

## **Installation Instructions**

for

## Engine/Transmission Skid Plate

for

## 1997-2006 Jeep® TJ Wrangler with 4.0L engine and Long Arm Suspension

Thank you for purchasing your new Skid Row Offroad engine/transmission skid plate. It is designed to give you peace of mind while traversing even the toughest trails.

Your skid plate package should come complete with the following parts:

- 1. (1) Engine/Transmission Skid Plate
- 2. (2) Mounting Brackets
- 3. (2) T-Shaped Nut Plates
- 4. (1) Driver Side Strut Rod
- 5. (1) Passenger Side Strut Rod

- 6. (2) 3/8-16 UNC x 1.0" Carriage Head Bolts
- 7. (8) 3/8-16 UNC x 1" Hex Head Bolts
- 8. (6) 3/8-16 UNC Hex Nuts
- 9. (10) 3/8" Lock Washers

WARNING: Be sure to place jack stands under the vehicle before working underneath it!

**Step 1:** Take the T-shaped nut plate and slide it into the driver side motor mount through the top opening. Once the nuts can be seen through the two holes in the lower side of the motor mount, the tab may be folded over to hold the nuts in position. It is helpful to give the tab a slight arch before inserting it into the motor mount.



**Step 2:** Take the mounting bracket and attach it to the bottom of the motor mount using two of the 3/8-16 bolts with lock washers with the tab to the rear of the vehicle. The view in the picture above is looking from the front. **NOTE:** On the driver side, the tab MUST be to the rear of the vehicle.



**Step 3:** Repeat steps 1 and 2 on the passenger side motor mount. On the passenger side, the T-shaped nut plate is more easily inserted from the bottom of the motor mount as shown above. The view above is from the front. **NOTE:** On the passenger side the tab MUST be towards the front of the vehicle.



**Step 4:** Take the driver side strut rod and attach it between the mounting bracket and the skid plate on the driver side. **NOTE: The driver side strut rod is the longer of the two.** The end of the strut rod with the tab should be near the motor mount. Use one 3/8-16 bolt, lock washer, and nut to bolt it to the front of the skid plate and use another bolt, lock washer, and nut to attach it to the mounting bracket on the motor mount. Attach hardware loosely and do not tighten at this time



**Step 5:** Take the passenger side strut rod and attach it between the mounting bracket and the skid plate on the passenger side. **NOTE: The passenger side strut rod is the shorter of the two.** The end of the strut rod with the tab should be near the motor mount. Use one 3/8-16 bolt, lock washer, and nut to bolt it to the front of the skid plate and use another bolt, lock washer, and nut to attach it to the mounting bracket on the motor mount. Attach hardware loosely and do not tighten at this time.

**Step 6:** Using a floor jack or a C-clamp, hold the rear of the skid plate tight against the transfer case skid plate. After aligning the skid plate (see notes below), use the square holes in the engine skid plate as a guide to drill two 3/8" holes through the leading edge of the transfer case skid plate.

Some notes on installing the skid plate:

- This skid plate is a somewhat "universal" design and fits a little different with each manufacturer's replacement transfer case skid plate.
- While this skid plate was NOT designed to work with the factory transfer case skid plate, it can be used with it. However, longer bolts may be required to complete the installation since the factory skid plate is not flat.
- This skid plate will not fit in the notch in the leading edge of the factory skid plate on '03-'06 models. The notch may need to be enlarged with a grinder in order to obtain a proper fit.
- The rear edge of the engine/transmission skid plate was designed to be parallel with the leading edge of the transfer case skid plate. However, this is not critical.
- It is important to make sure that the skid plate is positioned to allow adequate clearance for both the front drive shaft and the passenger side control arm(s).

**Step 7:** Install the two 3/8-16x 1.0" carriage bolts through the holes just drilled using two lock washers and nuts. Tighten them at this time.

**Step 8:** Tighten all remaining hardware and you're done.

We hope you enjoy your Skid Row Offroad engine/transmission skid plate! Sincerely,

The Staff at SFK Manufacturing, LLC

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