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DODGE DAKOTA SKID PLATE KIT (FOR USE WITH TM DD43 SUSPENSION KIT ONLY) INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS 1991-1996 KIT# 8096

Before Starting Installation

NOTE
Kit parts are prefaced by the word *kit* and appear in **bold print**.

1. Carefully read all warnings and instructions completely before beginning.
2. Verify all parts have been received in this kit by checking the parts list at the end of this document.
3. **Only install this kit on the vehicle for which it is specified.** If anytime during the installation you encounter something different from what is outlined in the instructions, call technical support at (928) 636-3175.
4. Special tools needed:
 - a. Drill with 5/16" drill bit
5. Park vehicle on a clean, dry, flat, level surface and block tires so vehicle cannot roll in either direction.

Torque Specifications

See factory service manual for torque values when re-using OE fasteners.

<u>Bolt Size</u>	<u>Grade 5 (ft.-lbs.)</u>	<u>Grade 8 (ft.-lbs.)</u>
1/4"-20	10	10
1/4"-28	10	12.5
5/16"-18	17	22.5
5/16"-24	20	25
3/8"-16	30	40
3/8"-24	35	45
7/16"-14	50	65
7/16"-20	55	70
1/2"-13	75	100
1/2"-20	55	70
9/16"-12	105	135
9/16"-18	115	150
5/8"-11	150	195
5/8"-18	160	210
3/4"-16	175	225

⚠ WARNING
Before you install this kit, read and understand all instructions, warnings, cautions, and notes in this instruction sheet and in the vehicle owner's manual.

⚠ CAUTION
Proper installation of this kit requires knowledge of the factory recommended procedures for removal and installation of original equipment components. We recommend that the factory shop manual and any special tools needed to service your vehicle be on hand during the installation. Installation of this kit without proper knowledge of the factory recommended procedures may affect the performance of these components and the safety of the vehicle. We strongly recommend that a certified mechanic familiar with the installation of similar components install this kit.

⚠ WARNING
Always wear eye protection when operating power tools.

⚠ WARNING
Before you install this kit, block the vehicle tires to prevent the vehicle from rolling.

⚠ WARNING
This kit should only be installed on a vehicle that is in good working condition. Before you install the kit, thoroughly inspect the vehicle for corrosion or deformation of the sheet metal. If the vehicle is suspected to have been in a collision or misused, do not install this kit. Off-road use of your vehicle with this kit installed may increase the stress applied to the factory components. Failure to observe this warning may result in serious personal injury and/or severe damage to your vehicle.

Install Front Skid Plate

1. Align two driver side holes of *kit skid plate* with O.E. holes in frame.
2. Install *kit skid plate* onto driver side frame with two O.E. fasteners.
3. Align three holes in rear of *kit skid plate* with corresponding holes in TM *kit crossmember*.
4. Space *kit skid plate* from *kit crossmember* with *kit washers* (1-3/4" OD) and install *kit skid plate* onto *kit crossmember* with three *kit bolts* (7/16"-14 x 1-1/2), three *kit washers* (3/8"), and three *kit nuts* (7/16"-14). DO NOT TIGHTEN.
5. Square *kit skid plate* to frame and TIGHTEN O.E. fasteners.

NOTE

When marking drill holes, double check alignment of all holes with *kit skid plate* before drilling.

6. Using passenger side holes in *kit skid plate*, mark and drill two 5/16" holes through frame.
7. Install *kit skid plate* onto frame with two *kit bolts* (3/8" x 1-1/4 self-tapping) and two *kit washers* (5/16").

NOTE

For a uniform look, remove two O.E. fasteners from driver side of *kit skid plate* and frame. Repeat two previous steps.

8. TIGHTEN all *kit bolts* and O.E. hardware. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.

After Completing Installation

Miscellaneous

1. Check all fasteners to ensure they are tight.

⚠WARNING

Retorque all fasteners after 500 miles and after off road use. All suspension lift components should be visually inspected and fasteners retorqued during routine vehicle servicing.

Kit Parts List

Qty. Description

1	Skid plate
1	8096BAG (Hardware Bag Kit)
4	Bolt (3/8" x 1-1/4 self-tapping)
3	Bolt (7/16"-14 x 1-1/2)
3	Nut (7/16"-14)
3	Washer (3/8")
4	Washer (5/16")
6	Washer (1-3/4" OD)