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Rough Country 10581 Installation Instructions

Full Body Armor Kit for 1997–2001 Jeep Cherokee XJ

Part number: 10581

trailfortress.com/full-body-armor-kit-jeep-cherokee-xj-rough-country-10581

Scan for fitment, price and install help

ROUGH COUNTRY SUSPENSION SYSTEMS®

10575BAG

JEEP 84-01 XJ Rear Fender Armor

Thank you for choosing Rough Country.

Rough Country recommends a certified technician install this system. In addition to these instructions, professional knowledge of disassemble/reassembly procedures as well as post installation checks must be known. Attempts to install this system without this knowledge and expertise may jeopardize the integrity and/or operating safety of the vehicle.

Please read instructions before beginning installation. Check the kit hardware against the parts list. Be sure you have all needed parts and know where they go. Also please review tools needed list and make sure you have needed tools.

⚠ NOTICE NOTICE TO DEALER AND VEHICLE OWNER

Any vehicle equipped with any Rough Country product should have a “Warning to Driver” decal installed on the inside of the windshield or on the vehicle’s dash. The decal should act as a constant reminder for whoever is operating the vehicle of its unique handling characteristics.

Tools Needed:
6mm Allen
10mm Socket & Wrench
1/4” Deep Well Socket
7/16” Wrench
1/2” Wrench
Heat Gun
3/16” Drill
Painters Tape
1/4” size Drill
Drill Motor
5/32” Allen
Torque Wrench

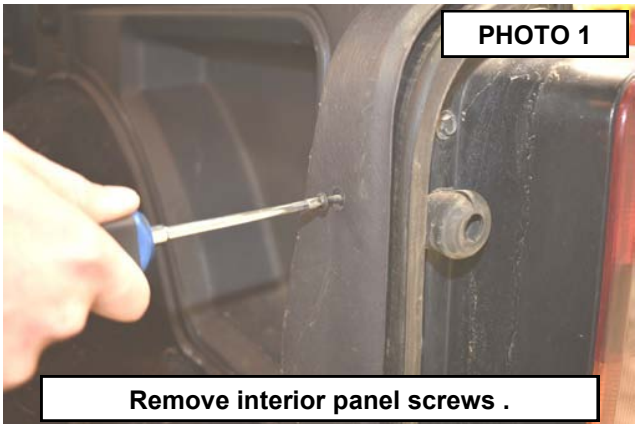


10575	
Qty	**Description**
1	Dr Rear Fender Armor
1	Pass Rear Fender Armor
1	Fuel Door Armor
1	10575Bag (Instructions)
1	10575Bag1

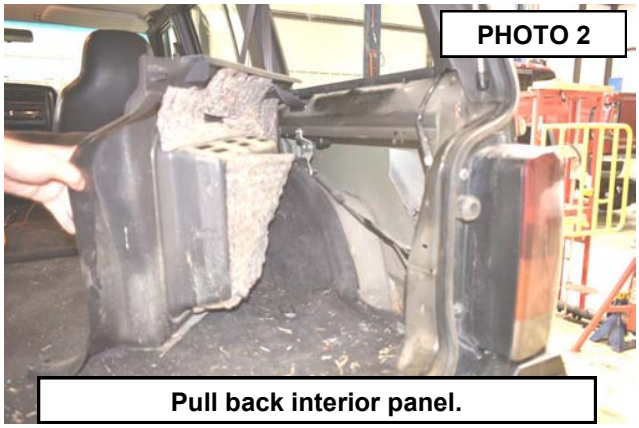
10575BAG1	
Qty	**Description**
32	1/4” x 3/4” Button Head Bolts
34	1/4” Nylock Nuts
34	1/4” Flat Washers
2	1/4” x 5/8” Button Head Bolts

FRONT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. 1997-2001 Cherokees must remove rear bumper caps using a 10MM wrench and 10MM socket in the rear and a 1/4 inch deep wall socket for the front lower self-tapping screw.
2. Once bumper caps are removed, use a 3/16" drill bit to drill out rivets holding the bracket.
3. Remove inner wheel well liner to expose bolts to fender flares by pulling the push-in clips.
4. Remove fender flares and brackets by using 10 mm wrench or socket on inside fender bolts and an 8mm for the two rear lower self-tapping bolts.
5. Open rear hatch and use a 10mm socket to remove the four bolts holding on the factory spare tire mount.
6. Use a Phillips head screw driver to remove 5 screws from the interior fender panels on each side. You may also have a plastic clip to drill out. **See Photo 1**
7. Once the panels are unbolted, swing them towards the rear seats and rest them out of your way. **See Photo 2.**

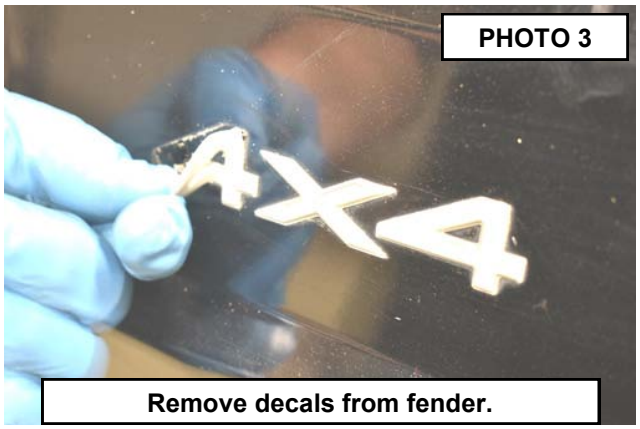


Remove interior panel screws .



Pull back interior panel.

8. Remove any molding, decals, and/or adhesive from the rear fender area. **See Photo 3.**
9. It is recommended that you place painters tape along the edges of your body where the armor will contact. This will help prevent scratching the paint and allowing rust to form after the armor is installed. . **See Photo 4.**

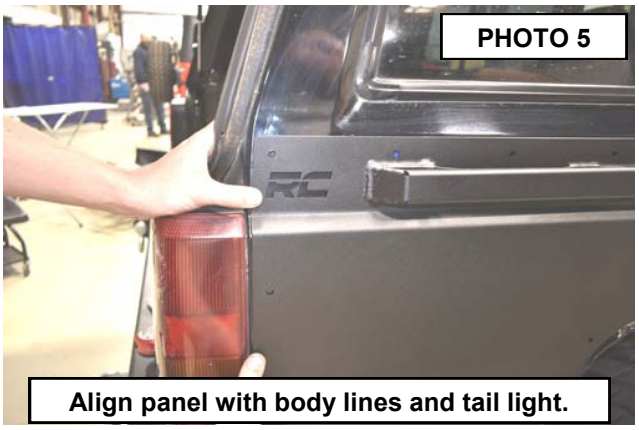


Remove decals from fender.

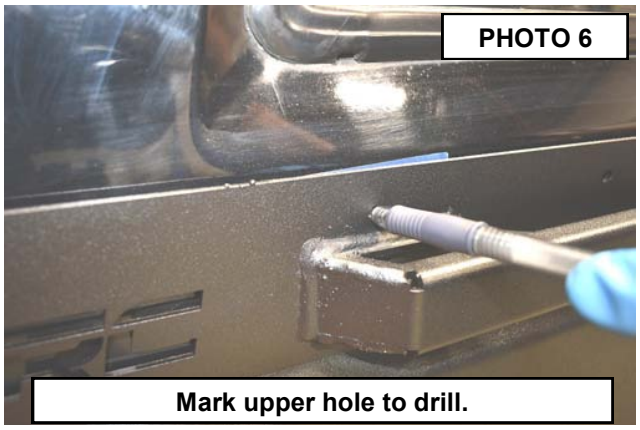


Use painters tape to protect the paint.

10. Start with the rear driver side panel. This will be the hardest to install because of the spare tire bracing and fuel filler neck.
11. Have somebody help you hold the armor panel while you properly align it. Check fitment by resting the bend lines on the taped off body lines, then aligning front to back. On the driver's side, you can also align the panel using the gas cap cutout. Once it is in the desired location, use a pen or marker to mark two of the upper holes. **See Photos 5 & 6.**

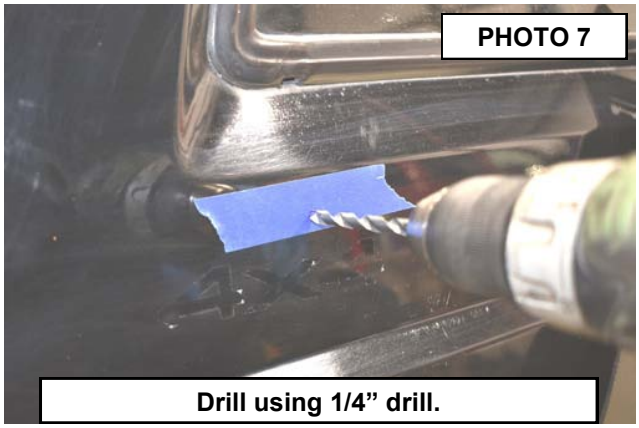


Align panel with body lines and tail light.



Mark upper hole to drill.

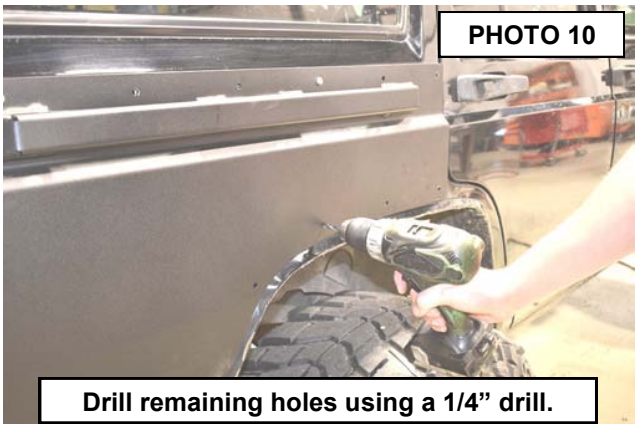
12. Remove the panel and drill **ONE** of the holes using a 1/4” drill bit. Realign the panel by placing a provided 1/4-20 x 3/4” through the hole and threading the nylock nut and washer onto the back. **See Photo 7.**
13. Place the armor panel back up against the body of your Jeep and install the supplied 1/4-20 x 3/4” bolts, 1/4” flat washer, and 1/4-20 nylock nut and tighten until snug. It is recommended to apply a lubricant to the threads of the bolts to prevent them from galling.
14. Mark and drill the remaining holes while making sure the armor panels is held firmly against the body.
15. Remove the panel and clean any metal shavings produced from drilling. It is also recommended to paint any exposed metal to prevent rust. **See Photo 8.**





16. After all holes are drilled and the panel is cleaned up, remove the tape and begin installing and tightening all bolts to 14 lb-ft using an 11mm wrench for the inside nuts, and a 4mm Allen wrench on the outside bolts. It is recommended to install the top corners followed by the bottom corners to ensure the armor is pulled to the contour of the Jeep properly. It is also recommended to use RTV around the perimeter and around bolt holes to prevent rust from forming. **See Photos 9 & 10.**
17. Install the fuel door armor using the same process as in previous steps. You will use the (2) supplied 1/4” x 5/8” bolts, washers and nuts on the fuel door.





10. Repeat this process on the passenger side.

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