



Specter Off-Road, Inc.
21600 Nordhoff St. Chatsworth, CA 91311 USA,
www.sor.com,
(818)882-1238, Fax: (818) 882-7144
sor@sor.com

SOR Soft Top Installation Instructions

Part #268-105, #268-110, #268-156 & #268-159

This document also include Instruction for optional
Door Skins See part #268-215-BSC & 268-220-TANSC



Contents:

- 1 SOR Soft Top
- 20 Eyelet & Washer sets
- 2 Snap Screw Studs

Tools & Supplies:

- Drill
- 1/8 Inch Drill Bit
- Assorted Screwdrivers
- Utility Knife
- Center Punch
- A Small Block of Wood
- Contact Adhesive
- Marking Chalk

Additional Items:

You may need the following depending on your application:

- Tiger Channel (SOR part #272-44)
- Tailgate Panel (SOR part #271-70 or 75 & 271-77)
- Common Sense (twist) Fasteners (SOR part #268-300)
- Footman Loops (SOR part #268-308)
- Assorted Drill Bits
- Assorted Wrenches
- Door Weatherstrip (SOR part #122-39)

Introduction

Please read and understand these instructions in their entirety before you begin installing your new soft top. Doing so will ensure proper fit and help to avoid damage to the top during installation.

This top was designed as a replacement soft top for the original 40 Series canvas top. It's made on our premises using top quality materials. The SOR Replacement Soft Top was designed to provide years of service. Following these instructions will ensure that longevity. It was designed to cover a broad range of production dates and accommodate the subtle differences between years. Different production periods have twist fasteners in different locations relative to other production periods. Therefore installation requires installing eyelets positioned to align with your fasteners. Specter Off-Road will not be responsible for damage to the top caused during the installation of these eyelets. If you do not feel you are mechanically qualified, please hire a professional.

These instructions assume that your Land Cruiser was a factory soft top model and that you are replacing the factory canvas top. These instructions also assume that you have all original factory bows, Common Sense (Twist) Fasteners (twist locks, or turn button), footman loops or any other factory hardware installed. Factory bows are no longer available. This top does not accommodate factory ambulance style rear doors. If this top is being installed on or retrofit to a 1975 or later 40 Series, you will need to purchase a tailgate panel. See page 271 for available styles and colors. You will also need 4 footman loops, part #268-308. If you are retrofitting this top you will also need to purchase 20 twist fasteners, part #268-300.

TIGER CHANNEL VERSION

We have made available a version that utilizes the Tiger Channel. If you are installing the alternate Tiger channel version, you will need to purchase the Tiger Channel separately, part #272-44.

SOFT DOOR WEATHERSTRIP

If you will be replacing the weatherstrip around the front door, see SOR part #122-39.

Getting Started Overview

You will need to work in an area large enough to accommodate the unfolded top and your Land Cruiser. Be sure the area is clear of debris that could scratch the windows or stick due to static charge. After unpacking the top, make sure that the contents of the package are as stated. In the box you should find 1 top, 2 door skins, 2 snap studs and 20 eyelet and washer sets. Because this top covers a broad range of production dates, you may need fewer than 20 eyelet sets. If you have the opportunity, spreading the top outside surface down in the sun will increase workability. Now would be a good time to refurbish your factory soft doors as well. Installing door skins require complete disassembly of the doors. We recommend thoroughly cleaning all assemblies and repainting as required. Wind wing weatherstrip and windows are no longer available from Toyota. However, Specter Off-Road offers reproduction replacement weatherstrip for around the front doors.



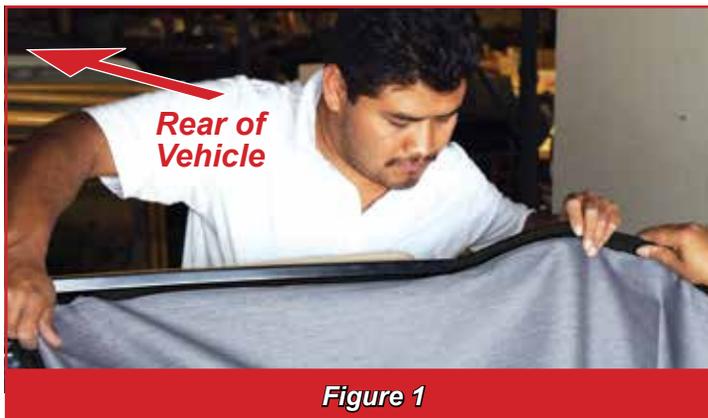


Figure 1



Figure 1B

Instructions

1. After removing the top from its original packaging, confirm that all side panels are completely unzipped.
2. **Installing the top using the factory windshield channel,** place the top upside down over the hood of your Land Cruiser oriented so the front mounting point of the top is towards the windshield (figure 1). Continue to step 3.

Installing the top using Tiger Channel Version

Set the top over the cab in its installed position. Fold the leading edge under so the edge of the nylon strip that is covered by the fabric can be inserted into the Tiger Channel. Push the nylon strip into the channel from front to back. Make sure the top is centered in the channel (figure 1b). Skip to step 4.

3. Start at either end and feed the corded anchor seam through the windshield mounting channel from one side to the other (figure 1). Then pull the top upright over the cab and bows of the Land Cruiser into the installed position. Make sure the top is centered in the channel.
4. Feed the corded seams above each front door through its coinciding channel from front to back (figure 2).
5. Feed the corded seams behind each front door through its coinciding channel from top to bottom.
6. Make sure the tie-down straps are on the inside of the bows (figure 3). Zip down the side panels and pull the top snug over the bows. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure the top is aligned to its final position.
7. Snap the upper six inside mounting points around the bows. (figure 4)



Figure 2

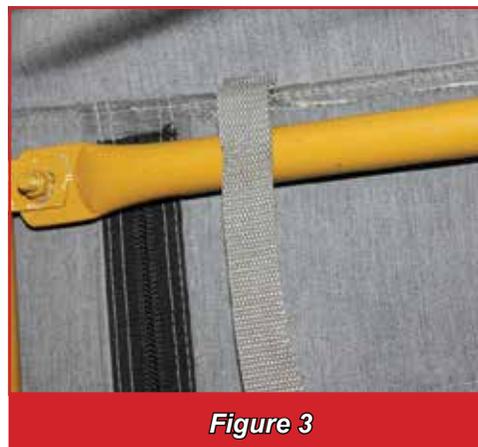


Figure 3

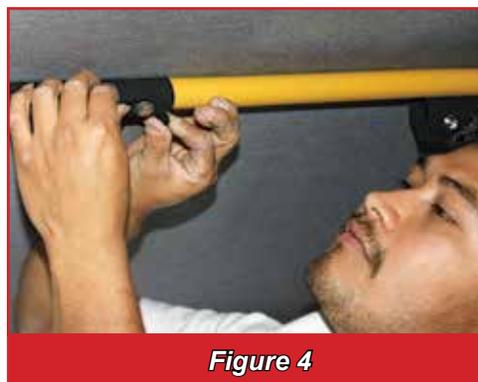


Figure 4

8. Strap the rear tie-down straps to the existing footman (figure 5) loops* and pull them snug. Check the top for alignment again. The next few steps will require drilling and cutting that depend on the position of the top.

* If you are retrofitting this top to a vehicle that did not originally come with a factory soft top your vehicle may not have these loops. Footman loops can be purchased from Specter Off-Road part #268-308. You will need to install them before proceeding.

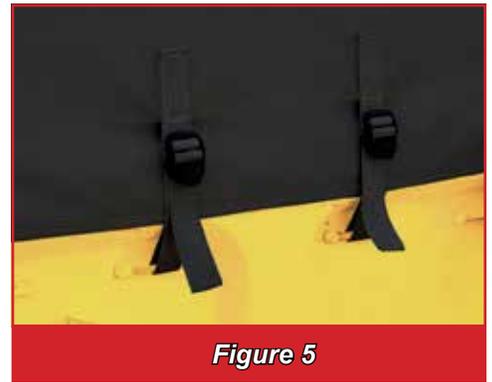


Figure 5

9. Install eyelets for the twist fasteners onto the top (figure 6). This will require minor cutting. If your vehicle has twist fasteners installed, skip to step 9.2. If twist fasteners do not exist, you will need to install them before proceeding. See part #268-300 to purchase twist fasteners, 20 required.

- 9.1 Pull the top down snug and mark the center of the existing twist fasteners on the outer surface of the inner flap on the bottom of the top. Anchor the opposite side while pulling down to avoid pulling the top out of alignment. The mark will be the center of the eyelet. Your kit came with 20 eyelet and washer sets, 10 for each side. Different vintages required different quantities. Install the eyelets following steps 9.2–9.5.



Figure 6

- 9.2 Position the pronged half the eyelet centered on the mark (figure 6). Push the prongs through the fabric. You may need to use a mallet and a small block of wood to push the prongs through the fabric. Protect the finished surface of the eyelet with a spare piece of fabric or cardboard.



Figure 7

- 9.3 Center the eyelet washer within the prongs on the back side of the flap and bend the prongs over the washer holding it in position (figure 7).

- 9.4 Cut the material from the center of the eyelet with a sharp utility knife or Xacto blade. Be careful not to cut away too much material (figure 7).

- 9.5 Test fit each eyelet before proceeding to the next one. Work front to back switching from side to side checking fit as you go (figure 7b).



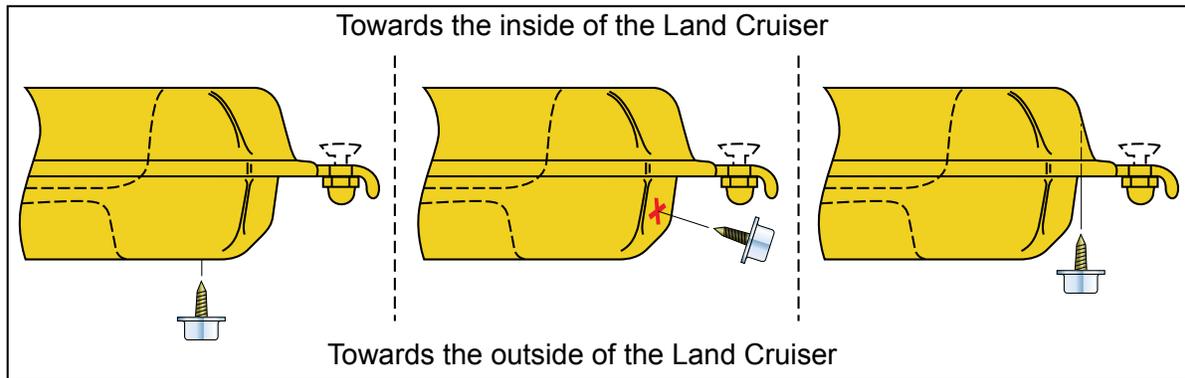
Figure 7b

10. Drill for the two corner windshield snaps. Using fit as your criteria, choose one of the three possible locations to install the corner snap see diagram 1. Center punch and drill a 1/8 inch hole. Use a Phillips screwdriver to seat the snap stud into position being careful not to over torque the screw.
11. Snap the snaps.

Installing the corner snaps

This diagram shows 3 possible scenarios for installing the corner snap. Depending on the model year of your 40 Series choose the position that best fits. The top should be pulled snug without pulling against sharp edges while attaining the best possible seal.

Top View



Front View

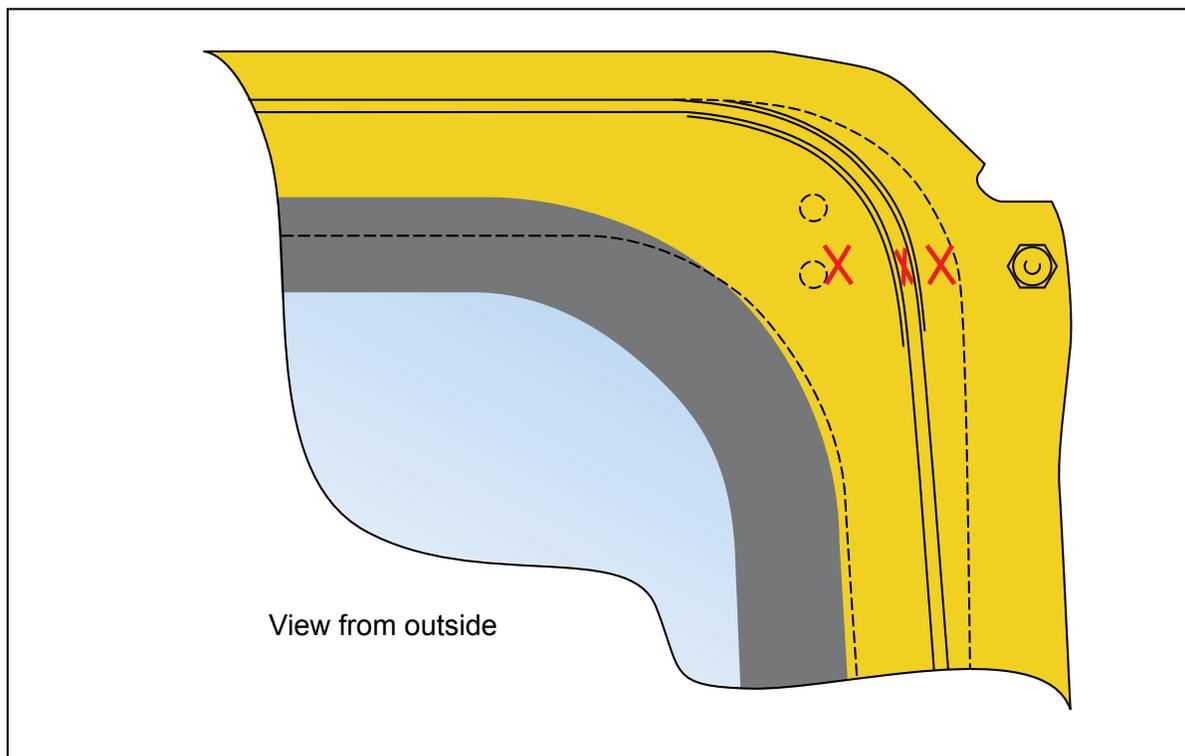


Diagram 1

SOR Door Skin Installation Instructions

Dismantle the door.

1. Remove the door handles, the window and window channels (see figure 8 & 8b)
2. Remove the edge weatherstrip channel from the bottom and sides of the door. To do so you will need to remove the weatherstrip from the channel to access the screws that hold the channel to the door frame. Diagram 2 shows approximate screw placement. Work a flat blade or screwdriver into the edge of the weatherstrip and pry it out of the channel (see figure 9 and diagram 2)

If you plan to reuse your old weatherstrip, do not remove any more than necessary from the channel. Locate and remove the small retainer screws in the channel below the red line depicted in diagram 2. You will find a screw every 4 inches or so. They are placed closer together on the curves and either side of the joints.

3. Gently pry the channel from the door frame sides and bottom allowing removal of the fabric.



Figures 8



Figures 8b



Figures 9

Approximate Screw Placement

This diagram shows approximate placement of the weatherstrip retainer channel screws. Quantity and placement differ slightly across model years. If you plan to reuse your old weatherstrip, try to avoid removing the weatherstrip and channel screws above the red line.

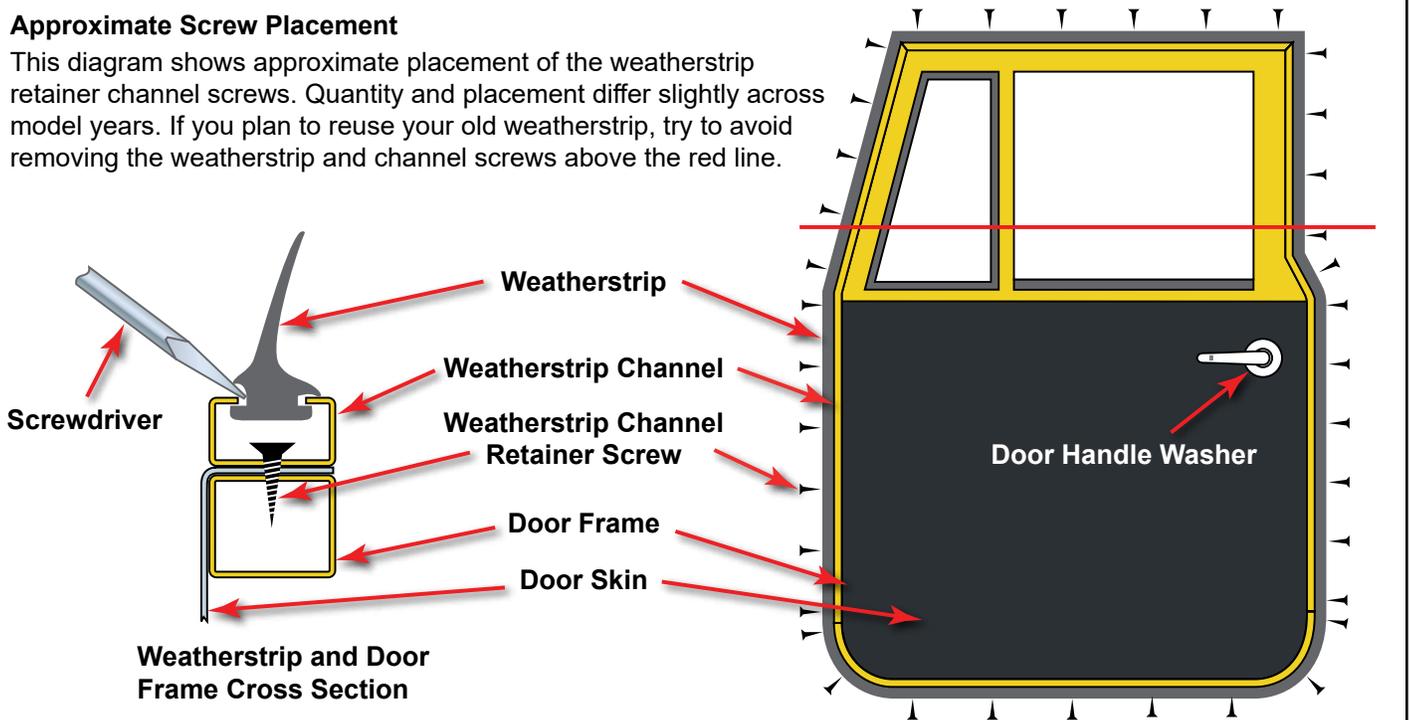


Diagram 2



Figure 10



Figure 11

4. Working from the back side, unbend the tabs on the metal batten that holds the top edge of the fabric (see figure 10).
5. Pry the metal batten from the outer side of the door frame. The skins were originally installed using contact cement. (see figure 11)

Preparing the Door Skin

1. Clean and paint all metal pieces. Replace any missing or rusted hardware.
2. Lay the fabric face down on a clean surface.
3. Align the top edge of the batten with the horizontal line on the top edge of the door skin. With marking chalk, mark the position of each tab on the line. (see figure 12).
4. With a utility knife, make a small slice about a 1/4 Inch long for each tab along the length of the line. Once all the cuts are made, test fit the batten. You will be inserting the tabs through the cuts from the back side of the skin, through the door frame and folding the fabric back over the batten into position. Make sure the fabric lays flat between the batten and frame. (see figure 13)
5. Apply adhesive to the tabbed surface of the batten (see figure 14) and to the top edge of the door skin. Apply adhesive to the outer edges of the door frame on the surface where the weatherstrip channel will be reinstalled (see figure 15). Avoid getting adhesive on the outside surface of the frame. Apply adhesive to the outer surface of the door where you will be reinstalling the batten. Set aside to let the adhesive dry.



Figure 12



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15

6. When you removed the batten, the tabs were bent down pointing to the bottom of the door. They will still be slightly bent from their original installation. Working from the inside of the door skin and with tabs leaning toward the outer edge of the door skin, push them through the slices. Making sure to keep the fabric smooth. Apply adhesive to the door skin on the tabbed surface of the batten (see figure 16).
7. Apply adhesive around the outline marked on back side of the door skin (see figure 17).



Figure 16

Reassemble the Door

1. With door frame on a flat surface and the outer side of the door facing up, lay the door skin into position over the door frame. The tabs of the batten should be facing up and slightly bent towards the top of the door. Fold the batten edge back under the door skin and insert the tabs back into their slots in the door (see figure 18).
2. From the inside of the door, bend the tabs of the batten over (see figure 19).
3. Pull the center of the bottom edge of the door skin over the edge of the door frame stretching it taut and adhere it to the frame. Repeat the process on the two remaining sides pulling the edges evenly out from the center of the door. Be careful not to over stretch the door skin distorting the texture of the material (see figure 20).
4. Reinstall the weatherstrip channel around the perimeter of the door. Locate the screw holes by pushing an Awl through the door skin on the edge of the door frame using the holes in the weatherstrip channel as a reference.
5. Trim the excesses material from around the door frame. Use a flat blade screwdriver to tuck the weather strip back into the weatherstrip channel. Install the window assembly. Reinstall the door handle making sure the outer door handle washer is in position.



Figure 17



Figure 18



Figure 19

Note: when traveling with the side panels and back panel rolled up, be sure that the retainer straps for each window is secured around the side bow as well as the window.

Note: carefully follow the instructions on your contact adhesive package.



Figure 20