



2016-2017 Toyota Tacoma Winch Mount Bumper Installation Instructions

Tools Required:

- ⤴ Small flat head screw driver
- ⤴ Ratchet, 10mm, 12mm, 14mm, 17mm & 19mm sockets
- ⤴ Torque Wrench
- ⤴ 4" Grinder with cut off disc
- ⤴ 1/2" drill bit
- ⤴ 3/8" drill bit

Items Included:

- ⤴ Winch Mount
- ⤴ Skid Plate
- ⤴ Transmission cooler relocation brackets
- ⤴ Big Mouth Hawse

Optional:

- ⤴ Winch control box mount
- ⤴ License plate mount

Read this document **completely** before starting this project as there are links and information towards the end that will benefit you. See the official Toyota bumper exploded view at the end of this document but keep in mind there is no need to remove the headlight assemblies, fog lights (just disconnect fog lights) or the fender flare extensions on the bumper cover.

Thank you for purchasing the U.S. Off Road winch mount bumper for the 2016-2017 Toyota Tacoma. This product provides a method to mount most winches within the factory bumper cover and also provides recovery points.

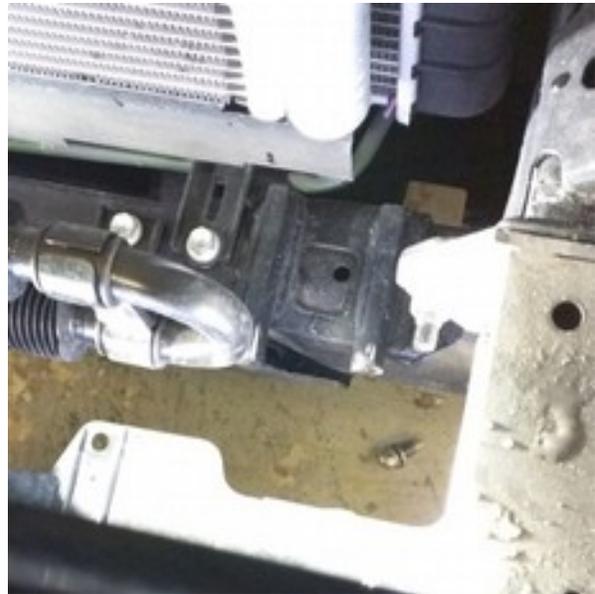
It is always good to tape off your fenders and bumper cover where you are working with painter's tape to prevent scratches.

Always use safety glasses while cutting or grinding!



Step 1:

Remove your lower spoiler if your Tacoma included one from the factory. You will not be able to use it with our winch mount. Get out your 4" grinder with a cutoff blade so you can remove the recovery hoop on the driver's side frame horn. You must remove this or you will not be able to install the skid plate. You will create an abundance of sparks so make sure no flammable materials are nearby. **Always** wear safety glasses while cutting! You can paint the end of your cuts to prevent rust.



Remove the factory skid plate under the engine by removing 4 12mm bolts. Cut the top off of the rectangular holes so the skid plate does not hang, otherwise you can not remove it for oil changes once the mount is installed. You can use large tin snips or your 4" cut off with your grinder.



Step 2:

Remove your license plate assembly if you have one. Using a 17mm socket, remove the bolt on recovery point on the passenger side as well as the two bolts (one each side) on the subframe, driver side circled below. Keep those bolts close by. Now take your skid plate (this is much easier with two people), align the lower tabs on the plate with the bolt holes of the two bolts you just removed, insert and tighten both bolts. Now your skid plate is "installed" temporarily but may take a bit of pressure to fit snugly against your black lower valance. Use a scribe or some method to mark your winch rope hole (hawse) and both shackle mount holes. Do **NOT** drill your holes just yet, that will come later and they do not need to be marked now.

Ur
ste

egin disassembly of the bumper cover in the next
valance is removed.



Step 3:

Open the hood and prop it up. Find the two flat plastic retainers on top of and at each end of the grill next to the headlights. Insert a small flat head screw driver in to the recess under the retainer head and gently pry up then pull the retainer out of the hole. Keep these you will need them to reinstall the grill. If you break one you may need to call your local Toyota dealer to buy more.

Use a ratchet and 10mm socket to
loosen the grill and pull it
forward and lifting gently.



remove the grille by pulling

Step 4:

Remove the 6 plastic clips along the top side of the bumper cover using the same method as in Step 3.



Step 5:

Remove the 'air dividers' on each side, just inside of the headlights by removing the flush plastic clips and gently pulling away. Twist inwards towards the centerline of the truck to help remove.

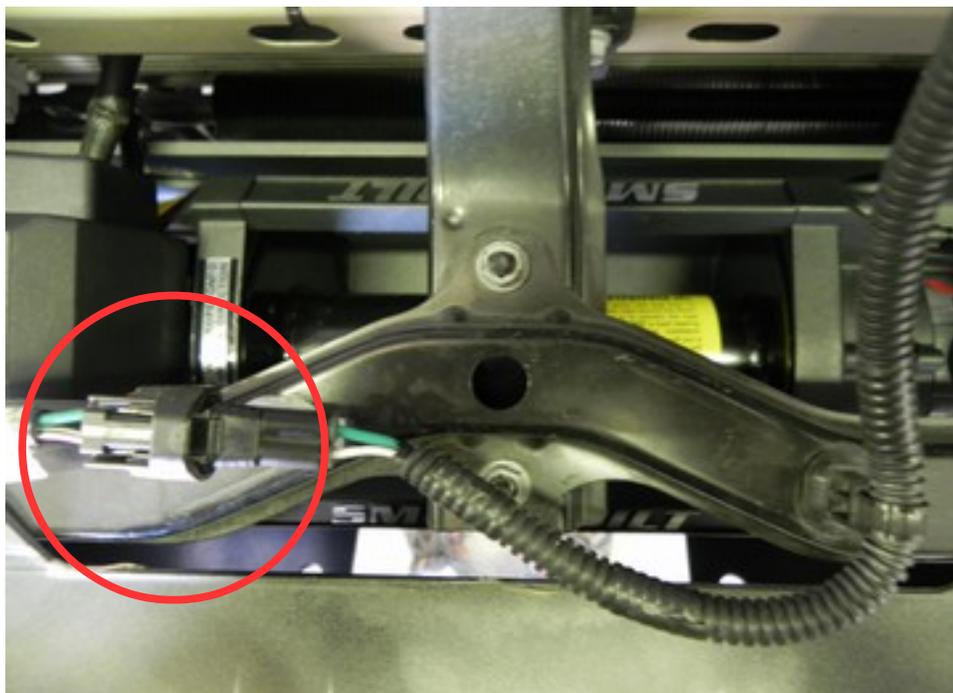


Step 6:

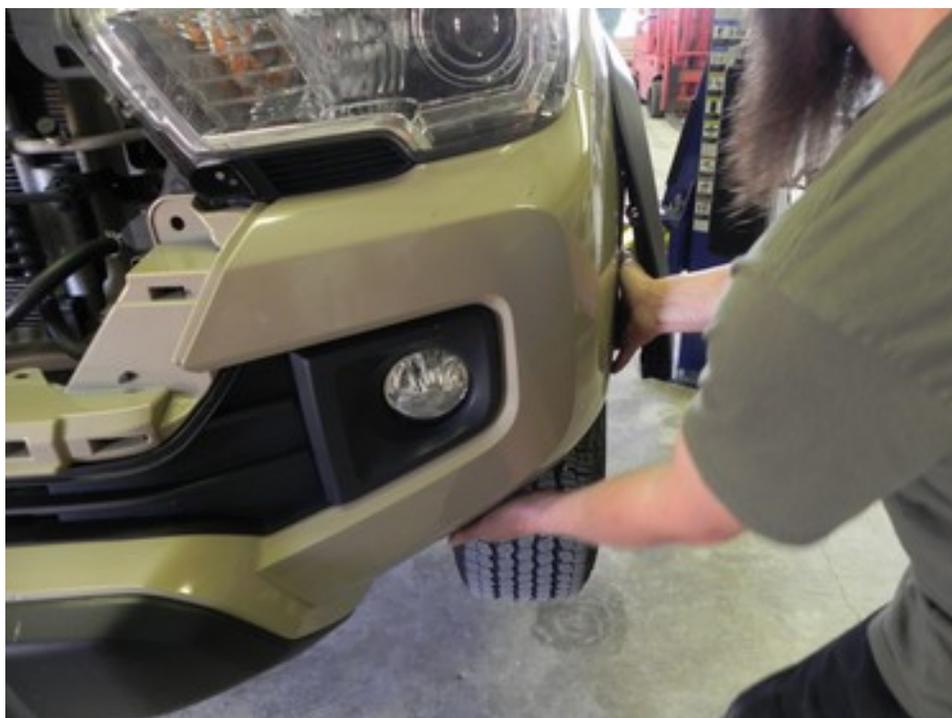
Using your ratchet and 10mm socket, remove the black and silver screws along the front of the fenderwells 2 on each side, and 2 below on each 'corner' and another 6 along the bottom of the bumper cover. Save them as you will need most of them later.



Don't forget to unplug your fog lights in the lower grille, if equipped, before removing the bumper cover. Simply disconnect the harness in the middle of the bumper cover right below the grille.



Pull the fender flare away from the bumper cover, the clips typically pop loose without too much force. You do NOT need to remove the flares, just removing it from the cover. There will be two clips/slots.



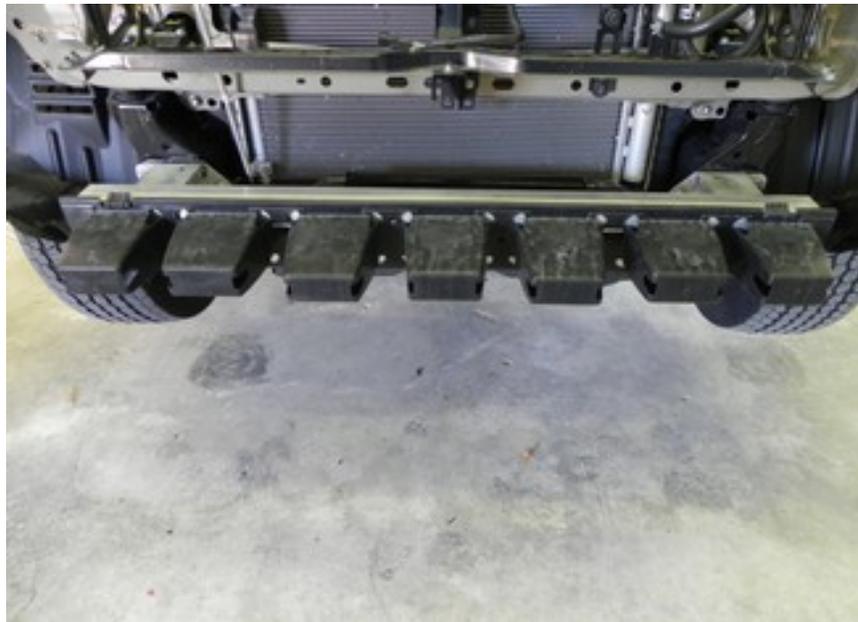
Pull down on the lower bumper cover corners on the underside by the wheel wells, you will see one orange clip on each side, remove them with a screwdriver. Now you can pull back the inner fender on each side.

Step 7:

Remove the stock square tube bumper using a ratchet and 14mm sockets. You will probably want to use a 1/2" drive or an air impact wrench as these nuts are typically very tight. There will be 3 on each side for a total of 6. Save the nuts as you will need them to install the winch mount.



If it is too tight to slide off of the frame studs you can loosen the bolts that attach the tube to the standoffs to release pressure. Pop off the plastic rectangular 'flower pots' from the aluminum bumper tube to expose those nuts then loosen, removal is not necessary.



You can discard the stock bumper tube (crash bar) if you wish.

Step 8:

Now that the bumper cover is off we need to remove the chin piece (lower valance).

Look for two blue plastic clips on the backside at 3 and 9 o'clock and remove them first, then the 7 black clips on top and 8 on the bottom.



Step 9:

Now you can make your cuts on the lower valance. Using your 4" grinder with a cutoff disc or some other method, cut at least 1/4" or so outside of your scribed marks. This does not need to be real pretty as the skid plate is going to cover up your cuts. Cut the rectangular hole for the winch rope and then the two smaller rectangular holes for the shackle mounts.

Use a sharp knife or file to remove any melted plastic along the edges.

That's it, you are finished cutting!

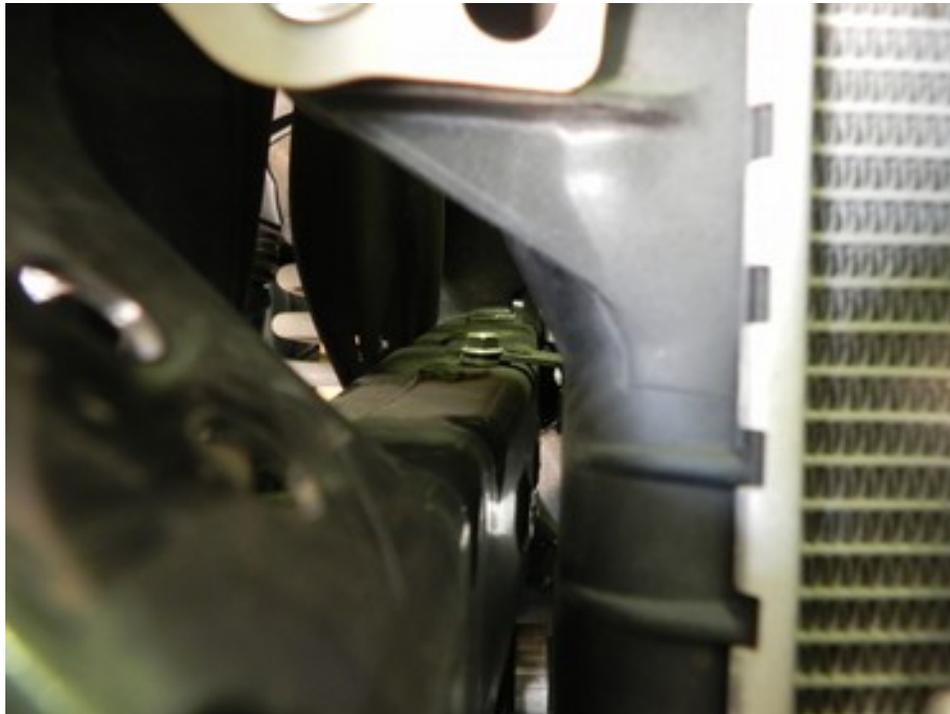


Step 10:

Next you need to move the power steering cooler back using the included brackets.



Let's start by removing this bolt on the passenger side on the frame. This bolt mounts a bracket for the power steering line. We need to remove this bolt so the line can move back with the cooler. You do not need to replace this bolt and there is no need for the bracket.



Remove the two bolts holding the cooler to the frame. These are located directly behind the cooler. One on each side.

You will then take the supplied relocation brackets and fasteners and attach them to the cooler brackets using the supplied bolts and nuts then use the factory fasteners to attach them to the frame. Make sure you paint or coat these if you opted for no powder coating from us, or they will rust.

NOTE: 2 washers go below the driver's side bracket to the front and 2 washers on top of the passenger side bracket to the rear.



You may also want to loosen the power steering line bracket to help facilitate installing the fasteners on the cooler brackets. Be sure to re-tighten them after you have the cooler moved.



This will move the cooler back approximately 1".

Step 11:

Install the winch tub over the 6 frame studs and use the saved flange nuts from the stock bumper and run them down where there is still some ability to move the tub. Take the 2 lower bolts you removed from the subframe and insert these until snug. Tighten and torque the upper flange nuts to 40lbs. Do not torque your lower bolts just yet, that will be done later. If your AC line touches the winch mount or if you want to protect it against abrasion use a piece of 3/8" fuel line with zip ties to secure it and keep the AC line from hitting the mount.



Step 12:

Now install your winch. **MAKE SURE you connect any ground wires to the bottom of the winch that are required by your particular winch model BEFORE bolting down the winch. All winches vary in design.**

If your winch does not have the ability to locate the control box from the top center of the winch you can use our optional control box relocation bracket which simply mounts to the side of the winch tub using the included 1/4" bolts and nuts. If the universal slots do not accommodate your control box you can drill holes in the bracket as needed. It will not matter if the box any particular direction but be aware of where your control cable port is located for easy access.



While we used a Mean Mother winch in this photo to illustrate the bracket please note that the control box on Mean Mother winches can mount over the motor side of the winch using factory supplied brackets.

Now make your electrical connections per the winch manufacturer's instructions. Typically you will simply run your power and ground cables to the battery. Route these in front of the radiator out of the way and through the radiator bulkhead on the driver's side then attach to the battery. Make sure to use zip ties to secure your wires.

Once the winch is installed and you have verified that it operates correctly you can install the rope if needed and then proceed with reinstallation of the factory components.

NOTE: If your winch cable has a one piece, non removable hook you will need to spool it last after everything, bumper cover, skid plate, license plate holder (optional) is installed.

Reinstallation:

Reinstall the bumper cover. Having an extra set of hands is helpful here. Lay the cover on the vehicle, positioning it accordingly then start snapping it back to place and installing the popup retainers and bolts. Make sure it snaps in to the side mounts in front of the wheel wells then install the fenderwell bolts accordingly.

Once the cover is attached reinstall the lower valance which of course now installs over the shackle mounts. If you have interference with the shackle mounts then pull it off and trim the plastic accordingly.

Remove the lower bolts from the winch tub, these are the bolts that secure your tub to the subframe. Now you can install the skid plate over the bumper cover and lower valance, gently sliding it over the shackle mounts (it doesn't hurt to keep some tape on the shackle mounts to help prevent scoring). It is helpful to have someone to help you hold the skid plate in place while you secure it. Reinsert the lower bolts through the skid plate and the winch tub legs in to the subframe and snug these.

Take a 1/2" drill bit and drill each hole on either side of the winch rope hole then switch to a 3/8" bit and drill the two holes in the upper corners.

Install and tighten the included 3/8" button head allen bolts in to the upper left and right holes in the skid plate (not the hawse mount holes), then install the washers and nylon lock nuts on the back and tighten.

Install and tighten your included Big Mouth hawse using the included allen head bolts, washers and nylon lock nuts. If your state mandates a front license plate then you will want to install it behind the hawse at this time.

If you have a license plate mount install it now with the plate on it. It's much easier to install the plate bracket and plate as one piece.

Now torque your lower bolts in the subframe/winch tub to 60lbs.

Reinstall your factory skid plate with the 4 12mm bolts.

You can run your rope through the hawse and install any hooks or aftermarket thimbles at this time.

Reinstall your grille. Make sure your plastic retainers behind the grille are aligned properly before pressing in to place. Then reinstall the 2 10mm bolts and popup retainers.

Optionally you can also remove a few of the slats in the lower grille to gain access to the winch clutch and control port for your control cable if necessary.

ENJOY YOUR NEW U.S. OFF ROAD WINCH MOUNT AND PLEASE READ THE NOTES BELOW!

NOTES:

- ⤴ The winch mount is drilled for 3/4" pin shackles. The holes are .890". Shackles for 3/4" holes are typically around .870". If you have too much paint in the holes your shackles may not fit and some paint may need to be removed. Shackle pin sizes vary slightly by manufacturer.
- ⤴ We suggest checking the torque on all fasteners after 100 miles of driving. This may require removing the bumper cover again.
- ⤴ Winch mount weight is 63lbs and is made of mild steel. The winch tub is .250" and the front fascia is .135" for a total of .385" where the shackle mounts and fairlead mount is located. Because of this thickness we have included longer hawse bolts with the included Big Mouth hawse.
- ⤴ If you did not purchase the optional powder coating you must use Wax & Grease remover to thoroughly clean the mount or your paint will not stick for long. You can find it at most auto parts stores in their auto paint section. See Bumper Prep link below.

You can always reach us through the contact page at www.usoffroad.us . Be sure to email us your install photos to sales@usoffroad.us ..

Helpful links and information:

Bumper Prep: <https://www.usoffroad.us/bumper-prep-and-paint/>

Winch Fitment: <https://www.usoffroad.us/winch-fitment/>

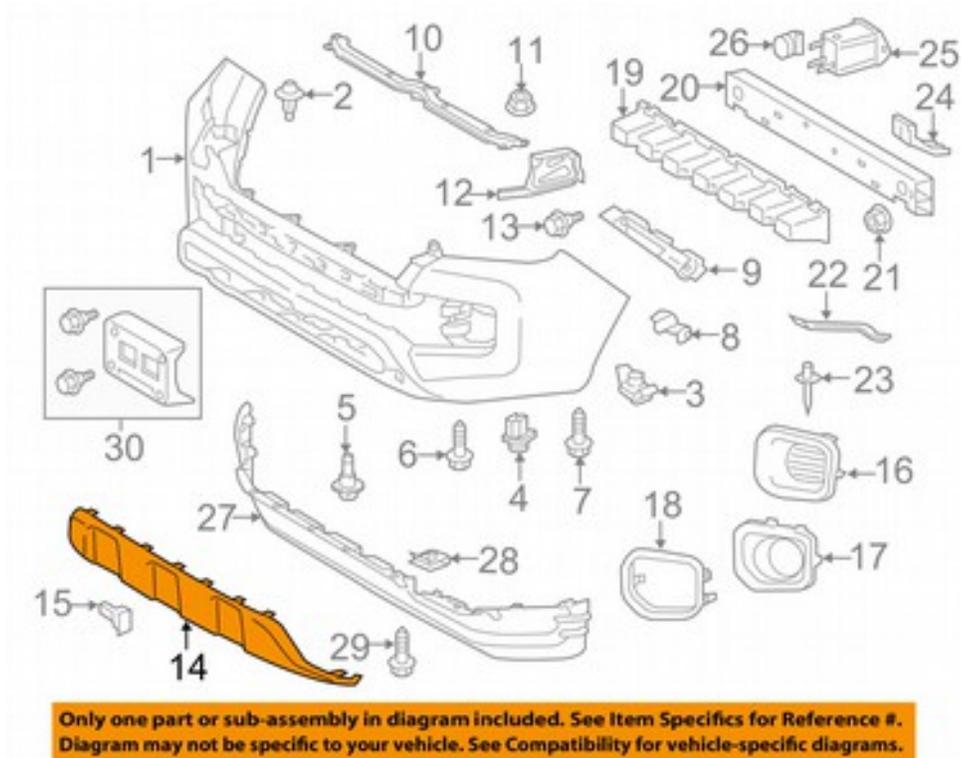
Winch Selection Guide: <https://www.usoffroad.us/winch-selection/>



We have also made the factory exploded view as part of this document.

Installation Instructions Version 1.1
Updated 4-12-17

2016+ Front Bumper Assembly & Cover Diagram



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