



Installation Instructions (Part 1-Hardware)

American Convoy Soft Top

Vehicle Application:
Jeep Wrangler Unlimited (LJ)
Years 2004-2006



Important!

For first time installation, the temperature must be above 72°F. Park your vehicle in direct sunlight and leave fabric in the sun for at least 30 minutes before you begin the fabric portion of installation (Part 2). The fabric can contract an inch or more, making installation extremely difficult if these guidelines are not followed. Make sure to follow the instructions below carefully since first time installation is more complex than other brands of soft tops and requires special care to insure you do not damage your new top. Once fully installed, leave it to stretch and form for a few weeks allowing the fabric time to relax and mold into shape. **Please read all instructions before you begin. Certain steps do require a second person to complete.**

Initial Installation Time

2.5 Hours

Skill Level

2.5 out of 5

Tools

CAUTION!

Safety glasses should be worn at all times when installing this product.

Safety Glasses

Small Philips Head Screwdriver

Large Philips Head Screwdriver

Ratchet/Socket ½"

Crescent Wrench ½"

Crescent Wrench 13mm

Crescent Wrench 8MM or 5/16" or Small Pliers

Hex Key or Socket H3/16

Hex Key or Socket H2

Drill and 5/16" metal bit

Small pry bar or Flat Head Screw Driver

Support

For questions or help, please email info@americanconvoy.com or go to www.americanconvoy.com and click on 'contact us' and we will either respond with information needed or set up an appointment to speak live.

Thank you

To all those who have supported us in our efforts to bring this limited production soft top to the Jeep community we thank you for all the wonderful comments and input. This would not be possible without your encouragement, enthusiasm, and generosity of spirit.

Required Parts List for Installation

Hardware included in Box

Open the hardware (long, heavy box) and lay the 19 pieces plus nuts and bolts on the cardboard. Please make sure you have everything before you begin installation.

Not Included and Required

****This top requires the factory door surrounds and a Header Windshield Channel (part code 51238-01), both of which are **NOT included and cannot be purchased through American Convoy*****



Required Parts List for Installation (Continued)

Soft Top Panels included in Box

Take caution when opening the soft top (wide flat, less heavy box).

Do not use a razor or knife when opening as you could cut through the fabric.

You will find 6 sailcloth pieces and a plastic bag containing 2 foam pieces, 5 metal screws and your American Convoy decals.



Required Parts List for Installation (Continued)

Important!

You will NOT use the hardware shown below for this installation. Please set aside/discard them.



DO NOT USE THESE!

Installation Instructions: Hardware

Factory Door Surrounds

****Door Surrounds should already be installed before you begin****



Install Header Bar

**This top requires Header Windshield Channel (part code 51238-01)
Not included and cannot be purchased through American Convoy**



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(1a)Align Base Plates (driver and passenger)

Align Base Plate on Jeep tub rails and push them as far to the outside of the Jeep as possible.

(1b)Drill Hole

Mark this hole next to tailgate with a sharpie and drill a 5/16" hole using the base plate hole as a guide. **Make sure the Base Plate is pushed towards the outside of the Jeep as far as it can go before marking/drilling (see red arrows below).** It helps to have an extra pair of hands here.



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(1c) Align and Install Window Retainer

Slide Window Retainer underneath base plate in the direction of the green arrow as far as it will go. Push Window Retainer towards the back of the Jeep as far as it will go (see red arrow). Also make sure Base Plate is pushed as far to the outside of the Jeep as in step 1a-1b and then insert 5/16" flathead bolt through hole and use T-nut to secure underneath. You will need an H3/16 hex tool for this. T-nut flange should be pointed down as in the picture. Tighten to ¼ of a turn past hand tight. **Do not over tighten!**



Note

If you happen to lose any of the T-nuts in the future, a 5/16" wingnut will work in its place.



Important!

There must be a 3/16" gap in between the rear of the Window Retainer and the Jeep body. If you do not have an even gap all the way across, loosen the flathead bolt and realign then tighten. **If this is not done properly, the Rear Panel of the soft top will not fit correctly and can cause frustration.**



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(1d) Finish Base Plate Install

Install remaining 4 flathead bolts and corresponding T-nuts making sure the Base Plate is pushed to the outside of the Jeep. Again, tighten $\frac{1}{4}$ turn past hand-tight.

(1e) Repeat

Repeat instructions 1a-1d for the passenger side.



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(2a) Install Rear Pillar

Install Rear Pillar using 5/16", 1" long bolts for both holes with corresponding nuts for the underside. Use a washer for both the top and bottom sides. Make sure the shape of the base aligns with the shape of the the Base Plate. **Tighten securely** with a 1/2" ratchet and 1/2" crescent wrench.

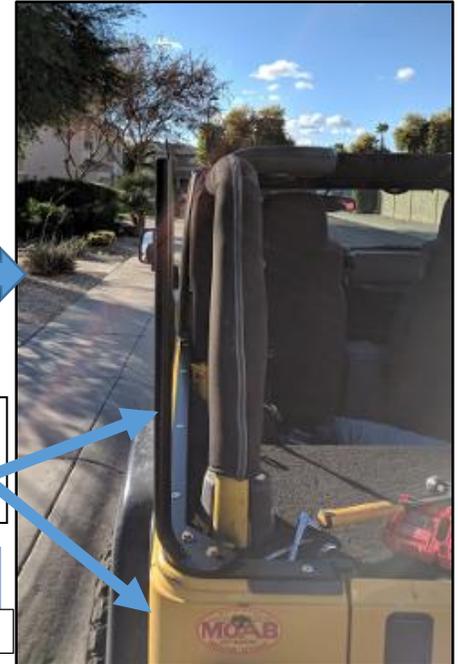
CLOSE UP: Match the outside, curved edge of the base of the Rear Pillar with the edge of the Base Plate.



(2b) Align Rear Pillar

Stand directly behind the Jeep and examine the Rear Pillar angle. It should be standing straight upwards (compare it to the body of the Jeep). If it is not, using your hand, push it left or right (on the top of the tubing) until it looks aligned as in the picture to the right. Make small adjustments until it is in the correct position. This will only have to be done on the initial install. Not all Jeep body rails are perfectly even so this will correct this imperfection.

The Rear Pillar should mirror the vertical angle of the side of the Jeep body.



(2c) Repeat

Repeat instructions 2a-2b for passenger side.

(2d) Install Rear Hoop

Install Rear Hoop as shown by sliding male ends of Rear Hoops into the Rear Pillars (brackets should face towards the front of the Jeep). You may need a second person for this step. Once installed, stand behind Jeep on each side to inspect Rear Pillars and assure they are still standing exactly vertical with the Jeep body as in the 2b instructions. If they are not vertical, pull out the Rear Hoop and adjust the Rear Pillars by hand again and reinstall. Once you are satisfied that they are positioned/stand correctly, move on to step 3a below. ****You do NOT need to adjust the Rear Pillars FORWARD or BACKWARD since the Rear Cross Tubes, when fastened later, will pull them into alignment****



This is what it should look like, properly aligned. Check both sides.

Slide Rear Hoop into Rear Pillars here



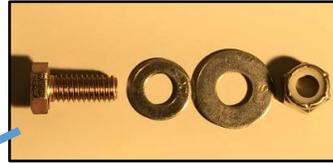
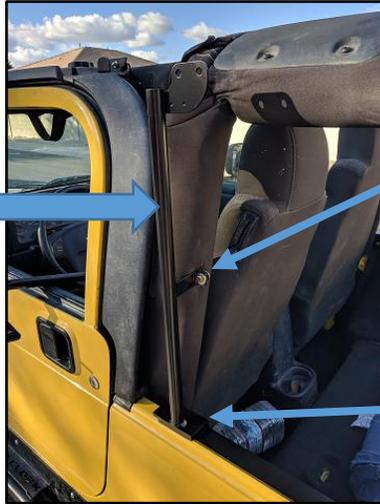
Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

IMPORTANT!

****From this stage on, you will not be tightening any 5/16" bolts with the exception of the Front Hoop/Header Bar. Leaving these loose will allow for ease of installation****

(3a) Install B-Pillar

Align B-Pillar as shown. Fasten bottom using 2, 1" bolts and washers. Fasten to roll bar using a 3/4 bolt with a standard 5/16" washer, a large 5/16" washer and nylon lock nut. **Do not tighten (leave very loose).**



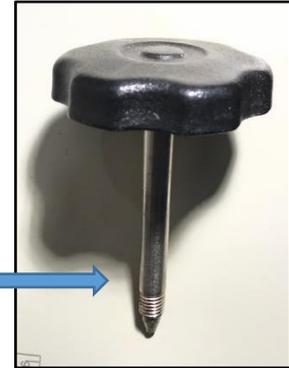
(3b) Repeat

Repeat instructions 3a for Passenger side.

Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

4(a) Preparing Door Surround

Unscrew Factory Hand Screw on the top of the front section of the door surround.



4(b) Align Front Hoop/Header Bar

Position Front Hoop/Header Bar as shown. It should butt up to the rear of the Windshield Channel. **Hole is slotted so make sure it is centered on the Jeep from side to side.** Use the 3" bolt and large 5/16" washer to fasten through the same hole from which the Factory Hand Screw was pulled. **It may take some effort to get the bolt aligned correctly—take your time and do not use ratchet yet since the factory threads strip easily.** Tighten only a few turns and then install the bolt on the passenger side. Once the passenger side is in, tighten both sides until snug. **Do not over-tighten!**



Close up picture

Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(5a) Installing Mid Hoop

Install Mid Hoop with the help of another person. Slide the male end of the tube on the bottom of the Mid Hoop down into the B-Pillar as shown. If you are having difficulty, loosen the bolts on the B-Pillars.

Note: Identify Mid Hoop by it's two brackets (upper and lower) pointing opposite directions here.



Mid Hoop position on Jeep

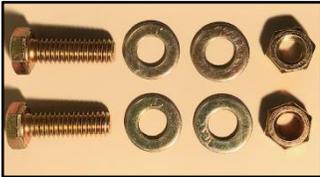


Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(6a)Rear Cross Tube driver identification

Find the Rear Cross Tube for the driver's side.

At first glance, they both look the same, however there are two holes at the end here.



(6b)Install Rear Cross Tube

You will need a second person for this step. Slide driver's side Rear Cross Tube in between the front brackets and rear brackets as shown. Fasten the front and rear with 2, 1" bolts, 5/16" standard washers, and nuts. If you are unable to fit the tube in between the brackets, simply take a flathead screwdriver and pry them apart first (use foam or cloth to protect powder coat). **Do not tighten.**

Front

Rear



It should now look like this.

The holes should be on the inside, here.

If the holes are on the other side, then you have installed the wrong tube.



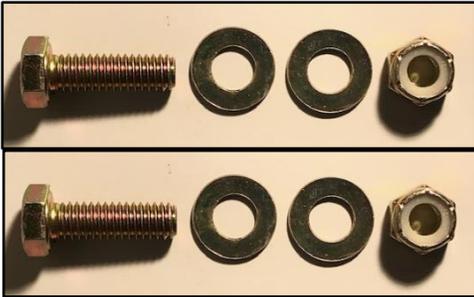
(6c)Repeat

Repeat instructions 6a-6b for passenger side.

Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(7a) Install Front Cross Tubes

The driver and passenger Front Cross Tubes are the same. The bracket in the middle should be on the top and point inwards. Fasten the front of the tube on the outside of the Front Hoop/Header Bar bracket using a 1" bolt with 5/16" standard washers on each side and a nylon lock nut. Fasten the rear to the inside of the Mid Hoop bracket using the same bolt, washers, and nut size. **Do not tighten.**



Front



Rear



Front Cross Tube location



(7b) Repeat

Repeat step 7a for passenger side.

Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(8a) Install Front Mid Hoop

Position the Front Mid Hoop and install with a $\frac{3}{4}$ " bolt, 5/16" standard washers and nylon lock nut. You will need either 2, $\frac{1}{2}$ " crescent wrenches or a $\frac{1}{2}$ " and a 13MM crescent wrench. Repeat on passenger side. A second person is needed for this step. **Do not tighten.**



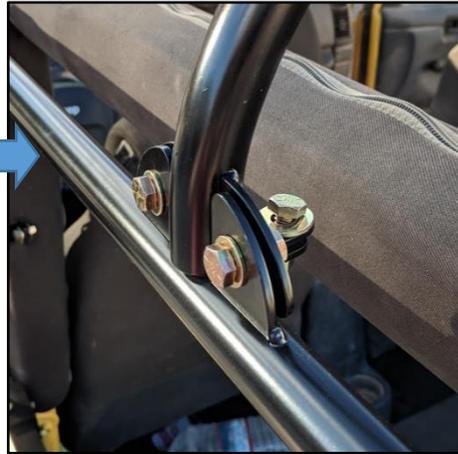
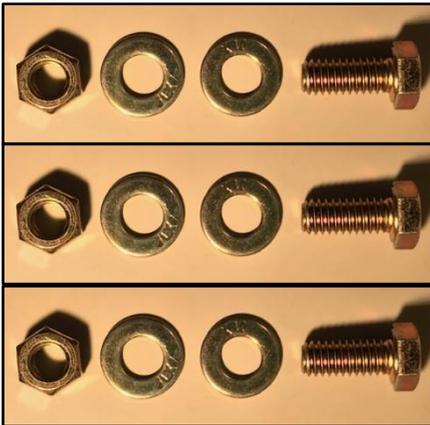
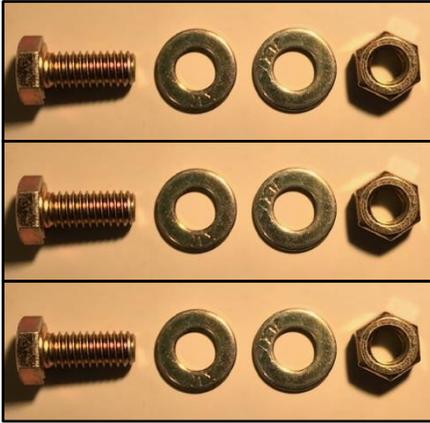
Front Mid Hoop location



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(9a) Install Rear Mid Hoop

Position Rear Mid Hoop on the inside of the Rear Cross Tube Brackets. Fasten each side with 3, $\frac{3}{4}$ " bolts, washers on each side and standard nut. **Do not tighten yet.**



(9b) Tighten

Now go back and tighten up all loose bolts with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " socket/ratchet and $\frac{1}{2}$ " crescent wrench. Start with the B-Pilars first, then Cross Tubes, then Hoops.

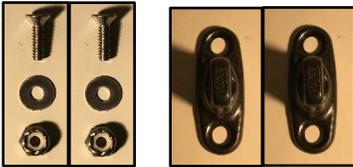
Your Jeep should now look like this. 😊



Installation Instructions: Hardware (continued)

(10a) Install Twist-Lock on Rear Pillar Bracket

Using an H2 Hex wrench or socket and an 8mm or 5/16" wrench, fasten tightly the twist-lock facing inwards with the 2, small 1/2" flathead hex bolts, 6-32 washers and nylon lock nuts to the driver side Rear Pillar Bracket. Repeat on passenger side. **Washers go on the outside.**



Inside



Outside



(10b) Install Twist-Lock on Rear Cross Tube

Using a phillips head screw driver and the flathead screws that were included in your **soft top box** (not in the hardware box), install the driver side twist-lock into the two holes on the Rear Cross Tube. Be very careful not to strip the screw head. Tighten until secure but do not overtighten. We recommend using lots of force at first until the screw gets started. A tool like this works best. Repeat for passenger side.



This is what it should look like with both twist-lock installed. They should be pointing inwards.



**Congratulations, you are finished with the hardware portion of the install.
Please see the separate installation documentation for the soft top portion.**

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American Convoy Limited Warranty

We warranty our American Convoy products to be free of manufacturer defects and workmanship for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase to the original purchaser of the Product only. The warranty is valid only as long as the original retail purchaser owns the vehicle upon which the product is installed. The warranty expires should the product be removed from the original vehicle or if the original vehicle is transferred to another owner. This warranty is not transferable or assignable.

The warranty does not cover the following. (1)Malfunction or failure of any product caused by improper or inadequate maintenance, abuse, misuse, modifications, and improper installation or operation. (2)Tears or rips, scratches, rusting, or chipped paint are also not included in the warranty.(3)Incidental or consequential damages, including but not limited to loss of use, loss of time, commercial loss, or inconvenience.(4)Shipping costs to American Convoy.

During the warranty period, American Convoy shall, at its option, either repair or replace any Product that it confirms, in its discretion, is non-compliant with the warranties herein. American Convoy will not pay for labor charges associated with installation or removal of the Product.

Please retain your proof of purchase. Original proof of purchase for the Product must accompany any warranty claim. If you have a warranty claim, first you must email info@americanconvoy.com for instructions.

Returns must be made within 30 days of purchase, and must be pre-approved. If the merchandise is returned in like-new condition, we will issue a full refund of the purchase price, less the shipping charges. If the merchandise has been used or damaged, the return will be subject to a restocking fee.

American Convoy | Gilbert AZ, 85295 | info@americanconvoy.com | 323-538-4334

