

ecoHITCH - Designed Specifically For Your **Green Vehicle**

Installation Instructions

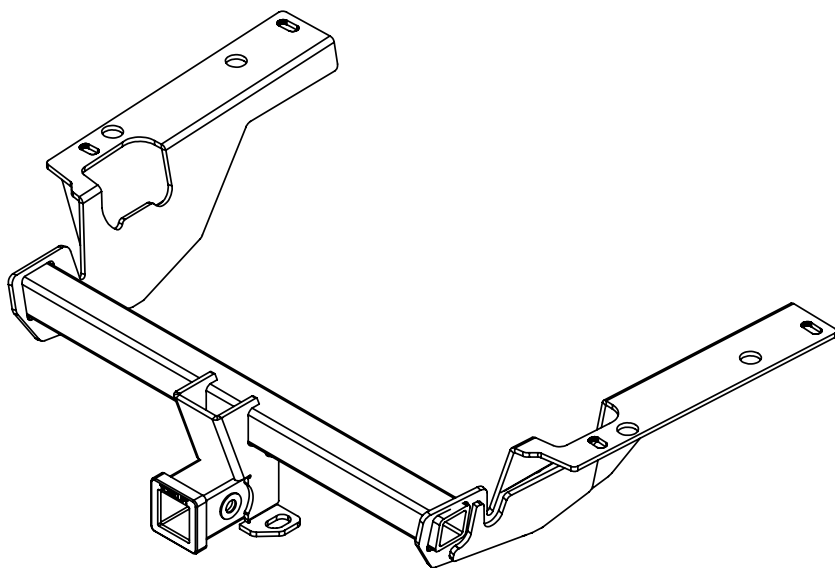
Application Fits
2014+ Subaru Forester
X7216 & X7217

2" & 1.25" EcoHitch Stealth
350 lbs. Tongue Weight/3,500 lbs. Towing Weight

THERE ARE **TWO VERSIONS** INCLUDED FOR INSTALLATION.

VERSION 1: REQUIRES BUMPER REMOVAL. **Start On Page 2.**

VERSION 2: REQUIRES HOLE ENLARGEMENT. **Start On Page 6.**



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QTY	Fastener
8	1/2" Flat Washer
4	1/2" Lock Washer
4	1/2" Internal Star Lock Washer
4	1/2"-13 Grade 5 Nut
4	1/2"-13 x 2" Grade 5 Hex Bolts
4	1/2"D-1x2 Plate Washer
1	1/2" Bolt Fisher

Version 1: BUMPER REMOVAL METHOD

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY AND ACCOUNT FOR ALL HARDWARE LISTED BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION!

Step 1. Remove the tail light assemblies by releasing the bolts and clips shown in Figure [1], then slide the light assembly rearward. Disconnect the wire connector to completely remove the tail light assembly.

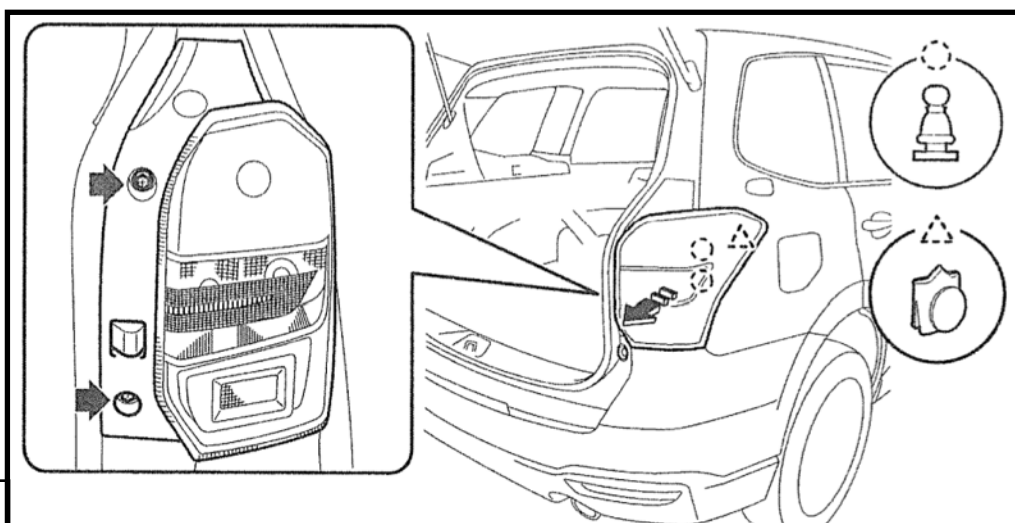


Fig. [1]

Step 2. Remove the clips inside the wheel housing by pushing in on the center button and then pulling the whole clip out. Remove the (6) push pin clips along the underside of the bumper fascia using a flathead screwdriver or other flat tool.

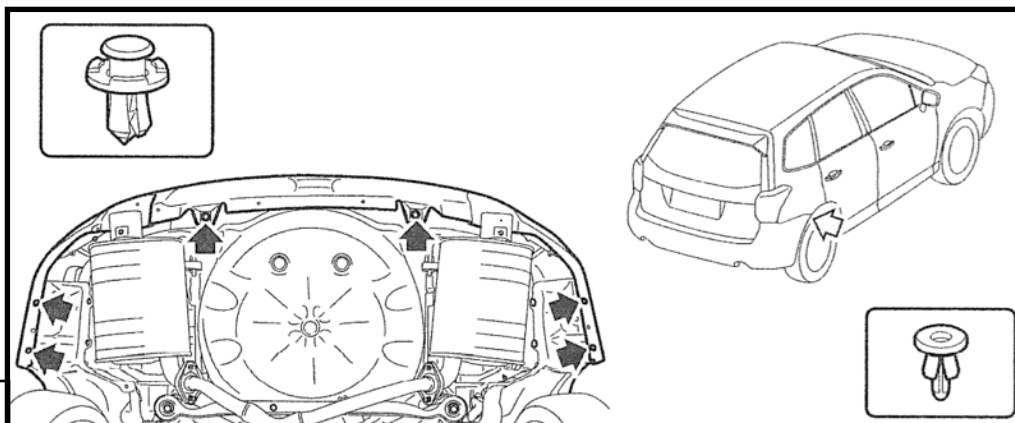


Fig. [2]

Step 3. Starting at the passenger side wheel well, begin gently peeling the bumper fascia away from the vehicle at point (b) while lifting at point (a). Work your way around to the rear of the vehicle. Once your reach point (f), begin pulling rearward. Detach the driver side in the same manner as the passenger side to finish removing the bumper fascia.

NOTE: It may be helpful to have an assistant hold the bumper fascia during removal to avoid damage.

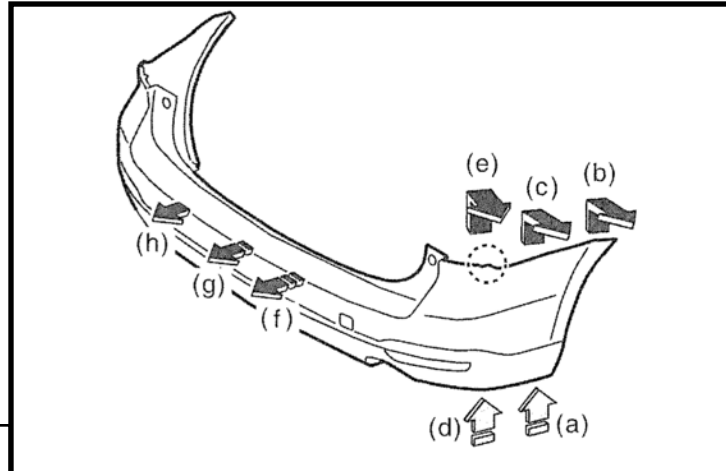


Fig. [3]

Step 4. Remove the nuts and bolts securing the impact bar to the vehicle and then remove the impact bar.

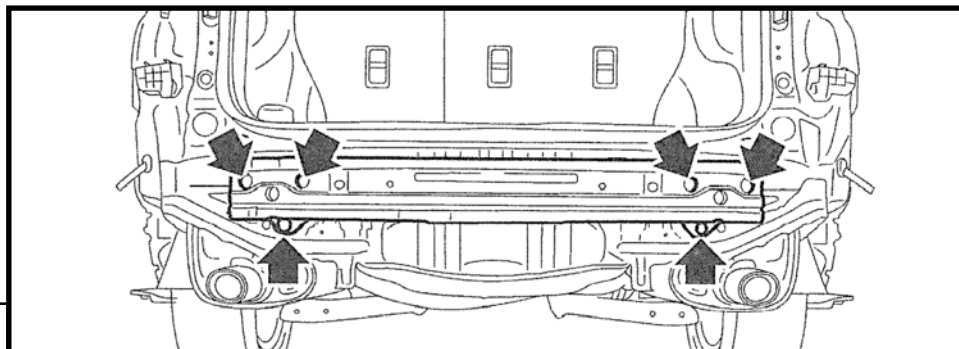


Fig. [4]

Step 5. Lower the exhaust by removing the rubber exhaust bungs using a lubricant such as WD-40 or equivalent. Support the exhaust with a stand or jack.

DO NOT LET EXHAUST HANG FREELY.

NOTE: If your vehicle has dual exhaust you must lower both sides.

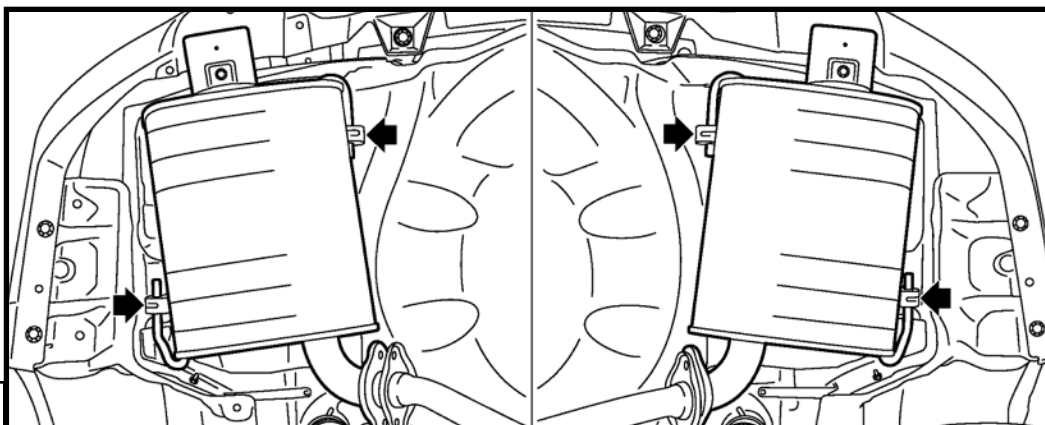


Fig. [5]

Step 6. Remove exhaust heat shields and trim portions shown in Figure [6] & [7].



Fig. [6]



Fig. [7]

Step 7. Remove the rubber frame rail plugs shown in Figure [8] and discard.



Fig. [8]

Step 8. Feed the coil end of the supplied 1/2" bolt fisher through the forward most hole and out the impact bar opening. Attach (1) 1/2"x2" bolt, (1) 1/2" star lock washer, and (1) 1x2 plate washer to the coil end of the bolt fisher and pull the assembly into place. Repeat on remaining (3) unplugged holes then reinstall exhaust heat shields leaving out the screws along the frame rail portion. See Figure [9].

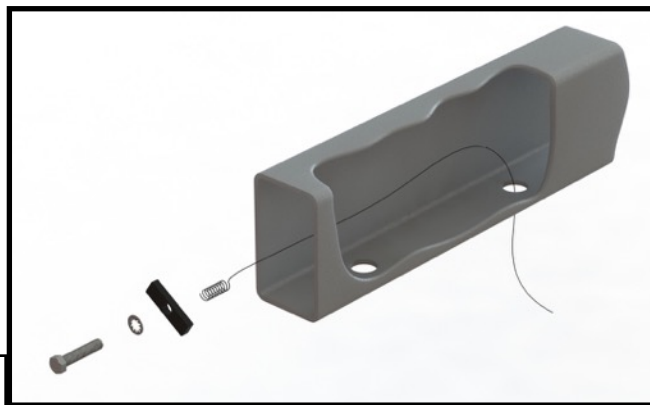


Fig. [9]

Step 9. Bend the (2) metal bumper fascia tabs forwards to allow room for the hitch to be installed. Raise the hitch into position on the hanging hardware and secure with (2) 1/2" flat washers, (1) 1/2" lock washer, and (1) 1/2" nut. Hand tighten all hardware and bend the metal bumper fascia tabs back into position.

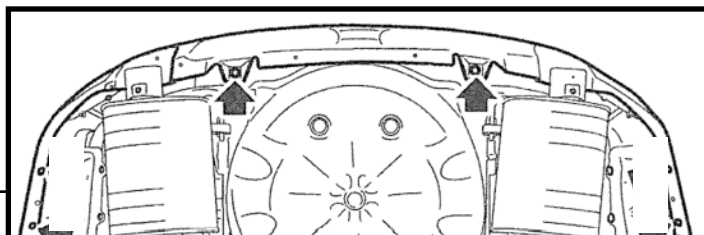


Fig. [10]

Step 10. Trim the bumper fascia as shown in Figure [11] or [12] for your EcoHitch model size.

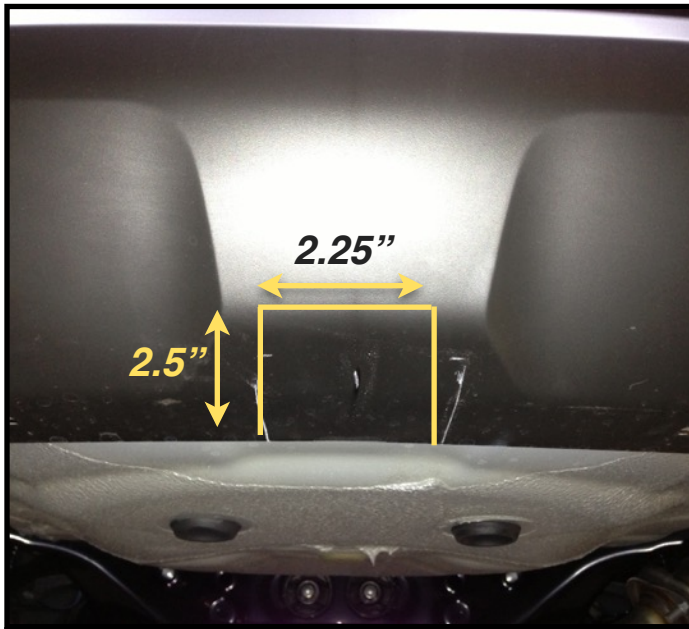


Fig. [11]

1.25" (X7217)

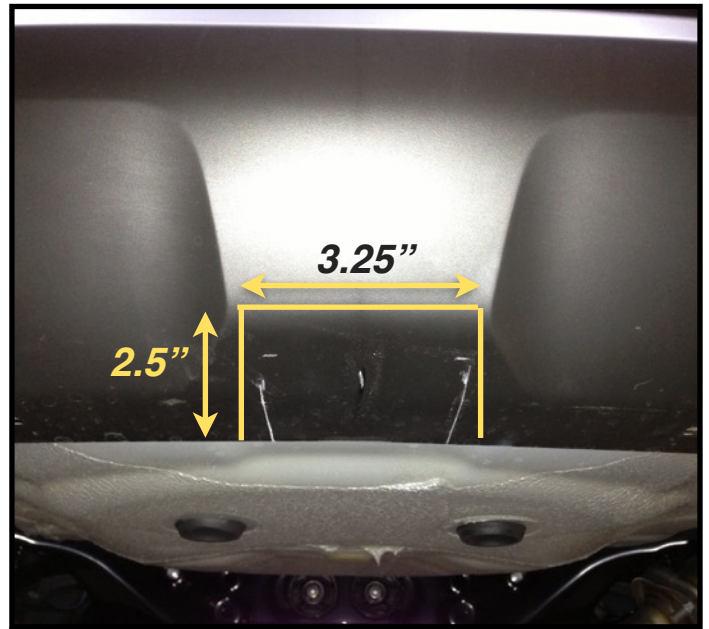


Fig. [12]

2" (X7216)

Step 11. Reinstall the impact bar, torquing the removed nuts and bolts to 52 ft-lbs. Reinstall the bumper fascia and tail light assemblies following the same method of removal.

Step 12. Center the hitch relative to the vehicle in the cut out, then torque all 1/2" hardware to 75 ft-lbs. Reinstall exhaust by re-lubricating the rubber exhaust bungs.

Congratulations on the completed installation of the Subaru Forester Stealth EcoHitch! It is designed with a lifetime warranty for a lifetime of enjoyment. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact our tech support at support@tlcentral.com or by phone at 253 854-1832.

Version 2: HOLE ENLARGEMENT METHOD

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY AND ACCOUNT FOR ALL HARDWARE LISTED BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION!

Step 1. Raise rear of vehicle off of ground and place on ramps or suitable jack stands.

Step 2. Lower the exhaust by removing the rubber exhaust bungs using a lubricant such as WD-40 or equivalent. Support the exhaust with a stand or jack.

DO NOT LET EXHAUST HANG FREELY.

NOTE: If your vehicle has dual exhaust you must lower both sides.

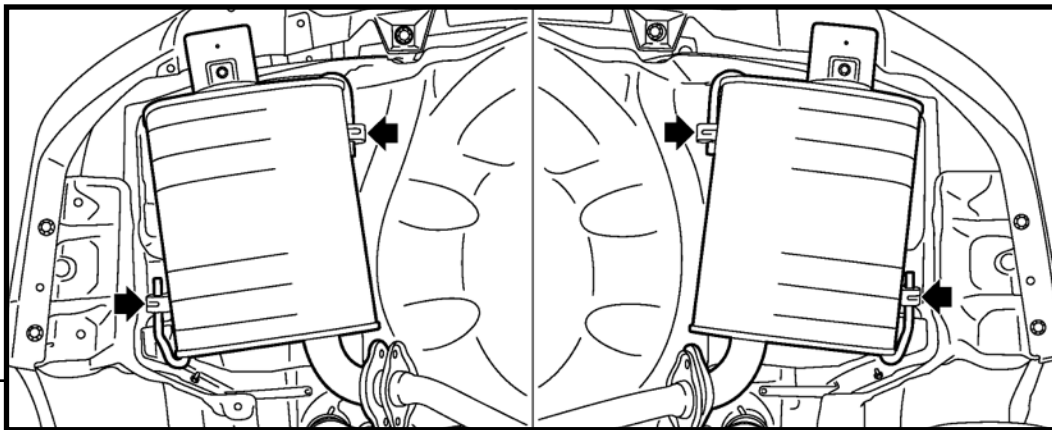


Fig. [1]

Step 3. Trim the bumper fascia as shown in Figure [2] or [3] for your EcoHitch model size.

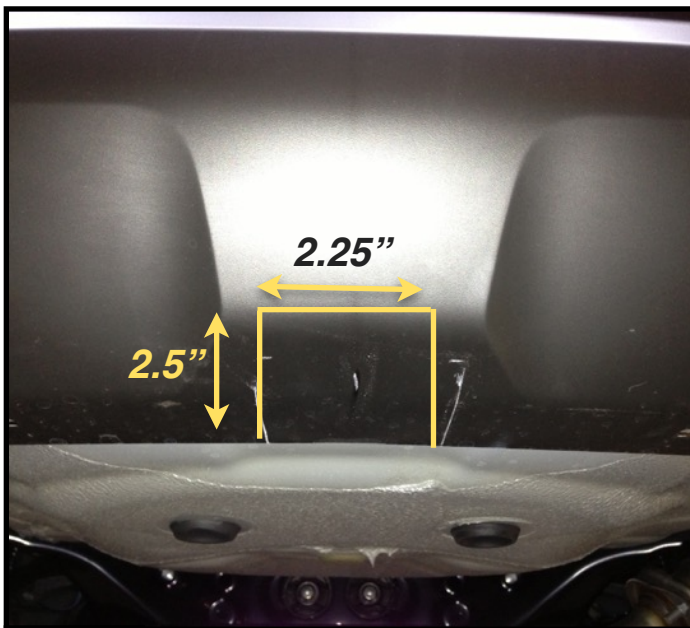


Fig. [2]

1.25" (X7217)

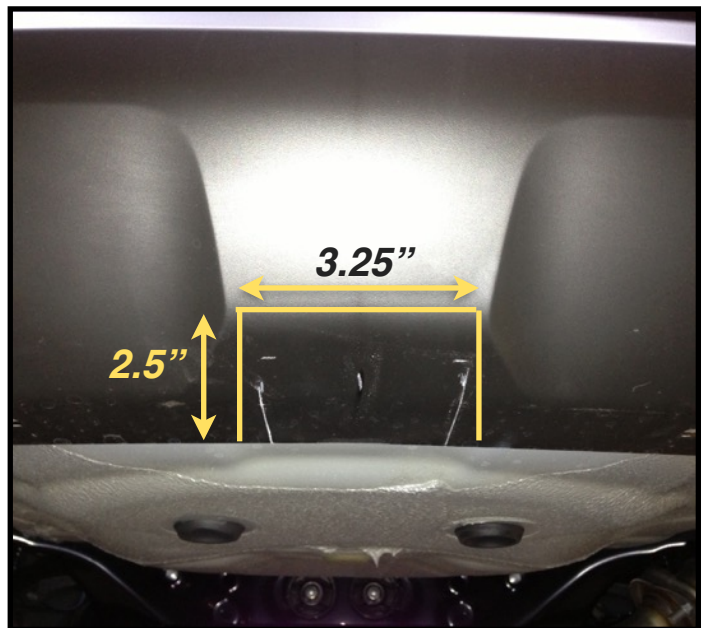


Fig. [3]

2" (X7216)

Step 4. Remove the interior carpet hatch cover and interior styrofoam inserts. Be gentle with removing the styrofoam inserts as the plastic clips are easily broken.



Fig. [4]



Fig. [5]

Step 5. Remove the black sticker located by the arrow on driver and passenger sides in Figure [6]. Using a Dremel or tin snips slightly enlarge the hole as shown to allow for the 1x2 plate washer to fit through the opening. See Figure [7].



Fig. [6]



Fig. [7]

Step 6. Remove exhaust heat shields and trim portions shown in Figure [8] & [9].



Fig. [8]



Fig. [9]

Step 7. Remove the rubber frame rail plugs shown in Figure [10] and discard.



Fig. [10]

Step 8. Feed the wire end of the supplied 1/2" bolt fisher through the enlarged hole and out the rearmost hole in the frame rail below. Attach (1) 1/2"x2" bolt, (1) 1/2" star lock washer, and (1) 1x2 plate washer to the coil end of the bolt fisher and pull the assembly into place. Repeat on remaining (3) unplugged holes then reinstall exhaust heat shields leaving out the screws along the frame rail portion. See Figure [9].

NOTE: You must bolt-fish the rearmost holes first or the second set of hardware may not go into position.

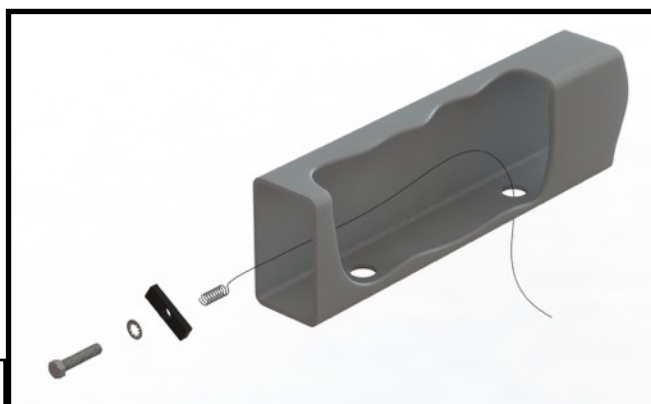


Fig. [9]

Step 9. Remove the (2) plastic push pin clips noted in Figure [10] and bend the (2) metal bumper fascia tabs forward to allow room for the hitch to be installed. Raise the hitch into position on the hanging hardware by pulling back on the plastic bumper fascia slightly and placing the cross tube behind the bumper fascia. Swing the frame plates of the hitch up onto the hardware and secure with (2) 1/2" flat washers, (1) 1/2" lock washer, and (1) 1/2" nut. Be cautious not to push the fished hardware back into the frame rails. Center the hitch relative to the vehicle and torque all 1/2" hardware to 75 ft-lbs. Bend the metal bumper fascia tabs back into position and replace the push pin clips.

NOTE: It may be helpful to have an assistant for this step of the installation.

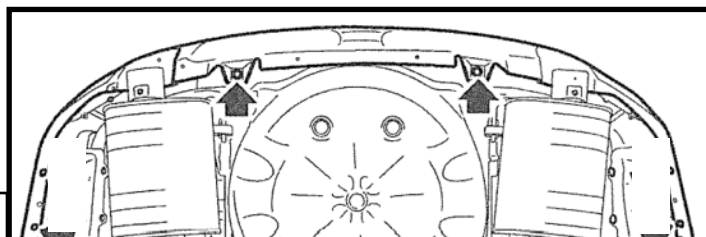


Fig. [10]

Step 10. Reinstall exhaust by re-lubricating the exhaust bungs. Replace the black sticker of the enlarged hole and reinstall interior styrofoam inserts, and carpet liner. If sticker will not adhere, electrical or duct tape will work just as well.

Congratulations on the completed installation of the Subaru Forester Stealth EcoHitch! It is designed with a lifetime warranty for a lifetime of enjoyment. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact our tech support at support@tlcentral.com or by phone at 253 854-1832.



WARRANTY/DISCLAIMER INFORMATION

Torklift Central requires proof of purchase for warranty claim registration, with pictures of any defective product before issuing a replacement. Torklift will not accept claims on any product without proof of purchase, which can be faxed, scanned, emailed or mailed to the information provided below. Torklift Central warrants its hitches, custom hitch receivers and accessories (excluding electrical wire harnesses which carry a warranty from their specified manufacturer) from date of purchase against defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for the ownership life of the original consumer purchaser. Torklift Central will replace free of charge any part that proves defective in material or workmanship when presented to Torklift Central, transportation charges prepaid by purchaser, at the address below. **This warranty is limited to defective parts replacement only. Labor charges and/or damage incurred in installation or replacement, as well as incidental and consequential damages connected therewith are excluded.** This warranty does not include normal wear and tear or the finish and paint. Rusting, cracking or peeling of the finish is also excluded. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. Any damage to Torklift Central products as a result of misuse, abuse, neglect, accident, improper installation or any use violative of instructions furnished by Torklift Central will void the warranty. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have rights, which vary from state to state. With warranty service, you may be able to go to a small claims court, a state court or a federal district court.

Although Torklift Central trailer hitches are both tested and rated for towing within the specific capacity label found on each trailer hitch. Torklift Central assumes no liability for vehicle manufacturers warranty due to the use of a Torklift Central trailer hitch being used for towing behind any vehicle or using the trailer hitch in a manner that it was not designed for. Although this specific trailer hitch has a load rating, which includes trailer tongue weight, and a trailer weight carrying capacity, Torklift Central is not responsible for the voiding of any warranty on any vehicle due to factory towing limitations. All vehicle warranties are the sole property and responsibility of the owner of the vehicle that the Torklift Central trailer hitch is installed upon. Torklift Central does not endorse towing behind any vehicle if the vehicles manufacturer states that towing is not recommended. Check your vehicle's owner's manual for the proper tow rating of your vehicle.

ADDRESS: 315 Central Ave N. Kent, WA 98032

WARNING Your vehicle may have a lower tow rating than this trailer hitch. If your vehicle's tow rating is less than the rated towing capacity on your Torklift Central trailer hitch, your trailer hitch capacity is limited to your vehicle's factory rated towing capacity.

FOR EXAMPLE: the label on your Torklift Central trailer hitch states it's capacity is rated for 500 pounds tongue weight and 5,000 pounds towing weight. However your vehicle's factory rated towing capacity is limited to only 350 pounds tongue weight and 3,500 pounds towing weight. In this example your maximum towing capacity of your Torklift Central trailer hitch is limited to 350 pounds tongue weight and 3,500 pounds towing weight as stated by your vehicle's maximum factory tow rating.

DANGER Never exceed your vehicle's manufacturer's recommended towing capacity which may be a lower rating than this trailer hitch

Unsure of your tow rating? Download our towing app from the app store to find your vehicles tow rating.
www.torkliftcentral.com/app.php