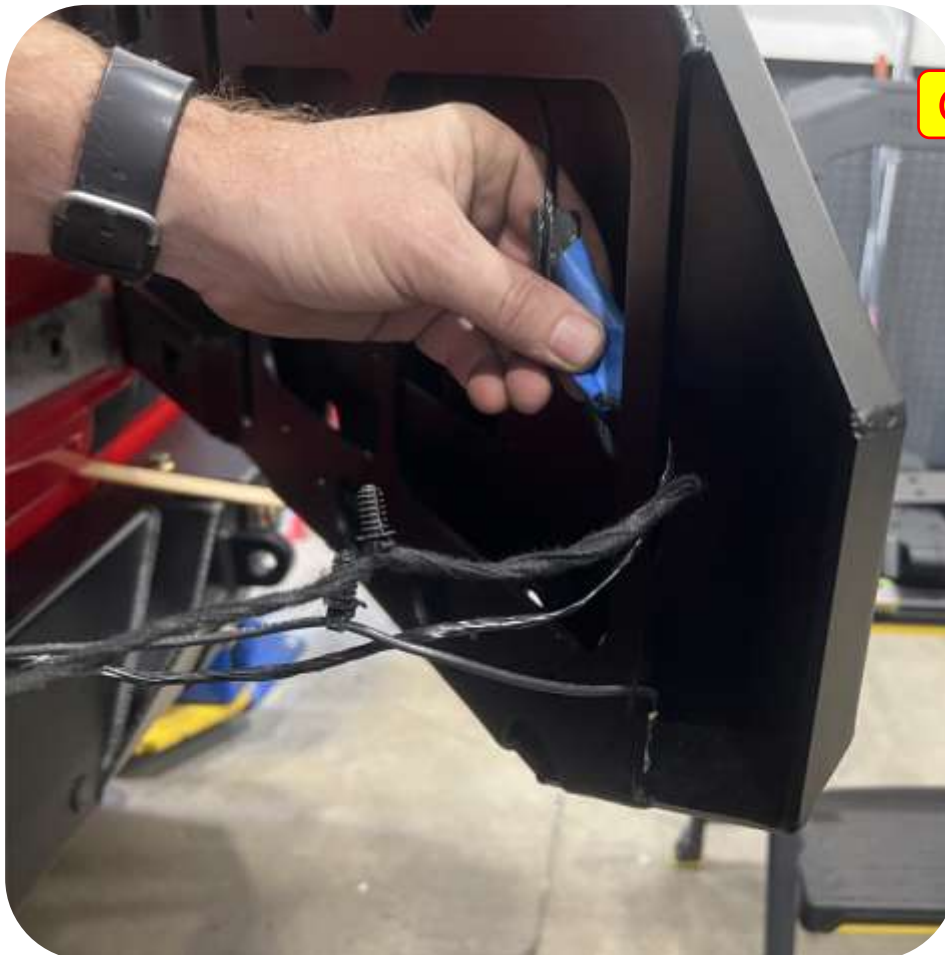
FF. Install the provided bolt into the billet hinges.



Section 2: Installation Instructions

Step 3: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Installation

GG. Install the camera wiring through the back of the tire carrier and pull it through the hole in the front.



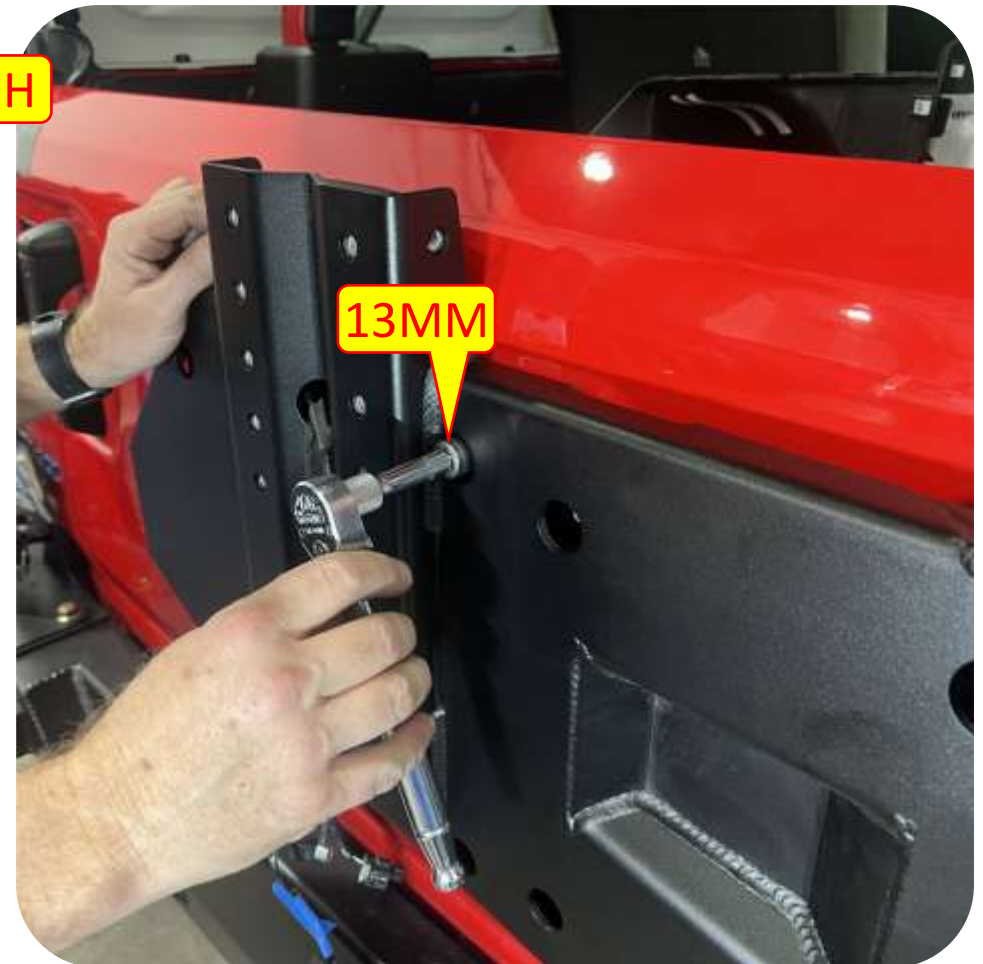
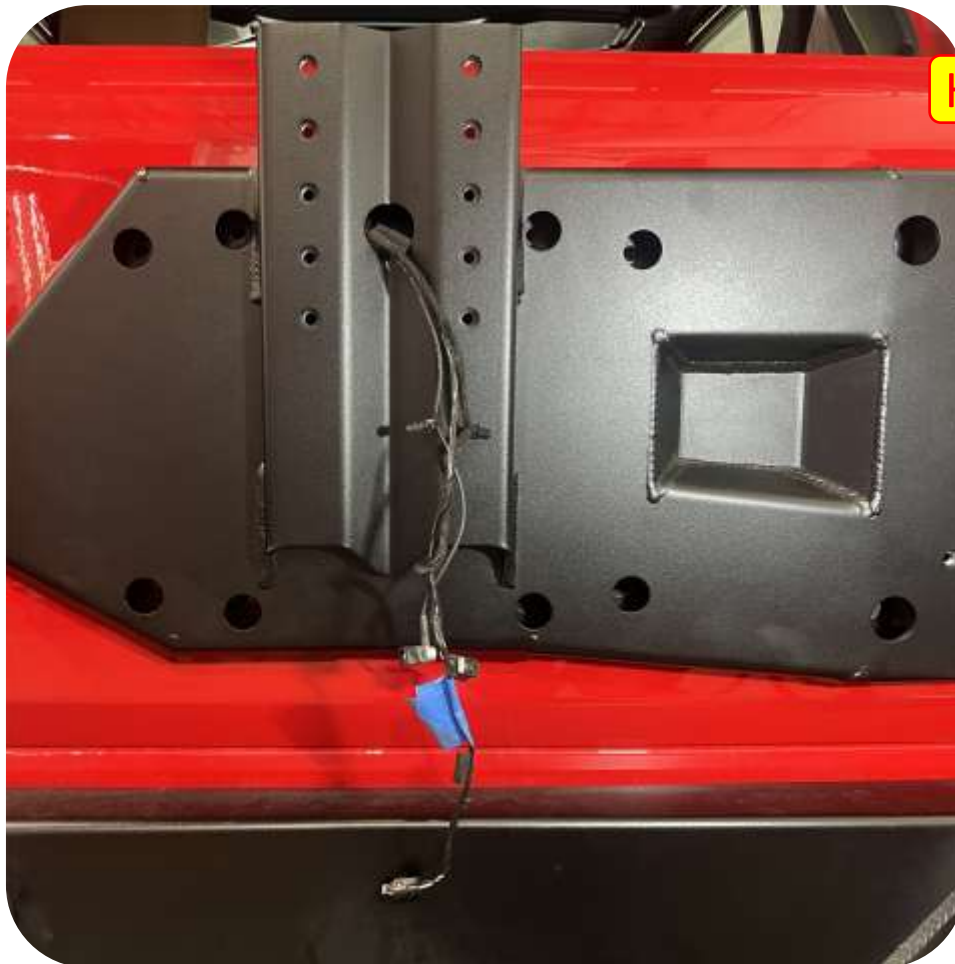
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Section 2: Installation Instructions

Step 3: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Installation

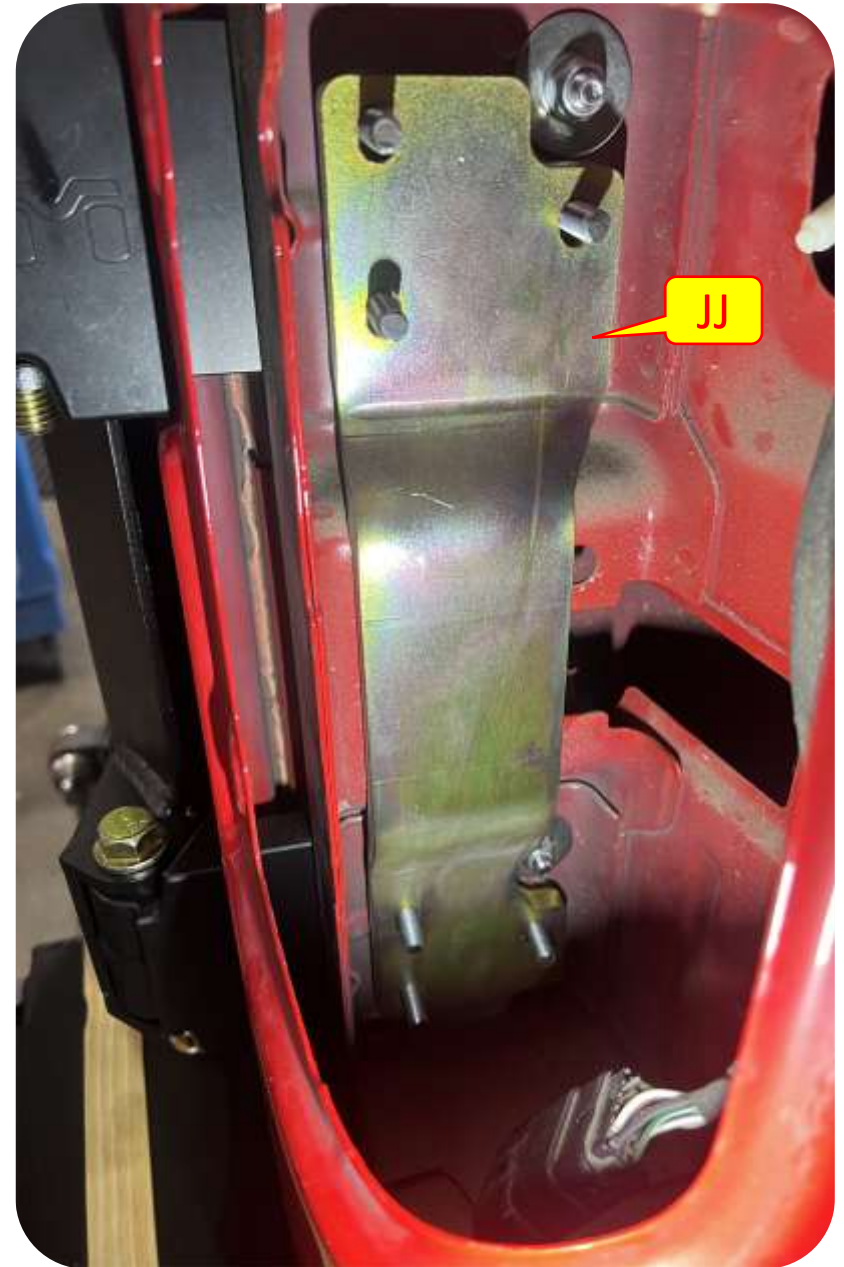
HH. Install the provided tailgate bolts and tighten using a 13mm socket.



Section 2: Installation Instructions

Step 3: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Installation

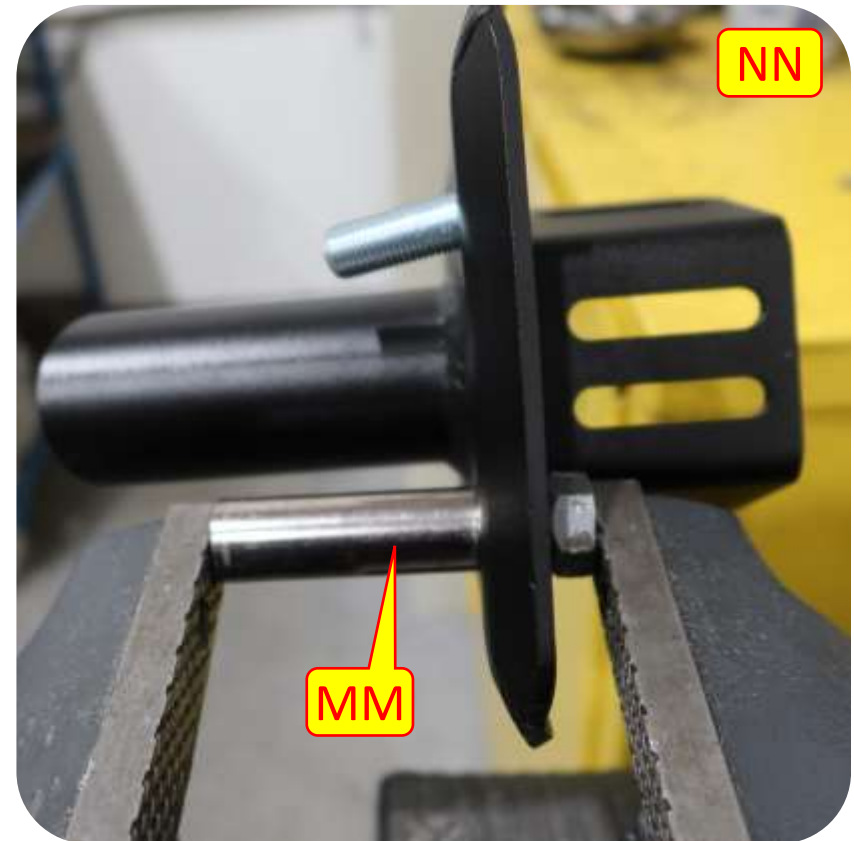
- II. Tighten the hinge bolts using a 17mm socket and wrench.
- JJ. Install the hinge bridge through the taillight hole and fasten using the supplied nuts *(and one set of nuts/bolts to new location without factory weld nuts)*.
- KK. Tighten the bridge hardware with a 13mm socket and wrench.



Section 2: Installation Instructions

Step 4: Press in Wheel Stud

- LL. To press the wheel stud into place. Place the wheel stud into the Adjustment bracket in the chosen wheelbase location.
- MM. Place a long socket on the other end of the adjustment bracket. Make sure the socket has enough room for the wheel stud to be pressed in fully.
- NN. Place the wheel stud and socket inside a vice and tighten the vice until the wheel stud is completely pressed in. repeat process for remaining wheel studs.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 6: Heavy Duty Tire Carrier Bracket Installation

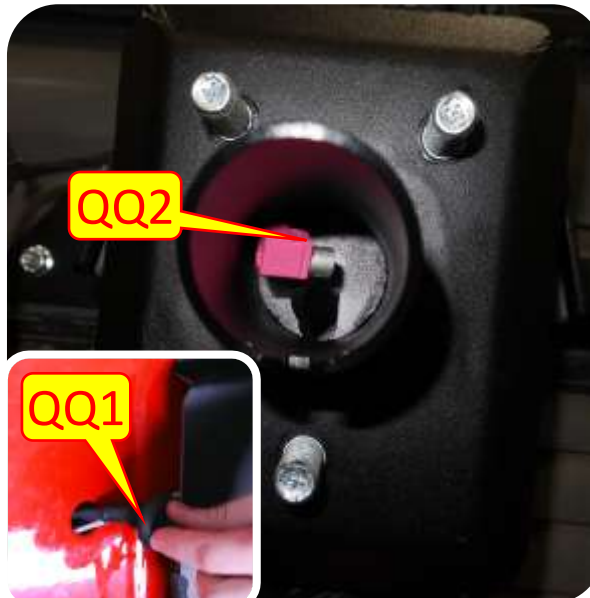
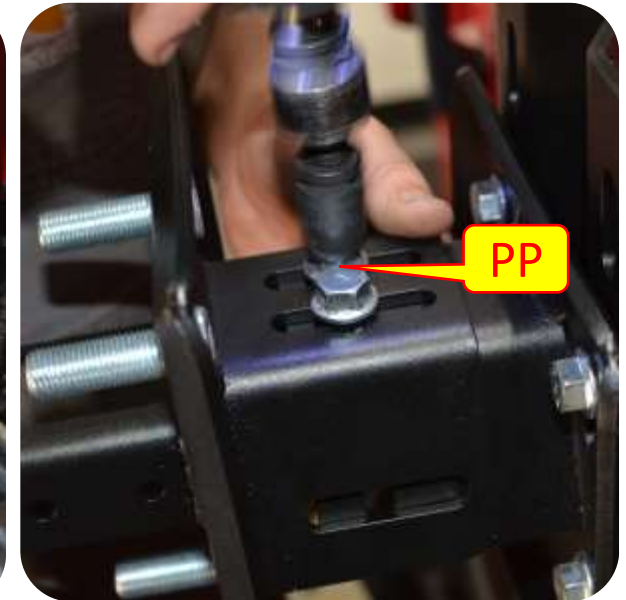
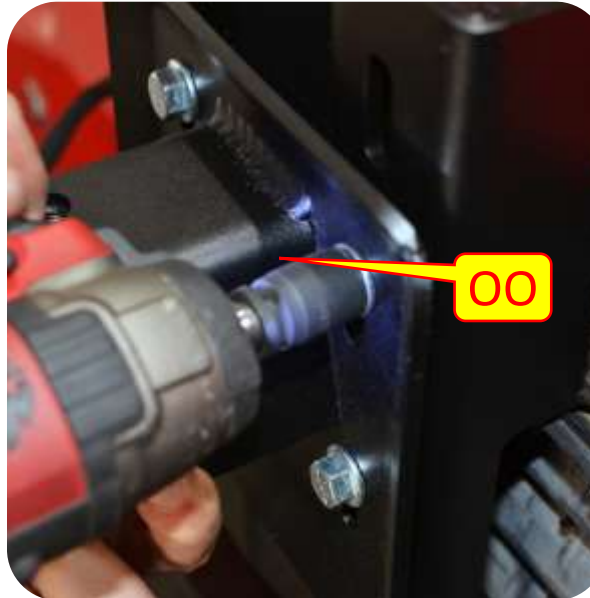
OO. Using a 9/16" socket install the tire carrier bracket to the appropriate height for your spare tire.

PP. Loosely install the backspacing adjustment bracket to the tire carrier bracket using the provided hardware.

QQ. Reinstall the rubber grommet into the tail gate and insert the back up camera wiring into the back of the backspacing adjustment bracket.

RR. Connect the back up camera wiring to the back up camera.

SS. Install the back up camera into the backspacing adjustment bracket and tighten the provided hardware with a 1/4 socket.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 7: Spare Tire Adjustment

- TT. Install the spare tire. Making sure its snug against the SportGate to reduce tire movement.
- UU. Open the tailgate and tighten all hardware using a 9/16" socket while pulling the tire firmly against the tailgate.
- VV. Reconnect the back up camera clips and reinstall the tailgate plastic trim.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

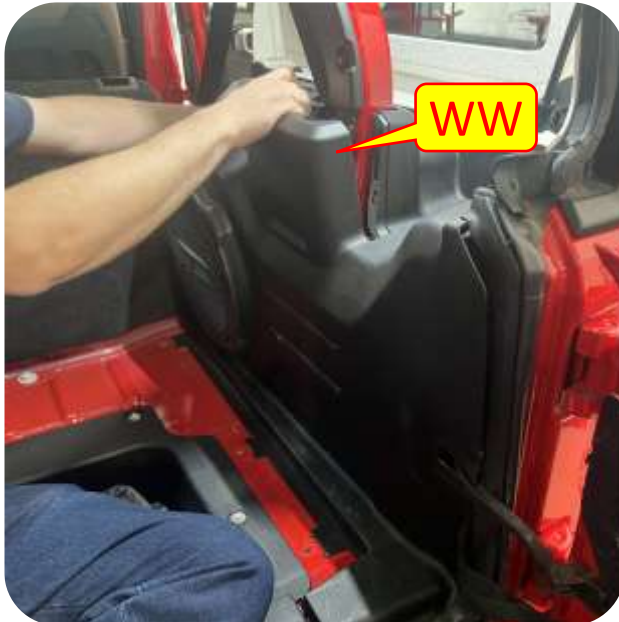


Step 8: Re-assembly

WW. Reinstall the passenger side panel.

XX. Reinstall the center panel.

YY. Reinstall the carpet flooring and tighten down the floor hooks using a T30 socket.



Section 3: Installation Instructions

Step 8: Re-assembly

ZZ. Using a T25 tighten down the plastic moldings on the passenger side panel.

AAA.Reinstall the passenger side taillight.

BBB.Using a T40 torx reinstall the taillight retention screw and reinstall the rubber cover.



Section 3: Installation Instructions



Step 1: Preparation for SportGate Tire Carrier

- D. Open the tailgate and on the interior of the jeep behind each taillight is a rubber cover. Remove the rubber cover to gain access to the taillight retention screw
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