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Rough Country 51162 Installation Instructions

Hidden Winch Mount for Ford F-150 4WD V8 (2021-2025)

Part number: 51162

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Scan for fitment, price and install help

ROUGH COUNTRY
SUSPENSION SYSTEMS®

2021 - Up F150 V8 Hidden Winch

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for all of your suspension needs.

Rough Country recommends that 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 all the instructions before beginning the installation. Check the kit hardware against the ''Kit Contents'' list below. If question exist, please call us @1-800-222-7023. We will be happy to answer any questions concerning this product. Check all fasteners for proper torque. Check to ensure for adequate clearance between all components. Check and retighten wheels at 50 miles and again at 500 miles. Periodically check all hardware for tightness. Be sure you have all the needed parts and understand where they go. Also, please review the "Tools Needed" list to be certain you have the necessary tools to complete the installation.

NOTICE TO DEALER AND VEHICLE OWNER

⚠WARNING Any vehicle equipped with any Rough country product must have the "Warning to Driver" decal installed on the sun visor or dash. The decal is to act as a constant reminder for whoever is operating the vehicle of its unique handling characteristics. INSTALLING DEALER—It is your responsibility to install the warning decal and to forward these installation instructions on too the vehicle owner for review and to be kept in the vehicle for its service life.



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2021 - Up F150 V8 Hidden Winch

TOOLS NEEDED
Jack
Wheel Chocks
Side Cutters
Phillips Head Driver

Cutting tools
Air Body Saw
Air cut off Disc

Wrench / Sockets
21mm
19mm
18mm
16mm
15mm
12mm
10mm
8mm Hex Wrench

KIT CONTENTS:
Winch Tray
Fairlead Mount
Filler Panel
Winch Cable Extension

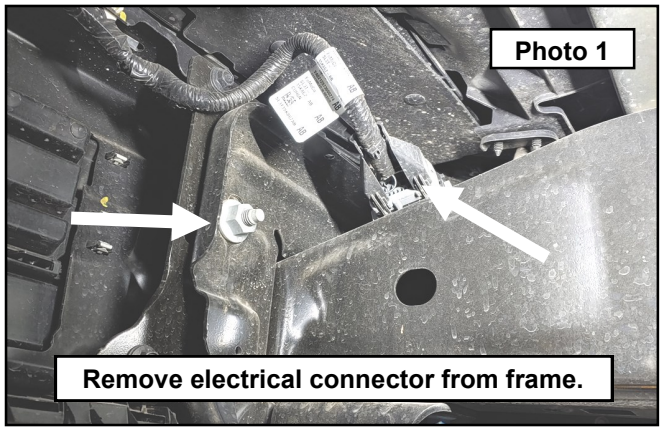
HARDWARE INCLUDED:
12mm Bolt (4)
12mm Button Head Bolt (2)
12mm Washer (4)
12mm Flange Nut (4)
Phillips Head Screw (2)
Zip Tie (10)

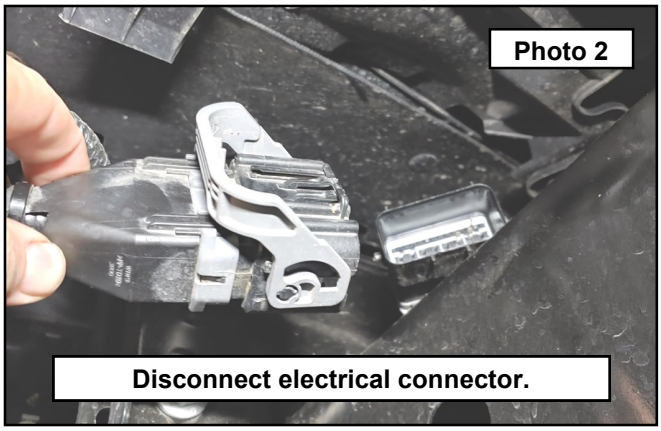


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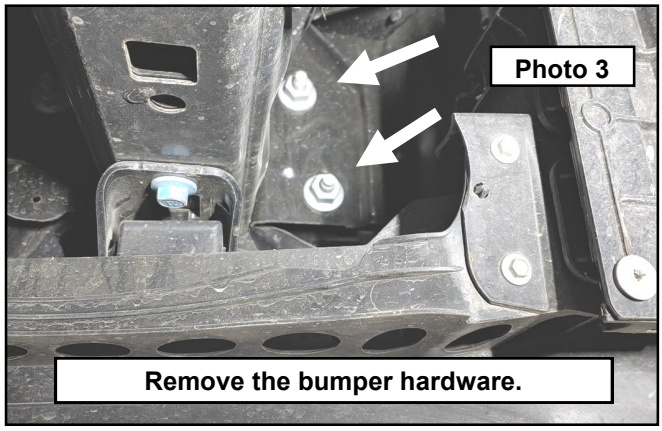
Hidden Winch Installation

1. Park your vehicle on a clean flat surface, engage the parking brake and block the rear tires.
2. **Save all hardware removed from the vehicle unless otherwise noted.**
3. Open the hood and disconnect the negative and terminal on the battery.
4. Locate the electrical connector on the passenger side frame rail for the bumper and disconnect. **Photo 1 / Photo 2**



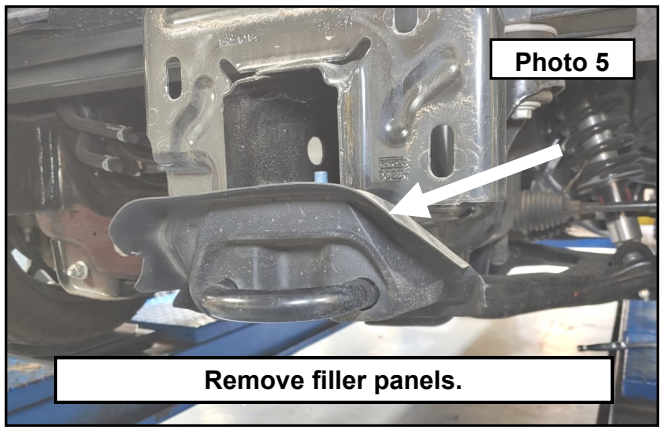


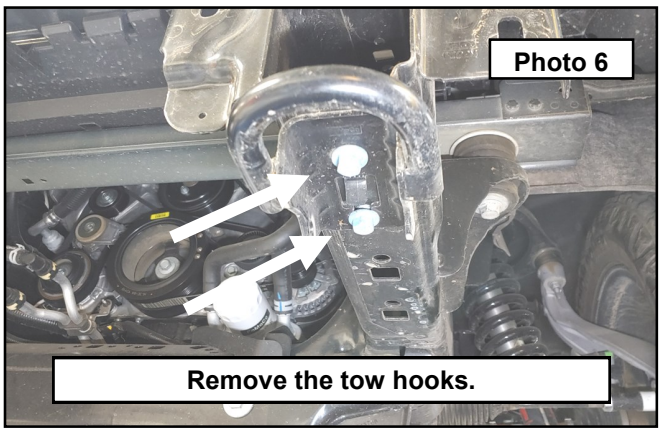
5. Remove the hardware holding the bumper to the frame using a 21mm socket at 6 locations while an assistant holds the bumper. Pull the bumper down and away from the frame. **Photo 1 / 3**
6. Set the bumper on a protected surface face up. **Photo 4**



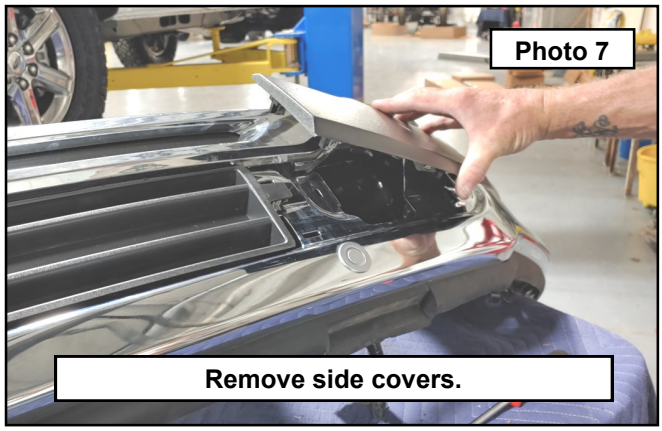


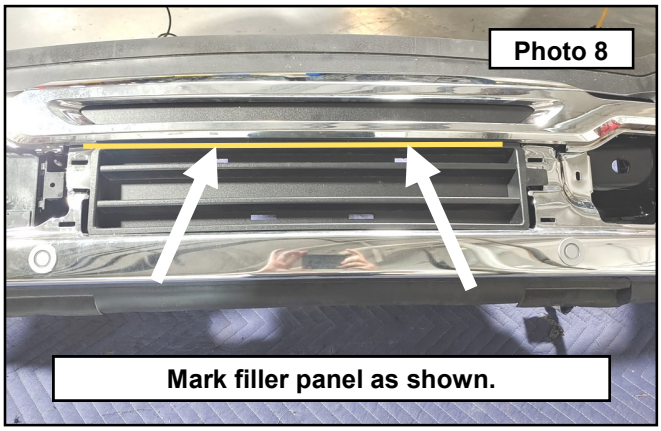
7. Remove the filler panel from the tow hooks by pulling down at the back and away from the hook. **Photo 5**
8. Remove the tor hooks using a 15mm wrench. **Photo 6**



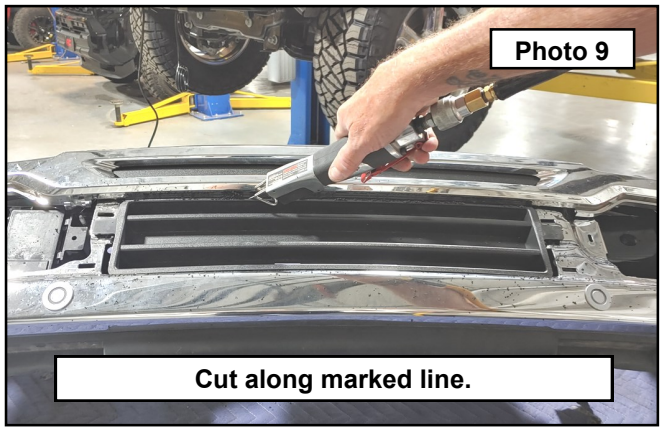


9. Remove the plastic side covers from the bumper by pulling up and away releasing its clips. **Photo 7**
10. Mark the lower edge of the plastic filler panel as shown 1/8” above the bottom lip. There is a recess in the back of the panel that your blade will follow. You will need to cut this section out for the fairlead to pass through the bumper. **Photo 8**



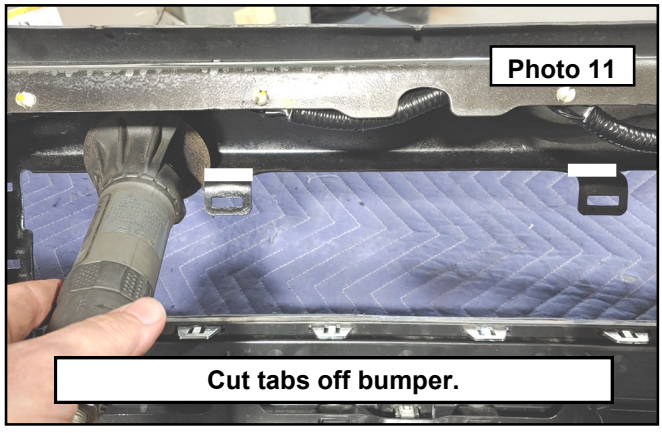


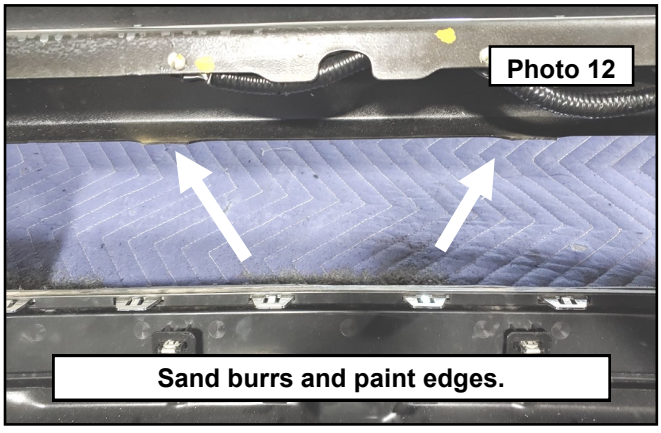
11. Use a suitable cutting tool (air body saw shown) to cut along the marked line. **Photo 9**
12. Remove cut portion of the plastic filler panel by pulling it free of the clips and sand any burrs smooth. **Photo 10**



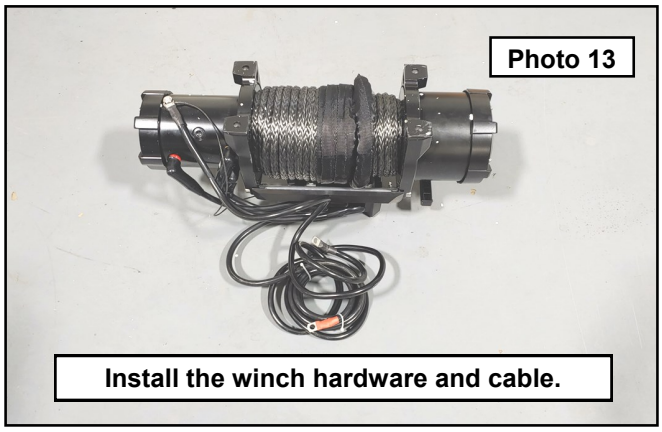


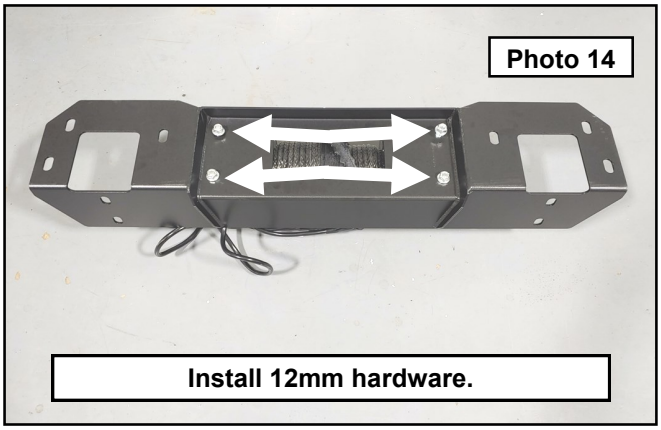
13. Flip the bumper over and use a suitable cutting tool (air cut off tool shown) to cut off the metal tabs that held the plastic panel in place. Cut straight across the tab where it meets the front edge of the bumper. **Photo 11**
14. Sand any burrs and paint exposed metal with a rust preventative paint. **Photo 12**



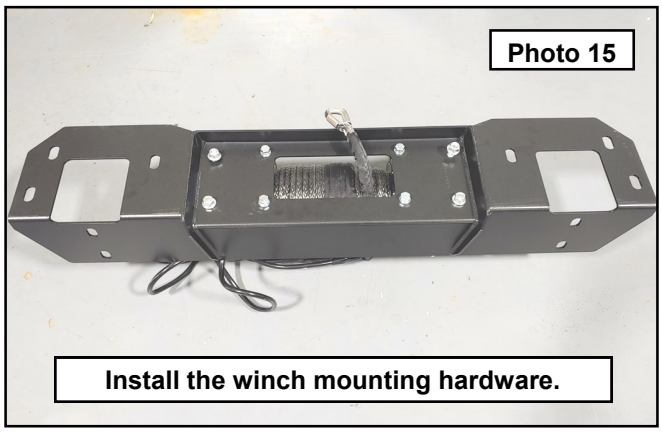


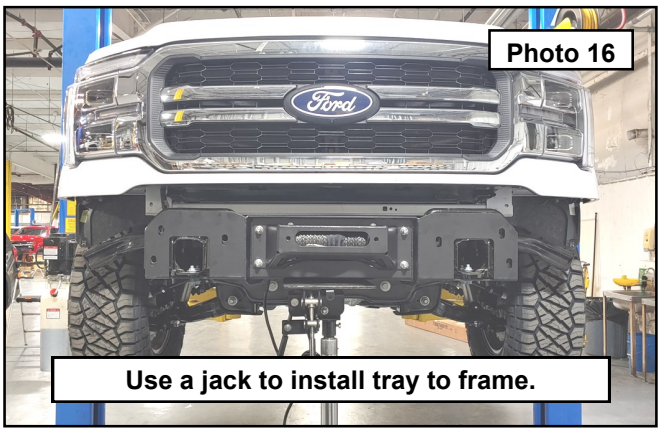
15. Lay the winch onto its controller box with feet up as shown. Insert the provided square nuts into the feet of the winch. Install the negative cable to the terminal on the bottom of the winch motor. **Photo 13**
16. Install the provided 12mm bolts, washers and flange nuts into the outer mounting holes for the fairlead with the bolt head towards the winch. Do not tighten at this time. This is done now to allow clearance between the hardware and the winch body. Set the winch tray onto the winch feet. **Photo 14**



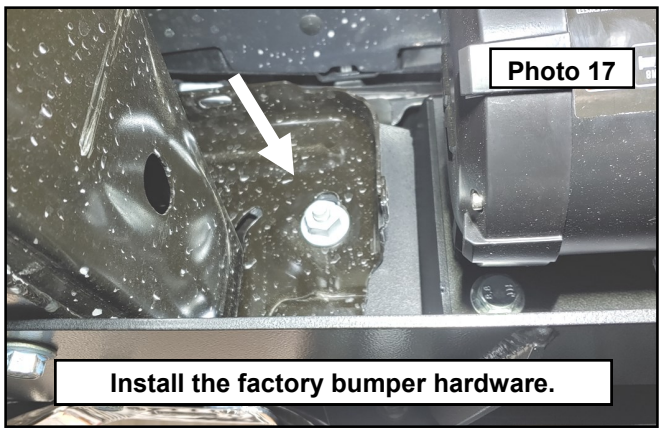


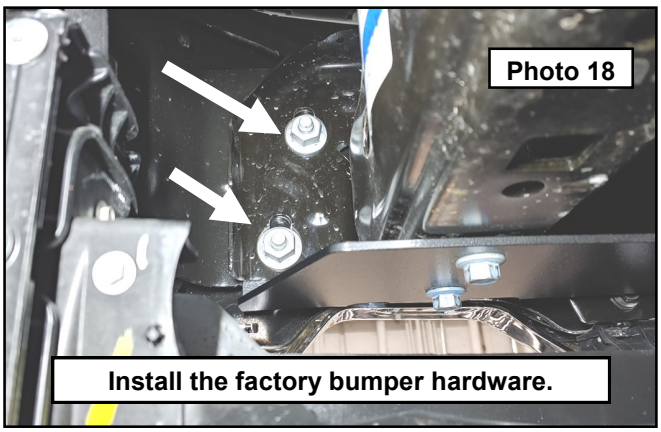
17. Install the winch to the winch tray using the provided 10mm bolts, lock washers, and flat washers from the winch box with 16mm socket. Torque to 35 ft-lbs. **Photo 15**
18. Remove the tow hook hardware from the frame. Look into the frame end and make sure the nut plate is centered with the holes in the frame. Use a jack to raise and hold the winch tray assembly up to the frame of the vehicle. Install the lower tow hook mounting hardware by starting each bolt first to keep the nut plate in place. Center the winch assembly in the frame and tighten the tow hook hardware making sure the front mounting flanges are resting against the frame horns and the bumper mounting holes line up. With the winch assembly in place, install the fairlead mount using the 12mm hardware you previously placed in the tray. Center the fairlead and torque hardware to 65 ft-lbs. **Photo 16**





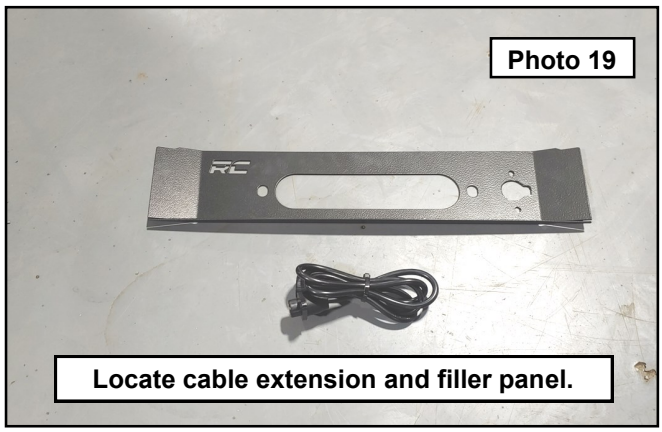
19. Use an assistant to help install the bumper back to the frame using the stock hardware. Center the bumper and torque the hardware to 65 ft-lbs. **Photo 17 / 18**

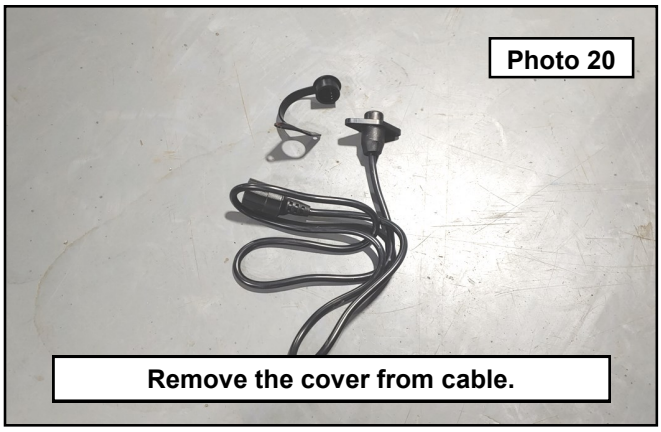




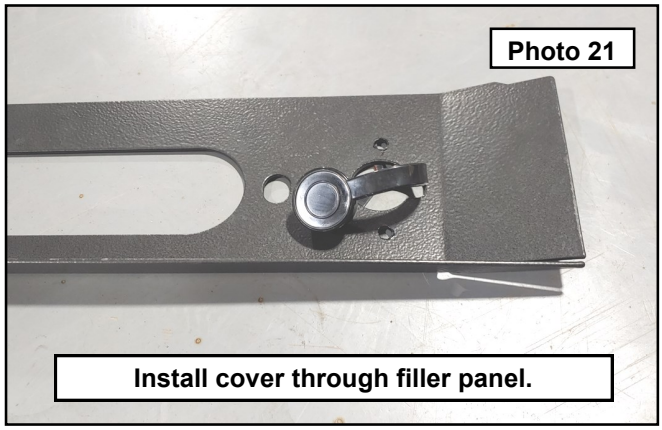
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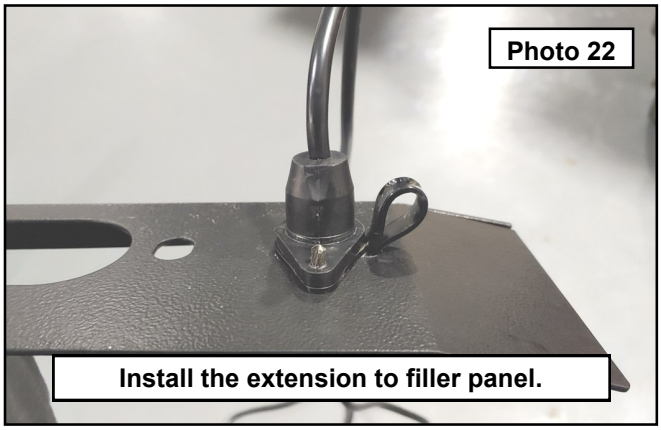
20. Locate the winch cable extension and filler panel. **Photo 19**
21. Remove the cover from the extension. **Photo 20**



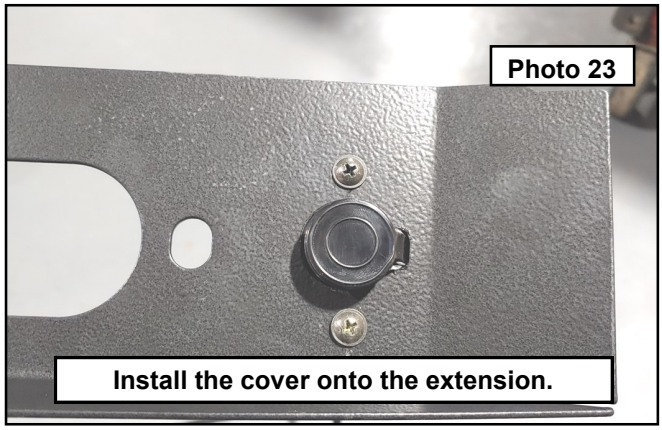


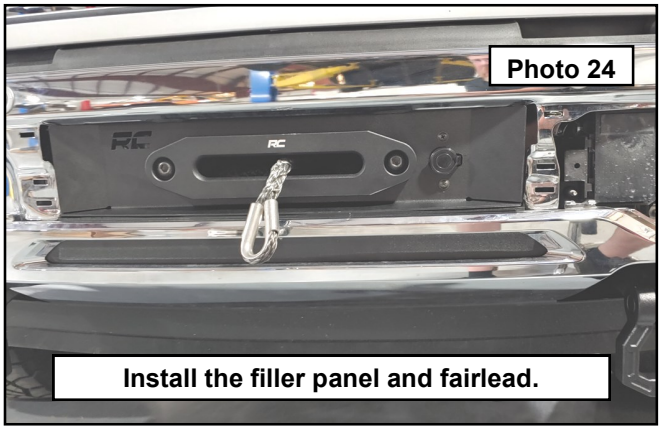
22. Install cover through the hole in the filler panel so the cap is on the face side. **Photo 21**
23. Install the extension to the filler panel using the provided Phillips head screws. Make sure the cover is pinched between the extension and filler panel. **Photo 22**





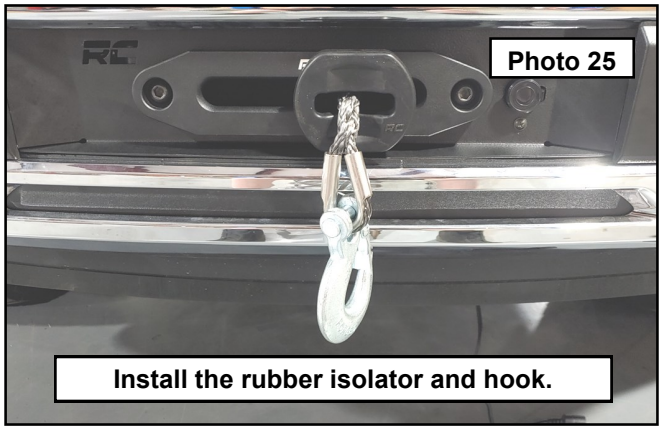
24. Install the cover onto the extension. **Photo 23**
25. Route the extension over the winch tray and pass the winch rope through the filler panel and fairlead. Install the filler panel and fairlead to the fairlead mount using the provided 12mm button head bolts and 8mm Hex wrench. Torque to 35 ft-lbs. **Photo 24**

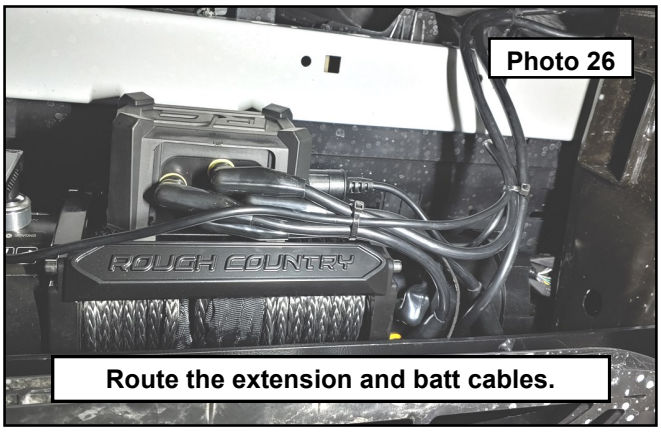




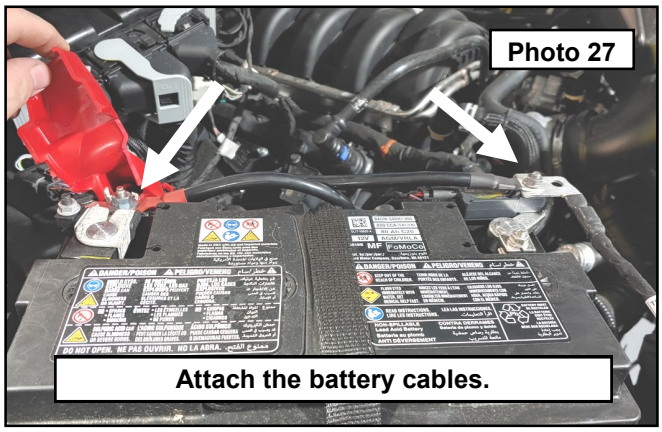
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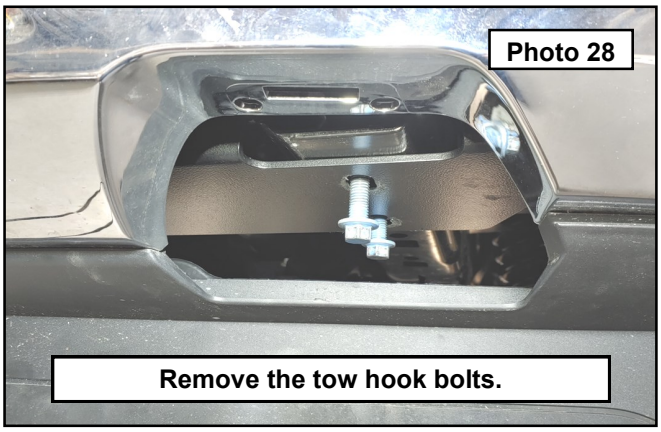
26. Install the rubber isolator and hook to the winch rope. **Photo 25**
27. Route the extension to the control box and plug into the connector while avoiding moving parts. Zip tie along the way. Route the battery cables up into the engine bay on the passenger side to the battery. **Photo 26**



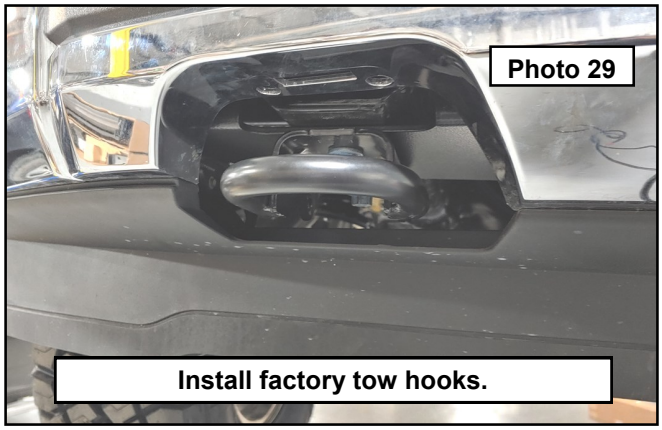


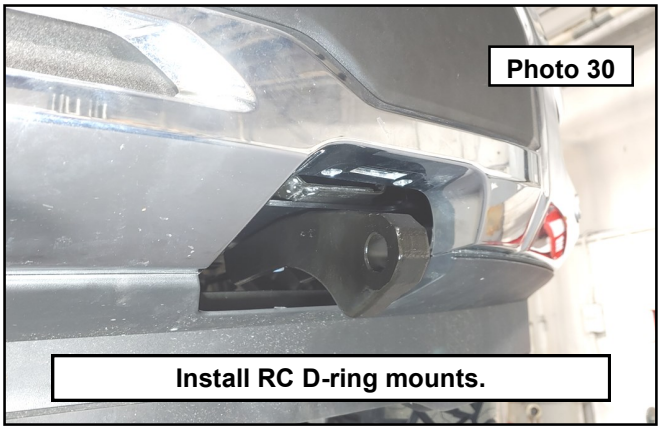
28. Attach the positive and negative cables of the winch to the battery terminals. Zip tie the cables out of harms way. **Photo 27**
29. Loosen the rear tow hook bolts, remove the front tow hook bolts. **Photo 28**





30. Install the factory tow hooks if intended or install the Rough Country D-ring mounts (Part # RS158). Torque the hardware to 45 ft-lbs. If the nut plate has moved, use the rear bolt to rotate back into place. **Photo 29 / 30**





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31. Install D-ring of choice. Rough Country forged D-rings (Part #RS118) shown with Isolator washers (Part #101). **Photo 31**
32. Plug the winch controller into the plug and test the winch operation. Your winch rope does not come pre-stretched and will need to be done before use. If you do not know how to do so, please look up how to pre-stretch winch rope on the internet. **Photo 32**

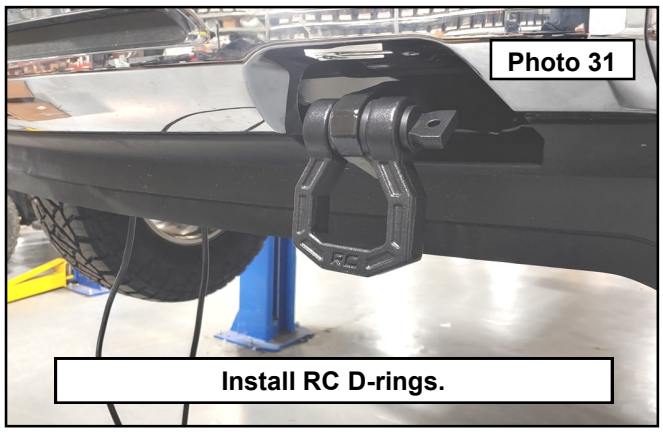




IMAGE
COMING SOON

By purchasing any item sold by Rough Country, LLC, the buyer expressly warrants that he/she is in compliance with all applicable , State, and Local laws and regulations regarding the purchase, ownership, and use of the item. It shall be the buyers responsibility to comply with all Federal, State and Local laws governing the sales of any items listed, illustrated or sold. The buyer expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Rough Country, LLC for all claims resulting directly or indirectly from the purchase, ownership, or use of the items.

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