

# Topper Installation Guide



**BRANDFX**  
B O D Y C O M P A N Y

## A. Check Mounting Kit

Check to make sure that all of the following items are included in the mounting kit. Call 515-272-4372 if you need to obtain a part from BrandFX.

- Double-stick tape (1 roll)**
- White silicone caulk (1 tube)**
- Trim-Lok weather strip (9 feet)**
- 5/16" x 3" hex head bolts (4)**
- 5/16" x 1-1/2" hex head bolts (10)**
- 5/16" x 1" hex head bolts (2)**
- 5/16" nylock nuts (16)**
- 5/16" fender washers (24)**
- 3/16" x 1" Phillips head bolts (4)**
- 3/16" x 3/4" flat washers (8)**
- 3/16" nylock nuts (4)**
- 1/4" x 5/8" self-tapping bolts (7)**
- Galvanized thresholds (3 total: 1 left, 1 right, 1 center)**

## B. Remove Tailgate

**Step B1:** Remove the tailgate and, if possible, the tailgate hinges from the pickup box.

**Step B2:** Remove if possible any protruding tailgate-latch and hinge studs from the pickup box.

## C. Clamp Topper Shell to Pickup Box

**Step C1:** Position the Topper shell on the pickup box. The shell must be flush with the forward edge of the box and centered side-to-side.

**Step C2:** Using at least two clamps per side, clamp the shell to the side rails of the box so that it will not move when you are drilling the bolt holes.

## D. Drill Bolt Holes Through Topper Shell and Bed Rails

**Step D1:** You will be drilling four 3/8" holes per side, in the approximate locations shown in DIAGRAM 1. In order to determine exactly where to drill, look under each bed rail and identify and mark four unobstructed points that are as close to being equally spaced apart as possible, in order to ensure a good seal when everything is tightened down.

**Step D2:** If you are installing the Topper on a full-size pickup you should have enough clearance to drill without unclamping and removing the Topper shell. Go ahead and drill the eight bolt holes and proceed to Step E1. If you do not have adequate clearance for drilling with the Topper shell clamped in position proceed to Step D3 below.

**Step D3:** With the Topper shell still clamped in place, mark the hole locations identified in Step D1 directly on the Topper's flanges (if you have not already done so).

**Step D4:** Unclamp and remove the Topper shell. Transfer the marks made in Step D3 to the bottom sides of the flanges to make drilling easier. Now drill a 3/8" hole in each of these eight locations.

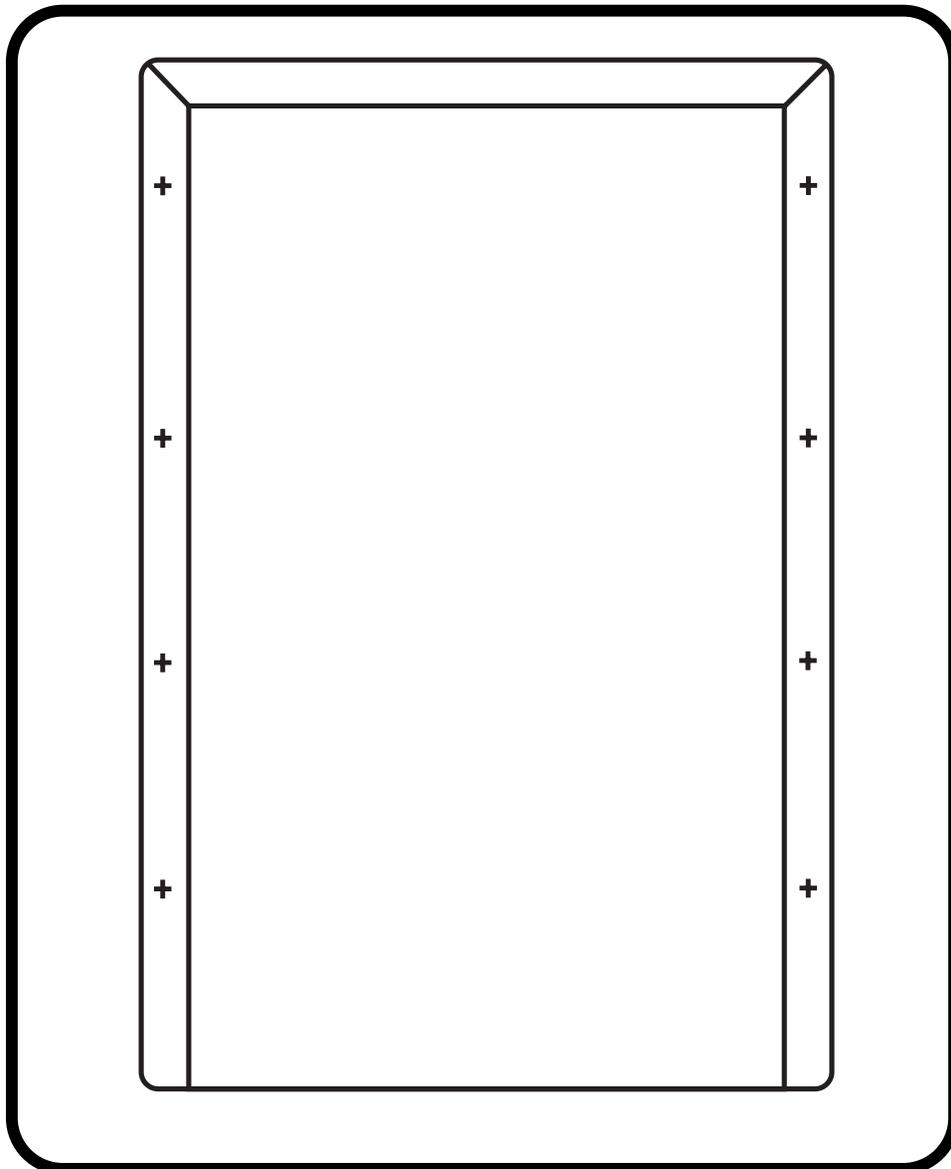
**Step D5:** Replace the Topper shell on the pickup box, again aligning the front and sides as directed in Step C1. Clamp the shell in place and score or otherwise mark hole locations on the side rails of the pickup box through the holes drilled in the shell.

**Step D6:** Unclamp and remove the Topper shell. Drill a 3/8" hole in each of the eight locations marked on the side rails of the pickup box in Step D5.

**Step D7:** Replace the Topper shell on the pickup box, aligning the holes in the shell with those in the bed rails. Again clamp the shell to the side rails of the box using at least two clamps per side.

## DIAGRAM 1

# BASIC TOPPER BASE

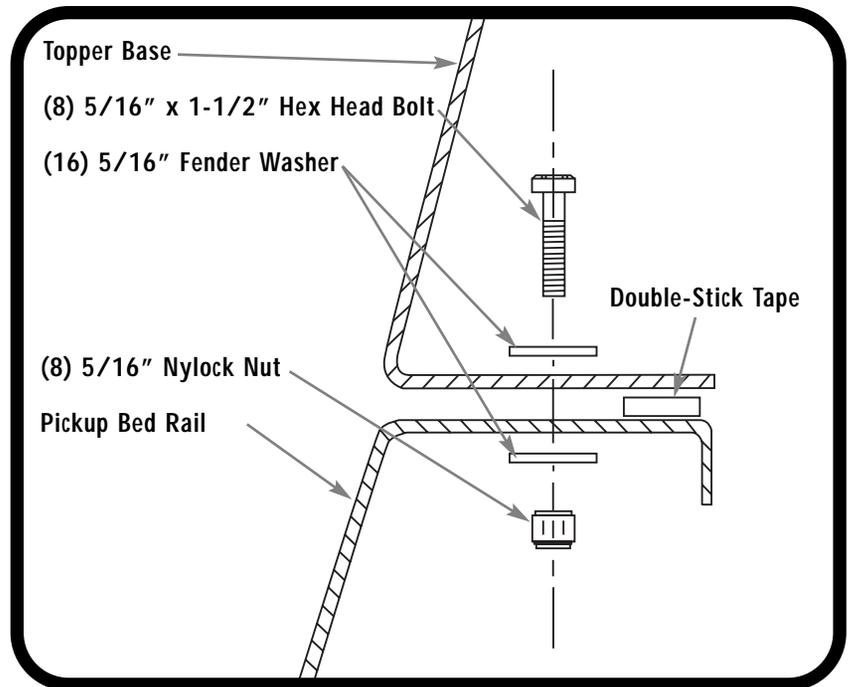


## E. Apply Double-Stick Tape and Bolt Topper Shell to Pickup Box

DIAGRAM 2

**Step E1:** You will be applying tape to the bed rails of the pickup box, not to the Topper shell. Begin by unclamping and elevating one side of the shell.

**Step E2:** Leave the protective paper on the tape and start at the forward end of a side rail. Align the tape with the rail's inner edge and press the tape firmly into place. Then, smoothly and carefully continue peeling back the protective paper while pressing down the tape until you have covered the length of the rail. Cut the end, but **DO NOT REMOVE THE PROTECTIVE PAPER FROM THE UPPER SURFACE OF THE TAPE STRIP.**



**Step E3:** Without unclamping the other side of the shell, lift the shell high enough to permit applying a strip of double-stick tape to one half of the front bed rail. Be sure to align the tape with the rail's inner edge, and do not overlap the side strip.

**Step E4:** Now remove the protective paper from the top surfaces of the tape strips applied in Steps E3 and E4.

**Step E5:** Carefully lower the Topper shell onto the double-stick strips and bolt it to the side rail using the hardware shown in DIAGRAM 2. (Note that you will be using one 5/16" x 1-1/2" hex head bolt, two 5/16" fender washers, and one 5/16" nylock nut for each of the four hole locations.)

**Step E6:** Unclamp the other side of the Topper shell and repeat Steps E2 through E5 to complete the shell installation.

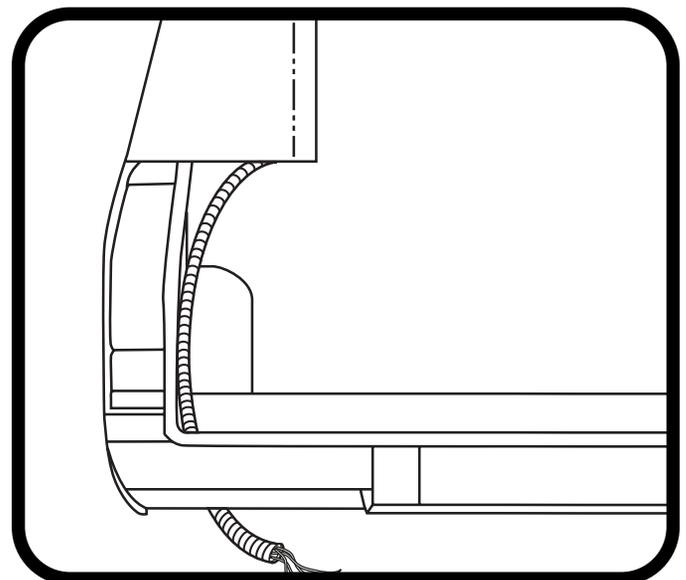
DIAGRAM 3

## F. Route the Wiring Harness

**Step F1:** Run the wiring harness along the left (driver's) side of the vehicle, out the pickup box, and behind the rear bumper (see DIAGRAM 3).

**Step F2:** Continue routing the wiring harness along or through the truck frame as necessary to complete all electrical connections in compliance with manufacturer-recommended practices. The wires are color-coded as follows:

- White = Ground
- Blue = Interior lights (requires in-line fuse)
- Purple = Flood lights
- Red = Third brake light
- Yellow = Strobe light



## G. Install Rear Door Assembly

**Step G1:** The Topper's rear door assembly is shipped loose. See DIAGRAM 4 and note the areas of the tail section that will receive the Trim-Lok weather strip. (The tail section is the lower part of the assembly that closes off the tailgate opening of the pickup box.) Apply Trim-Lok weather strip to the sides and bottom of the tail section as shown in DIAGRAM 4.

**Step G2:** Place the door assembly in its installed position on the vehicle. Lift the assembly so that the upper edges of the tail section make contact with the base of the Topper shell. Clamp the assembly to the shell to keep it in place while drilling.

**Step G3:** Now drill four 5/16" holes through the upper area of the door frame and the Topper shell in the locations shown in DIAGRAM 5. Bolt the frame to the shell using four 5/16" x 3" bolts. Use only one washer per bolt, and place the washer on the inside of the shell, between the shell and the nylock nut inserted from the outside in.

**Step G4:** You will be drilling two 3/16" holes on each side of the door opening. See DIAGRAM 6 for the locations of the holes and the hardware needed to secure the tail section of the door assembly to the base of the Topper shell. Drill vertically and install the 3/16" x 1" bolts, washers, and nylock nuts as shown, in the same way you bolted the shell to the bed rails (i.e., two washers per bolt assembly).

DIAGRAM 4

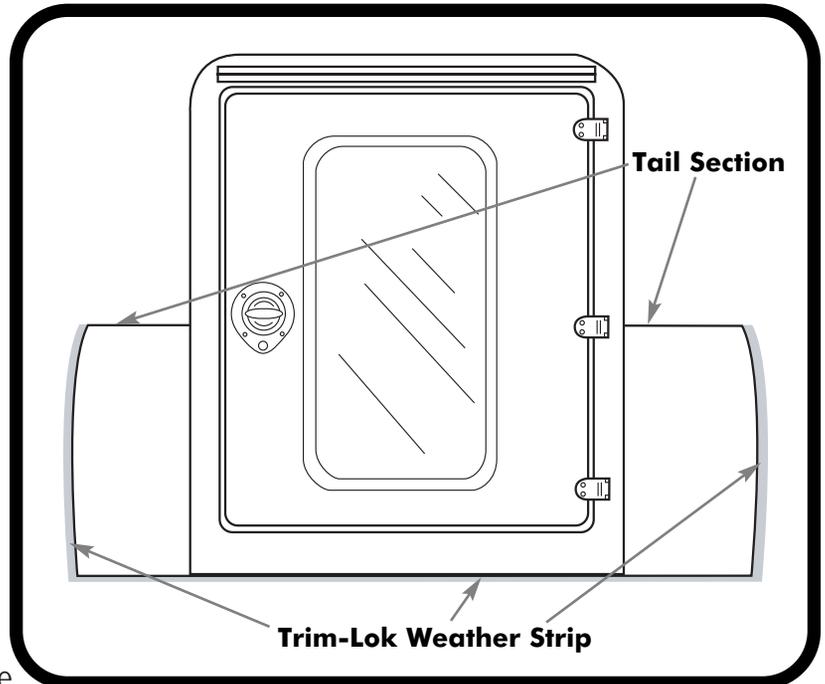


DIAGRAM 5

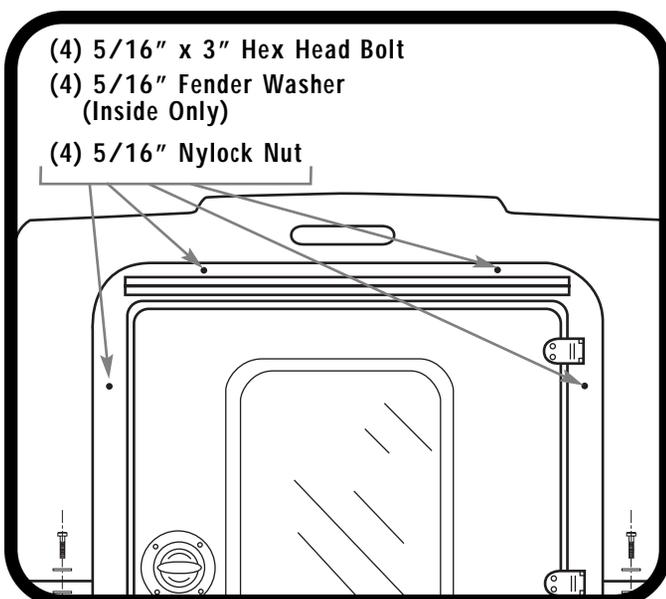
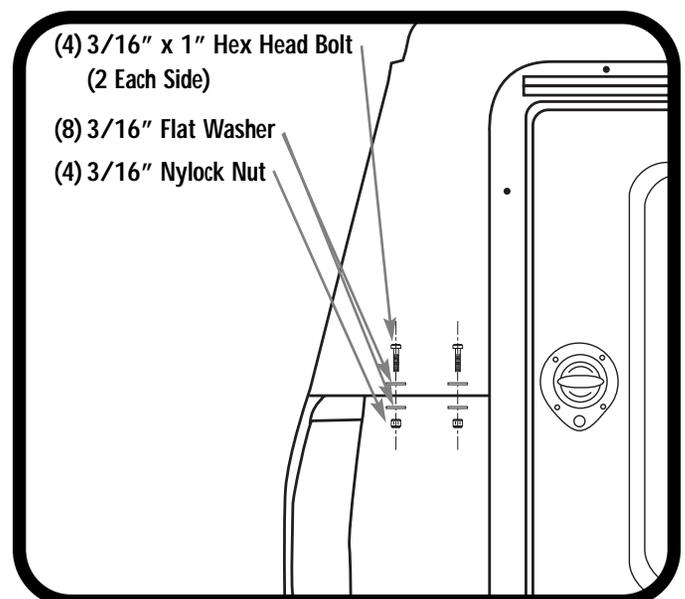


DIAGRAM 6



## H. Install Left & Right Threshold Plates

**Step H1:** Galvanized threshold plates secure the tail section of the door assembly to the tailgate opening. You will be installing three threshold plates: the left plate, the right plate, and the center plate. See DIAGRAM 7 and note that the left and right plates are not interchangeable.

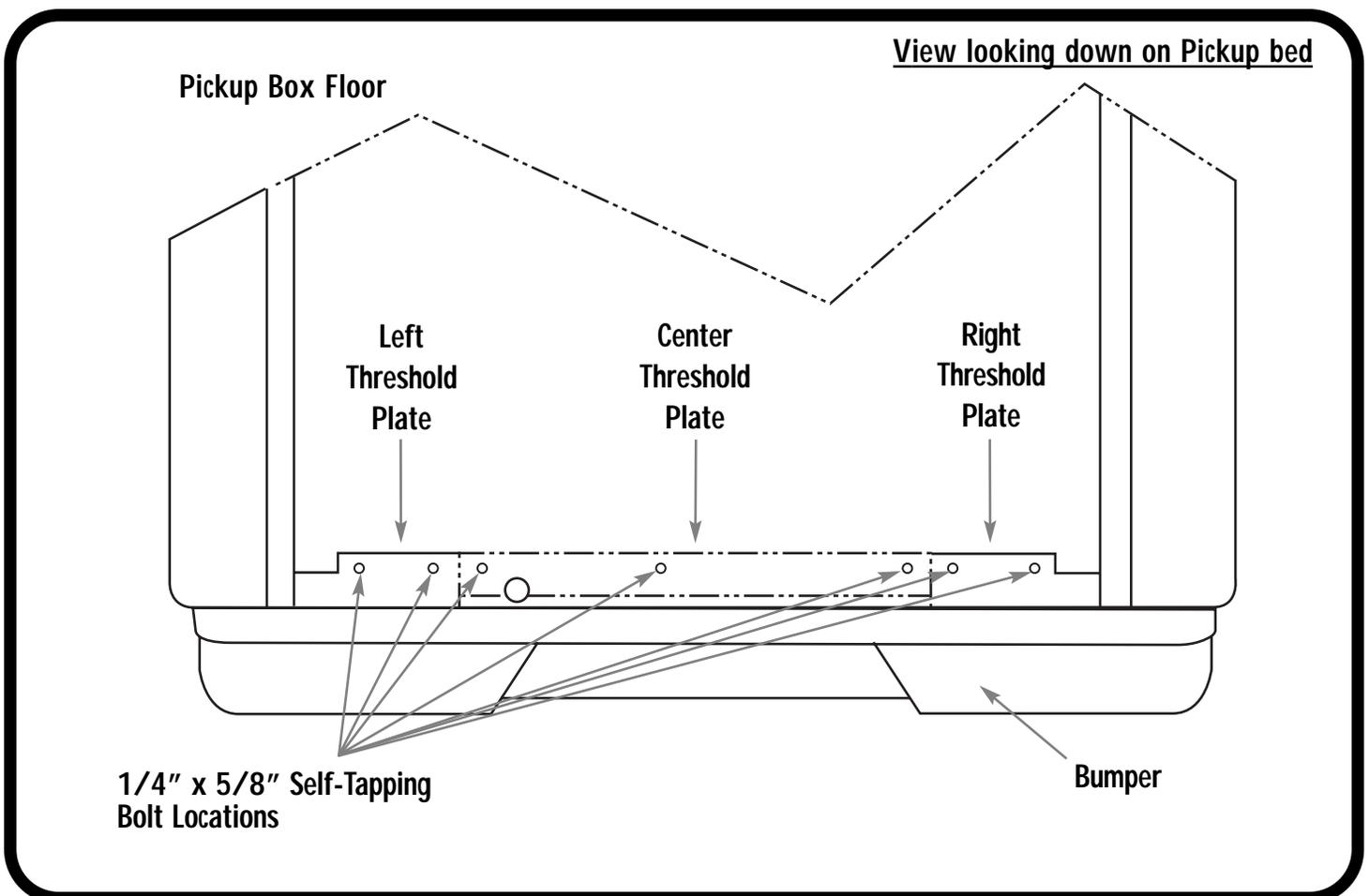
**Step H2:** From outside the vehicle, position the left and right threshold plates within the pickup box as shown in DIAGRAM 7. Place the 5" side of each threshold plate against the floor and the 2" side against the inside surface of the tail section. The left and right threshold plates must be at least 36" apart.

**Step H3:** Climb inside the Topper and drill two 5/16" holes through the upright of each threshold plate and all the way through the tail section of the door assembly.

**Step H4:** Bolt the left and right threshold plates to the tail section using the hardware shown in DIAGRAM 8. Note that 1" bolts are used for the outermost holes, and 1-1/2" bolts are used for the holes closest to the door opening.

**Step H5:** Press the bottom of the tail section firmly against the vehicle and, maintaining pressure, drill two 7/32" holes through each threshold plate and into the pickup box floor (see locations in DIAGRAM 7). Use four 1/4" x 5/8" self-tapping bolts to secure the left and right threshold plates to the floor.

**DIAGRAM 7**



## I. Install Center Threshold Plate

**Step I1:** Place the center threshold plate in the position shown in DIAGRAM 7, with its lip on top of the door's rubber gasket. All three threshold plates should line up straight across on the bed side, and the door rod should slide through the access hole or slot.

**Step I2:** Drill three 7/32" holes through the center threshold plate and into the pickup box floor, in the locations shown in DIAGRAM 7. Secure the center threshold plate to the pickup box floor using three 1/4" x 5/8" self-tapping bolts as shown in DIAGRAM 8.

## J. Apply White Silicone Caulk

**Step J1:** With the white silicone caulk, seal around the top of the door frame and across the tops of the wings in the area shown in DIAGRAM 9 to complete the Topper installation.

DIAGRAM 8

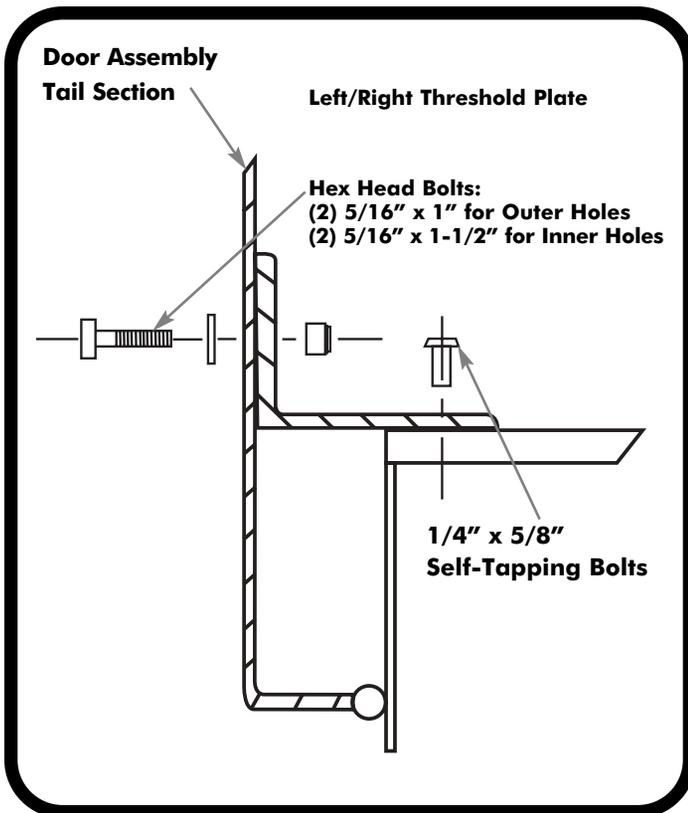
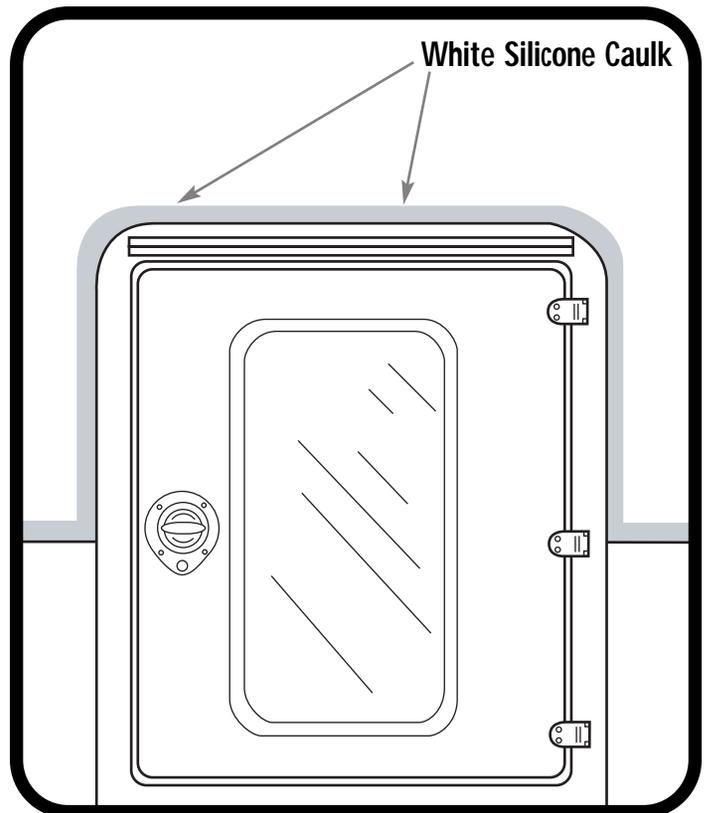


DIAGRAM 9





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