

BLUE OX®

Baseplates

BX3521

2005 Suzuki Forenza

Installation Instructions

Serial Number

Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Instructions before attempting to install or operate this equipment.

- Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment necessary and knowledge

to do “fit work”. When necessary Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at www.blueox.us or by contacting our 24/7 Customer Care Department at (402) 385-3051 or toll free (888) 425-5382.

- Many Blue Ox® Baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware specified in the Baseplate Installation Instructions.

Attachment Tab Height: 13.5”

Attachment Tab Width: 24”

Confirm the towability and pre-towing procedures for your vehicle with the owner’s manual or contact the vehicle’s manufacturer for specific towing procedures. You can also contact REMCO for additional information at 1(800)228-2481.



Bolt Torque Specifications

Torque in Foot-Pounds per Metric Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117

Bolt Torque Specifications

Torque in Foot-Pounds per Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4”	10	14
5/16”	19	29
3/8”	33	47
7/16”	54	78
1/2”	78	119
5/8”	154	230

! WARNING

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

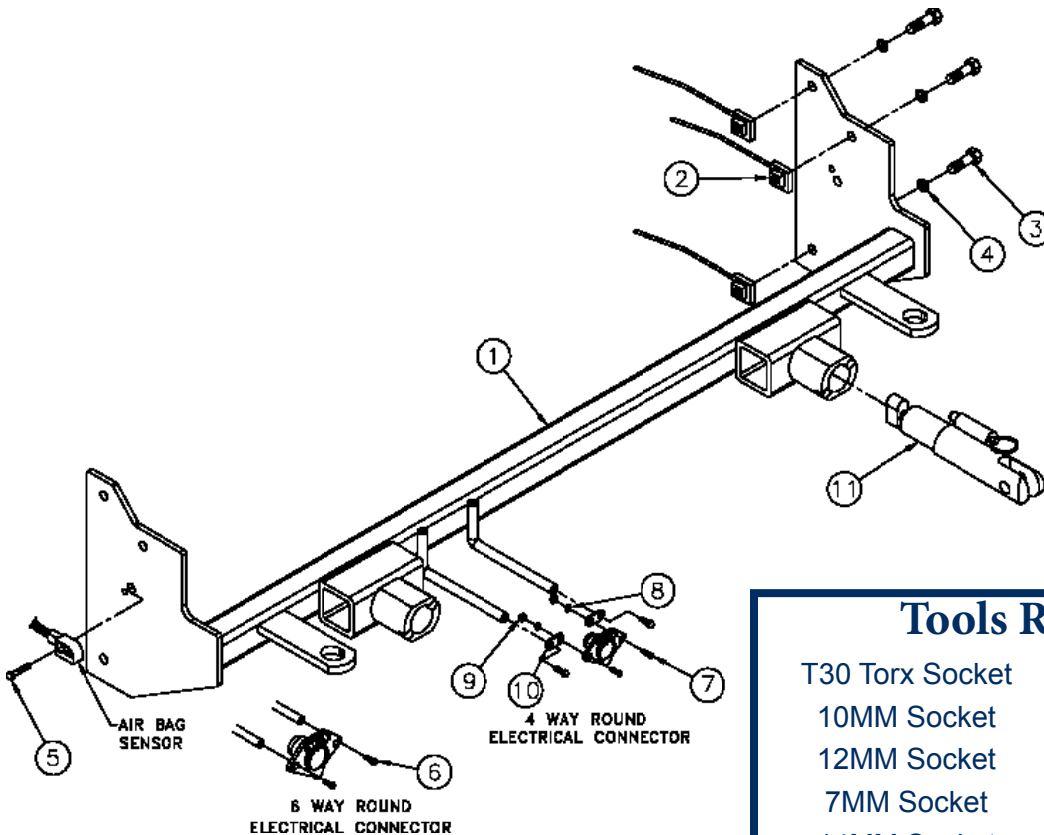
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Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part #	Description
1	1	61-6205	Weldment, Baseplate, BX3521
2	6	61-5208	Weldment, 3/8-16 Nutplate, w/ 14" Wire
3	6	201-0440	3/8-16 x 1 1/2" Hex Bolt, Grd. 5, ZP
4	6	203-0010	3/8" Lock Washer, ZP
5	2	201-0655	6MM -1.0 x 30MM Hex Bolt, Grd. 8.8, ZP
6	2	201-0979	#12-14 x 1" Self Drilling Screw, ZP
7	2	201-0192	#10-32 x 1/2" Slot, Rd. Hd. Screw
8	2	203-0054	#10 Lock Washer
9	2	202-0047	#10-32 Hex Nut
10	2	101-5822	Adapter, 4 Way Connector
11	2	62-3468	Attachment, Assembly, SF/SB (R)
12	2	290-0437	Cap Plug, Black (Not Shown)



Tools Required

T30 Torx Socket	1 1/4" Hole Saw
10MM Socket	Phillips Screwdriver
12MM Socket	Hammer
7MM Socket	Hack Saw Blade
14MM Socket	Large Vise Grips
9/16" Socket	Loctite® RED
13/32" Drill Bit	

Important:

Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do NOT substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor, or call our 24/7 Customer Care Team at (402)385-3051.

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Removable Tabs:

Due to the design of the removable tabs, the RangeFinder II tow bar can not be used. Adapters, except the BX8833 and the BX88151, can not be used with this baseplate

Installation Instructions:

The fascia, metal bumper, the air bag sensor, and headlight assemblies are removed and reinstalled during installation of the baseplate. Drilling is required. Trimming of the fascia is required.

Some vehicles fascias may need trimming. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturer's tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods, and/ or bending end plates.

The BX8869 Bulb and Socket Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.



1. Remove four Phillips screws from the plastic above the radiator. Set screws aside to be reinstalled later.



2. Using a 10MM socket, remove two metric bolts from the top of the headlight assembly. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to reinstall later.



3. Using a 10MM socket, remove the metric nut on the stud found behind the headlight assembly and just below the temperature sensor. Pull the headlight assembly forward to remove. Disconnect electrical connections. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set nuts and headlight assemblies aside to reinstall later.

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4. Using a 10MM socket, remove a metric bolt found near where the fascia and fender meet (see white arrow in photo). Remove the Phillips head pushpin found under the headlight assembly near the top of the fascia (see grey arrow in photo). Set bolts and pushpins aside to reinstall later.



5. Just forward of the front tire, inside the wheel well, remove two metric bolts using a 7MM socket.



6. Pull back wheel well cover near the top of the fascia to expose a metric bolt (as indicated by the white arrow in the photo) to remove from the fascia. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to reinstall later.



7. Just forward of the front tire, on the bottom side of fascia, remove two metric bolts using a 7MM socket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to reinstall later.

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8. Remove the Phillips pushpin found near the tie down bracket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set pushpins aside to reinstall later. Driver's side is shown in photo.



9. Remove two Phillips screws from the top of the grille. Lift the grille up and then forward to gain enough clearance to access the tabs behind it (next step). Set screws aside to reinstall later.



10. Locate and lift on the four tabs found behind the grille. Doing this releases the tabs from their clips. Pull grille forward to remove. Set grille carefully aside to reinstall later.



11. Remove two Phillips pushpins found immediately behind the upright portion of the fascia that had surrounded the center section of grille. Set pushpins aside to reinstall later.

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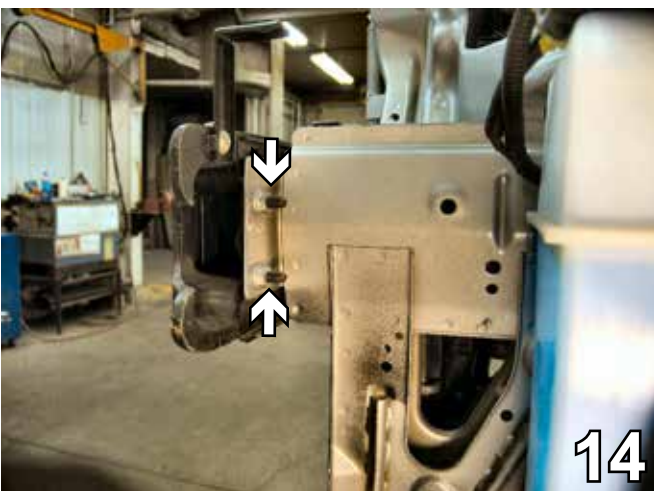


12. Remove two pushpins on the bottom side of the fascia that are secured underneath the metal bumper. Pull the fascia forward to remove. Set fascia aside to reinstall later. The pushpins are not able to be reinstalled later.



13. Using a T30 Torx socket, remove the metric bolt securing the air bag sensor. Move the air bag sensor out of the way to clear the area for drilling later. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to reinstall later.

BE SURE TO USE LOCTITE® RED ON ALL BOLTS BEFORE TIGHTENING. TIGHTEN ALL BOLTS ACCORDING TO THE TORQUE CHART ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR ON PAGE 3 OF THE BASEPLATE TOWING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.



14. Using a 14MM socket, remove the two hex nuts behind the bumper just outside of the frame. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set hex nuts aside to reinstall later.

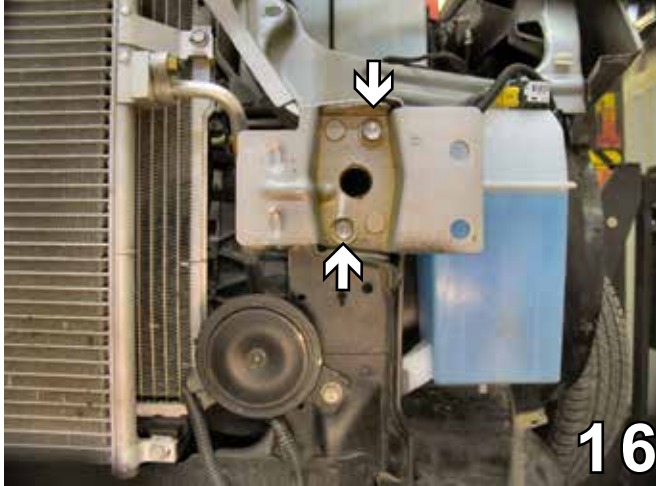


15. Using a 14MM socket, remove the metric bolt on top of the metal bumper – just inside of the frame rail. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Pull the metal bumper forward to remove. Set bolts and bumper aside to reinstall later.

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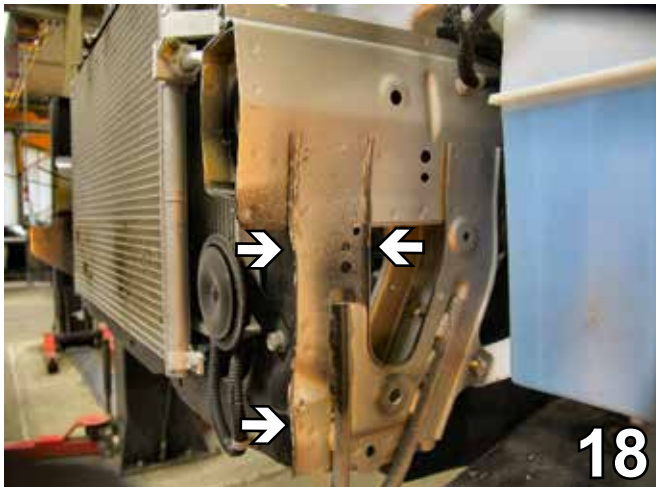
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16. Using a 12MM socket, remove two metric bolts from the bumper bracket at the front of the frame rail. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Pull plate forward to remove. It is important that this plate be oriented in the same position later. Label the top of each plate now for easier orientation when reinstalling. Set bolts and plates aside to be reinstalled later.

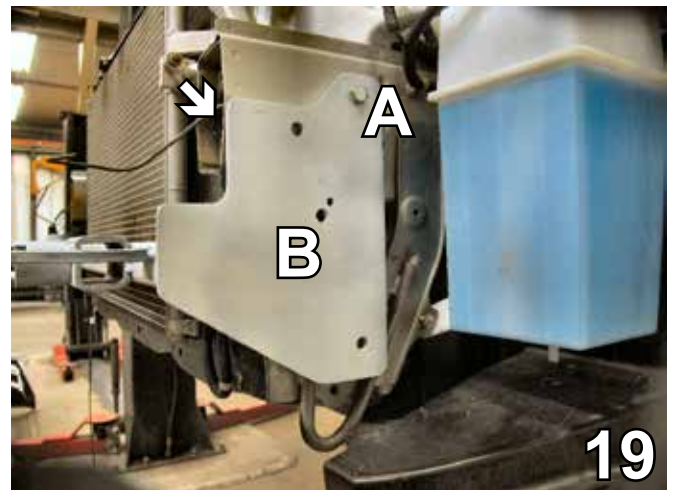


17. Using a 1 ¼" hole saw, enlarge the center hole found at the opening of the frame rail. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. As an anti-corrosive measure, apply some paint around the perimeter of the hole after drilling.



18. Make a small cut in the ribs of the tie down brace – at the bottom of the frame rail, as indicated by the arrows in the photo above. From those points, flatten both sides of the brace, moving upward to the top of the brace. Bend the lower portion of tie down brace's rib so that it lies flat. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

The baseplate is painted white for illustrative purposes ONLY. The actual baseplate has a durable, black powder coat finish.



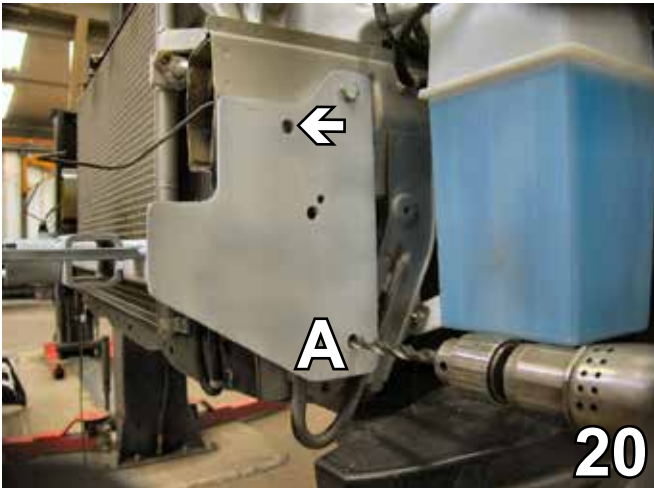
19. Position the baseplate so its upper most hole aligns with the pre-existing hole of the frame rail (A). The bolt hole near the middle of the baseplate should align with the air bag sensor bolt hole (B). The baseplate should be flush with the edge of the frame rail opening, as indicated by the white arrow. Guide a 3/8-16 nut plate through the frame rail opening and align with the upper bolt hole. Insert 3/8-16 x 1 ½" hex bolt with 3/8" lock washer and tighten to nut plate. Cut the excess nut plate wire so that it is flush with the frame rail. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

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20. Using the baseplate as a template, drill one hole into the frame rail, as indicated by the arrow in the photo above, and another into the tie down bracket (A) using a 13/32" drill bit. Guide a 3/8-16 nut plates through the frame rail opening and align with upper bolt hole. Insert 3/8-16 x 1 1/2" hex bolts with 3/8" lock washers and tighten to nut plate. Locate an opening at the front of the vehicle to guide a 3/8-16 nut plate to the lower bolt hole (B). Insert a 3/8-16 x 1 1/2" hex bolt with 3/8" lock washer and tighten to nut plate. Trim excess nut plate wire. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



22. Reinstall the bumper bracket removed earlier from the front of the frame rail. Driver's side is shown. Reinstall the metal bumper. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



21. Align the air bag sensor with the bolt hole near the center of the baseplate. Snug, but don't over tighten, the sensor using a 6MM-1.0 x 30MM hex bolt. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



23. Verify that the horn (see arrow) is free of any objects contacting it such as the baseplate or the nut plate wires. Contact with the horn may render it inoperable. Testing the horn at this point is strongly recommended.

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24. Align the fascia to its original position and, using a hack saw knife, trim necessary openings in the grille for the attachment tabs. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions provided in their packages. When demonstrating this to the customer, be sure to include all the contents and packages.

Do **NOT** substitute other devices if the tow bar pins and clips are misplaced.

DEALER or INSTALLER:
Be certain the user receives the instruction sheets for their products.

Be sure that ALL electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning BEFORE installing the fascia.

25. Reinstall the fascia, grille and headlight assemblies, inserting all screws, pushpins, and bolts. The installation of the baseplate is complete.

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Customer Service Commitment

Blue Ox® is focused on providing exemplary customer service, as observed in our mission statement and guiding principles. In accordance with this objective, Blue Ox® is proud to provide services such as repairs and general maintenance of Blue Ox® products at over 150 RV Rallies. Look for our Destination America or Blue Ox® Racing service crews at the next rally or NASCAR race that you attend. If you were not present at the time of service, you will find an informative, personalized note explaining any services that may have been performed to your Blue Ox® products.

Blue Ox® also offers educational seminars at rallies and through our Parks and Resort teams. In addition, Blue Ox® customers visiting our factory may take advantage of the well-equipped Blue Ox® RV park at no charge to you, our valued and appreciated customer.



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General Information

1. Ensure that your product(s) are registered online at www.blueox.com. It is crucial to register your product(s) so that you may be alerted of product offerings, updates, upgrades, maintenance and safety bulletins, and/or recalls.
2. **It is the owner's responsibility to inspect all towing equipment for cracked welds, missing or worn parts and loose bolts before each towing trip.** Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts and tighten to the recommended specifications.
3. **It is the owner's responsibility to hook up all towing equipment per manufacturer's instructions/recommendations.**
4. Remove the attachment tabs when not in use (if applicable).

Notice To Baseplate Installer

1. It is YOUR responsibility to watch for:

- Oil cooler and air conditioner lines
- Electrical wires and hoses
- Missing parts or attaching points on the frame

** If the baseplate is improperly installed and is against a wire or hose, it could cause fluid leaks or electrical shorts some time after the actual baseplate installation.

Permanent Baseplate Safety Cable Installation

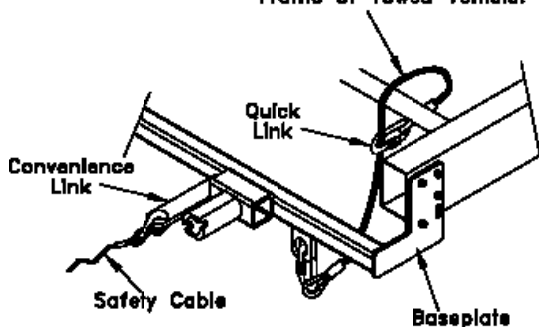
Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails or becomes disconnected. The cables must be connected from the baseplate to the frame rail or cross member of the vehicle's frame. The illustrations below show the possible arrangements recommended by Blue Ox®. Each permanent baseplate safety cable must have an adequate weight rating for the towing system. The weight rating of the two (2) cables together will not qualify.

Do not mount the permanent baseplate safety cables against wires, hoses or brake lines.

These permanent baseplate safety cables should remain installed as long as the baseplate is installed on the vehicle. Permanent baseplate safety cables are to be used in conjunction with, and NOT a replacement for legally required safety cables attaching the towed vehicle to the towing vehicle.

OPTION #1

Permanent Baseplate Safety Cables to Cross Member or Frame of Towed Vehicle.



OPTION #2

Permanent Baseplate Safety Cables to Cross Member or Frame of Towed Vehicle.

