

HITCH, 2" Receiver, Ford Escape, Lincoln Corsair

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

READ ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE INSTALLATION

WARNING: The manufacturer of your vehicle may specify towing capacities lower than the capacities noted below. Never exceed the vehicle manufacturer's recommended towing capacity. Consult your vehicle's owner's manual for the manufacturer's recommended towing capacity for your specific vehicle.

MARNING: Failure to adhere to the exact torque specifications noted in these installation instructions can result in property damage and/or bodily injury. Failure to follow all specifications and instructions will void the hitch warranty.

NOTICE

Always use proper tools and safety equipment to ensure a safe and quality installation. Inspection of the trailer hitch should be performed before and after each use to ensure all mounting hardware is tight and related hitch components are secure.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: Moderate

The installation of this hitch requires fishwiring hardware into location and enlarging holes in the frame rails. Installation difficulty levels are based on the time and effort required. They will vary depending on the installer's expertise. Vehicle condition could be a factor in the level of difficulty for a proper installation.

WEIGHT CARRYING CAPACITY		
Gross Trailer Weight (GTWR)	4,500 LBS	
Tongue Weight (TW)	675 LBS	

WEIGHT DISTRIBUTING CAPACITY		
THIS HITCH IS NOT RATED FOR USE AS A WEIGHT DISTRIBUTING HITCH.		

TOOLS REQUIRED			
SAFETY GLASSES	RATCHET	6" EXTENSION	10mm SOCKET
11mm SOCKET	3/4" SOCKET	TORQUE WRENCH	ROTARY TOOL

INSTALLATION:

- 1. Lower the exhaust by removing the screws securing the two rear-most aluminum exhaust hangers to the frame rail using the 10mm socket and ratchet. On the passenger side, it will be necessary to first remove the nut securing the wiring harness to the aluminum exhaust hanger using the 11mm socket. Ensure that the exhaust is supported before removing any of the hangers to prevent damage to the exhaust system.
- 2. Locate the three fastener holes on the underside of each from rail. The forward-most fastener hole on each side will need to be enlarged for hardware access as well as for alignment with the forward most fastener holes on the hitch. Lift hitch into position to visualize and mark how the forward-most mounting holes in the frame rails will be enlarged (toward the rear of the vehicle) to ensure proper hardware alignment between the hitch and the frame rail.
- 3. Lower the hitch back down from the vehicle and enlarge the forward-most hardware mounting holes on the underside of the frame rails. Using the appropriate fishwire technique, standard technique for the rear-most holes and reverse technique for the hardware access holes, install a 1/2-13 UNC carriage bolt (ITEM 1) and square hole spacer (ITEM 2) into each of the six fastener holes. Leave fishwires secured to the carriage bolts.
- 4. Lift hitch into position, over the exhaust, while feeding the fishwires and then fasteners through their respective mounting holes. Remove the fishwires and thread a 1/2-13 UNC serrated flange nut (ITEM3) onto each of the six protruding screws being careful not to lose the carriage bolts inside the frame rails.

- 5. Secure the six serrated flange nuts (ITEM 3) using the 3/4" socket and ratchet. <u>Torque all six 1/2" fasteners to 110 ft-lb.</u>
- 6. Raise the exhaust back into its correct position and re-secure both aluminum exhaust hangers as well as the passenger side wiring anchor. Be sure to remove whatever means were used to support the exhaust while it was lowered for hitch installation.



