2009 BMW Mini Cooper
(No S, Clubman or Convertible)
(Manual Transmission Only)

Installation Instructions

Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Towing Instructions before attempting to install or operate this equipment.

1. Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge to do “fit work.” When necessary, Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at www.blueox.us or by contacting our Customer Care Department at (888) 425-5382.

2. Many Blue Ox® Baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use hardware supplied in the hardware kit or existing hardware specified in the Baseplate Towing Installation Instructions.

Confirm the towability and pre-towing procedures for your vehicle with the owner’s manual or contact the vehicle’s manufacturer for specific towing procedures. You can also contact REMCO for additional information at 1(800)228-2481.

**Attachment Tab Height:** 12”
**Attachment Tab Width:** 22”

### Bolt Torque Specifications

**Torque in Foot-Pounds per Inch Bolts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bolt Size</th>
<th>Grade 5</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4”</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/16”</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8”</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16”</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2”</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8”</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bolt Torque Specifications

**Torque in Foot-Pounds per Metric Bolts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bolt Size</th>
<th>Grade 8.8</th>
<th>Grade 10.9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6MM</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8MM</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10MM</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12MM</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14MM</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WARNING**

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.
**Important:**
Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do **NOT** substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (in most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor.
Vehicle Weight:

Motorhome mount tow bars are recommended for use with this baseplate. Due to the design of the removable tabs, the RangeFinderII, Adventurer, and Ambassador tow bars can not be used. The Acclaim tow bar may be used, but will not fold and store on the front of the vehicle. Adapters, except the BX8833 and BX88151, can not be used with this baseplate.

Installation Notes: The grille, fascia and temperature sensor are removed and reinstalled during installation of the baseplate. Drilling is required. Trimming of the fascia is required.

The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturer's tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods and/ or bending end plates.

The BX8848 Diode Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

Installation Instructions:

1. Using a flat screwdriver, remove four pushpins on top edge of grille, one on each side two in the middle. Set push pins aside to be reinstalled later.

2. Forward the front tire, use a Phillips screwdriver to remove two pushpins. Do this to both sides. Set aside for later reinstallation.
3. After removing the wheel well cover, remove two pushpins connecting the fascia using a flat screwdriver. Do this to both sides. Set pushpins aside for later reinstallation.

4. Remove the grille by starting from the side and working across. Use a screwdriver to pry and release the clips. They will fit back in when reinstallation occurs. Set the grille aside for later reinstallation.

5. After removing the grille, by the headlight, there is a bolt that needs to be removed with a T25 torx. Do this on both sides. Set bolts aside for later reinstallation.

5A. There is also a torx 25T bolt (photo 6A) to be removed from both sides using a torx wrench.

5B. Remove the three pushpins in the center (photo 6B). Pull the fascia forward, disconnect side running and fog lights. Set aside for later reinstallation.
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7. Located on both sides behind the grill, there is a temperature sensor that will need to be unplugged.

Using a good quality paint, spray cut edges of frame to prevent rusting.

8. Using an existing hole on top of the metal bumper drill a hole using a 1 1/4" hole saw to cut opening for front end to install nut plates. Do this on both sides.

9. Use the reciprocating saw to cut off the bolt even with the nut. Do this on both sides.

10. Hold the baseplate up in place and start the 8MM-1.25 x 50MM hex bolt (white arrow) with lock and two flat washers into existing hole, make it snug. Using the baseplate as a template, drill the hole above (gray arrow). Do this to both sides using a 13/32" drill bit.

BE SURE TO USE LOCTITE® RED ON ALL BOLTS BEFORE TIGHTENING. TIGHTEN ALL BOLTS ACCORDING TO THE TORQUE CHART ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR ON PAGE 3 OF THE BASEPLATE TOWING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

11. Remove the metric bolt (white arrow), replace bolt and washers with Loctite applied. Insert into the top hole (gray arrow) 3/8-16 x 1 1/4" bolt with Loctite, 3/8" lock washer and tighten to 3/8-16 nut plate. Then tighten the metric bolt. Do this on both sides.
12. Using the baseplate as a template, drill two holes on the side. Do this on both sides using a 13/32" drill bit.

13. Into the holes drilled in the side also insert 3/8-16 x 1 1/4" bolts with Loctite, 3/8" lock washers and 3/8" nut plates. Do this on both sides.

14. Using the 13MM socket, remove top hex nut from bumper extension and install item 13 between frame end and hex nut.

15. Cover the 1 1/4" hole used to install the nut plates with tape and paint black. Do this on both sides.

16. The photo above shows recommended installation of the cables to frame of vehicle. If vehicle has additional options (not shown above) which interfere with mounting permanent baseplate safety cables, secure the cables to a solid piece of the vehicle frame as described in instructions included with the permanent baseplate safety cables.

17. Reconnect the temperature sensor. Hold the fascia up to its original location. Mark and trim the fascia just on the outside edges of the receiver tube and convenience links. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Reinstall the grille.
Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning **BEFORE** installing the fascia.

**DEALER or INSTALLER:**
Be certain the user receives the instruction sheets for their products.

CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT

Blue Ox is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call 1-800-228-9289 and you can speak with our customer care team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it’s in proper working condition. Also as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory you can stay at our full service Blue Ox campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.