

# 88-98 GM 1500 Hidden Winch Tray

Thank you for choosing Rough Country for all of your suspension needs.

Rough Country recommends that a certified technician install this system. In addition to these instructions, professional knowledge of disassemble/reassembly procedures as well as post installation checks must be known. Attempts to install this system without this knowledge and expertise may jeopardize the integrity and/or operating safety of the vehicle. Please read all the instructions before beginning the installation. Check the kit hardware against the "Kit Contents" list below. If question exist, please call us @1-800-222-7023. We will be happy to answer any questions concerning this product. Check all fasteners for proper torque. Check to ensure for adequate clearance between all components. Check and retighten wheels at 50 miles and again at 500 miles. Periodically check all hardware for tightness. Be sure you have all the needed parts and understand where they go. Also, please review the "Tools Needed" list to be certain you have the necessary tools to complete the installation.

# PRODUCT USE INFORMATION

This hidden winch tray was designed specifically around the Rough Country 9500lb and 12,000lb winches with synthetic rope. Others may fit, but have not been verified. Proper use of the winch and recovery equipment must be followed and is on the end user to learn before hand. Setting tension on newly purchased winch rope is necessary before use.

#### **TOOLS NEEDED:**

Cutoff Disc Sander/Grinder Painters Tape Marker Metric Wrench/Socket

17mm 18mm 19mm

# KIT CONTENTS:

Hidden Winch Tray (1)
Fairlead Mount (1)
Nut Tab (2)
Cable Extension Kit (1)

#### **OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT:**

Tow Hook Brackets
D-Rings
Winch Strap
Snatch Block
Quick Release License Plate Holder

### **HARDWARE INCLUDED:**

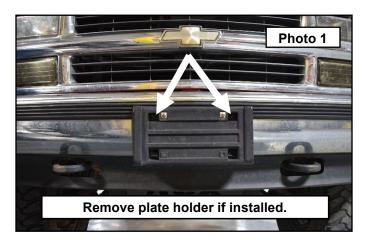
10mm Bolt (4) M12 Bolt (4) M12 Flat Washer (4) M12 Lock Washer (4) 1/4" Bolt (2) 1/4" Washer (4) 1/4" Nut (2) #8 x 1" Bolt (2) #8 Lock Nut (2)

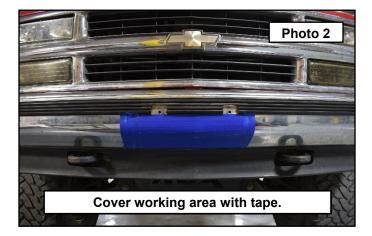




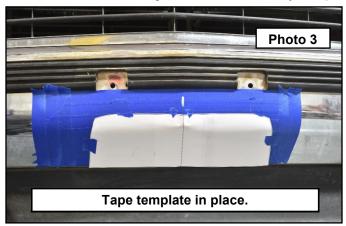
#### **Hidden Winch Installation**

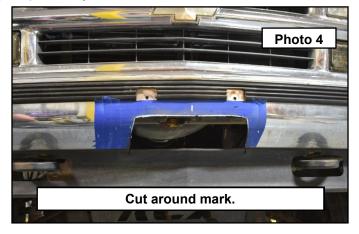
- 1. Before beginning, Make sure your factory bumper is centered in frame and the grill. Care taken now to make sure this is done will help to lead to a clean looking and proper installation.
- 2. If you have a license plate frame, remove this from the bumper using a 10mm socket. Photo 1
- 3. Clean the bumper off using a degreaser. Use painters tape to cover the area of bumper as shown. Photo 2



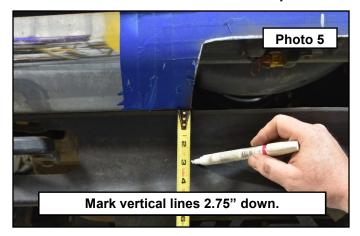


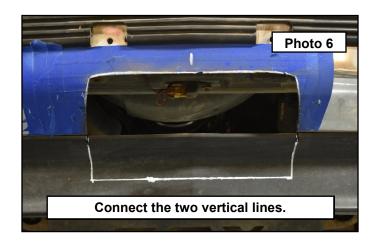
- 4. Cut out the template halves from the instruction booklet and tape together. Tape to the bumper using the valance as a guide if vehicle has one. If vehicle is missing the valance, use the straight edge of the template and tape to the bumper 1" from the back edge. Mark around the template. This is only a guide and may need more cutting, grinding, and/or sanding for a clean, flush look. So cut to the inside of the lines made. Photo 3
- 5. Use a suitable cutting device, cut the factory bumper along the previously made marks. Photo 4



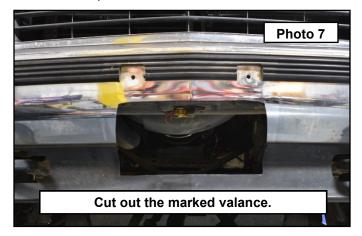


- 6. If your vehicle still has the factory plastic valance, mark a vertical line down 2.75" from the bumper. Repeat for both sides. **Photo 5**
- 7. Connect the two vertical lines horizontally. Photo 6





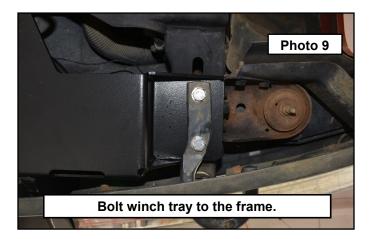
- 8. Use a suitable cutting device and cut out the valance. **Photo 7**
- 9. Slide the provided nut tabs into the frame rails. Photo 8





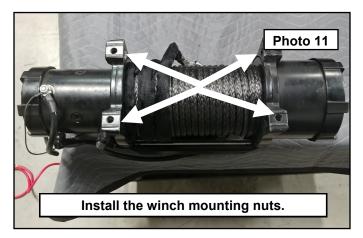
- 10. Bolt the empty winch tray to the frame loosely using the provided 12mm bolts and washers. Photo 9
- 11. Hold the fairlead mount up to the bumper to see if you have removed enough material to bolt it to the winch tray.

  Grind / sand material off the bumper until you get a good clean fit. Once you can bolt the fairlead into place, remove the winch tray. **Photo 10**



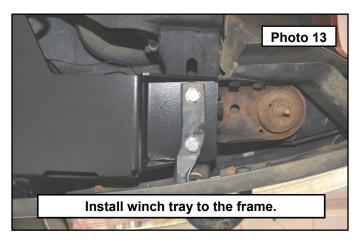


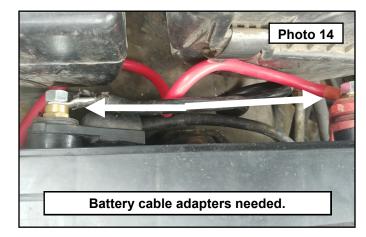
- 12. Install the winch mounting nuts (supplied with winch) into the recessed openings in the winch. Photo 11
- 13. Install the winch and the fairlead mount to the winch tray using the provided 10mm bolts (supplied with kit, Do Not use bolts from winch kit), lock and flat washers (supplied with winch). Make sure the winch rope is routed out of the bottom of the tray. Torque to 45 ft-lbs. **Photo 12**





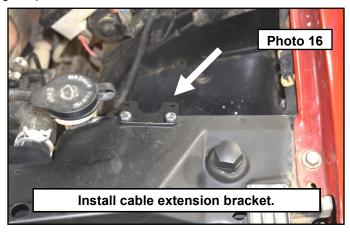
- 14. Install the winch tray back to the frame rail using the provided 12mm bolts, lock and flat washers. Use of a floor jack or other jack can aid in the installation. If you have the factory tow hooks, you can install them but due to variances in the tow hooks, you may have to grind a little off them if they make contact with the tray supports. If you have purchased the optional d-ring hook adapters, Install them at this time. Torque all to 85 ft-lbs. **Photo 13**
- 15. Run the winch power cables directly to the battery. Depending on your style of battery connections, you may need to purchase adapters to properly bolt on the winch cables. These can be found at your local auto parts supplier. **Photo**14



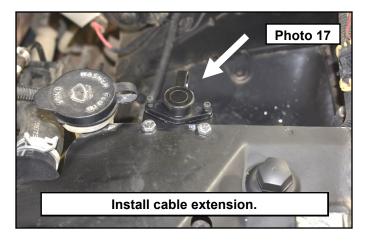


- 16. Unspool enough rope to attach the hook using the supplied cross pin and cotter pin. Photo 15
- 17. Install the cable extension mount the bracket (core support on driver side shown). Mark the two mounting holes and drill out using a 1/4" drill bit. Mount the bracket in place using the provided 1/4" hardware. **Photo16**





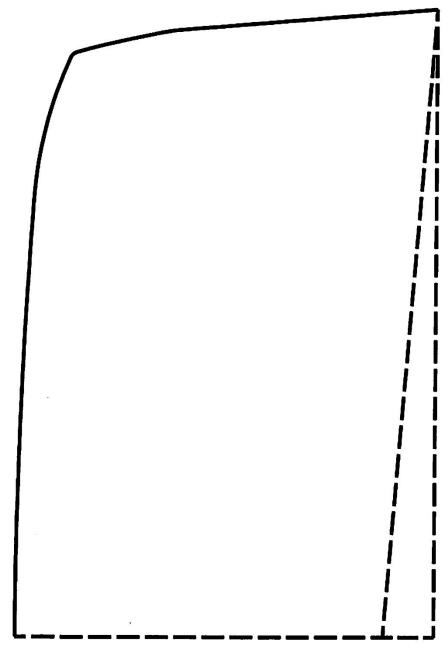
18. Install cable extender using the provided #8 hardware. Route cable to the winch control box and plug in. Photo 17



items.

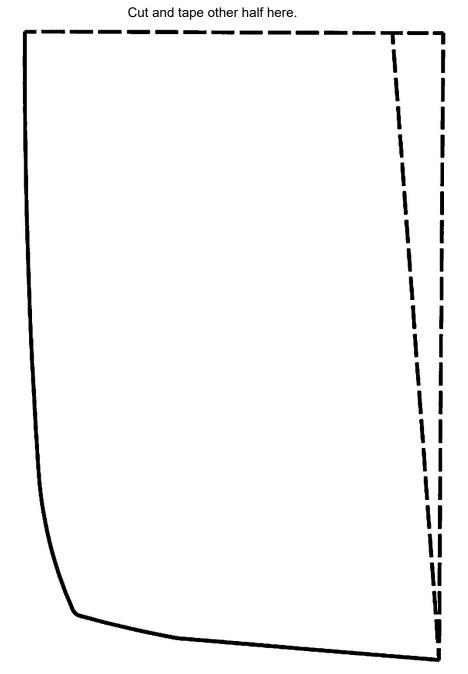
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This template is a guide and should be taken as much. It is up to the installer to use their digression in trimming to insure a good fitting final product.



Cut and tape other half here.





Slanted line to be used if vehicle has a valance. Straight line to be used if vehicle is missing the valance.

