

## **Installation Instructions**

## Replacement Fabric Soft Top for 1997-2006 Jeep® Wrangler TJ Vehicles

Items #1510X2XX & #1511X2XX



#### **Parts List:**

Fabric Top - Qty 1
Quarter Window, Right - Qty 1
Quarter Window Left - Qty 1
Rear Window - Qty 1
Upper Door Skin, Right - Qty 1\*
Upper Door Skin, Left - Qty 1\*
\*Where Applicable

#### **Required Tools:**

Safety Glasses Shoe Horn Or Large Spoon Razor Knife Phillips Screw Driver Large Beach Style Towel

#### AWARNING A

Loss of vehicle control involves risk of death or serious injury, particularly to parts of your body not restrained within vehicle. This product is intended for weather protection only and should not be relied upon to contain occupants in the event of an accident or to protect from either ground contact or falling objects. To reduce risk of accident or injury:

- ALWAYS WEAR SEATBELTS
- Always keep head, arms & body parts within vehicle.
- Fully secure or stow the soft top before driving according to instructions. Never try to latch or fold soft top while driving. Do not use if damaged or worn.
- Read and follow all instructions & warnings accompanying this product, in your vehicle owner's manual and Off Road Driving Supplement.

#### **ACAUTION A**

RISK OF EYE INJURY. Safety glasses should be worn at all times while installing or maintaining this product.



#### **Important Safety information**

Your MasterTop® Fabric Replacement Top is intended to be used with other MasterTop Products to increase the fair weather enjoyment of your off-road capable vehicle. Before installation, please take a moment to review the following safety information and installation instructions. Important safety information is generally preceded by one of three signal words indicating the relative risk of injury. The signal words mean:

**AWARNING A** 

A hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. You CAN be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.

**ACAUTION A** 

A hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.
You CAN be moderately HURT and also may suffer property damage if you don't follow instructions.

NOTICE

Careful attention is required to this instruction or operation but does generally not relate to personal injury. Damage to your MasterTop product or other property may result if you don't follow instructions.

#### Before you begin Installation:

We are excited that you have chosen the MasterTop Fabric Replacement Soft Top. These quality tops are designed to enhance your driving pleasure while providing shade shelter from rain and wind. Though we have used only the finest materials in creating this top, any product that is exposed to the elements requires some general maintenance to keep it looking like new. Please see page 7 for these important maintenance tips. Please also note that it is normal for fabric to contract and wrinkle when stored in the shipping carton. In a few days the fabric will relax and wrinkles will disappear.

NOTICE

For a smooth fit and ease of installation, this top should be installed at temperatures above 72 degrees. Below this temperature, the fabric may contract an inch or more making it difficult to install. We highly recommend taking the top out of the package and letting it sit inside a warm place or direct sunlight for 1-2 hours before you install the top. When warm, this top will install quickly.

When unpacking, check to make sure all parts are included. If any part is missing or broken, please call MasterTop customer service at 720-575-5440.

#### **Installation of Fabric Replacement Top**





#### **Factory Hardware Requirement:**

This product is designed to fit over your original factory soft top hardware and factory soft upper metal door frames. Please see HARDWARE at left to make sure you have the correct hardware for this top.

#### **Step 1: Remove Existing Soft Top Fabric**

Put on safety glasses. After verifying that you have the correct hardware, remove the existing soft top from the vehicle. This will include removing the existing soft top fabric from the front windshield header. This will require the use of a Phillips head screw driver.

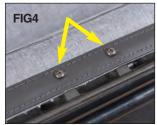
To remove the fabric from the front header, fold the top completely down to the rear of the vehicle (see FIG1). With the tailgate open, unscrew all header screws (8 or 14 screws depending on model year) and two corner screws (see FIG2). Save these screws!

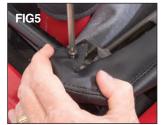
Once the soft top is removed, inspect the hardware to make sure no parts are bent or missing. Once it is determined that the hardware is correct and not damaged, proceed to step two.



#### **Installation of Fabric Replacement Top**







# FIG6



FIG9









## Step 2: Install Top Fabric on the Front Windshield Channel

With the Front header all the way folded down towards the rear of the vehicle and the rear tailgate open, lay the soft top fabric inside the vehicle, backing side up, with the header plastic strip facing up on top of the windshield header. See FIG3.

Locate the center hole or two center holes on the plastic strip and secure the center of plastic header using the screw(s) that were removed in step one. See Fig 4. Proceed to install the remaining seven or thirteen header screws (depending on model year) along the plastic header lining them up with the holes on the front header itself.

Lift up the header and wrap the corner pockets around the ends of the front Header lining up the corner screws with the corner holes in the header. Install the two corner screws (see Fig 5).

#### **Step 3: Attach New Fabric to Rear Bows**

Raise the header and bow assembly (FIG6) toward the windshield.

Inside the top, snap the fabric to the rear bow with (6) snaps as shown.

See FIGs 7.8 & 9.

## Step 4: Secure Windshield Header to Your Windshield

As shown in Figs 10, 11 and 12, close the header latches to secure the front of the top to the windshield.

The front hook should attach into the slot on the windshield and then close over the hook so it lays flat against the windshield frame.



The leading edge of the soft top must be secured to prevent the loss of the top at speed. Failure to secure the top may cause vehicle damage and/or bodily harm. Latches must be fully closed and free of mud and other contamination. Do not use top if either latch is damaged.



#### **Installation of Fabric Replacement Top**





#### **Step 5: Secure the Rear Corners**

With the front windshield header attached to the windshield and the bows in the full up-right position, center the center bow in the hook and loop flap inside the top. DO NOT fasten the center bow flap at this time. Pull down gently on the rear bow and work the plastic corners of the top into the retainer on the vehicle. See FIGs 13, 14 & 15. Repeat on the other corner.







#### **Step 6: Secure Center Bow Flap**

Wrap the hook and loop flap inside the top around the center bow and fasten it to itself. See FIGs 16 & 17.





#### **Step 7: Attach Quarter Panel Zippers**

Locate the left and right quarter panels and orient them with the zipper along the top facing the rear of the panel. See FIG18.

Start the zipper at the front top corner of the quarter window just behind the front door. See FIG19.



While holding the end of the zipper, close the zipper slider 10"-12" towards the rear of the vehicle along the top side of the quarter panel. See FIG20.





#### **Step 8: Secure Rear Quarter Windows**

Roll the plastic retaining strip along the front of the quarter window into the channel of the door surround on the vehicle. See FIG 21.

Then as shown in FIG 22, start at the front or rear of the vehicle and roll the plastic retaining strip along the bottom of the quarter window into the retainer on the vehicle.





Zip down the rear quarter window zipper all the way down to the bottom of the rear quarter window. See FIGs 23 & 24.

Repeat steps seven and eight on the other side of the vehicle.



#### **Installation of Fabric Replacement Top**





## FIG27

#### Step 9: Securing the top above the doors

Locate the two plastic strips sewn to the sides of the top above each door. Starting with the front strips, slip the strips into the channel in the door surround above the door opening.

See FIGs 25, 26 and 27.



#### **Step 10: Install Tailgate Bar to Rear Curtain**

Remove the rear window from the packaging and lay it flat on a soft towel backing side up. Locate the factory tailgate bar.

Slide the "C" shaped channel onto the tube sewn into the rear window with the round seal down. See FIG 28 for correct alignment. Slide the tailgate bar all the way across the rear curtain.



#### **Step 11: Install Tailgate Channel on Vehicle**

Open the rear tailgate. As shown in FIG 29, insert/roll the tailgate bar into the mounts on each side of the tailgate with the vinyl side of the rear curtain facing the rear of the vehicle.





#### **Step 12: Rear Window Curtain Zippers**

With the tailgate bar installed, pull the zipper heads as far down as possible and line up the zippers on the rear window with the receiving zipper on the top (see FIG 30). Once the zipper is lined up and engaged, start the top slider ½"-1". Then, while holding the top of the window with one hand, close the zipper with the other hand. See FIG 31.

Close the zipper completely all the way around the window. Make sure the tailgate bar is centered in the retaining brackets before proceeding to step 13.

NOTICE

The rear window zipper is sandwiched between layers of fabric in the corners. Be careful not to catch extra fabric in the zipper while zipping the window up.



#### **Installation of Fabric Replacement Top and Upper Door Fabric**





#### Step 13: Installing (2) Rear Window Flaps

Locate the flaps on the top located at the bottom of the rear curtain, just outside of the tailgate. Pull down on these flaps and hook the plastic retaining strip into the tailgate bar retainer.

See Figs 32 & 33.

The Soft Top portion of the installation is now complete.



When using a razor knife, be sure to keep hands, fingers and other body parts safely away from the knife blade. Use extreme caution as serious injury can occur.

#### **Step 14: Remove Old Upper Door Skins**

Remove the upper door fabric from the door frames. Use a razor knife to carefully cut the stitches on the upper door frame fabric and remove them from the metal door frame. See important warning at left.

## FIG34 Sequence - Install 1. Lower Rear corner 1st 2. Lower Front corner 2nd 3. Upper front corner 3rd 4. Upper Rear corner 4th 2



## Step 17: Install New Upper Door Fabric over Door Frames

Lay a large towel on the ground and place the upper door skin on the towel to prevent scratching. Un-zip the door skin window and un-due all hook and loop fasteners on the door skin. IMPORTANT: See FIG 34 for the installation sequence on installing the door skin to the door frame. Place the metal frame gently into the top lower rear corner "pocket". See FIG 35.

#### NOTICE

Door Covers are designed to fit very tight on the door frames.

We highly recommend having an extra set of hands to install these door skins. In some cases a shoe horn or large spoon can be used to help work the corners of the covers over the frames without tearing the fabric. DO NOT pull on the weather strip when installing the door skins to the door frames.







Next, work the lower front corner of the door frame into the pocket of the cover (FIG 36).

Then work the upper front corner of the frame into the cover (FIG 37). Finally, work the upper rear corner of the frame into the cover (FIG 38).

NOTE: the frame should fit in-between the hook and loop flaps, not between the zipper and the flaps. With all four corners inserted into the fabric pockets, secure the final hook and loop strip above the door pins. Note that this will take some pulling and will over time loosen up making it easier to install.

Soft Top & Door Skin installation is now complete.



Your MasterTop Door skins are designed to fit over your factory supplied door frames and will only provide protection from the elements. Do not rely on these soft upper doors to contain the occupants within the vehicle or to protect against injury during an accident. WEAR SEAT BELTS AT ALL TIMES.



#### **Care and Maintenance of your MasterTop® Product:**

Your MasterTop Replacement Top is made of the finest materials available but to keep it looking new and for the maximum possible wear, it will need periodic cleaning and basic maintenance. The main threat to your soft top is pollutants, dirt and grime. By keeping your top clean you will prolong the life of your top.

We recommend the following to keep your top like new:

#### Washing:

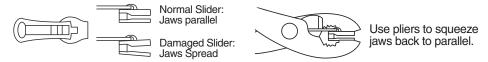
The soft top fabric should be washed often using a mild soap, warm water and a soft bristle brush. You can also use special soft top cleaners available on our Distributors websites. Make sure that after cleaning you rinse with clear water to remove all traces of soap to avoid residue.

#### Water/Fabric:

In the event of seeping through the seams, 3M Scotchgard® may be applied on the inside of the seams to stop the seeping. Rips in the fabric may be repaired with Bondex® iron on patches. Iron the patches to the Inside of the top, carefully following the Bondex® instructions.

#### Windows:

It is very important that you keep your Soft Top windows clean! Use a mild soap and water solution to gently clean your windows. NEVER wipe your windows clean with a dry cloth! Dust and dirt on a dry cloth can scratch your windows causing "fogging" and permanent damage. When removing your windows, store them with a towel. If frost or ice forms on the outside of your windows during the winter, DO NOT use an ice scraper to remove this frost. Over time you will see small micro scratches in your windows which are natural wear and tear. These Micro scratches can be "polished" out using the window polish available at your MasterTop Distributor.



#### Zippers:

Keeping the zipper cleaned and lubricated with a silicone lubricant (available online) will help prevent damage and keep the zippers in a smooth working condition. If zipper opens behind the slider, the slider may have been spread apart. This problem can usually be fixed by using an ordinary pair of pliers to bring the sides back into parallel. Return slider to the end of the zipper in the normal Open position. Squeeze lightly at first and test zipper. If the zipper continues to remain open squeeze more firmly with pliers and try the zipper again. Repeat procedure until your zipper operates correctly.

#### For more information on MasterTop:

This and other helpful product information is available on **www.mastertop.com** Please visit our website frequently for product updates and exciting news.









## **Limited 3 Year Warranty**

Your MasterTop® accessory is covered by the following Limited Warranty provided exclusively by MasterTop, Inc., 420 J Corporate Circle, Golden, CO 80401.

This Limited Warranty is the only warranty made in connection with your purchase. MasterTop neither assumes nor authorizes any vendor, retailer or other person or entity to assume for it any other obligation or liability in connection with this product or Limited Warranty. This Limited Warranty does not apply and is not cumulative to any accessory or part distributed by any MasterTop distributor for which the Manufacturer provides a separate written warranty.

What is Covered: Subject to the terms, exclusions and limitations herein and with respect only to MasterTop branded accessories first sold in the United States, MasterTop warrants to the initial retail purchaser only that your MasterTop accessory shall be free of defects in material and workmanship; for a period of 3 years from date of initial retail sale.

All other warranties are hereby disclaimed, except to the extent prohibited by applicable law in which case any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose on this product is **limited to 3 years from date of initial retail sale**. MasterTop reserves the rights to: (a.) require invoice or other proof your product is within the terms of this Limited Warranty as a condition of warranty service and, (b.) make future revisions to this product and Limited Warranty without prior notice or obligation to upgrade your product.

What is Not Covered: Your MasterTop Limited Warranty does not cover products or parts MasterTop determines to have been damaged by or subjected to: (a.) installation damage, alteration, modification, failure to maintain or attempted repair or service by anyone not authorized by MasterTop, (b.) normal wear and tear, cosmetic damage or damage from water immersion, (c.) Acts of God, accidents, misuse, negligence, inadequate mounting or impact with vehicle(s), obstacles or other aspects of the environment, (d.) theft, vandalism or other intentional damage, (e.) fleet, rental or commercial use, (f.) use in competition or racing.

Remedy Limited to Repair/Replacement: The exclusive remedy provided hereunder shall, upon MasterTop inspection and at MasterTop's option, be either repair or replacement of product or parts (new or refurbished) covered under this Limited Warranty. Customers requesting warranty consideration on MasterTop Products should first contact MasterTop to obtain a RGA number (720-575-5440). All labor, removal, shipping and installation costs are customer's responsibility.

#### Other Limitations - Exclusion of Damages

#### - Your Rights Under State Law:

In consideration of the purchase price paid, neither MasterTop nor any independent MasterTop distributor /licensee are responsible for any time loss, rental costs, or for any incidental, consequential, punitive or other damages you may have or incur in connection with any part or product purchased. Your exclusive remedy hereunder for covered parts is repair/replacement as described above.

This Limited Warranty gives you specific rights. You may also have other rights that vary from state to state. For example, some states do not allow limitations of how long an implied warranty lasts and/or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the limitations and exclusions herein may not apply to you.

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