



## 10A/X & HARD ROCK RUBICON WINCH MOUNT

*(Winch Mount/Plate)*

### INSTALLATION GUIDES

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ENTIRE INSTALLATION GUIDE BEFORE YOU START. WE EXPECT YOU TO HAVE BASIC MECHANICAL ABILITIES TO PERFORM THIS INSTALLATION.

WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU SEPARATE AND IDENTIFY ALL THE PARTS AND HARDWARE KITS YOU RECEIVED WITH YOUR SHIPMENT BEFORE YOU PROCEED TO DISASSEMBLE YOUR BUMPER.

#### **Parts List:**

	<b><u>Qty</u></b>
Winch Mount/Plate	1
Centering/Trim Plate (Optional: Hook Anchor)	1
Vacuum Pump Relocation Bracket	1

#### **Hardware Component List:**

	<b><u>Qty</u></b>
M12 Hex Head Steel Bolts	2
M12 Nut Plate (Nut Key)	2
M12 Steel Washers – Zinc Plated	6
M6 Hex Head Steel Bolts – Zinc Plated	2
M6 Flat Washers – Zinc Plated	2
M6 Flanged Nuts – Zinc Plated	8
3/8 Truss Head Bolts - Stainless Steel	4
3/8 Flanged nuts – Zinc Plated	4

#### **Tools Required:**

- Metric Drive Sockets:  
(10MM, 15MM, 18MM, 19MM)
- Metric wrenches/spanners
- L shape Metric Torx Key # 30
- Phillips Screwdrivers
- Driller and Drill Bits
- Hole-Saw Diameter 1-3/4" (44MM)
- Side cutter
- Pliers
- Cut-off Wheel (Grinder)

## INSTALLATION STEPS

### (1)- REMOVE THE SKID PLATE:

Using a 15 MM drive socket and ratchet remove the skid plate – there are 7 bolts to remove, 5 in front and 2 in the back. Remove the skid plate and place on a protective surface to avoid surface damage.



### (2)- REMOVE THE WINCH-DELETE TOP PLATE (TOP COVER PLATE):

*We recommend that you cover the grille of your Jeep with a blanket or a mat to avoid surface damage.* Using # 30 metric torx key or torx bit and ratchet remove the top plate – there are 8 bolts.



### (3)- REMOVE THE PLASTIC FILLER TRIM BETWEEN THE BUMPER AND THE GRILLE:

Using the Phillips screwdriver unscrew the plastic pins/screws. Do not apply pressure on the screwdriver as the pins tend to spin (you can also drive a wood screw in the pins and pull them out using a pair of pliers as shown below). Pull up on the filler trim or use a pry bar (or similar) to remove.



#### (4)- REMOVE THE FRONT BUMPER:

Reach under the bumper and disconnect the fog lights wire connectors, both RHS & LHS.

Using the 18 MM drive socket, short extension and ratchet remove the 8 bumper flanged nuts – there are 4 bolts on each side. Remove the backing plates and carefully slide the bumper assembly out and place on a protective surface.



#### (5)- INSTALL THE WINCH MOUNT/PLATE:

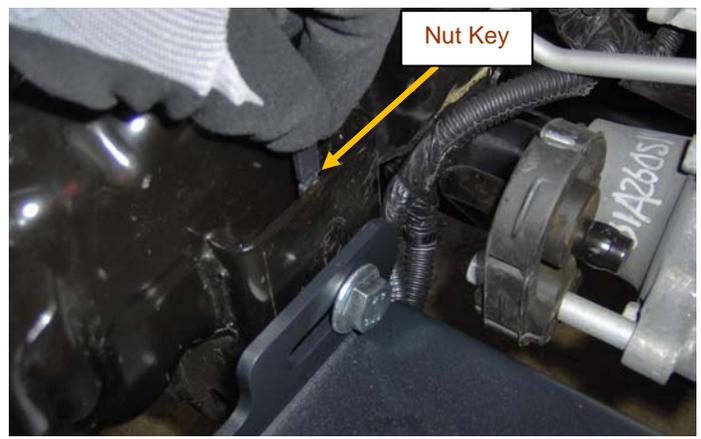
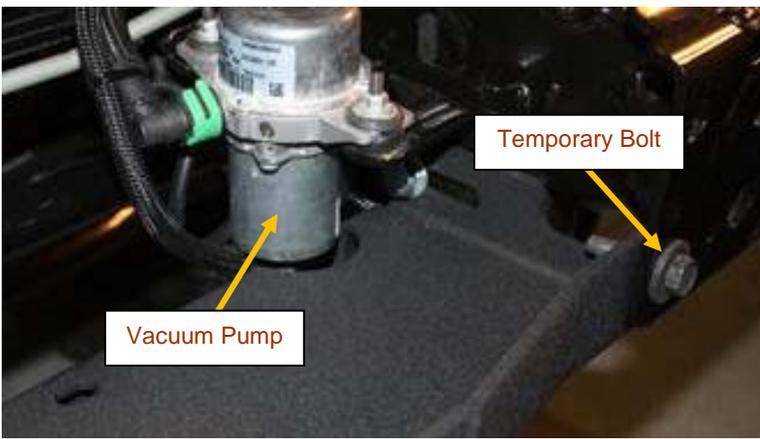
If your install requires relocation of the vacuum pump, go to option (B).

##### **A- No Vacuum Pump Relocation Option (for small body winches e.g. Smittybilt X20/XRC, Warn VR, Super Winch, etc):**

Using a pry tool or a pair of pliers, disconnect the fog lights wire harness clips from the side of the chassis frame.

Loading from below, slide the winch mount into place as shown below and use bolts on the front holes to temporary hold the plate up. Slide the Nut key (nut plate) inside the mounting pocket on the chassis frame and hand start the 12 MM bolts provided, adding a 12MM washer on the outside. Do the same on the other side - do not tighten the bolts for now. Please refer to images below.





Align the front holes and clamp as shown in the image below. You can also use a bolt and a nut to temporarily clamp. Tighten and torque the back bolts using the 19 MM drive socket and ratchet as shown below – *Torque to 66.5 Ft.Lbs on each bolt.*

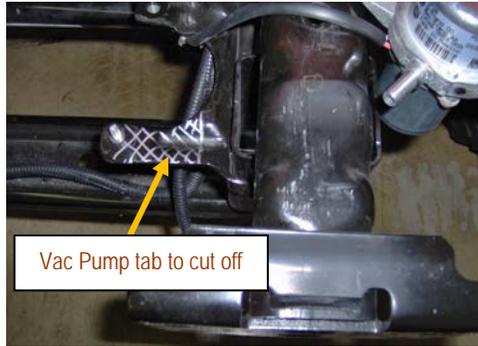


**B- Vacuum Pump Relocation Option:**

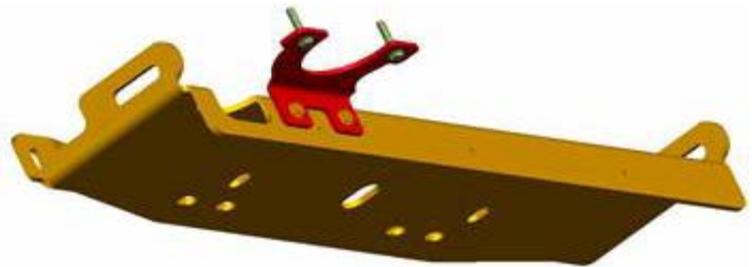
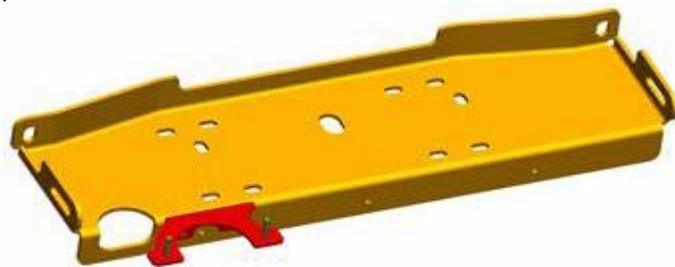
Using a pry tool or a pair of pliers, disconnect the fog lights wire harness clips from the side of the chassis frame.

Disconnect the vacuum pump and remove using a 10 MM socket/wrench - put aside for relocation later.

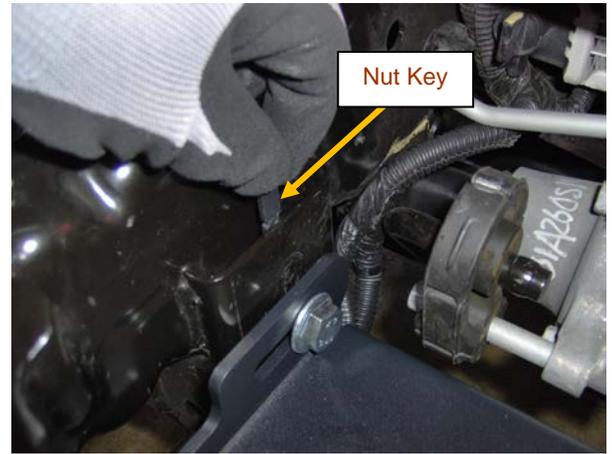
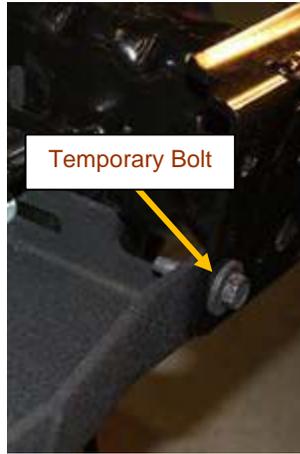
Using a cut-off wheel or grinder, cut off the front tab of the factory vacuum pump bracket – remove area marked in white. De-burr and touch up the cut with paint for rust protection.



Using a 10 MM socket/wrench, assemble the vacuum pump relocation bracket to the winch plate using the 2 M6 bolts and washers provided.



Loading from below, slide the winch mount into place as shown below and use bolts on the front holes to temporary hold the plate up. Slide the Nut key (nut plate) inside the mounting pocket on the chassis frame and hand start the 12 MM bolts provided, adding a 12 MM washer on the outside. Do the same on the other side - do not tighten the bolts for now. Please refer to images below.



Align the front holes and clamp as shown in the image below. You can also use a bolt and a nut to temporarily clamp. Tighten and torque the back bolts using the 19 MM drive socket and ratchet as shown below - *Torque to 66.5 Ft.Lbs on each bolt.*

Using a 10 MM socket/wrench bolt the vacuum pump to the relocation bracket with the long M6 bolts provided – wire connector facing back towards the radiator.

Reconnect the pump hoses and wiring - pass the harness from behind the Power Steering Line and above the Sway Bar. Push any excess wire below the radiator and towards the chassis frame.



## (6)- INSTALL THE WINCH:

### Filler Trim Plates Option:

If you are installing Filler Trim Plates then you should install the Nut Certs at this point, it's just easier to do it now. Do not install the Filler Trim Plates for now, leave to install last. Please refer to Filler Trim Plates Installation Guides.

Follow the instructions provided with your winch to prepare it for mounting: *make sure your electrical cables, winch synthetic/steel line and synthetic line chafe guard are connected to the winch. Slide the chafe guard to the front of the line.*

**Please Note:** there are two mounting patterns on the Winch Mount Plate for off-set mounting position and centered mounting position.

Carefully load the winch onto the Mount Plate, align holes and hand start the bolts - 2 bolts in the front and 2 in the back.



### D-Ring Loops Option:

If you are installing D-Ring Loops then you must install them at this point. Please refer to D-Ring Loops Installation Guides.



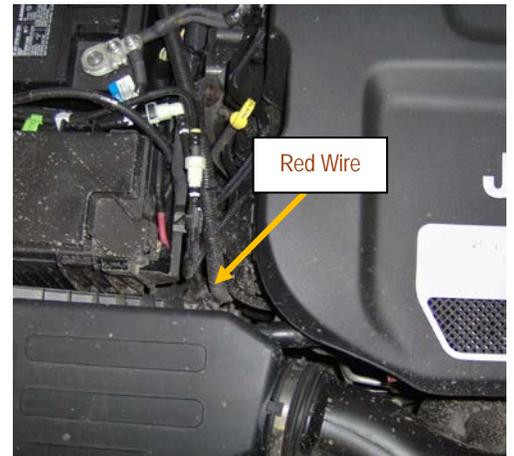
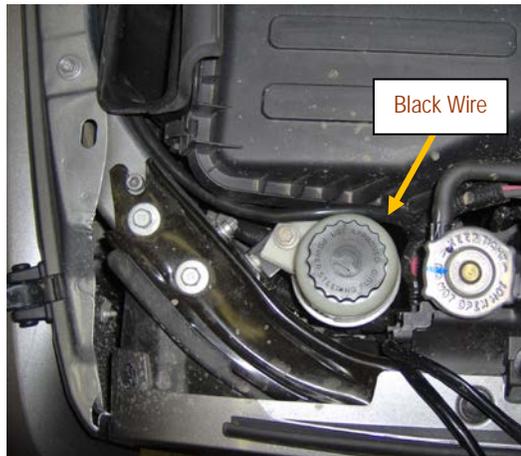
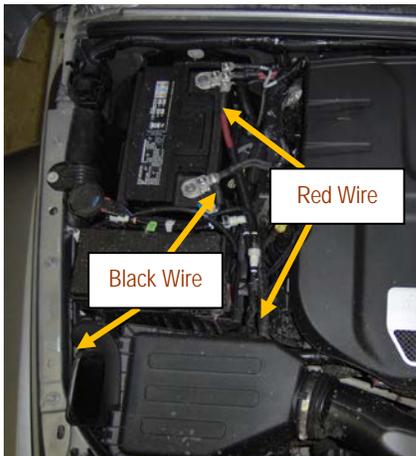
Check winch position alignment and clearance from the vacuum pump. Note the slotted holes on the plate to allow for side adjustment. If not a WARN Zeon winch, tighten and torque all the 4 bolts using a drive socket and ratchet - Torque to 30 – 35 (Ft.Lbs) on each bolt.

### VERY IMPORTANT HINT:

For WARN Zeon 10s winch do not tighten the bolts for now – leave just a bit loose as you may need to slide the winch from side to side when you come to re-assemble the bumper later.

### Connect the Winch Wiring:

Route the winch Red and Black cables/wires to the battery terminals and connect using M6 nuts. See pictures below for an example. Test your winch for function and spool the winch line/rope onto the drum. The line must spool or feed from the bottom side of the drum.



### (7)- INSTALL THE FAIRLEAD CENTERING /TRIM PLATE OR HOOK ANCHOR:

Remove the RUBICON plastic trim covering the fairlead opening by cutting the 4 Push Retainer Clips using a pair of side cutters.

**Caution:** you may damage the trim cover if you try to save the metal retainers – just lift the clips, cut and peel out.



### First widen the fairlead opening on the bumper following the steps below (making the slot “symmetric”):

This step is a must for a centered winch setup ONLY. If you are doing an offset setup then skip this step and go to step (B) below.

Mark a horizontal center-line through the factory fairlead holes.

Mark a vertical line through the outer holes on passenger side.

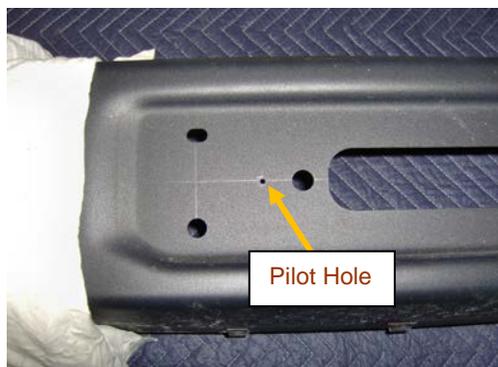
Measure 48 MM (1-7/8”) from the vertical line and mark with a center punch right on the horizontal center-line.

Cover the crash can covers and fog lights to avoid surface damage from hot metal sparks and dust. Please refer to pictures below.

Drill a pilot hole using a 3 MM (1/8”) drill bit.

Using a 1-3/4" (44 MM) hole saw drill through the pilot hole and drill out a 44 MM hole.

Mark two lines joining the tangents of the cut out to the fairlead opening - essentially you are widening the opening to the passenger side to make it more "centered".



Carefully cut on the lines you marked using a cut off wheel or a grinder as shown below. De-burr the edges using a file. Paint the edges for rust protection using a small brush or spray can.



**A-** Option: Install the Centering-Plate/Trim-Plate or Hook-Anchor using the 3/8 stainless steel bolts and Nuts provided.

**B-** Install the Fairlead using the hardware provided with your winch – use the washers provided.

**C-** Option: Install the Auxiliary Light Brackets using the factory M6 bolts you removed in Step 2 and M6 nuts provided with your kit.

*Use the remaining M6 Flanged Nuts to plug the top plate holes with the original factory torx bolts.*



### **(8)- RE-ASSEMBLE THE BUMPER:**

Install your auxiliary lights following the manufacturer's instructions if available. Make sure you adjust the lights and tighten the mounting nuts/bolts.

Make sure the Filler Trim Nut Certs are in place as suggested in step 6.

Remove the two front bolts you temporary inserted in step 5 to hold the winch mount up - make sure the holes line up.

#### **HINT:**

**For Warn Zeon winch** use the 4 bumper backing plates you removed in step 4 as spacers between the bumper and the chassis flange to achieve best fit and winch clearance. Please refer to the pictures below.

**For small body winches**, this is optional or you can discard the plates.

Lift the bumper assembly you prepared in step 7 and carefully align and push the studs into their respective holes on the chassis frame – you may need a second person to help you align the holes.

Slightly tilt the bumper forward for hand clearance and hand-start the 8 factory bumper nuts you removed in step (4).

Tighten and torque all 8 bumper nuts using 18 MM socket drive ratchet, extensions and a universal joint (flexi socket extension) - You may need to use a long extension to tighten the driver side lower inner nut working from underneath the vehicle.

Now adjust the position, tighten and torque the winch down using an open/box wrench or ratchet wrench - there are 2 bolts in front and 2 in the back.

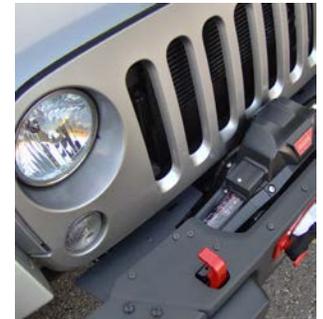


**(9)- RE-ASSEMBLE THE SKID PLATE AND RECONNECT THE FOG LIGHTS:**

Re-assemble the skid plate using the factory mounting bolts you removed in step (1) – there are 7 bolts.

Reconnect the Fog Lights.

Wire and route your Auxiliary Lights following the manufacturer's wiring instructions if available.



Your installation is complete. If you have questions regarding this installation please contact us at [info@maximus-3.com](mailto:info@maximus-3.com) or call 248 821 6654.