

Turtleback Installation Guide

STEP 1



Install the appropriate Quick Disconnect for your trolling motor.

Place the boat portion of the quick disconnect on the forward portion of the Turtleback, allowing comfortable space beneath for nuts and washers. It is important to install this piece first, as the underside will be inaccessible when the installation is complete. Mark the hole locations and drill per the manufacturer's installation instructions. Install the bolts, nuts and washers that came with your disconnect at this time, tightening firmly for permanent use.

STEP 2



Remove the forward riser trims on the inner and outer sides of the nose of the pontoon.

Use a 3/16" drill bit to remove all rivets holding the riser trims in place. Once all rivets are removed, you will have access to the mounting area for the bracket. While not necessary, you will also find the installation easier by removing the forward most belly skin panel.

STEP 3



Remove the 3/8" bolts holding the Pontoon Risers to the deck understructure.

Use a 9/16" socket, ratchet, and combination wrench to remove the forward 6 bolts. There will be two or three on the inner and two or three on the outer side depending on how many channels or I-beams are crossed.

STEP 4



Insert one of the two included power spacers.

One is centered, the other offset. This allows adjustment to account for build tolerances from one boat to the next. First, insert the Centered Power Spacer into the eye of the lifting ring at the nose of the pontoon.

This should index final placement for the Turtleback mount. If necessary, use the Offset Power Spacer to align the forward 1/2" bolt hole in Turtleback with the hole in the power spacer. Simply rotate until alignment is achieved.

STEP 5



Position the Turtleback mount beneath the deck with the flanges running down either side of the pontoon.

Move the mount upward and to the stern of the boat until the flanges rest against the underside of the deck, and the 1/2" x 3" stainless steel bolt will pass through the Turtleback and Power Spacer inside the lifting ring of the toon. This should fit very snugly.

STEP 7



Remove the Turtleback and drill the mounting holes.

Mark the centers of each mounting hole location. Use a center punch to center the drill. A 1/8" pilot hole is recommended. Next, use a 7/16" drill at each hole location for the bolts.

STEP 6



Mark the mounting hole locations from above.

Each of these boats are built by hand. This means each of these mounting hole locations will vary a bit from one boat to the next. They must be templated in place. On most boats, the flanges will cross three channels or I-beams in the deck structure above. Use all six included 3/8" stainless steel bolts; three per side. On other boats, only two channels or I-beams are crossed above. **THE FORWARD FOUR BOLTS MUST BE USED IN ANY CASE.** Reaching above the flange, use a small center punch or similar object to scribe the holes onto the top of the flanges. The forward most hole on the inner side of the pontoon will need to be measured and marked relative to the one directly behind it. The top side of this hole is not accessible from above once the Turtleback is in position.

STEP 8



Position the included stainless steel t-bolt.

Position the t-bolt in the forward most hole on the inner side of the pontoon, leaving most of the length of the bolt above. This bolt will need to be pushed up, somewhat out of the way as the Turtleback is repositioned, then dropped through the hole. The T above will rest against the side of the C-channel as you tighten the nut from below.

STEP 9



Re-position the Turtleback.

Position the Turtleback where the six flange mounting holes and the lifting ring hole all align. Replace the 1/2" x 3" stainless steel bolt with washers on each side. It is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** to use anti-seize compound on all fasteners to ensure easy removal should it be necessary. Coat the threads of the 1/2" bolt with anti-seize compound at this time and install the 1/2" stainless steel Nylok nut. Do not tighten at this time. This will allow for easier installation of the 3/8" mounting bolts above.

STEP 10



Install the 3/8" stainless steel mounting bolts.

Working from the underside, use the center punch to work the end of the stainless steel t-bolt down and into position. Install the remaining 5 mounting bolts and washers into their original position. In some cases, you'll need a slightly longer bolt. They are included in your hardware kit. Coat all threads with anti-seize compound and re-install stainless steel washers and Nylok nuts.

STEP 11

Tighten all nuts and washers.

At this time tighten all nuts and washers including the 1/2" x 3" stainless steel bolt. Be sure not to overtighten to avoid damage.

STEP 12



Replace the trim panels.

Re-install all belly skin and riser trims in the order they were removed. For the riser trims, new 3/16" holes will need to be drilled through the flanges of the Turtleback. Use the included 3/4" grip rivets at these locations.

Need more help with installation?
Scan the QR code to watch the
step-by-step video.

