



**BULL DAWG SUV HARDTOPS**  
**The Perfect Companion for your Sport SUV**  
Another quality company by McLaughlin Manufacturing.  
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800-784-6478

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**  
**2004 to 2006 “LJ” 1-PC JEEP HARDTOP(Unlimited)**  
(You can also view this installation sheet in color online at:  
<http://www.bulldawgmfg.com/BullDawgmfginstall.pdf>)

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To Enjoy Your “BULL DAWG” Hardtop for many years to come, proper installation is critical. Read all instructions carefully before beginning the installation process.

**Warning:** This product is only designed for the Jeep Wrangler “LJ” built from 1997 to 2006. This product is NOT to be installed on other vehicles. It is designed only to enhance the appearance of the vehicle and to protect against some undesirable weather conditions. It is not designed to hold occupants inside the vehicle, or to protect against foreign objects, or as protection in the event of an accident. **Occupants should always wear seatbelts at all times.**

**Improper use of this product could cause serious injury to the vehicle occupants and damage to the Hardtop.**

**Parts List and Hardware Identification**

Part Name	Quantity	Use
1 ½” Knob Bolts With 1 ¼ “ Flat Washers And Nut	8-sets(4 per side)	Secures The Inside Side Rails To The Vehicle Tub.
Foam Adhesive Backed Tailgate Strips	2(right and left)	Provides A Seal Between The Hardtop And Jeep Tub Along Either Side Of The Tailgate
Top Trim Gasket(w/Adhesive Backing)	2(right and left)	Assures Tight Fit At Upper Forward Corners Of The Hardtop And Windshield Frame
J-Hook Keeper	1	Attachment Point For Middle Camlock
Screws	2	Used To Attach J-Hook Keeper



Figure 1 – Picture of Parts

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Completely remove all soft-top hardware but do not remove the factory installed windshield gasket. After removing the soft top metal tailgate brackets clean the areas with a wet cloth to remove any dirt(Figure 3). Position the two Foam Adhesive Backed Strips on each side of the tailgate as shown in the picture below(note: these are driver and passenger side specific). Peel off the paper backing and begin by positioning and adhering the end of the gasket that the tailgate will close against first. Then, work your way towards the sides of the vehicle with the gasket. Once the hardtop is lowered into position it should look similar to the picture below(Figure 4).



Figure 3  
Before Installation Of the  
Tailgate Gasket

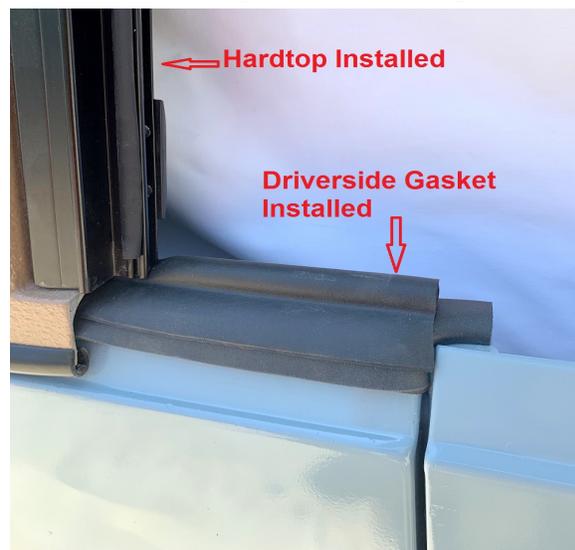


Figure 4  
After Installation of the Tailgate Gasket and  
And Hardtop(driver's side view)



**Be Sure To Remove the “Side Panel Corner Seals”**

2. Figures 5 below shows the proper location of the installed Top to A-Pillar gasket (Note: these are driver and passenger side specific). This piece located at the top corner where the door closes against the windshield frame fills in a small gap between the hard top and the A-Pillar. Simply peel the paper backing from the gasket and stick it to the end of the plastic doorstop frame. If by chance the gasket will not stick or falls off, a small amount of super glue can be used to assure proper adhesion. Once the hardtop is installed and tightened down, trim off (using sharp razor blade) any of the excess gasket which may be sticking out to insure a smooth transition between the plastic A-Pillar frame and the hardtop.

***Important:*** Check for bent A-Pillar Moldings. Due to the age of the LJ's many of the A-Pillar molding's we see are bent. Bent Pillar Molding's must be replaced to achieve a water tight seal with the hardtop ( See Figure 6 below).



**Figure 5  
“Top to A-Pillar Gasket”**



**Figure 6  
“Bent A-Pillar”**

3. Remove the hardtop from the shipping pallet by unscrewing the six (6) screws holding it down.
4. Using at least two people, lift the hardtop from the sides and place on the vehicle.

**DO NOT TIGHTEN AT THIS TIME.**

5. Make an alignment check to see that the front of the Hardtop is seated in the factory windshield gasket. Also, ensure that the side and rear of Hardtop are aligned properly with the tub of the vehicle.
6. Insert the 2 front camlock hooks into the factory slots on either side of the windshield frame. Adjust the camlocks as necessary so that only moderate pressure is achieved, DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN. Close the camlocks.

**UPDATE:** Beginning in September of 2016 we started including a 3<sup>rd</sup>(middle) camlock.. Although using this 3<sup>rd</sup> camlock is not absolutely necessary we have found that because of the ever increasing age of these vehicles this middle camlock has proven helpful in certain circumstances. Most models of the LJ's will accept this third camlock via the same operation as the other two, but in some cases there is something called a Footman's Loop which will need to be removed and a Keeper put in its place. Slight modifications to the surrounding plastic windshield cover may be needed. .

7. **Center Camlock Attachment**

- a) Remove the plastic windshield trim that covers the center Footman's Loop.
- b) Remove the factory Footman's Loop. If it is fastened using rivets, simply drill them out using the appropriate size of drill bit.(Figures 1 & 2 below).
- c) With the Camlock closed and in the locked position place the black "J-Hook Keeper" in the Camlock and against the windshield frame. Pre-mark the two holes to be drilled in the windshield. Drill the two pilot holes using an 1/8" drill bit.
- d) Fasten the J-Hook Keeper to the windshield frame using the two sheet metal screws included(Figure 3 below).
- e) Adjust the camlock as necessary and tighten the center camlock(Figure 4 below).  
**"Important":** Be sure to go back and re-tighten the camlocks during the initial break-in period as they will loosen up as the top settles into place.
- f) Before re-installing the windshield trim, carefully cut away the plastic to allow room for the camlock. Reinstall the plastic trim and you are done!!



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

8. When placing the hardtop on the vehicle, align the pre-drilled holes in the hardtop side rails with the 3 receiver holes on either side of the Jeep. (Note: different model years have different hole patterns. Your top has holes to accommodate all of these.) Assemble the (8) 1 ½” Knob Bolts, (8) 1 ¼” Black Washers w/Foam and the (8) “Self-Locking Plastic Wing Nuts” thru the side rails of the jeep and into the receiver holes. Note: The washers go on top of the side rails.

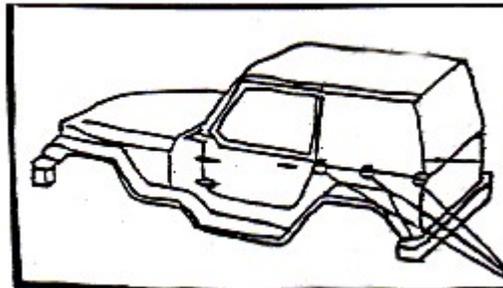


Figure 5 – Side rail location

9. At this time, tighten the six (8) previously installed knob bolts, washers and nuts, there by securing the rear of the Jeep hardtop to the tub of the vehicle. **“Important”**: Be sure to go back and retighten these bolt/nut assemblies during the initial break-in period
10. An interior battery operated dome light has been installed on your top just inside of the tailgate area. This light requires two “C” batteries which are not included. To install the batteries simply squeeze the sides of the lens cover inwards and pull down. This will release the small plastic clips holding it onto the base. To reinstall the lens, insert one side of the clips into place. Squeeze inward on the other side and push it’s clips into place!

It is the owner’s responsibility to insure proper installation and perform monthly maintenance checks of fasteners. Doing so will assure safe operation and long life of the Hardtop.

When the Hardtop is off your vehicle, keep it stored upright and do not leave or place heavy objects on it for any extended period of time as it may deform the sides.

### **FAQ AND HELPFUL HINTS**

1. Because of the size of the Discovery/Slider side windows it is important that you open and close the windows using both handles in order to avoid bending the gas prop base connectors. Failure to do so may put too much pressure on one of the prop connectors and result in it bending.

2. The Keys to the rear window locks can be found attached to the driver's side rear window gas strut.
3. The rear window is meant to close against the tailgate. Because of the spare tire and third brake light, the tailgate and rear window must be closed in a simultaneously motion with the rear window resting against the top of the tailgate. Be sure that the rubber rain flap is lying smoothly against the tailgate and is not being pinched between the two.
4. Make sure that the small gaskets installed on each of the windshield frames does not protrude out from the edge of the top but rather makes a smooth seamless transition from the edge of the windshield frame to the edge of the hardtop. If it is not even you run the risk of a water leak at this area. You can correct this problem by cutting of the excess gasket and making the transition smooth and flush.
5. What if the gaskets come loose? Clean both surfaces then apply a small amount of super glue and reapply the gasket.
6. How do I maintain and protect my new Hardtop? Wash and clean using a soft cloth and a non-abrasive soap and water. About once a month wash, dry and coat the top with Top Dawg UV Sealer Glaze found under parts on the web site. Using the sealer will bring back the shine and cause water to bead like new.

Bull Dawg Top/Door UV Sealer Glaze 12 oz



Although the surface of your Jeep Doors/Jeep Hardtop are/is made with a durable gelcoat finish, it still needs to be protected with some kind of a special conditioner periodically. Neglected gelcoat finishes tend to dry out and fade over time from the sun's harmful UV rays. In order to prevent this, we recommend using our own brand of special UV sealer that is especially designed to protect and beautify your Jeep Door's/Jeep Hardtop's gelcoat finish for years to come. It's quick and easy to use formula shines and protects in one easy to apply step. Just wipe it on and leave it on, no buffing required.

**DO NOT use automotive liquid or paste wax on your Bull Dawg Hardtop**

2/26/21 Revision

7. What if my Hardtop leaks or seems misaligned? Bull Dawg Tops are designed to fit Jeep bodies that are to factory specification. Please be aware that if the vehicle has been in a wreck, had bodywork performed or has a twisted frame it may not be possible to prevent all leaks.

### **Customer Service or Technical Questions**

If you have any questions please contact your dealer or Bull Dawg's customer service department at 800-784-6478. Bull Dawg's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm Eastern Standard Time. You may also find additional information or you may contact us electronically from our website at [www.bulldawgmfg.com](http://www.bulldawgmfg.com).