

RCI 05+ TOYOTA TACOMA FUEL TANK SKID PLATE INSTALLATION GUIDE

This install guide is applicable to our 05+ Toyota Tacoma fuel tank skid plate only



TOOLS REQUIRED:

Description
3/8" or 1/2" Socket Wrench and Socket Set
Box-End Wrenches
Low-Profile Pliers (installation of fuel tank straps)

INCLUDED HARDWARE:

Item	Description	QTY
H1.	M8 x 1.25 Nylon Locking Nut	4 ea.
H2.	5/16" Washer	4 ea.

INCLUDED COMPONENTS:

Item	Description	QTY
C1.	Fuel Tank Skid Plate	1 ea.

MOUNTING COMPONENTS:

(This section is only applicable if replacement of the OEM fuel tank straps is necessary)

Item	Description	QTY
FS1.	Studded Fuel Tank Strap 77601-040-20 (front)	1 ea.
FS2.	Studded Fuel Tank Strap 77602-040-20 (rear)	1 ea.

INSTALLATION STEPS:

- 1) Begin by unpacking and removing all components and hardware. Please verify that all hardware, components, and mounting components are present. Please reference your original order invoice and verify all items are accounted for.
 - a. **PLEASE NOTE:** If your vehicle is a trim level other than a TRD Off-Road or TRD PRO, you will most likely need to replace the OEM fuel tank straps. If you are replacing your OEM smooth fuel tank straps with OEM studded fuel tank straps and these components were ordered from RCI or TOYOTA; please verify that the part numbers in the Mounting Components Table match the part numbers on the Toyota applied ID stickers.
 - b. **SAFETY NOTE:** Installation of fuel tank skid plate and fuel tank straps (if applicable) should only be completed when the fuel tank is near empty! We recommend as low as possible (this may vary based on your proximity to a fuel station).
 - c. **Begin on Step 2:** if you are replacing the OEM smooth fuel tank straps.
 - d. **Begin on Step 5:** if you are only installing the fuel tank skid plate to your existing OEM studded straps.
- 2) Replacement of the OEM fuel tank straps is very simple. Support of the fuel tank may be necessary using a floor jack, jack stand, or wood board. Beginning with the rear strap already mounted on your vehicle, loosen the retaining bolt securing the strap near the outside of the vehicle. Once this fastener is removed, the strap should pivot freely toward the inside of the vehicle. Locate the second mounting point and identify the pin that allows the strap to hinge. A hairpin cotter should be in place at the end of the hinge pin. Remove the cotter and tap the hinge pin out of the hinge.
- 3) Identify the replacement Studded Fuel Tank Strap (77602-040-20) and reverse the guide in step 2.
 - a. After completion of steps 2-3 for the rear strap, repeat steps 2-3 for the front strap(77601-040-20).
- 4) Verify secure installation of both studded fuel tank straps on the vehicle. Check that all strap retaining bolts are snug and tightened to **30 ft/lbs.**
- 5) If the vehicle is equipped with an OEM plastic fuel tank skid plate, this plate can be easily removed by loosening the four hex nuts present. Two will be present at the front and rear. These OEM hex nuts and washers can be discarded along with the existing OEM fuel tank skid plate.
- 6) Align the new RCI Fuel Tank Skid Plate(C1) with the “notched” portion of the skid plate towards the rear of the vehicle. Due to the size and weight of the skid plate, a floor jack, stool, cooler, or helping hand may be needed. Attach one 5/16th washer(H2) and one M8 Nylon Locking Nut(H1) to the threads of the rear studded fuel tank strap. **DO NOT TIGHTEN.** Once both studs in the center are secured, proceed to the front studs.

- 7) With all 5/16" washers(H2) and M8 Nylon Locking Nuts(H1) in place, begin by tightening each fastener a small amount at a time. All fasteners should be hand tool tight. DO **NOT** OVER-TORQUE. Due to the nylon insert of the hex nuts, a torque spec is inaccurate.
- 8) Installation of your RCI 05+ TOYOTA Tacoma Fuel Tank Skid Plate is now complete! We recommend that the fasteners for this plate be inspected after 500 road miles or your first off-road trip with this skid plate.



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www.rcimetalworks.com

sales@rcioffroad.com

970-797-3089

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