



# BASEPLATE KIT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**KIT# 521463-5**

01/16/24  
KS

ROADMASTER, Inc. 6110 NE 127th Ave. Vancouver, WA 98682 360-896-0407 fax 360-735-9300 www.roadmasterinc.com

Second person for lifting  
Ratchet  
13mm, 16mm, 18mm, 9/16",  
11/16" and 3/4" sockets  
11mm, 13mm and 3/4" wrench

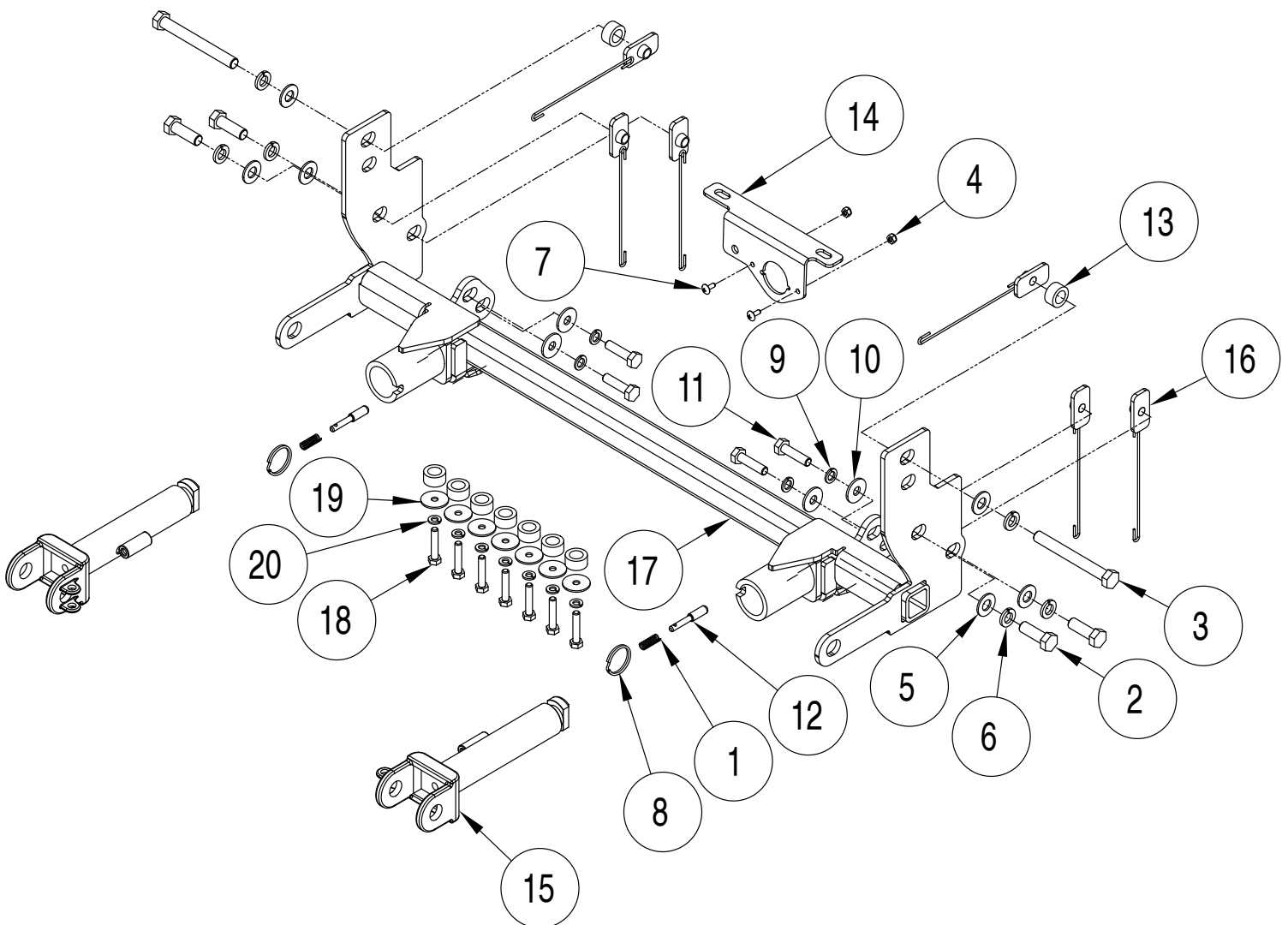
## What You'll Need

Extensions and ratchets  
Drill and long 1/2" bit  
Scissors  
Panel tool

Cut-off tool or grinder  
Permanent or paint marker  
Wire cutters  
Torque wrench  
Loctite® Red

### Important

*Note: This baseplate will not accommodate the Guardian rock shield, some models of the Tow Defender, or StowMaster tow bars.*



*hardware list on next page*



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## HARDWARE LIST

ITEM	QTY	DESCRIPTION	PART NUMBER
1.....	2.....	SPRING.....	200146-00
2.....	4.....	1/2" x 1 1/2" BOLT.....	350095-00
3.....	2.....	1/2" x 4 1/2" BOLT.....	350106-00
4.....	2.....	#10 NYLON INSERT LOCK NUT.....	350249-00
5.....	6.....	1/2" SAE WASHER.....	350308-20
6.....	6.....	1/2" LOCK WASHER.....	350309-00
7.....	2.....	#10 x 1/2" BOLT.....	350389-00
8.....	2.....	RING.....	350520-00
9.....	4.....	M10 LOCK WASHER.....	355715-00
10.....	4.....	M10 FENDER WASHER.....	355716-00
11.....	4.....	M10 x 1.5 x 40 mm BOLT.....	356103-00
12.....	2.....	LOCK PIN.....	A000008
13.....	9.....	1" O.D. x 0.188" WALL x 1/2" SPACER.....	A000061
14.....	1.....	WIRE PLUG BRACKET.....	B003754
15.....	2.....	ARM.....	C002383
16.....	6.....	1" x 2" THREADED BACKING PLATE W/ 6" ROD.....	C003563
17.....	1.....	MAIN RECEIVER.....	C003778
18.....	7.....	M8 X 1.25 X 40 mm BOLT.....	356003-00
19.....	7.....	M8 FENDER WASHER.....	355702-00
20.....	7.....	M8 LOCK WASHER.....	355705-00

**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 and lock washers on all fasteners.

## WARNING

Failure to heed these warnings or follow the installation instructions may result in a voided warranty, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

- Do not weld or modify this baseplate or its components. Welding or modification will void the warranty.
- Do not use this document as a basis to design/fabricate a baseplate, as it may not show all parts or structural components.
- We strongly recommend professional installation.
- 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.
- The installer must use all bolts and parts supplied. If running changes were made by the vehicle manufacturer after this kit was designed, some bolts or other fasteners may no longer be the correct size. It is the installer's responsibility to verify this kit is securely fastened to the vehicle.
- Use Loctite® Red on all bolts used to secure this baseplate. Torque all bolts to the specifications found at the end of these instructions. Do not over-torque the bolts or failure may occur.
- The installer must inspect the baseplate to ensure adequate clearance, particularly around hoses, air conditioner lines, radiators, etc. or non-warranty failure may result.
- 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 your 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 or vehicles.
- 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. See cable instructions for proper routing. Failure to do so will result in non-warranty damage and/or 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.
- Receiver extensions and out-of-level towing situations of 3 inches or more. This can cause the system to swing much higher and lower, causing excessive strain on the tow bar, baseplate and frame. That can cause the towing system to fail, causing property damage, personal injury or even death. If you must use a receiver extension or drop hitch to tow, it will reduce your receiver's weight capacity by 1/3 to avoid damaging your system. Never use more than one extension and/or drop hitch, as this will void your warranty.
- Every 3,000 miles, the owner must inspect all mounting points for cracks or fatigue, and check the fasteners for proper torque, according to the bolt torque requirements chart on the last page of these instructions.
- The owner must follow the vehicle manufacturer's instructions to prepare the vehicle for towing. Failure to do so may cause severe damage to the vehicle.
- This baseplate is only warranted for the original installation. Installing a used baseplate on another vehicle is not recommended and will void the warranty.





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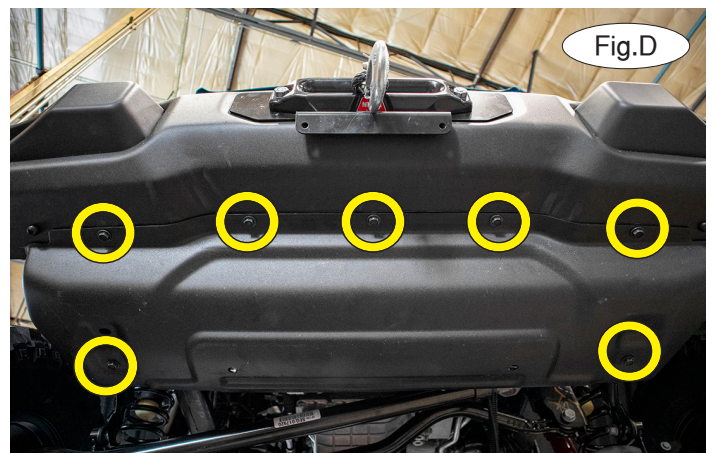
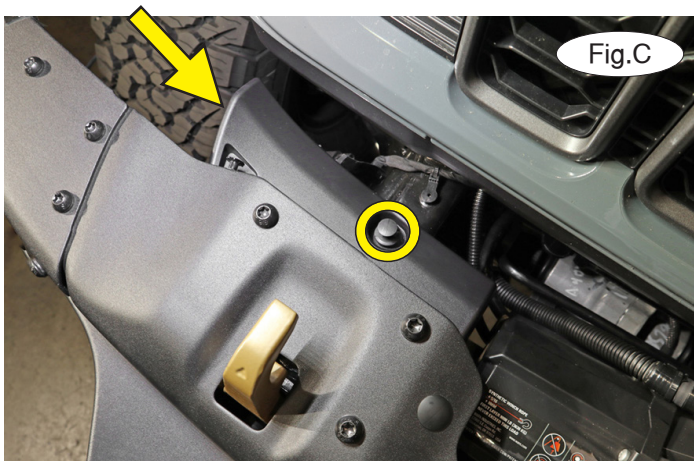
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This is one of our direct-connect series, which allows the visible front portion of the baseplate to be easily removed from the front of the vehicle (Fig.A and Fig.B). This kit consists of two main receiver braces, two removable front braces, and a hardware pack.

The main receiver brace mounts to the frame horn on each side. The removable front braces install in the main receiver braces.

Before starting the installation, lay out the kit components in order, as they will be used. This will give you a visual idea of how the components work, and will also confirm that everything is present and accounted for.

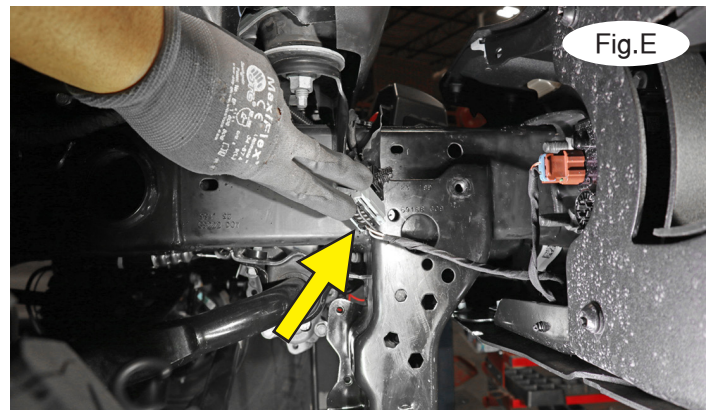


**Important:** Please use all supplied hardware and read through these instructions carefully before beginning this installation. The majority of questions you may have can be answered within the text, and proper installation will ensure safe and secure travel.

1. On each side, remove two plastic fasteners attaching the beauty cover to the bumper (Fig.C). Note: The yellow arrows denotes the approximate location of the second fastener. Set the beauty cover aside for now.

2. Remove seven 13mm bolts attaching the rock guard to the bumper bottom and the frame (Fig.D). Set it aside for now.

3. On the passenger side, disconnect the foglight wiring harness and remove the protective tape covering the bumper stiffener bolts (Fig.E). Then, release the Christmas tree clip (Fig.F – next page).





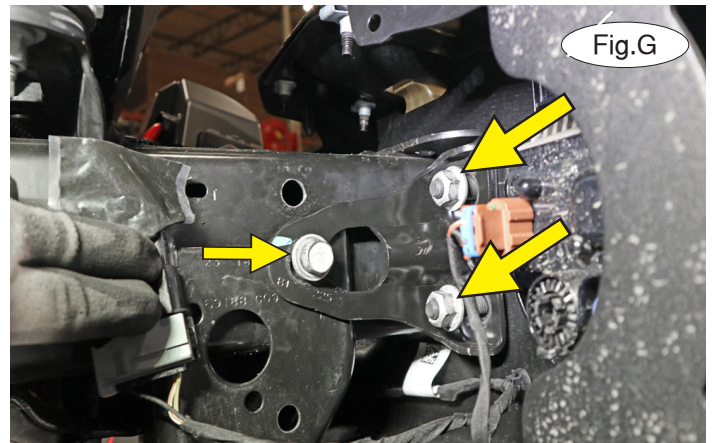
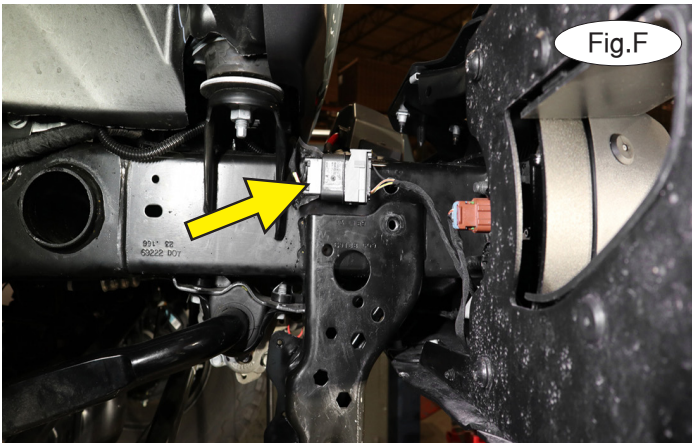


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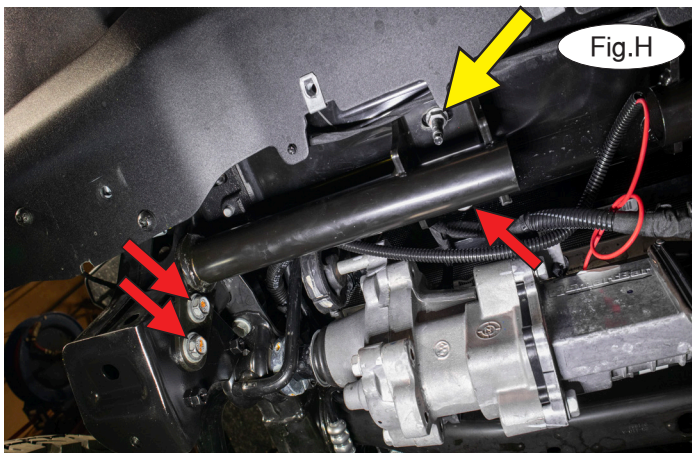
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4. On each side, remove one 16mm bolt and two 18mm nuts attaching the bumper and stiffener to the frame (Fig.G – passenger side). Set the stiffener aside. It will not be replaced.

5. On each side, replace the 18mm nuts you removed in step 4.



6. On each side, remove two 16mm bolts attaching the skid plate mount bracket to the frame (Fig.H – red arrows) and a 16mm bolt (red arrow) and 13mm nut attaching the winch bracket to the frame (Fig.H – yellow arrow). Slide the winch bracket down, and set it aside for now.

7. Using the included template at the end of these instructions, place it on the end of the winch bracket and mark it for trimming using a cut-off wheel or a grinder. Then, enlarge the hole closest to the barrel to 1/2" using a 1/2" drill bit (Fig.I). Now, reinstall the 13mm nut and one of the 16mm winch bracket bolts. *Note: Leave all hardware in this kit loose until the end of the installation.*

8. On each side, use a long 1/2" drill bit to enlarge the existing hole above the 16mm bolt hole you exposed in step 3 (Fig.J). Drill through both sides of the frame, utilizing the existing hole on the inside of the frame as well. Make certain you use caution and a piece of metal between the drill bit and the winch while drilling.





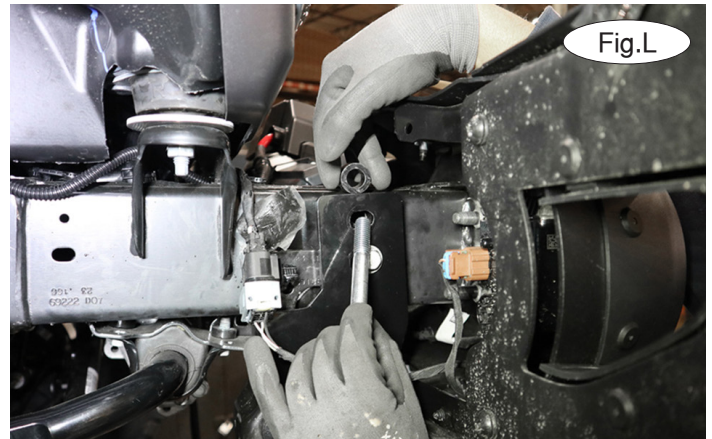
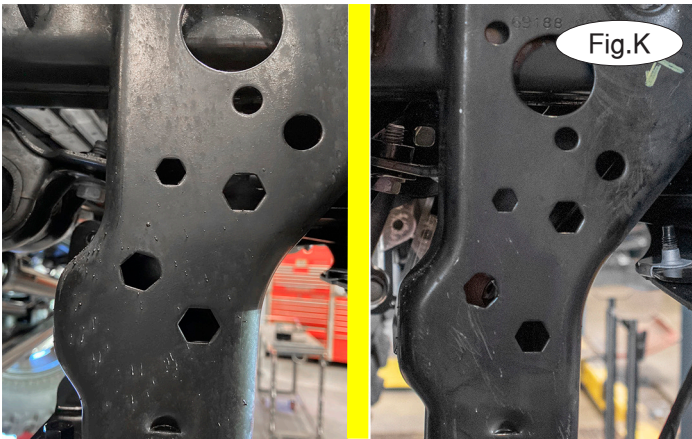


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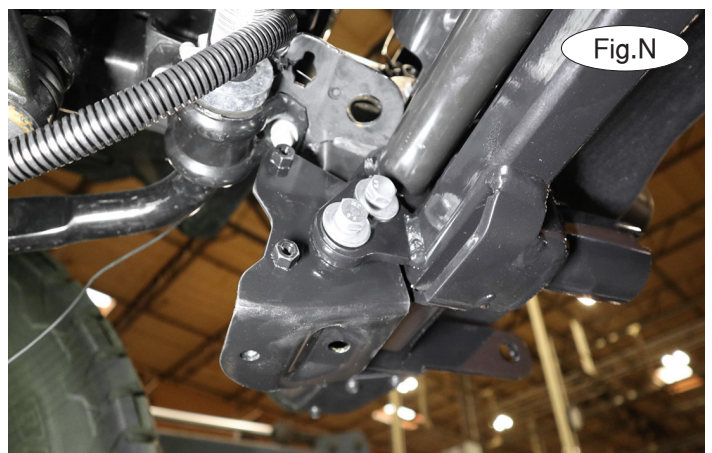
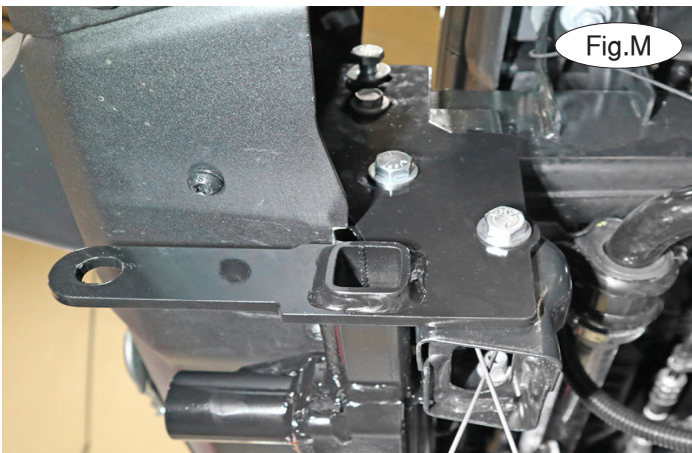
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9. Remove any weld spatter or dirt collected on the outside of the frame horns before proceeding (Fig.K – left). Cover with spray paint any spots that expose bare metal. The most important thing is that the surface is smooth and prepped for installing the baseplate (Fig.K – right).

10. With the assistance of a second person, lift the baseplate over the frame horn mounts. Align it with the top of the frame rail and on each side, replace the 16mm bolt removed in step 4. Place a 1" O.D. x .188 wall pipe spacer between the baseplate and the frame (Fig.L). Then, place Loctite and a small ½" flat washer over a 4½" bolt and bolt through the baseplate, pipe spacer and frame. Finish with a 3/16" x 1" x 2" nutted backing plate with rod.



11. Place a ½" lock washer and ½" small flat washer over a ½" x 1½" bolt. Insert a 1" x 2" x 3/16" threaded backing plate with rod inside the frame horn and pass the 1½" bolt through the middle hole in the baseplate, through the frame, and into the backing plate. Repeat the process for the remaining hole (Fig.M). Leave everything finger tight for now.

12. On each side, reinstall the rock guard mount using the two supplied 10mm x 1.5 x 40mm bolts, M10 lock washers and M10 fender washers. Bolt through the baseplate, winch bracket, and rock guard mount and into the frame horn (Fig.N). Then, trim off the rods on the backing plates or bend them into the frame horn.

13. Ensure that the baseplate is level and then tighten the bolts in this order: ½" bolts, 10mm winch bracket bolts, and then the 16mm factory bolts.





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Fig.O

14. You can reinstall the lower rock guard, or leave it off. If you choose to reinstall it, you will need to trim it to allow clearance for the receivers and safety cable tabs. Hold it in place and mark it. Then, trim it as shown and reinstall it by reversing step 4 but use the supplied M8 x 1.25 x 40mm bolts, 8mm fender washers and 1" O.D. x ½" x .188 pipe spacers on each mount (Fig.O).

15. If you are using our provided wiring plug, you will need to drill a minimum 1" diameter hole for the plug and use the center bolt and the bolt just to the right of center to mount the bracket. Use the included #10 x ½" bolts and nuts to mount the plug to the bracket (Fig.P).

16. On each side, insert the removable front arm into the front receiver 90 degrees from its final towing position, depressing the spring-loaded pin against the receiver. Twist back 90 degrees until the spring-loaded pin snaps into place in the notch on the receiver, locking the arm into place in its final towing position. **Please note: It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the locking of the pins before towing. Otherwise, failure of the towing system will result.**

17. Install the tow bar to the baseplate according to the manufacturer's instructions.

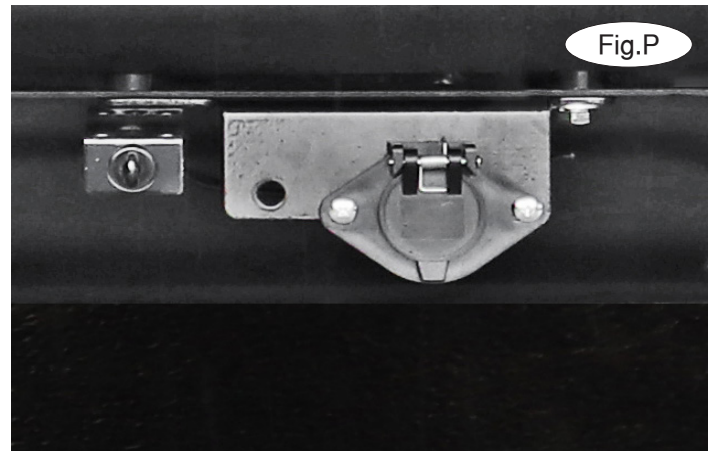


Fig.P



Fig.Q

## **IMPORTANT!**

**Safety cables are required by law. When towing, connect safety cables to the safety cable tabs illustrated on the first page and in Figure Q. Make certain there is adequate slack in the cables to allow a full turning radius; otherwise, damage will result. If necessary, longer cables or cable extensions are available.**



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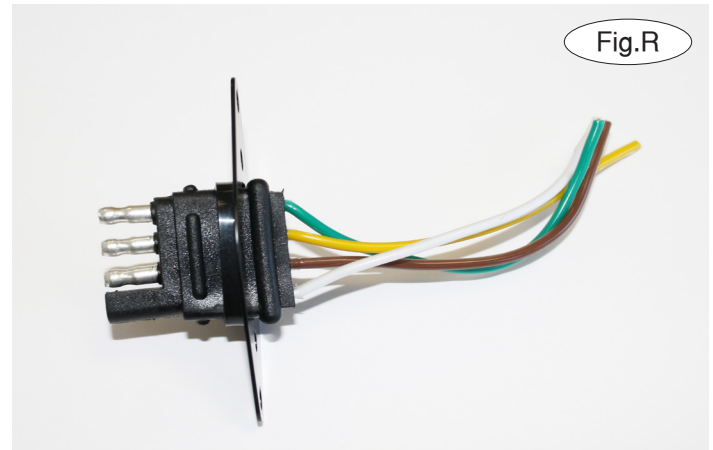
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## Three options for attaching the wiring plug to the main receiver brace

**For six-wire plugs:** Use the two supplied  $\frac{3}{4}$ " self-tapping screws to attach the electrical plug directly to the rods on the front of the main receiver brace.

**For four-wire round plugs:** Attach to the plug mounting plate and then use the two supplied  $\frac{3}{4}$ " self-tapping screws to attach the mounting plate to the rods on the front of the main receiver brace.

**For four-wire flat plugs:** Place the plug through the mounting plug plate, and then secure it using the supplied zip tie on the front of the plug (Fig.R). Use the two supplied  $\frac{3}{4}$ " self-tapping screws to attach the mounting plate to the rods on the front of the main receiver brace.



## 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

Thread Size	Grade	Torque
5/16-18	5	13 ft./lb.
3/8-16	5	23 ft./lb.
7/16-14	5	37 ft./lb.
1/2-13	5	57 ft./lb.
5/8-11	5	112 ft./lb.

### METRIC BOLTS

Thread Size	Grade	Torque
6mm-1.0	8.8	6 ft./lb.
8mm-1.0	8.8	18 ft./lb.
8mm-1.25	8.8	16 ft./lb.
10mm-1.25	8.8	36 ft./lb.
10mm-1.5	8.8	31 ft./lb.

### METRIC BOLTS

Thread Size	Grade	Torque
12mm-1.25	8.8	64 ft./lb.
12mm-1.5	8.8	60 ft./lb.
12mm-1.75	8.8	55 ft./lb.
14mm-2.0	8.8	88 ft./lb.



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## *Trim template for winch bracket*

