



**BLUE OX®**

Baseplate Installation Instructions

# BX3515 2001-03 Suzuki Grand Vitara & XL7 Installation Instructions

Serial Number

**Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Instructions before attempting to install or operate this equipment.**

- Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment necessary and knowledge to do "fit work". When necessary Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at [www.blueox.us](http://www.blueox.us) or by contacting our Customer Care Department at (402) 385-3051 or toll free (888) 425-5382.
- Many Blue Ox® Baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware specified in the Baseplate Installation Instructions.

Attachment Tabs are centered at 22 3/4".

### Bolt Torque Specifications

Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117

Confirm the towability and pre-towing procedures for your vehicle with the owner's manual or contact the vehicle's manufacturer for specific towing procedures.

### Bolt Torque Specifications

Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4"	10	14
5/16"	19	29
3/8"	33	47
7/16"	54	78
1/2"	78	119
5/8"	154	230

## **WARNING**

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

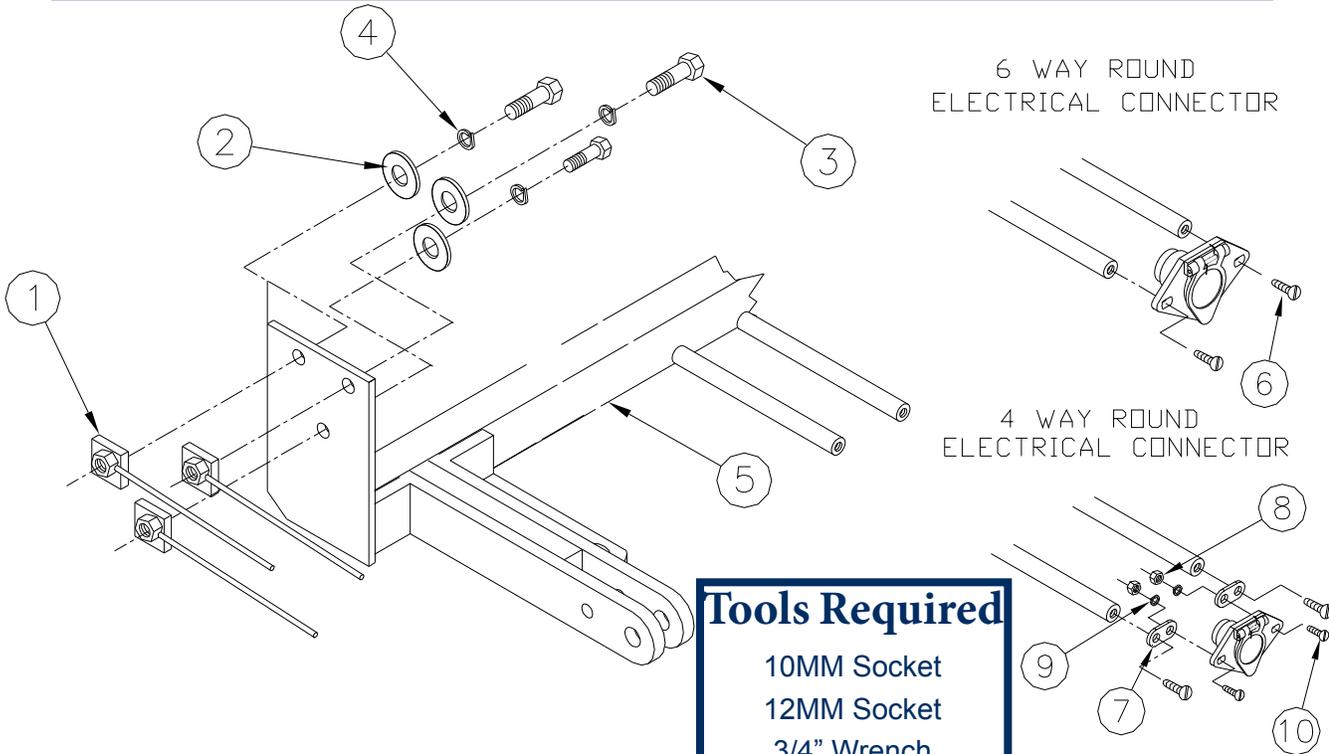
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#### Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part #	Description
1	6	61-5208	3/8 Nut Plate 1/4 x 1 x 1 with Wire
2	6	203-0003	3/8 Flat Washer, ZP
3	6	201-0440	3/8-16 x 1 1/2 Hex Bolt, Grade 5
4	6	203-0010	3/8 Lock Washer
5	1	61-5555	Baseplate, BX3515
6	2	201-0979	#12-14 x 1" Self Drilling Screw, ZP
7	2	101-5822	Adapter, 4 way Connector
8	2	202-0047	#10-32 Hex Nut
9	2	203-0054	#10 Lock washer
10	2	201-0192	#10-32 x 1/2 Slot, Rd. Hd Screw
	2	226-0046	Baseplate Safety Cable, 36" CL III (Not Shown)
	4	229-0359	Quicklink, 3/8, ZP (Not Shown)



#### Tools Required

- 10MM Socket
- 12MM Socket
- 3/4" Wrench
- 3/8" Drill Bit
- 1/2" Drill Bit
- Drill
- Utility Knife
- LOCTITE Red

#### Important:

Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do NOT substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor, or call our Customer Care Team at (402)385-3051.

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### **Standard Tabs:**

To use certain adapters or a RangeFinderII towbar in conjunction with standard tab baseplates an additional 5/16" hole must be drilled in the attachment tabs. The Ambassador tow bar will require an adapter for attachment tabs that are not 24" wide. The Adventurer tow bar will require an adapter for attachment tabs that are less than 24" wide. The Acclaim tow bar will not fold and store without the use of an adapter on vehicles with attachment tabs less than 24" wide.

### **Instructions:**

**The baseplate mounts to the main frame of the vehicle. Six holes need to be drilled for installation. The attachment tabs will extend through the grill opening approximately four inches. The grill, bumper and headlights are removed for baseplate installation.**

**The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturer's tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods, and/ or bending end plates.**

**The BX8869 Bulb and Socket Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.**

1. Open the hood and remove the push pins from the top of the grill. Remove the pins from the grill and gently pull the grill out of its holding position (not on all models).
2. Remove the headlights by removing the three bolts (for each assembly).
3. Notice and remove the push pins (Phillip head) on the top of the bumper molding. Remove the push pins or Phillip head screws (depending on the year) from in front of the drivers and passengers side front tires. Use a 10mm wrench or socket and remove the bolt on the drivers and passengers side in front of the tires. There are also bolts that need to be removed on the bottom side of the bumper fascia. Gently pull the bumper forward and off its holding position.
4. Remove the bracket assembly on the passenger side of the back side of the metal bumper. Remove the bolts and disconnect the wiring. Set the piece aside. This will be replaced after the baseplate is installed. The piece is removed for ease of drilling the passenger side of the baseplate.
5. Notice the plastic wire loom (passenger side) on the inside of the frame that is attached with a plastic clip, pull out the clip. On the drivers side frame is a similar hole, drill both holes out to 3/8" diameter.

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6. Hold up the baseplate so the front bolt holes align with the drilled holes on the frame. Insert the 3/8" bolts into the baseplate and existing holes. Place the bumper back in place to see if baseplate is positioned properly. Remove bumper and reposition baseplate if necessary. Be sure the baseplate is level and mark the other side plate holes. Once the holes have been marked remove the baseplate from the vehicle.

7. Drill the holes to 3/8". Install the baseplate using the 3/8" hardware (all six wire nut plates will be inserted through the front holes on the metal bumper). Once all six bolts have been started, tighten according to the chart in the General Instruction Sheet.

8. Replace the inside bracket and connect wiring (from Step 4). Replace the bumper molding and grill (not on all models). Also replace the headlight assemblies.

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

Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning **BEFORE** installing the fascia.

Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in their packages.

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

**DEALER OR INSTALLER: BE CERTAIN THE USER RECEIVES THE INSTRUCTION SHEETS.**

### CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT

Blue Ox is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call 1-800-228-9289 and you can speak with our customer care team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it's in proper working condition. Also as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory you can stay at our full service Blue Ox campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.



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# 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

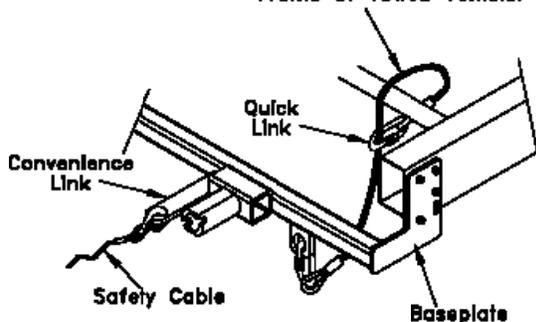
Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails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

