

Protecting Your Adventure Lifestyle

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## <u>Diamond Plate & Steel Tailgate Covers</u> INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS







**IMPORTANT:** Warrior recommends the installation method of drilling holes and pop-riveting the tailgate cover into place. Any other method of attachment, gaskets or sealants used is up to the discretion of the installer. All covers are designed to overlay the existing factory tailgate with provisions for the factory hinges and latches.

**BEFORE INSTALLING:** Ensure that your tailgate is clean and free of damage.

- 1. Newer model Wranglers have plastic hinge covers that will need to be carefully removed.
- 2. Primer or paint any bare metal surfaces of the tailgate to prevent future rust issues.
- 3. Hold the tailgate cover in place by lining it up evenly around the perimeter and designate the areas for pop-riveting the cover into place. Warrior recommends at least 8 rivets in the cover. 4 across the top edge and 4 across the bottom edge evenly spaced. You may also choose to add 2 pop-rivets along each vertical edge evenly spaced. Mark these holes on the tailgate cover and then drill the 3/16" holes at those marks through the tailgate cover. Deburr the holes then carefully use the tailgate cover as a template to mark the same 8 holes in the tailgate itself.
- 4. You should now have at least 8 holes drilled in your cover and tailgate. We recommended that you paint around the surface of the holes you drilled into the tailgate to seal them from rusting. A touch up paint kit from your dealer works well for this. Allow some time for the paint to dry.
- 5. Optional: To keep moisture and dirt out from between the tailgate and cover, you may want to seal the perimeter of the cover to the tailgate with some silicone sealant. Perform this step now if desired.
- 6. Place the tailgate cover onto the tailgate and begin pop-riveting the tailgate into place. A simple handheld pop-rivet tool can be found at virtually any hardware store.
- 7. If you choose to re-install your plastic hinge covers, they may require some trimming of the bottom edge to compensate for the added thickness of the tailgate cover metal.
- 8. This completes your installation. Warrior recommends our line of rear corners, back plates, and side plates to compliment your tailgate cover. For more information, visit www.warriorproducts.com