

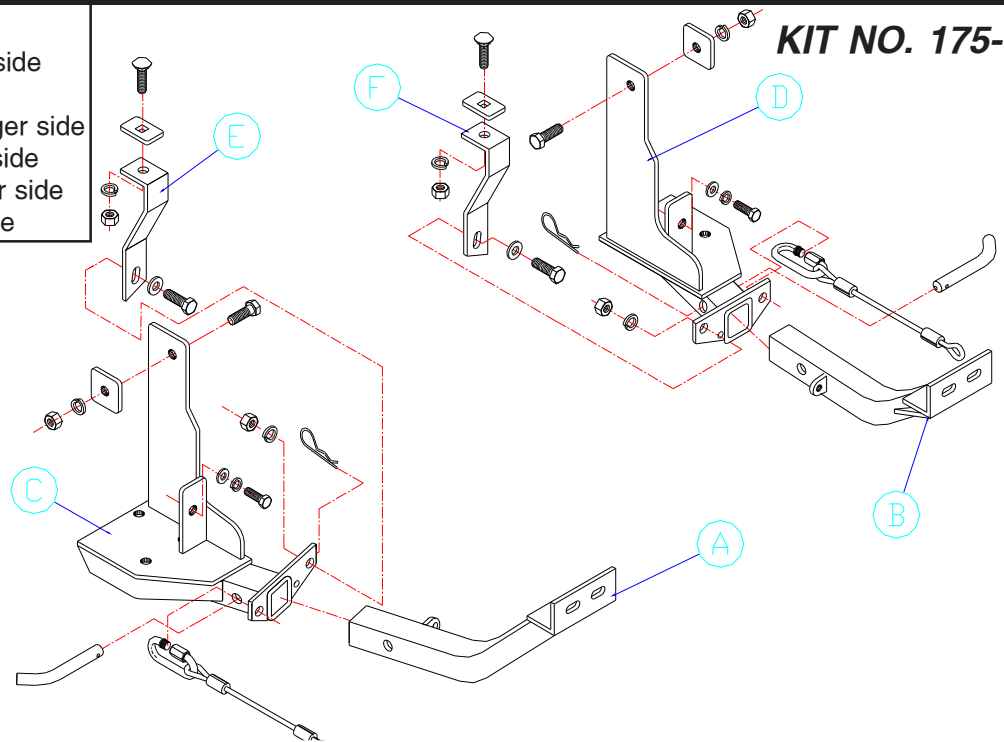
# BASEPLATE KIT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

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## PARTS LIST:

- 1- FRONT BRACE (A) - Passenger side
- 1- FRONT BRACE (B) - Driver's side
- 1- RECEIVER BRACE (C) - Passenger side
- 1- RECEIVER BRACE (D) - Driver's side
- 1- BUMPER BRACE (E) - Passenger side
- 1- BUMPER BRACE (F) - Driver's side

KIT NO. 175-1



**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
- Use lock washers on all fasteners

## WARNING

Failure to follow the below warnings and the installation instructions may result in voiding your warranty, property damage, the loss of your towed vehicle, personal injury or even death.

- Installation of most baseplates requires moderate mechanical aptitude and skills. We strongly recommend professional installation by an experienced installer.
- The installer must read the instructions and use all bolts and parts supplied.
- Use Loctite® Red on all bolts used for mounting this baseplate.
- Every 3,000 miles, the owner must inspect the fasteners for proper torque, according to the bolt torque requirements chart on the last page of these instructions. The owner must also inspect all mounting points for cracks or other signs of fatigue every 3,000 miles.
- The owner must check the vehicle manufacturer's instructions for the proper procedure(s) to prepare the vehicle for towing. Some vehicles must be equipped with a transmission lube pump, an axle disconnect, driveline disconnect or free-wheeling hubs before they can be towed. Failure to properly equip the vehicle will cause severe damage to the transmission.
- Do not weld. This baseplate is designed to be bolted to the vehicle. Welding will void the warranty.
- Do not use this document for custom fabrication, as it may not show all parts or structural components could result in loss of the towed vehicle.
- 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.
- If running changes were made by the vehicle manufacturer after this

kit was designed, some bolts or other fasteners in the hardware pack may no longer be the correct size. It is the installer's responsibility to verify this kit is securely fastened to the vehicle and fitted with the correct hardware to account for these changes.

- 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 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, motorhome and/or towed vehicle.
- 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. Refer to the cable instructions for proper routing. Failure to leave enough slack in the safety cables, or failure to connect the safety cables frame to frame, will result in 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.
- Upon final installation, the installer must inspect the baseplate to ensure adequate clearance, particularly around hoses, air conditioner lines, radiators, etc.
- 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

- 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. This **XL Series** bracket consists of two receiver braces, two front braces and a hardware kit. The receiver braces are designed to sandwich between the unitized frame and the lower radiator support. To gain access to the needed areas, the head lights and the plastic radiator cover will have to be removed. Do this now by removing two bolts from the headlights on each side and six plastic retainer buttons from the center plastic section. Next, remove three small screws from the lower plastic air dam on each side of the car. The bumper skin will also have to be removed. Do this by removing four 7mm screws at each fender well, two 10mm screws inside the bumper under the marker lights and four retainer buttons on the top.
- Find the diagonal tubular support braces that are located in front of the radiator. Unbolt the lower end of these braces and discard the bolts. A portion of the main braces will be sandwiched between the frame and the braces later.
- Before proceeding with this step, the lower radiator support should be either blocked or secured to the upper frame so that it doesn't drop if the securing bolts on each side are removed. Once this is done, remove three bolts on each side of the radiator support. Insert a main brace between the upper frame and the lower radiator support and replace the bolts. **Note:** the plastic air dam will have to be trimmed to fit the brace. Be sure the side of the brace is between the frame and the tubular support. Insert the remaining brace on the opposite side and replace the remaining three bolts.
- Replace the tubular diagonal brace bolts that were removed in step two with supplied 8mm x 1.25 x 40mm bolts, flat washers and lock washers. The front mounting tab should be sandwiched between the frame and the tubular braces.
- Insert the front braces into the receivers and secure into place using 5/8" draw pins and 1/8" spring pins.
- Check the brace alignment, then tighten the three bottom bolts and the brace bolt on each side to the torque specifications below. **Note:** be sure the radiator is still aligned properly, then loosen the top radiator mounts, this will allow you to shift the radiator for the next step.
- Go to the front of the bumper core and locate the front bumper access holes between the large plastic grids. They will be covered by black plastic. Cut the plastic away on each side to expose access holes in the front of the bumper. Take the mounting nuts off **ONE SIDE** of the steel bumper core. Loosen the nuts on the other side. Pull the bumper core away from the car on one side to access the front of the frame.  
**Note: do not remove the bumper entirely. The air bag sensors are attached to the rear of the bumper core.**  
Shift the radiator, if needed, to insert a 1/2" x 1 1/4" bolt through the remaining top hole in the brace. Follow with a 1/4" x 2" x 2" backing plate, lock washer and nut inserted through the front of the frame tube, then tighten to the torque specifications below. Check and make sure that nothing touches the side of the radiator.
- Follow step seven for the remaining side, then replace the bumper mounting tabs removed previously.
- Tighten the bumper core mounting nuts. Then put 1/2" x 1 1/2" carriage bolts and 1/4" x 1 1/4" x 2" backing plates through the front bumper core mounting access holes and into two square holes located in the bottom of the bumper core. **Note:** if the car is an LS model, go to step 10, then come back and proceed with the following step. Bolt the 1/4" x 1 1/2" upper braces to the bottom of the bumper using 1/2" nuts and lock washers. Now, bolt the upper braces to the lower receiver braces with 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts, flat washers, lock washers and nuts.
- Temporarily remove the front braces from the receivers and reinstall the bumper skin and all fasteners, including the lower air dam. Replace the top radiator plastic and the headlights. **Note:** if the car is an LS model, the lower air dam and bumper will have to be trimmed to fit the receiver braces. Also, two slots will have to be made in the lower bumper skin for the upper braces.



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11. Reinstall the front braces and pin using the 5/8" draw pins and 1/8" spring pins. Mount the tow bar according to the manufacturer's instructions and torque the bolts to the specifications below. Attach one end of the safety cables to the lower braces with the supplied cable connectors and the other end to the tow vehicle's safety cables.

**Hardware:**

- 1- BUMPER BRACE (E)-Passenger side
- 1- BUMPER BRACE (F)- Driver side
- 2- 1/2" x 1-1/2" carriage bolts
- 2- 1/2" x 1-1/4" bolts
- 2- 1/2" x 1-1/2" bolts
- 2- 1/2" flat washers
- 6- 1/2" lock washers
- 6- 1/2" nuts
- 2- 8mm x 1.25 x 40mm
- 2- 8mm flat washers
- 2- 8mm lock washers
- 2- 1/4" x 2" x 2" round hole backing plates
- 2- 1/4" x 1-1/4" x 2" sq. hole backing plates
- 2- 5/8" draw pins
- 2- 1/8" spring pins
- 2- cable connectors
- 2- 13" cables

**12-13-00**

### 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			METRIC BOLTS			METRIC BOLTS		
Thread Size	Grade	Torque	Thread Size	Grade	Plated/Unplated	Thread Size	Grade	Plated/Unplated
5/16	5	13 ft./lb.	8mm-1.0	8.8	20 ft./lb. 18 ft./lb.	12mm-1.25	8.8	70 ft./lb. 65 ft./lb.
3/8	5	23 ft./lb.	8mm-1.25	8.8	19 ft./lb. 18 ft./lb.	12mm-1.5	8.8	66 ft./lb. 61 ft./lb.
7/16	5	37 ft./lb.	10mm-1.25	8.8	38 ft./lb. 36 ft./lb.	12mm-1.75	8.8	65 ft./lb. 60 ft./lb.
1/2	5	56 ft./lb.	10mm-1.5	8.8	37 ft./lb. 35 ft./lb.	14mm-2.0	8.8	104 ft./lb. 97 ft./lb.
5/8	5	150 ft./lb.						

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