

Front Receiver Installation Instructions

P/N 210513: 2019+ Mercedes Sprinter Front Receiver + Winch Mount

WARNING: Use extreme caution while winching - it can be very dangerous and every situation needs to be evaluated properly. The winchline can rub at extreme winching angles - use appropriate tools and techniques to avoid winchline damage.

Before you begin:

- This product is compatible with the Sprinter 1500, 2500, and 3500. However, 3500s may require specialized tooling and/or additional hardware.
- Collison Prevention, DISTRONIC (adaptive cruise control), and/or front parking sensor systems may be impaired if accessories are installed into the front receiver. This includes roller fairleads, winchlines, recovery hooks, shackles, and/or license plates.
- This product is not currently compatible with the adaptive cruise control/collision prevention sensor. Additional sensor relocation kit is required see PN 280101.
- A hawse fairlead is strongly recommended with use of hidden winch mount when installing with a winch.
- Stainless steel hardware may bind together when tightening apply an anti-seize assembly lubricant to the threads of each bolt before assembly

Required Tools:

- Standard and metric wrench set
- Standard and metric socket set
- Flat head screwdriver
- Hammer
- Putty knife
- Razor blade or box cutter
- Painter's masking tape

Included Hardware:

| P/N | Description | Quantity |
|-------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 70124 | M8-1.25 x 40mm Bolt | 10 |
| 70101 | M8-1.25 Nut | 8 |
| 70111 | 5/16" Split Locking Washer | 10 |
| 70020 | 5/16" SS Washer | 18 |
| 70036 | ½"-13 x 1-½" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 8 | 4 |
| 70103 | ½"-13 x 2 ½" Hex Head Screw, Grade 8 | 4 |
| 70035 | ½" Washer | 16 |
| 70033 | ½"-13 Nylock Nut | 8 |
| 70029 | 3/8"-16 x 1-1/4" Hex Head Bolt, SS | 2 |
| 70028 | 3/8" ID SS Washer | 4 |
| 70024 | 3/8"-16 Nylon-Locking Nut | 2 |
| 70060 | ¼"-20 x 1" Button Head Bolt, SS | 4 |
| 70014 | ¼"-20 x 1-1/4" Button Head Bolt, SS | 4 |
| 70008 | ¼"-20 Nylock Nuts, SS | 8 |
| 70009 | ¼" Flat Washers, SS | 16 |
| 70246 | Antiseize Bolt Lubricant Packet, 2g | 1 |





Additional Parts:

| Description | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Picture</u> |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Mounting Brackets | 2 ea | |
| Tow Hooks, Steel | 2 ea | $\circ \circ $ |
| Light Bar Straps | 2 ea (L & R) | |
| Winch Replacement Bracket | 1 ea | PASSENGER DRIVER |
| Bolt-On Fairlead Plate | 1 ea | |
| Euro Center Cut Template (PN 301167) | 1 ea | |
| Euro Side Cut Templates (PN 301166) | 2 ea (L & R) | |
| US Center Cut Template (PN 301186) | 1 ea | |
| US Side Cut Templates (PN 301185) | 2 ea (L & R) | |
| License Plate Holder | 1 ea | |

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Stock Bumper Removal:

- 1. Open and secure the hood.
- 2. Remove the three (3) torx screws across the top of the grille; reference Figure 1.



Figure 1: Grille Screws

 Pull the grille slightly away from the vehicle and unclip the grille in the six (6) indicated locations (see Figure 2 & Figure 3). Once all tabs have been released, the grille can be removed.



Figure 2: Grille Tab Locations



Figure 3: Grille Tab Close Up

 Remove the two (2) torx bolts near the top of the stock bumper seen with the grille removed. Reference Figure 4.

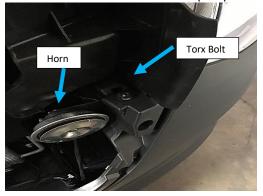


Figure 4: Torx Bolts Near Top of Stock Bumper

 Remove the two (2) plastic caps on the front bumper step to reveal two (2) torx bolts. Do not yet remove torx bolts (reference Figure 5 & Figure 6).



Figure 5: Plastic Cap Location



Figure 6: Front Bumper Step with Plastic Cap Removed

 Remove the six (6) plastic rivets on the inside of each fender well. Gently pull the center of the rivet out, then remove entire rivet. Reference Figure 7 - Figure 9.

PRO TIP: Access to the rivets is much easier by turning the vehicle's wheels.

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Figure 7: Plastic Rivets on the Inside of the Wheel Well



Figure 8: Plastic Rivets on Underside of Bumper



Figure 9: Example of the Plastic Rivet

 Pull gently on the corner of the plastic bumper directly away from the vehicle. Start in the corner nearest the wheel well working towards the center. Repeat for other side of vehicle. Reference Figure 10.



Figure 10: Removing Plastic Bumper

- 8. Remove the final two (2) torx bolt holding on the stock bumper on the bumper step as shown in Figure 6.
- 9. Remove stock front bumper by pulling directly away from vehicle being sure to disconnect any sensors that are attached.
- 10. Remove the horn (seen in Figure 4).
- Remove the plastic shrouds on either side of the radiator by depressing the indicated tab and sliding each shroud up. Repeat for both driver and passenger sides. Reference Figure 11.

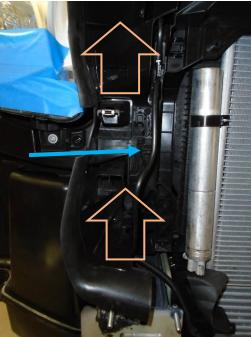


Figure 11: Plastic Shroud Removal

12. Remove the collision prevention sensor plastic bracket by unscrewing the two (2) torx bolts near the top of the radiator.



- 13. Remove the sensor from the plastic bracket.
- 14. Remove the eight (8) bolts holding the stock steel bumper in place using a 13mm wrench as shown in Figure 12.

CAUTION: Once all the bolts are removed, the bumper may fall if not properly supported.



Figure 12: Four (4) of the Frame Bolts Holding the Stock Steel Bumper to the Vehicle.

15. Remove the stock steel bumper using a putty knife and a hammer if the bumper does not come loose after removing the bolts in the previous step. The frame sealant may cause the steel bumper to stick to the frame. See Figure 13. CAUTION: once the seal is broken, the bumper may fall if not properly supported.



Figure 13: Releasing the Stock Steel Bumper from the Vehicle Using a Putty Knife and Hammer

 Lower the air flow skirt by unclipping each side and pressing the skirt down as shown in Figure 14 - Figure 15. Some of the hoses may need to be adjusted.

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Figure 14: Air Flow Skirt Clip



Figure 15: Air Flow Skirt Pressed Down

Front Receiver Installation:

 Install the eight (8) provided M8 bolts with eight (8) split washers through the frame, from back to front, creating studs for the receiver to mount onto. Reference Figure 16.

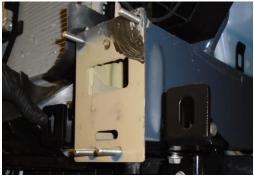


Figure 16: M8 Bolts Installed

 Remove the bottom bolt and loosen the two (2) side bolts holding on each of the black steel crossmember underneath the radiator. (see Figure 17).

PRO TIP: Only uninstall one side at a time to make re-installation easier.



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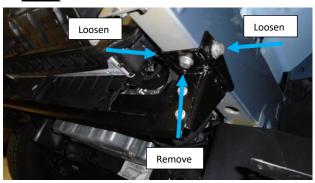


Figure 17: Engine Crossmember Bracket Factory Bolts (Driver Side Shown)

- Install the steel mounting bracket (see "Additional Parts" section) on the correct side of the vehicle **over** each of the crossmember brackets.
- 20. Reinstall the factory hardware through the supplied mounting brackets and through the factory crossmember brackets. Do not tighten hardware yet; allow the mounting bracket some play until entire bumper is mounted. Reference Figure 18.

NOTE: Sprinter 3500 may or may not have these factory bolts and/or threaded inserts. Additional tapping and hardware <u>may be required</u>. At least <u>one</u> bolt is required on the bottom of the mounting bracket bolting into the *vehicles' frame*.



Figure 18: Installed Mounting Bracket

- 21. Press the air flow skirt down past the mounting brackets and adjust the hoses as needed.
- 22. Slide your Aluminess Front Receiver onto the (8) M8 bolts on the frame (Figure 19). Ensure the air flow skirt is resting below and behind the front receiver assembly.

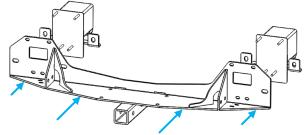


Figure 19: Slide receiver assembly onto frame mounts

- 23. Install washer, split washer, and M8 nuts onto the eight (8) pre-installed bolts.
- 24. Tighten two (2) of the M8 bolts, one (1) on each side, to hold the receiver in desired position.
- Install ½"-13 bolts with washers through the mounting brackets and through the back of the receiver. Install a washer and nut onto each bolt.
- 26. Adjust receiver into final position.
- 27. Tighten all hardware:
 - a. 1/2"-13 bolts
 - b. M8 bolts
 - c. Factory bolts into frame at crossmember.

Winch Installation

(skip this step if you are <u>not</u> installing a winch on your van)

 Install tow hooks into your front receiver using the ½"-13 hardware provided, along with accompanying nuts and washers (Figure 20).

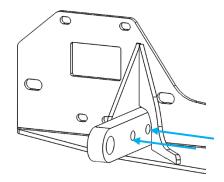


Figure 20: Tow Hook Installation

Install the bolt-on fairlead plate by sliding it over the front receiver and installing underneath the winch mounting surface (Figure 21).



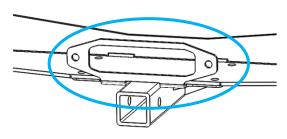


Figure 21: Bolt on Fairlead Plate

NOTE: A sensor relocation kit (PN 280101) is required if your vehicle has the front collision prevention sensor and /or adaptive cruise control.

- 30. Install your winch following the manufacturer's instructions.
- 31. With the winch already installed, install the fairlead provided with your winch.
 - Note: If you are running an Aluminess light bar, use a <u>hawse fairlead</u> instead of the provided winch fairlead (Figure 22).

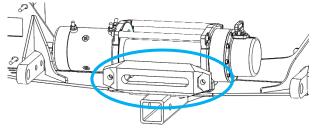


Figure 22: Bolt on Fairlead Plate

Hidden Winch Mount with Light Bar

(skip this step if your installing <u>without</u> a light bar)

32. Install Light Bar Straps onto the winch tray using the ¼"-20 x 1" bolts with corresponding washer and nuts. Reference Figure 23.

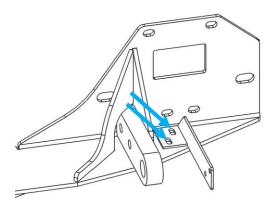


Figure 23: Light Bar Strap Installation Location

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33. Follow the separately provided instructions for installation of the Aluminess Light Bar/Brush Guard (PN 280096), omitting the installation of the brackets onto the front step area of the factory bumper. Once the installation of the hidden winch mount and light are complete, drill a hole through the light bar supports using the light bars straps as a template. Reference Figure 24.

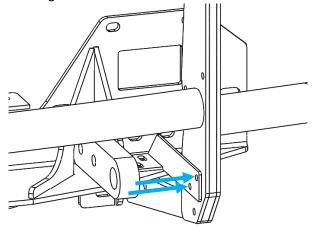


Figure 24: Drill Location on Light Bar Using Light Bar Straps

34. Install ¼"-20 x 1-1/2" bolts with corresponding hardware through light bar straps and light bar supports (Figure 24).

Front Receiver Without Winch

(skip this if you <u>are</u> installing a winch)

35. With the Front Receiver bolted to the frame, install the provided Winch Replacement Bracket with 3/8"-16 bolts and accompanying nuts and washers (Figure 25).

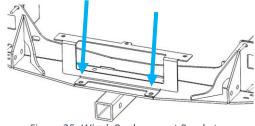


Figure 25: Winch Replacement Bracket



Factory Bumper Preparation and Reinstallation

36. Apply the cut templates to the front bumper as shown in Figure 26. Use the license plate mount to align stickers onto the bumper. Your vehicle will have either a long, narrow European license plate, or the short, wide US license plate mount. Use the corresponding cut templates.

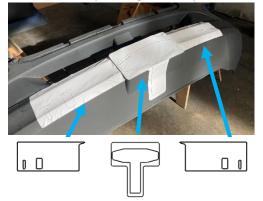


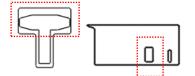
Figure 26: Cut Template Locations (US templates shown)

NOTE: **Measure twice, cut once!** Be sure to physically measure the distances of the protruding features on the hidden winch mount and compare them to the cut templates before cutting!

- 37. Using the cut templates, cut through the bumper along printed lines.
 - a. NOTE: the outer most rectangles on the side templates are only used in conjunction with the **light bar**.



b. NOTE: The inner rectangles on the side templates and octagonal shape on the middle template are only used in conjunction with the winch/tow hooks.



38. When installing a winch, additional material will need to be removed around the air intake hole

of the factory front bumper. Use Figure 27 & Figure 28 as a cutting/trimming guide.

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a. Remove the front step by pushing straight down.



Figure 27: Factory Front Step Removal

 Using the opening as guide, continue the cut through the back of the bumper. Trim all grill pieces out and trim center section out.





Figure 28: Factory Front Bumper Trimming Guide

NOTE: Additional trimming may be necessary to accommodate different models and manufacturers' winches. Use masking tape and a pen to mark areas needed for additional trimming and cut to fit.

- 39. Reinstall the bumper onto the vehicle.
- 40. Be sure to check hardware after the first 100 miles and periodically thereafter.
- 41. Your new Aluminess Front Receiver + Winch Mount is now installed! Enjoy!



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