

INSTALLATION GUIDE

 **1 Hour**
Normal Install Time

Keep an eye out for these icons:

 **IMPORTANT!**
Important installation information

 **Helpful Hints**
Tips to assist installation

PARTS INCLUDED:



Base Plates
(2 wide, 2 narrow)



Aluminum
Cross Bars (2)



End
Caps (4)



Aluminum
Pipe Sockets (4)



5/16" Hex Bolts (16)



5/16" Plain
Washers (16)



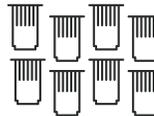
5/16" Nylon
Lock Nuts (16)



4' Sections of
Weatherstrip (2)



14' Section of
Weatherstrip



5/16" Aluminum
Rivet Nuts (8)



5/16" Stainless
Lock Washers (8)



Threaded Insert
Installation Tool

TOOLS REQUIRED:



Rubbing Alcohol
or Glass Cleaner



Clean, Lint-
Free Cloth



Scissors



4" C-Clamp



Drill



5/16"
Bit



1/2"
Bit



Hammer



Ratchet
Wrench



1/2"
Socket



1/2"
Wrench



5/16" Hex
Key

PREPARE THE BED

PRE-INSTALLATION NOTE: You must install your DiamondBack cover prior to installing the Ladder Rack. Refer to the **DiamondBack HD/SE Installation Guide** for details.

1 Open the cab and tailgate panels of the cover. Clean the tops of the bed rails thoroughly with a clean, lint-free cloth and rubbing alcohol or glass cleaner. Allow to dry.

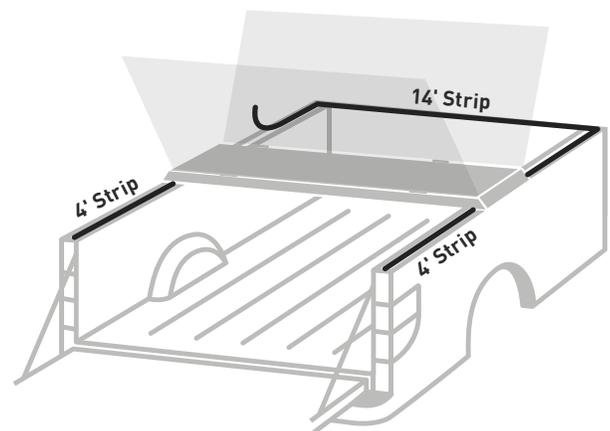
2 Affix the **14' section of weatherstrip** to the top of the bed rails under the cab panel to make a continuous gasket from the leading edge of the center panel on the passenger side to the same on the driver side. Press down firmly with your thumb as you proceed. Cut the excess.

 Never stretch the weatherstrip when applying. If you do, its adhesive will fail.

 If you've already installed the bulkhead weatherstrip that came with your cover, split the 14' section of weatherstrip to run a pair of shorter gaskets up to the bulkhead weatherstrip instead.

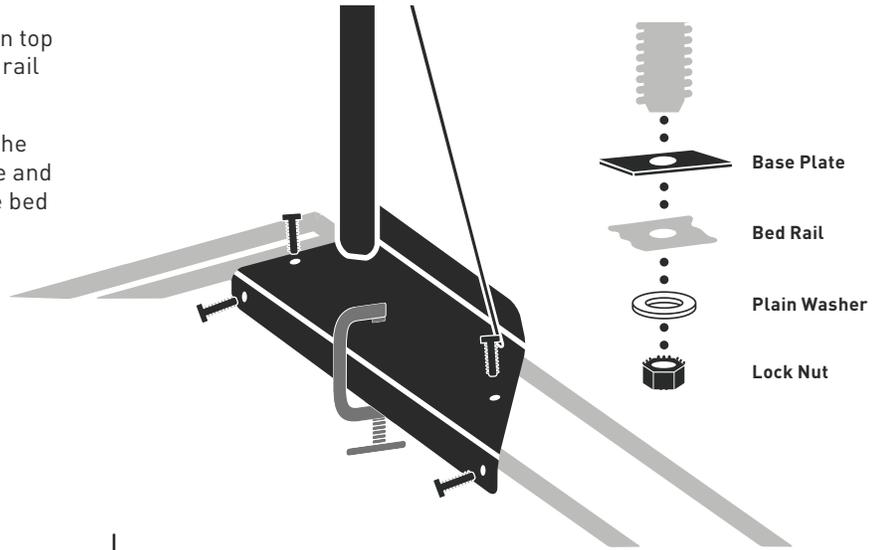
3 Affix a **4' section of weatherstrip** to the top of each bed rail under the tailgate panel to make gaskets from the trailing edge of the center panel to inside of the tailgate.

 Ideally, when you close the cover, this new weatherstrip meets up with the perimeter weatherstrip of the cover itself.



MOUNT THE BASE PLATES

- 4 Clamp a **wide base plate** to the passenger-side bed rail, on top of the weatherstrip, as tight against the bulkhead and bed rail lip as possible.
- 5 Close and re-open the cab panel slowly to verify it clears the post. If it does not, confirm you are using a wide base plate and double-check that it is as far forward and tight against the bed rail as possible.
- 6 Drill two 5/16" bolt holes down through the base plate and bed rail at points that
 - A. will allow access to attach a washer and lock nut to the bolt ends, and
 - B. are as far toward the ends of the base plates as possible.



! If it is impossible to drill a bolt hole in a place that will allow you access to the bolt end, drill larger, 1/2" holes and refer to steps I-IV at right to install rivet nuts.

★ The base plates are thick, hard, and difficult to drill. Operate your drill at low RPM and use a lot of coolant to avoid dulling your drill bit.

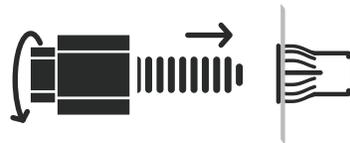
- 7 Repeat step 6 to make two horizontal holes through the base-plate flange and bed rail lip.
- 8 Insert a hex bolt into each typical hole. For rivet-nut holes, insert the bolt through a lock washer first.
- 9 Put a plain washer and lock nut onto the end of each typical-hole bolt.
- 10 Tighten the lock nuts using a 1/2" socket and a 1/2" wrench. Tighten the bolts in the rivet nuts with a 1/2" socket.
- 11 Repeat steps 4-10 on the driver side.
- 12 Repeat steps 4-11 at the rear of the truck to install the **narrow base plates**, using the tailgate to guide base-plate placement instead of the bulkhead.

HOW TO INSTALL RIVET NUTS:

- I Hammer an **aluminum rivet nut** into the hole.
- !** Do not install rivet nuts through plastic bed rail caps or plastic bedliners. (Spray-on bedliners are fine.) Use a utility knife to trim the plastic so that the rivet nuts' outer flange can sit tightly against the body of the truck itself.

- II Insert the installation-tool mandrel into a rivet nut. Hand-tighten it until its hexagonal sleeve is tight to the face of the rivet nut.

- III Use a 9/16" wrench to hold the sleeve as you tighten the mandrel with a 1/2" socket until the rivet nut deforms and locks against the interior of the bed wall.

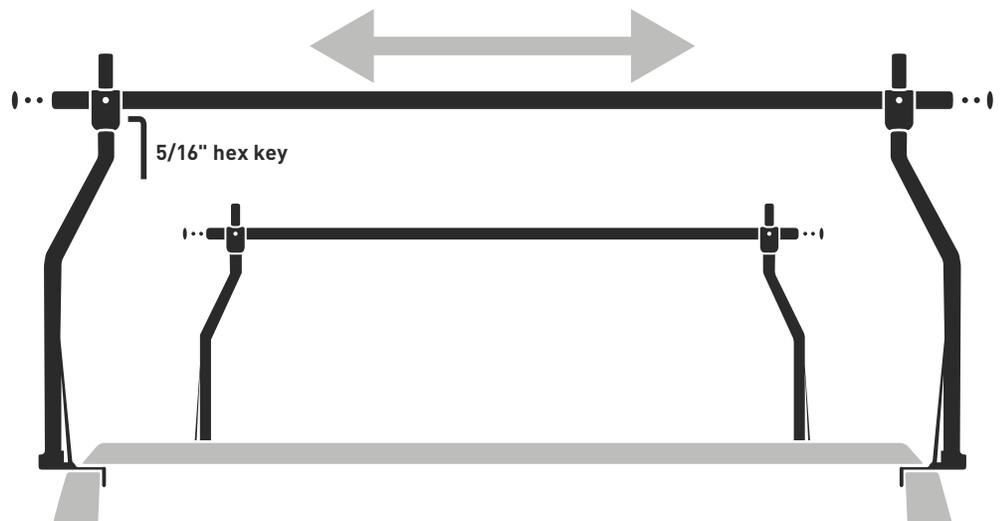


★ You'll know the rivet nut is fully compressed when you feel the mandrel become very difficult to turn.

- IV Remove the installation tool by unscrewing the mandrel.

INSTALL THE CROSSBARS

- 13 Place a **pipe socket** onto each post.
- 14 Slide a **crossbar** through each pair of pipe sockets.
- 15 Secure the position of each pipe socket by tightening its lower set screw with a 5/16" hex key.
- 16 Use the upper set screws to secure the crossbars centered and the posts vertical.
- 17 Insert an **end cap** into each crossbar end.



★ You may find that the lock rods on your DiamondBack cover are now more difficult to operate. If so, use the rod guide brackets and a 7/16" socket to lower the lock rods slightly.