



Deflector Bracket Installation Instructions

The brackets enclosed are designed to permit the mounting of the Raceland Wind Deflector onto a Fiat Spider. Other than replacing two bolts in the convertible top mechanism, no other modifications are required.

IMPORTANT SAFETY AND LIABILITY INFORMATION

Note that the rear seat side panels must be in place for these brackets to work properly. The rear seat side panels ensure the brackets remain in the proper position to hold the wind deflector in place.

WARNING AND TERMS: When installed properly, the brackets should not interfere with the operation of the convertible top mechanism or with any of the factory safety equipment on the Fiat Spider. If your vehicle has modifications to the seats, shoulder harness, harness mounts, seats not installed by the factory or any other changes affecting the stock equipment installation, the brackets could interfere with the safe operation of your seat belts or other safety equipment. If there is any interference with the stock operation of these or any other systems DO NOT install the brackets. These brackets are designed not to interfere with these components on a stock, un-modified, Fiat Spider but many cars have been modified over the years and improper installation or modifications can affect these systems and cause damage, death or injury. Because we are not personally installing the brackets, we cannot inspect the installation in person so the installer assumes all legal and financial responsibility for any damage, injuries or death or other harm to persons or property caused by the use and or installation of these brackets. In a nutshell - you must ensure that all safety equipment remains in full operation with no obstructions and that there are no other potential safety risks to you or others as a result of installing the brackets. If by installing these brackets any loss or damage to property, injury or death occurs it is your own responsibility and all liability remains with you the installer. By installing these brackets you assume all personal and financial liability and accept the aforementioned terms as a binding agreement.

That being said, here's how to install the brackets:

STEP 1: Lower the convertible top

STEP 2: Remove the rear seat side panels on both sides of the vehicle

STEP 3: Remove the nut (FIGURE 1) on the shoulder bolt for the convertible top hinge. The head of the bolt has been pinched to lock the nut in place, so the bolt may break when the nut is removed. To ensure this does not happen, you may need to grind the tip of the bolt slightly if you plan on re-using the bolt at any time in the future. A new bolt is provided for this installation.

FIGURE 1



STEP 4: Remove the shoulder bolt from the convertible top frame, ensuring you retain the washer located in the hinge points.

FIGURE 2



Remove shoulder bolt

Save washer located between convertible top rails in case you remove the brackets in the future.

STEP 5: Place a small amount of grease on the new large bolt (bolt provided). Insert the sleeve into the outside convertible top rail. Insert the bolt from the inside outward with the threads facing the outside of the vehicle. Ensure the washer (provided) is installed between the two rails of the convertible top mechanism (Figure 3). **NOTE:** The windbreak brackets have one end with a larger hole and a 90 degree angle, and the other end has a smaller hole with an angled end. Ensure that the end with the larger hole with the 90 degree angle is mounted to the convertible top mechanism. The bracket should angle towards the back as depicted (Figure 4).

FIGURE 3



Washer must be located in between the convertible top rails.

Bolt should be lubricated. Do not over tighten the bolt and self-locking nylon nut. The frame must be able to freely hinge at this point.

STEP 6: Slide the bolt with washer into the mounting bracket and insert it through the convertible top rails. Make sure the washer remains in place between the two convertible top rails. Install the washer and install the self-locking nylon nut. (Figure 5). This may require two sets of hands and some cursing. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN THE NUT.** The self-locking nylon nut should be tightened just enough to ensure there is no side-to-side free play in the convertible top hinge. If it is over-tightened, it will impede the hinge from operating smoothly.

FIGURE 4 and FIGURE 5



Note the angle of the bracket which angles back toward the rear of the car. The left and right brackets are not interchangeable and must be installed in the proper side as shown.

STEP 7: Hinge the bracket into the position depicted (Figure 6) and reinstall the rear seat side panel. The bracket will rest between the lower rail of the convertible top mechanism and the top of the rear seat side panel. Because the bracket can rotate (though not easily), the rear seat side panel holds it in place. To protect the upholstery on your side panel, it is recommended that you install a self-adhesive pad to the underside of the bracket (not supplied).

FIGURE 6



The bracket's angle is designed to parallel the convertible top frame rail and rest on top of the rear seat side panel

STEP 8: Install the second bracket in the same manner.

INSTALLATION OF THE WIND DEFLECTOR

The Raceland Wind Deflectors have two styles of mounting brackets. The standard screen requires no modifications. The R and V styles may be shipped with different brackets (FIGURE 7). Note the proper order of the installation of the friction mounts. The deflector will not fit properly unless they are in the proper order. Compounding the change in design by Raceland, I've found minor variations in the width of Spiders that had no modifications to them (measured from the shoulder bolts). You may have to add or delete washers/spacers to ensure proper fit.

FIGURE 7



Note the order of the mount will be as follows if you receive the thinner metal mount used on the V and R screens.

1. Windscreen
2. Washer
3. Bracket
4. Friction washer

STEP 9: With a second person holding the deflector, install the bolts, spacers (optional), and washers as shown (Figure 8). Tighten tension nuts (self-locking nylon nuts provided) sufficiently to hold the deflector in place.

FIGURE 8



A nylon washer (not provided) can be placed between the metal bracket and the Raceland mounting bracket if vertical and horizontal adjustability is wanted. If you prefer to lock the screen into position, use a metal washer.

STEP 10: ADJUSTMENT - The bracket allows multiple adjustments to the height, angle and forward and aft position of the deflector. This was intentional to allow for the varying heights of the convertible top mechanisms. With the convertible top up and latched, angle the top of the deflector rearward, with the top facing the rear-most convertible top bow (Figure 9). Position the deflector so it clears the convertible top bow and tighten the lower self-locking nylon nut sufficiently to inhibit the lower bracket from moving.

FIGURE 9



Only the top hinge on the Raceland Windscreen should move. The upper self-locking nylon nuts supplied with the Raceland Wind Deflector are used to adjust the tension to raise and lower the screen. At high speeds, the top of the screen may lean toward the head of the passengers if not properly tightened. If over tightened, it will be difficult to hinge flat when not in use.

Convertible top boot

Your convertible top boot should still fit properly without modifications. You may need to fold the edge of the boot under to clear the bracket.

FINAL INSTALLATION

