



## BX3605 Installation Instructions 1998-02 Subaru Forester

The belly pan needs to be removed and trimmed for the baseplate installation. The tie down brackets are removed and the original bolts are used for installing the baseplate.

1. Remove the plastic push pins in the front of the tires that hold the bumper molding to the fender well (two each).
2. Remove the plastic belly pan (four 12mm bolts and 2 plastic push pins). Locate and remove the tie down brackets (three bolts each). Save bolts.
3. Bolt the baseplate up to existing holes from the tie down brackets using the existing bolts. Use the hardware from bolt bag for the rear braces extending to the existing holes and nuts on the radiator support frame. **Use Loctite Blue or Red on each bolt to ensure the bolts do not loosen while car is being towed.**
4. Hold the belly pan up and locate where it needs to be notched around the two rear braces. Once this is done reinstall the belly pan. Reinstall the pins removed in Step 1.
5. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical cars can be considerable. It may be necessary to file a hole slightly to allow a bolt to clear.
6. Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in the packages. **Dealer or Installer: Be certain that the customer receives instruction sheet.**

### Tools Required

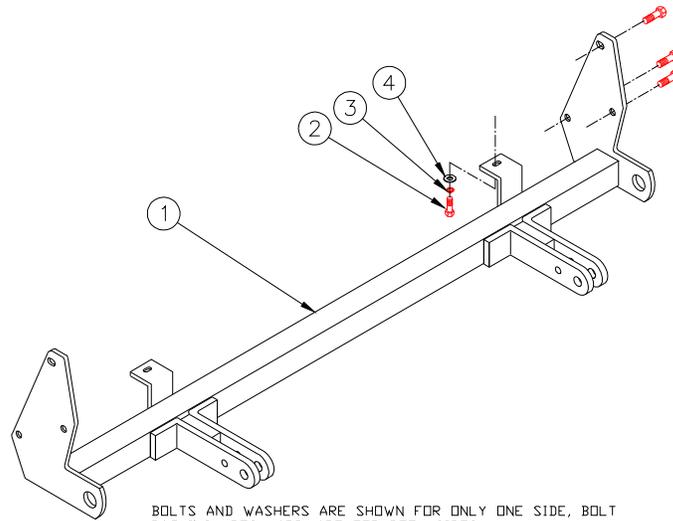
14MM Wrench  
Utility Knife

6MM Wrench

Loctite

### Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part No.	Description
1.	1	61-5225	Baseplate, BX3605
2.	2	201-0655	6MM -1.0 x 30mm Hex Bolts
3.	2	203-0001	1/4" Flat Washer
4.	2	203-0087	1/4" Internal Tooth Lock Washer
	2	226-0046	Baseplate Safety Cable, 36" CL III (Not Shown)
	4	229-0359	Quicklink, 3/8, ZP (Not Shown)



BOLTS AND WASHERS ARE SHOWN FOR ONLY ONE SIDE, BOLT BAG INCLUDES HARDWARE FOR BOTH SIDES. USE EXISTING BOLTS FOR HOLES IN SIDE PLATES.

# Automatic

# General Information

1. Ensure that your product(s) are registered online at [www.blueox.com](http://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

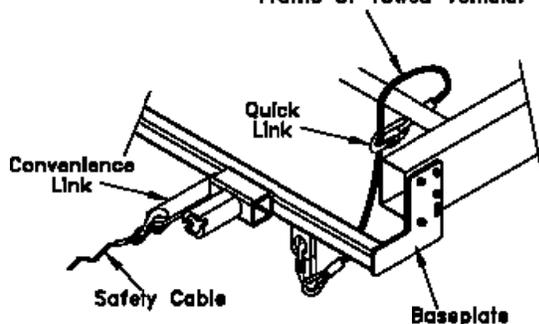
Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails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

