Please visit www.blueox.com for the latest version of these installation instructions.



### **BX1303** 2002-2006 BMW Mini Cooper (Includes S) (No JCW) 2006-2008 BMW Mini Cooper Convertible (Includes S) (No JCW) Manual Transmission Only Installation Instructions

Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Information sheet prior to installing or operating this equipment.

#### Serial Number

- Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge necessary to do "fit work". If needed, Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> Dealers can be found at www.blueox.com or by contacting our Technical Service Department at (402) 385-3051.
- Many Blue Ox<sup>®</sup> 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 the hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware as specified in the installation instructions.



If the front of your vehicle looks different than this, please contact us at (402)385-3051.

Reference your vehicle owner's manual for manufacturer's towing specifications.

Attachment Tab Height: 10.5"

Attachment Tab Width: 18"

| <b>Bolt Torque Specifications</b><br>Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts |         |         |  |
|---|---------|---------|--|
| Bolt Size   | Grade 5 | Grade 8 |  |
| 1/4"  | 10      | 14      |  |
| 5/16"   | 19      | 29      |  |
| 2/8"  | 33      | 47      |  |

| 3/0   | 33  | 47  |  |
|-------|-----|-----|--|
| 7/16" | 54  | 78  |  |
| 1/2"  | 78  | 119 |  |
| 5/8"  | 154 | 230 |  |
| 3/4"  | 257 | 380 |  |
|       |     |     |  |

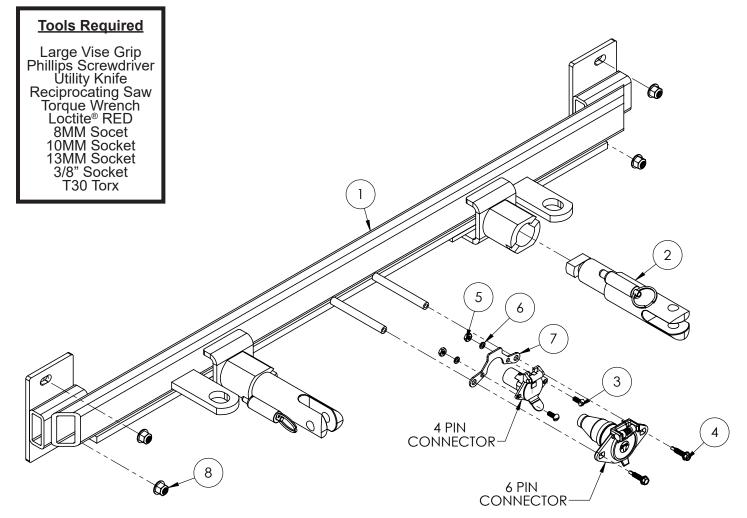
| Bolt Torque Specifications<br>Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts |           |            |  |
|--|-----------|------------|--|
| Bolt Size  | Grade 8.8 | Grade 10.9 |  |
| 6MM  | 6         | 8          |  |
| 8MM  | 16        | 22         |  |
| 10MM   | 31        | 40         |  |
| 12MM   | 54        | 70         |  |

| 121/11/1 | 54  | 70  |  |
|----------|-----|-----|--|
| 14MM     | 89  | 117 |  |
| 16MM     | 161 | 230 |  |
| 18MM     | 222 | 318 |  |
|          |     |     |  |

# A 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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| Item No. | Part No. | Description                          | Qty. |
|----------|----------|--------------------------------------|------|
| 1        | 61-6132  | BX1303 Baseplate                     |      |
| 2        |          | Attachment Tab Assembly with Hole    | 2    |
| 3        |          | #10-32 1/2" Round Slotted Head Screw | 2    |
| 4        |          | #12-14 x 1" Self Drilling Screw, ZP  | 2    |
|          |          | #10-32 Hex Nut                       |      |
| 6        |          | #10 Lock Washer, ZP                  | 2    |
|          |          | Electrical Bracket, ZP               |      |
|          |          | Metric Nuts                          |      |
| 9        |          | Class III Safety Cables              | 2    |
|          |          | 3/8" Quicklink, ZP                   |      |
|          |          | 8" Nylon Cable Tie                   |      |
|          |          | Black Cap Plug Receiver              |      |

#### 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. Failing to follow and/ or altering these installation instructions in either installation or required equipment will void the manufacturer's warranty. Towing behind a non-motorized vehicle will void the warranty.

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## **Vehicle Weight:**

Motorhome mount tow bars are recommended for use with this baseplate. Due to the design of the removable tabs, the RangeFinderII, Adventurer, and Ambassador tow bars can not be used. The Acclaim tow bar may be used, but will not fold and store on the front of the vehicle. Adapters, except the BX8833 and BX88151, can not be used with this baseplate.

**Installation Notes:** The front fascia is removed for baseplate installation. There are no holes to drill. Some models will need to have the mesh in lower grill opening trimmed to allow baseplate to come through.

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 the 2002-06 BMW Mini Cooper. The BX8848 4-Diode Wiring Kit is recommended for the 2007 BMW Mini Cooper convertible.



## **Installation Instructions:**



1. Using the T30 Torx, remove the bolts from the top side of fascia.



2. Just forward of front tire, on wheel well, are two Phillips head push pins to remove, on both sides.

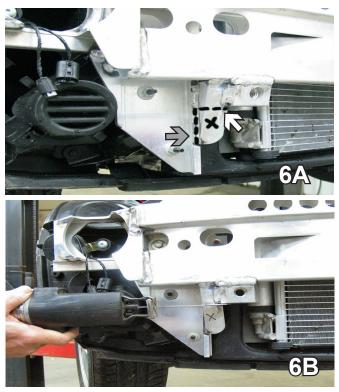


 Locate opening in wheel well just forward of front tire, remove two metric bolts with the 8MM socket, on both sides.

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4. Remove the two Phillips screws from the lower edge of front fascia, on both sides.



6. Locate tow plate bracket on passenger's side of front bumper. Mark and remove lower gusset just below tow plate bracket with the reciprocating saw, as shown in photos above. This will open area to allow baseplate installation.



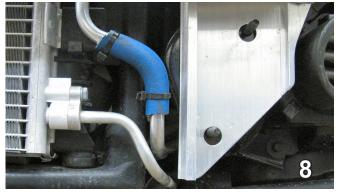
5. Remove three metric bolts from the lower edge of front fascia with the 10MM Socket. Release the four clips on the top edge of fascia, pull fascia forward, unplug all electrical connections and set fascia aside carefully.



7. Remove the two metric hex nuts just below metal bumper with the 13MM socket, on both sides.

Using a good quality paint, spray cut edges of frame to prevent rusting.

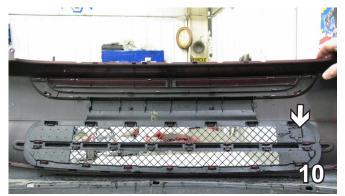
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 Using a utility knife, make a slit the length on blue 3/8" tubing, wrap the tubing onto driver's side upper coolant line as shown. Secure the tubing to the line with zip ties. This will protect coolant line from rubbing against the back of baseplate.



 Align holes of baseplate with studs just below metal bumper and reinstall four existing nuts.
Be sure and use loctite on all threads before tightening. Tighten all nuts 16 ft/lbs.



10. Hold fascia as close to its original location as possible on the vehicle. Mark and trim lower grill around the convenience links and attachment tabs. Reinstall fascia. **Be sure all electrical components are plugged in properly.** 

#### NOTE: Optional Lower Grill Removal:

Set fascia face down on a soft surface to protect fascia front, release the grill clips (See photo) and set lower grill aside (Lower grill will not be reinstalled). Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in properly and functioning **BEFORE** installing the fascia.

DEALER or INSTALLER: Be certain the user receives the instruction sheets for their products.

- 11. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical cars can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturers' tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods, adding shims and/or bending end plates.
- 12. Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in their packages.
- 13. Do **not** substitute other devices if the tow bar pin and clip are lost.

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If the baseplate is in an accident, it must be replaced. DO NOT use it again! An accident can cause unseen damage and using it again could result in more damage or serious injury. DO NOT use the baseplate if it is damaged or missing parts.

## **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 (402) 385-3051 and you can speak with our technical service 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**

- Ensure that your product(s) are registered online at 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<sup>®</sup> 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

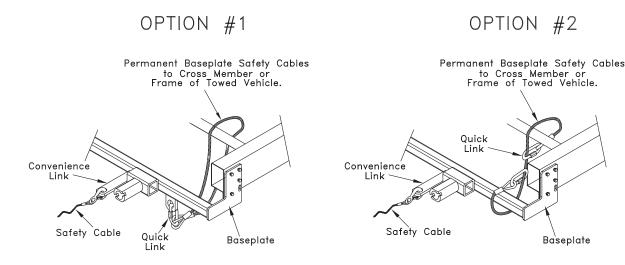
\*\* If the baseplate is improperly installed and is against a wire or hose, it could cause fluid leaks or electrical shorts some time after the actual baseplate installation.

#### 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.



# BLUE OX ORIGINAL PURCHASERS THREE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Automatic Equipment Manufacturing Company ("Automatic") warrants to the original (first) retail purchaser that this product, manufactured by Automatic, shall be free from defect in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of three years from the date of delivery.

During said three-year period, Automatic will repair or replace any parts that have been returned by the original purchaser, to the factory, transportation prepaid, and in Automatic's sole and absolute opinion found to be defective.

Limitations on Warranty Coverage:

Coverage under this warranty will be valid only if the customer warranty card is returned by the original purchaser within 30 days of purchase.

Coverage under this warranty will be effective only when a copy of the original invoice, showing date and place of purchase, accompanies any claim for warranty. This warranty is NON TRANSFERABLE.

This limited warranty will not cover, in any way or form, any alleged damages caused by incorrect or improper installation, improper use, modification or neglect of product, failure to properly service and maintain, misuse, act of God, accident or failure of the user to follow guidelines contained in the instructional material provided by Automatic.

This warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, paint or rust.

Warrantor assumes no responsibility to the owner for loss of use of product, loss of time, inconvenience or any other damage consequential or otherwise. Including, but not limited to mileage, expense of transporting of product, return shipping expense, mechanics travel time, telephone, road service, towing, and rental during repairs, travel, lodging, loss or damage to personal property or loss of earnings.

REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS SET FORTH IN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE SOLE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE PURCHASER. AUTOMATIC SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY ON THIS PRODUCT. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN LENGTH TO THE DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.

Please visit http://blueox.com/warranty/ to register your warranty

