



## HITCH, 2" Receiver, Ford Explorer 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.

**⚠ WARNING:** 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 removal of the rear fascia as well as body panel trimming. 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	
Gross Trailer Weight (GTWR)	5,000 LBS
Tongue Weight (TW)	500 LBS

TOOLS REQUIRED			
RATCHET	TORQUE WRENCH	6" OR 9" EXTENSION	3/4" SOCKET
5/8" SOCKET	18mm SOCKET	19mm SOCKET	SAFETY GLASSES

### INSTALLATION:

1. Lower exhaust by detaching the three rear-most rubber exhaust isolators. Ensure that exhaust is supported before removing any of the isolators to prevent damage to the exhaust system.
2. Remove the two-rear most rubber isolators from the frame mounted rubber isolator hangers on each side. Retain for reinstallation. Remove the two frame mounted rubber isolator hangers from the underside of each frame rail. These hangers and their hardware will not be reinstalled.
3. Remove the towhook bracket from the driver's side frame rail. The towhook and its hardware will not be reinstalled.
4. Install the two rubber exhaust isolators to the hitch, one on each side, using the 7/16" carriage bolts (ITEM 6), 7/16" flat washers (ITEM 7) and 7/16-14 lock nuts (ITEM 8).
5. Locate the two mounting holes with threaded weld nuts on the bottom face of each frame rail. Clean the threads with compressed air and a spray lubricant with tubular wire brush to remove rust and debris. For best results, chase the threads with the correct M12-1.75 metric tap and the spray lubricant.
6. Install the 1/2" carriage bolt (ITEM 3) and square hole spacer (ITEM 4) to the rear most hole in the passenger side frame rail using the reverse fishwire technique, leaving the fishwire attached to the fastener.

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7. Lift the hitch into position while feeding the single fishwire and then the 1/2" carriage bolt through its respective mounting hole in the hitch. Leave the fishwire attached until it is time to install the conical toothed washer and 1/2" lock nut.
8. Secure the hitch to the vehicle with the four M12 hex head screws (ITEM 1) and 1/2" conical toothed washers (ITEM 2) making sure that the teeth of the conical washer are mated with the painted mounting flange of the hitch.
9. Install a 1/2" conical toothed washer (ITEM 2) onto the fishwire and then onto the 1/2" carriage bolt on the passenger side of the vehicle. Remove the fishwire while holding the washer in place and thread the 1/2" hex nut (ITEM 5) onto the protruding screw being careful not to push the fastener up into the frame rail.
10. Torque all M12 fasteners to 79 ft-lb and the 1/2" fastener to 110 ft-lb.
11. Lift the exhaust into its correct position and secure it by attaching the two rear-most rubber exhaust isolators assembled onto the hitch to the exhaust hangers on each muffler. Resecure the third rubber exhaust isolator further forward on the exhaust system.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY
1	M-12 x 1.75 x 40 HEX HEAD SCREW, CL10.9	4
2	Conical Toothed Washer, 1/2"	5
3	1/2-13 UNC x 1-1/2 CARRIAGE BOLT	1
4	1/2" SQUARE HOLE, RECT. WASHER	1
5	Hex Nut, 1/2-13 UNC	1
6	7/16-14 x 2-1/2" Carriage Bolt	2
7	7/16" Flat Washer	2
8	7/16-14 LOCK NUT	2
9	1/2" x 20" FISHWIRE	1

