



BX2130 Installation Instructions
1995-00 Ford Contour (Manual Transmission)
1995-99 Mercury Mystique (Manual Transmission)

Utilization of Blue Ox baseplates with any tow bar not approved by Automatic Equipment Mfg. Company invalidates the limited warranty.

Installation of this baseplate requires removing the belly pan and the vehicle's tie down brackets. In addition, the belly pan will be trimmed.

1. Read the General Instruction Sheet included with this baseplate.
2. The baseplate mounts to the car using six bolts, all of which are provided with the baseplate package.
3. Use a Torx T30 socket to remove the nine screws that attach the belly pan to the bottom of the car. Remove the belly pan and set it aside.
4. Notice the tie-down brackets that attach to the frame rails on each side of the car. These are black, formed pieces of metal that bolt underneath, and to the inside, of the frame rails with three bolts apiece.
5. These brackets will be removed and the end pieces of the baseplate will bolt to the frame using the same three holes. Begin by removing the very front bolt. This nut is welded on the inside of the bracket so the bolt will have to be turned from the front. Use a 13MM socket and ratchet, and a short universal. Insert the ratchet up under the bumper and remove the bolt. This will take some effort and patience; the alternative is removing the entire bumper.
6. When this bolt is removed, the two larger bolts can be removed. Notice that the rear bolt is welded to the tie-down bracket. Use an 18MM socket to remove the rear nut and then use the socket and a 15MM Wrench to remove the middle bolt. When both brackets have been removed, they can be set aside along with all hardware from the vehicle.
7. With an assistant, hold the baseplate underneath the frame rails and start the 1/2" x 1 1/2" bolts as shown in the diagram. Be sure to include Loctite on the bolt threads, and place a flat washer over the baseplate slots and a lock washer by each nut. Do not tighten yet.
8. Apply Loctite to the 3/8" x 1 1/2" bolt threads and start the bolt as shown with the 3/8" lock and flat washer. Start a 3/8" whiz nut on the bolt by inserting it through the same opening as explained in Step #5.
9. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical cars can be considerable. While the location and size of the holes in the baseplate were designed to allow for easy installation, it may be necessary to file a hole slightly to allow a bolt to clear.
10. When all six bolts have been started, use a 9/16" socket and long extension to tighten both of the 3/8" bolts. When both bolts are tight, use a 3/4" socket and wrench to tighten all four 1/2" bolts.
11. The belly pan removed in Step #3 will need to be trimmed before it can be reinstalled. Begin by cutting off the door at each end of the pan. These doors allow access to the tie-down brackets. A 1/2 inch slot will need to be cut from the front inside of each door hole forward to the front of the pan. Hold the pan in position as close as possible and mark where the slot needs to be. Use a utility knife or hacksaw to cut the slot and then reinstall the belly pan using the nine screws.
12. Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in their packages.

Automatic

13. Do not substitute other devices if the tow bar pin and clip are lost.

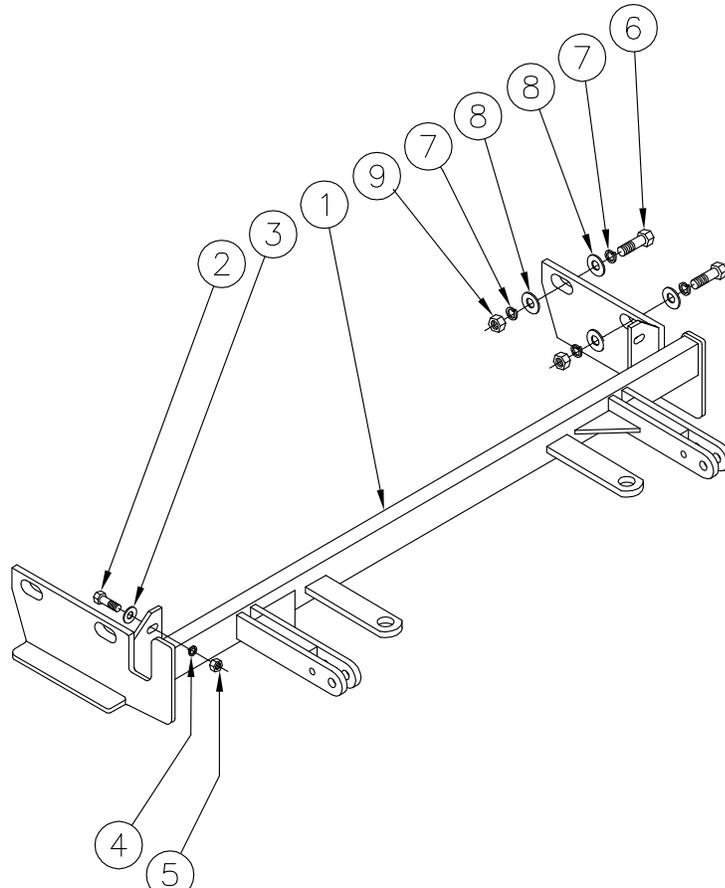
14. DEALER OR INSTALLER: BE CERTAIN THE USER RECEIVES THE INSTRUCTION SHEET.

Tools Required

18MM Socket	13MM Socket	15MM Wrench
Torx T30 Socket	3/4" Socket	3/4" Wrench
9/16" Socket	Loctite Blue	Utility Knife
Hacksaw	Universal socket extension	

Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part No.	Description
1	1	61-4937	Weldment, Baseplate, BX2130
2	2	201-0440	3/8-16 x 1 1/2" Hex Bolt, Grade 5, ZP
3	2	203-0003	3/8 Flat Washer, ZP
4	2	203-0010	3/8 Lock Washer, ZP
5	2	202-0071	3/8-16 Hex Flange Whiz Lock Nut, ZP
6	4	201-0051	1/2-13 x 1 1/2" Hex Bolt, Grade 5, ZP
7	8	203-0012	1/2" Lock Washer, ZP
8	8	203-0005	1/2" Flat Washer, ZP
9	4	202-0005	1/2" Hex Nut, ZP
	2	201-0979	#12-14 x 1" Self Drilling Screw, ZP (Not Shown)
	2	202-0047	#10-32 Hex Nut (Not Shown)
	2	203-0054	#10 Lock Washer (Not Shown)
	2	201-0192	10-32 X 1/2 Slot, RD. HD. Screw (Not Shown)
	2	101-5822	Adapter, 4 Way Connector (Not Shown)
	2	226-0046	Baseplate Safety Cable, 36" CL III (Not Shown)
	2	229-0359	Quicklink, 3/8, ZP (Not Shown)



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

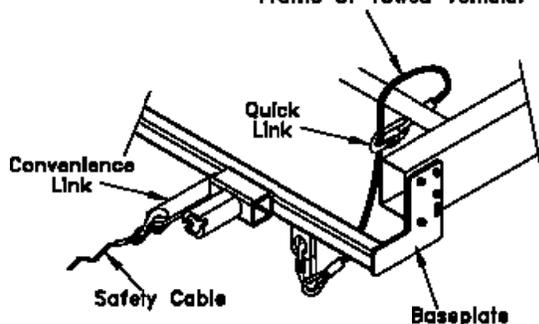
Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails 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.

