



Strong As An Ox™

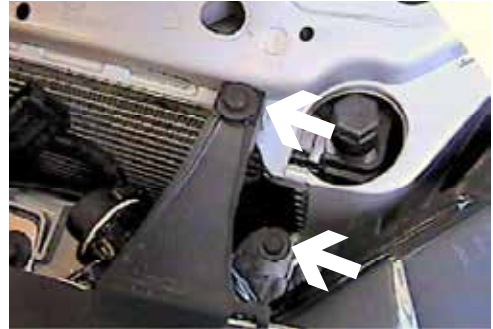
BX2173 Installation Instructions 2000-04 Ford Focus (including the 2.3L engine) 2003 Ford Focus SVT

Serial No.

The front fascia, coolant line bracket and anti-pollution devices are removed for baseplate installation. Drilling is required. Trimming of lower air dam is required. The BX8869 is available for the vehicle. Attachment Tabs are 24 inches center to center and a height of 13 3/4 inches depending upon models.



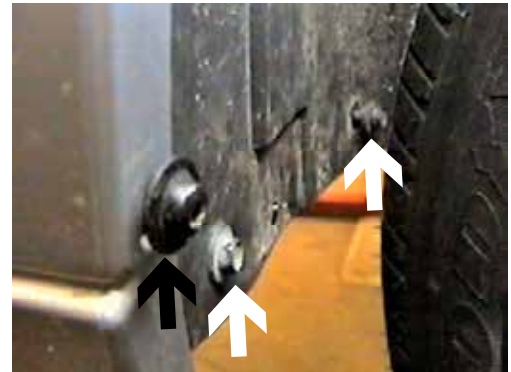
1. Remove the three phillips head push pins from black plastic cover on top side of fascia, lift cover and set aside.



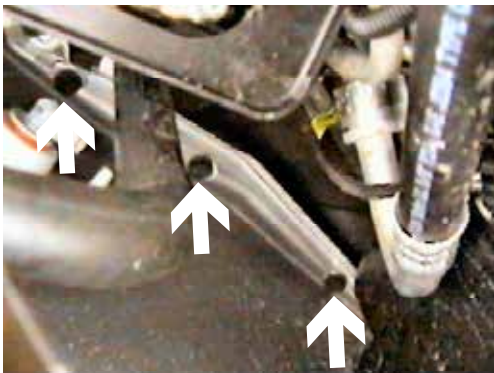
2. Remove two metric bolts from upper grill with the 10MM socket, both sides, pull forward, unplug electrical and set aside.



3. Remove two push pins from the top side of fascia just below upper grill.



4. **All Models:** Just forward of front tire is one torx screw to remove with the 27 Torx, both sides (black arrow).
2.3L Models Only: Remove two hex head screws with the 10MM socket from the driver's side (white arrow).



5. Remove the three metric bolts just forward of the front tire, on the inside of fascia, using the 10MM socket, both sides. Pull fascia forward and set aside.



6. **For all models, except 2.3L engine.** Remove one metric bolt from coolant line bracket on the passenger's side.



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Steps 7-12 Are For 2.3L Engine Models Only.



7. Remove two metric bolts from anti-pollution device from lower frame rib on passenger's side, lift unit up to release from upper frame rib, pull unit out of the way and tie in place.



8. Remove one metric bolt from air vent on the bottom of metal bumper using the 10MM socket and pull air vent tube from plastic box. **Air vent tube will not be reinstalled.**



9. Remove one metric bolt from lower frame rib between tie down bracket bolts on the driver's side on the air box.



10. Remove metric bolt from lower frame rib just forward of bolt location in step 9, pull air box away from frame and set aside.



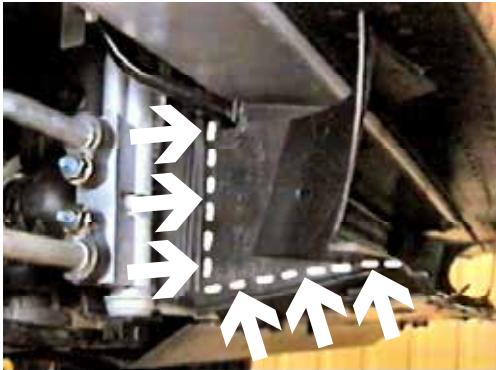
11. Loosen hose clamp from air baffle tube on driver's side just inside tie down bracket (as shown in step 9) with the flat screw driver.



12. Just forward of wheel well on driver's side are two metric bolts to remove and one metric bolt toward the front side of air baffle, with the 8MM socket. Pull air baffle down to release hose clamp and set aside.

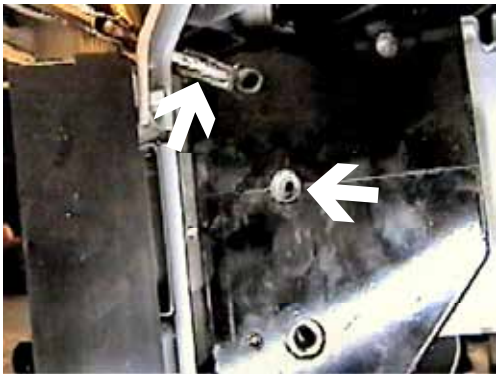


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13. All Models:

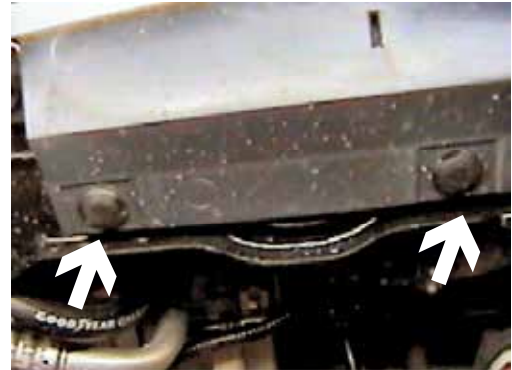
Using the utility knife to cut and remove a portion of the air dam just below metal bumper as shown in photo, both sides. **Option:** Some models may allow the removal of the ends on the air dam.



2.3L Model Shown



All Models



14. Remove four push pins from the lower edge of air dam and set aside.

15. Slide baseplate ends up from underneath frame and over the outside of the frame rails as shown in photo.

2.3L Model: Align the middle hole on driver's side with existing forward mount hole for air baffle, lift baseplate spacer plates (see drawing on last page) to the bottom of metal bumper, clamp upper baseplate to upper frame ribbing with the vise grip, both sides and clamp baseplate to the bottom of metal bumper with the large vise grips.

All Other Models: Align baseplate to the bottom of metal bumper, equally space upper and lower holes on baseplate ends with the ribbing on frame rails, both side.

All Models: Using the baseplate as a template, drill the two upper holes and one lower hole on the end plates into frame ribbing, using the 13/32" drill bit, both sides. Insert 3/8" hex bolts into drilled holes from the rib side, tighten the lock washer and hex nut with the 9/16" socket. **Be sure and use loctite on all bolts before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the Torque Chart in the General Instruction sheet.**

16. All Models:

Using the baseplate as a template drill the two holes into the bottom of the metal bumper with the 13/32" drill bit. Insert the 3/8" nut plate into the end of the metal bumper to align with drilled holes, tighten the lock washer and hex bolt as shown in the drawing on the last page. **NOTE:** Some models may have the ends of metal bumper capped. Remove with the flat screw driver. **Be sure and use loctite on all bolts before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the Torque Chart in the General Instruction sheet.**

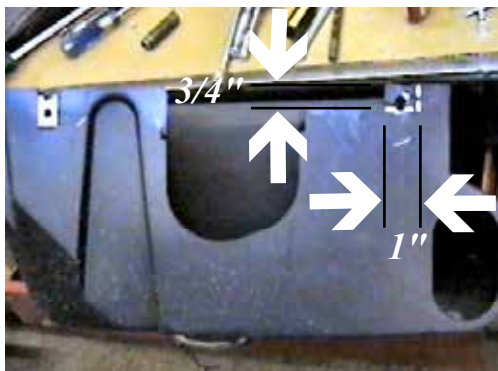


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Steps 17 - 20 are for 2.3L Models Only.



17. Reinstall the anti-pollution device on the passenger's side using the 6MM x 30MM hex bolts and the 14 1/4" flat washers as shown in the drawing on the last page. Note the clips on the top of anti-pollution device will not snap onto the frame. **Do not over tighten these bolts and be sure to use loctite.**



19. Using the utility knife, cut out the forward top bolt location on the air box, 3/4" x 1" as shown in photo.



18. Remove rubber grommet from front bolt on air baffle. **Rubber grommet will not be reinstalled.** Reinstall air baffle with original equipment. (See photo in step 15 for front bolt location on driver's side)



20. Reinstall air box using original equipment, except the forward bolt will need to use the self tapping screw. Align with small hole in baseplate, tap through air box and into lower frame.



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21. Hold fascia to align with its original position, mark and trim lower grill opening to allow attachment tabs to come through. Reinstall fascia, lower air dam, upper grill and top grill cover. **Be sure all electrical components are plugged in properly.**
22. The dimensional variations between otherwise identical cars can be considerable. While the location and size of the holes in the baseplate were designed to allow for easy installation, it may be necessary to file a hole slightly to allow a bolt to clear.
23. Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions included in their packages.
24. Do **not** substitute other devices if the tow bar pin and clip are lost.
25. **DEALER OR INSTALLER: BE CERTAIN THE USER RECEIVES THE INSTRUCTION SHEET.**

Tools Required

7MM Socket	10MM Socket	11MM Socket
13MM Socket	Loctite	13/32" Drill Bit
Phillips Screw Driver	Vise Grips	9/16" Socket
Pry Bar	Utility Knife	

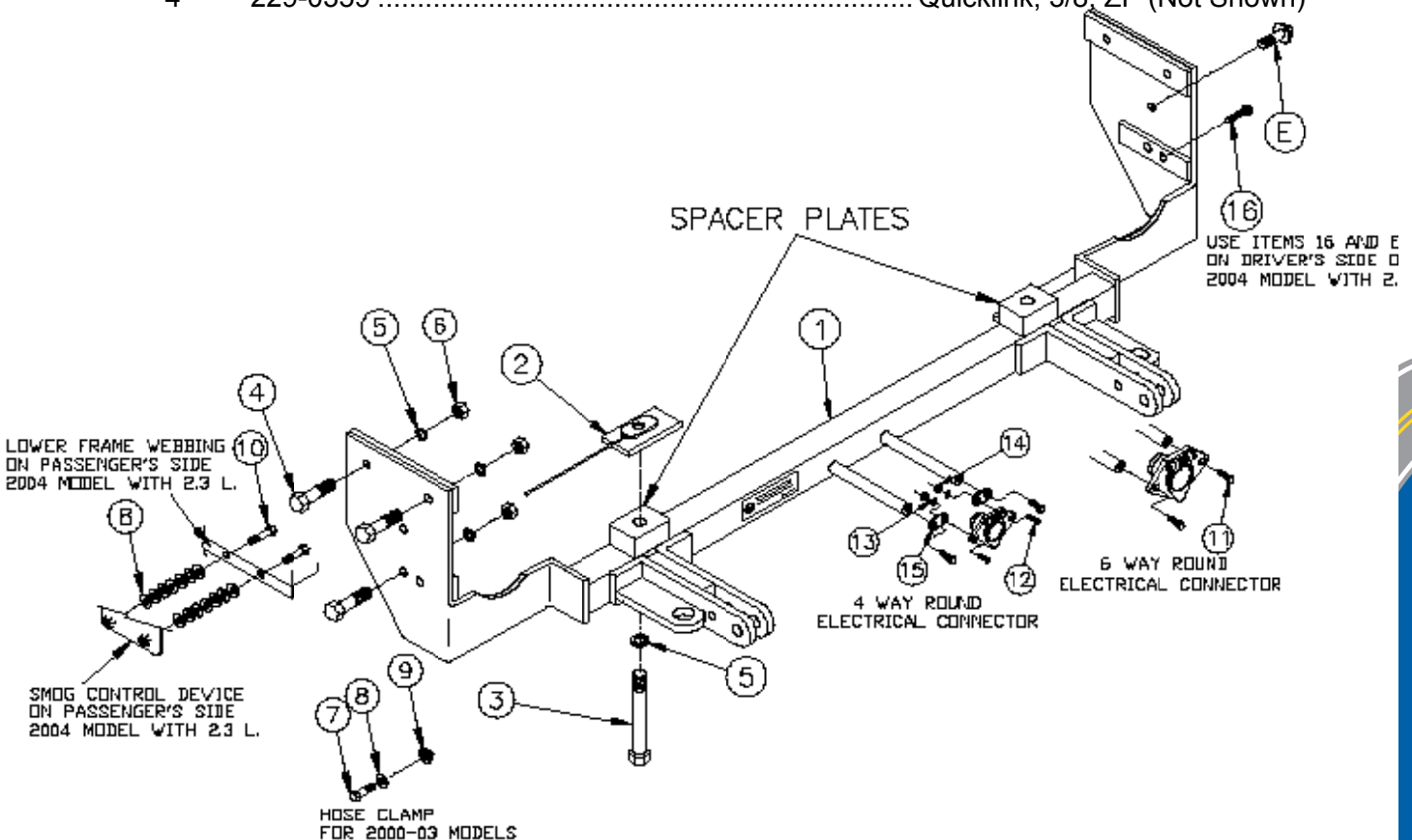
IMPORTANT: Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your Base Plate. Do not substitute homemade or nontypical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your Base Plate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (Usually Grade 5, refer to parts list). Repair parts may be ordered through your nearest **Blue Ox** dealer or distributor.



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Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part No.	Description
1	1	61-5998	Weldment, Base Plate, BX2173
2	2	61-5420	Weldment, 3/8" Nut Plate, with Wire
3	2	201-0021	3/8-16 x 3 1/2 Hex Bolt, Grd. 5, ZP
4	6	201-0368	3/8-16 x 1 1/4 Hex Bolt, Grd. 5, ZP
5	8	203-0010	3/8 Lock Washer, ZP
6	6	202-0003	3/8-16 Hex Nut, ZP
7	1	201-0204	1/4-20 x 1 1/4 Hex Bolt, Grd. 5, ZP
8	15	203-0001	1/4 Flat Washer, ZP
9	1	202-0069	1/4-20 Hex Nut, ZP
10	2	201-0655	6MM-1 x 30MM Hex Bolt, Grd. 8.8, ZP
11	2	201-0979	#12-14 x 1" Self Drilling Screw, ZP
12	2	201-0192	#10-32 x 1/2 Slot, Rd. Hd. Screw
13	2	203-0054	#10 Lock Washer
14	2	202-0047	#10-32 Hex Nut
15	2	101-5822	Adapter, 4 Way Connector
16	1	201-0654	#10-16 X 1 Self Drilling Screw
E	1		Existing Forward Bolt for Air Box on Driver's Side
	2	226-0046	Baseplate Safety Cable, 36" CL III (Not Shown)
	4	229-0359	Quicklink, 3/8, ZP (Not Shown)



General Information

1. 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® 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

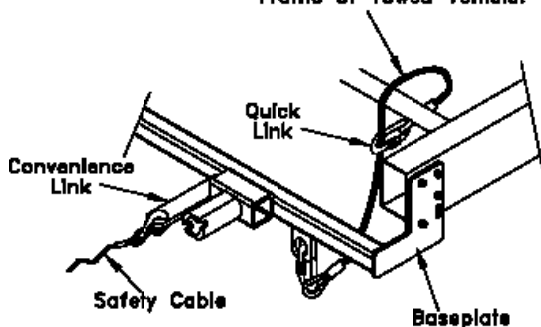
Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails 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.

OPTION #1

Permanent Baseplate Safety Cables to Cross Member or Frame of Towed Vehicle.



OPTION #2

Permanent Baseplate Safety Cables to Cross Member or Frame of Towed Vehicle.

