

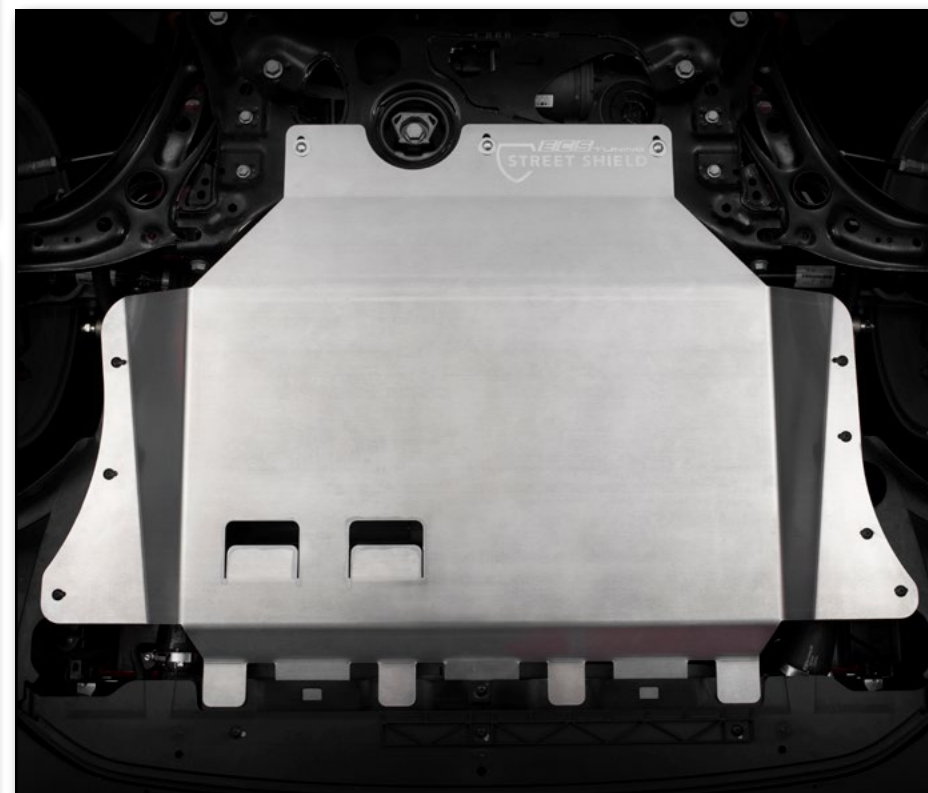


## VW MK7/Audi 8V ECS Street Shield Skid Plate Installation Instructions - [ES2986429](#)



**Skill Level 1 - Easy**

**Basic Skills  
Required**



Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

## INTRODUCTION

Today we're going to install our new Street Shield Skid Plate on our MK7 Volkswagen GTI. The fit and instructions are the same for the Audi 8V A3, and it fits FWD and 4-Motion models as well. This only requires a few basic tools, and will only take about 30 minutes of your time. We are installing it on a lift, but all you really need is a little extra room under the front so whether you support your car on jack stands or drive it up on ramps, you'll have plenty of room.

To do this job you'll only need a few basic hand tools, including a flat blade screwdriver, small pick, T25 Torx driver, and a 5mm Hex (Allen) Key (see the photo on the right).

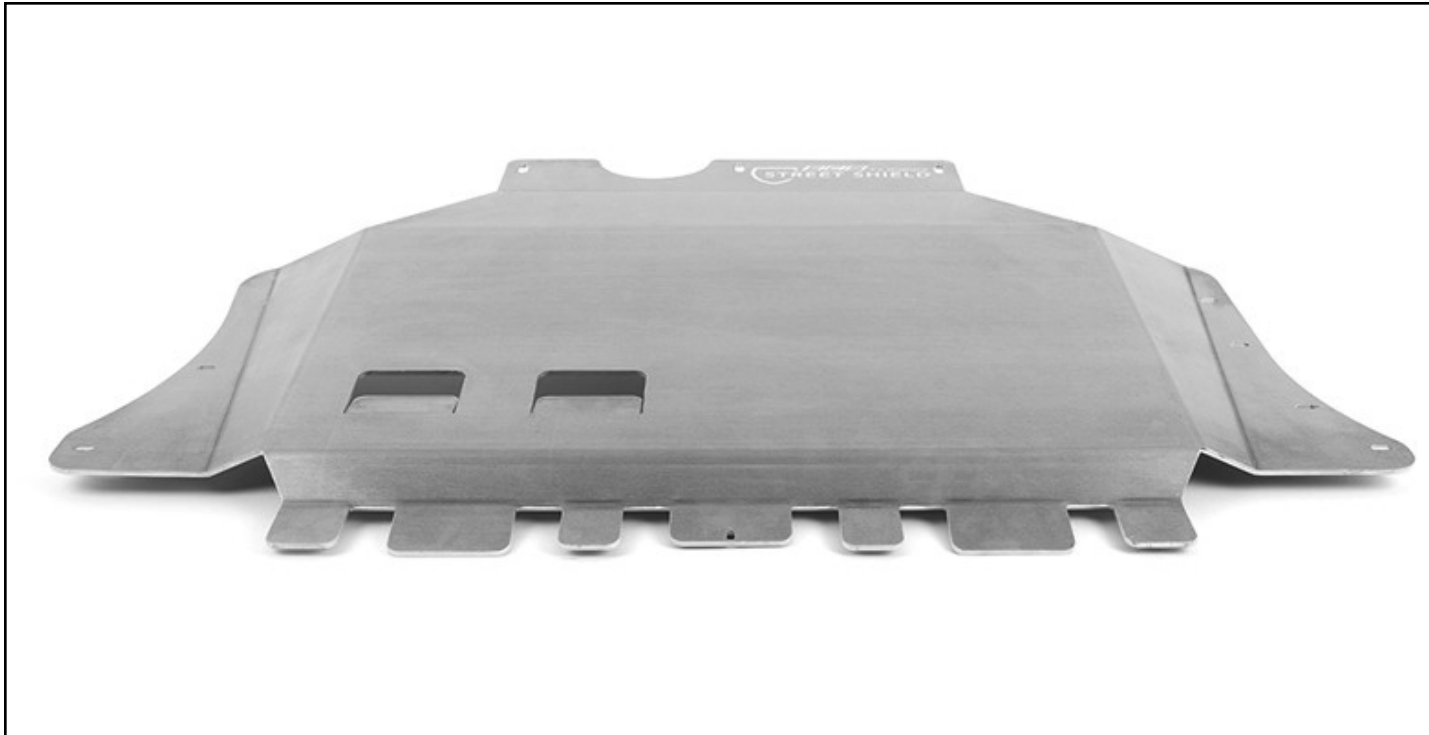
We also offer a Street Shield Brace Kit which will provide even greater protection for the undercarriage of your VW MK7/Audi 8V in the event of an impact or nasty scrape (see photo below). The Brace Kit can be found by itself by clicking [HERE](#), or the complete kit which includes the Street Shield **AND** the Brace Kit can be found by clicking [HERE](#).



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## KIT CONTENTS



Street Shield Skid Plate **(QTY 1)**



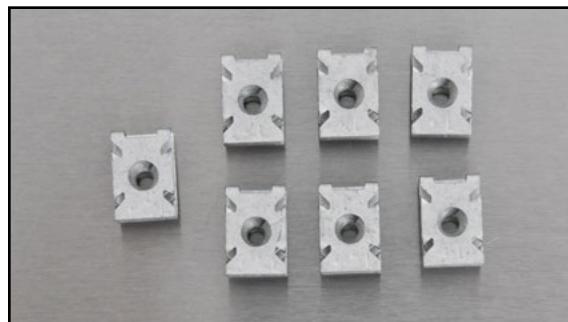
Mounting Screws **(QTY 8)**



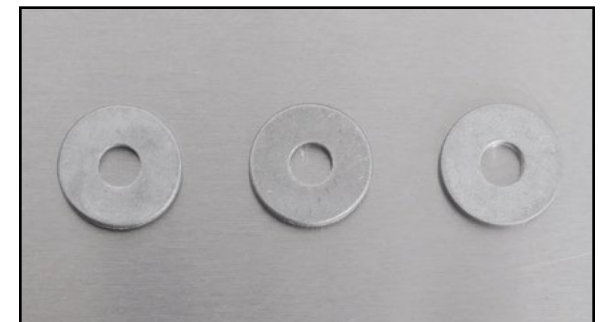
Front Speed Nut **(QTY 1)**



Rear Mounting Bolts & Washers **(QTY 3)**



Side Wing Speed Nuts **(QTY 7)**



Rear Spacers **(QTY 3)**

## INSTALLATION NOTES

- **RH** refers to the *passenger side* of the vehicle.
- **LH** refers to the *driver side* of the vehicle.
- Always use the proper torque specifications.
- If applicable to this installation, torque specifications will be listed throughout the document and at the end as well.
- Please read all of these instructions and familiarize yourself with the complete process **BEFORE** you begin.

## GENERAL PREPARATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

ECS Tuning cares about your health and safety, please read the following safety information. This information pertains to automotive service in general, and while it may not pertain to every job you do, please remember and share these important safety tips.

- Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses.
- Make sure the parking brake is applied until the vehicle is safely lifted and supported.
- Whether lifting a vehicle using an automotive lift or a hydraulic jack, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points.
- Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- **ALWAYS** support the vehicle with jack stands.
- **ALWAYS** read and follow all safety information and warnings for the equipment you are using.



**NEVER** get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and **ALWAYS** make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.

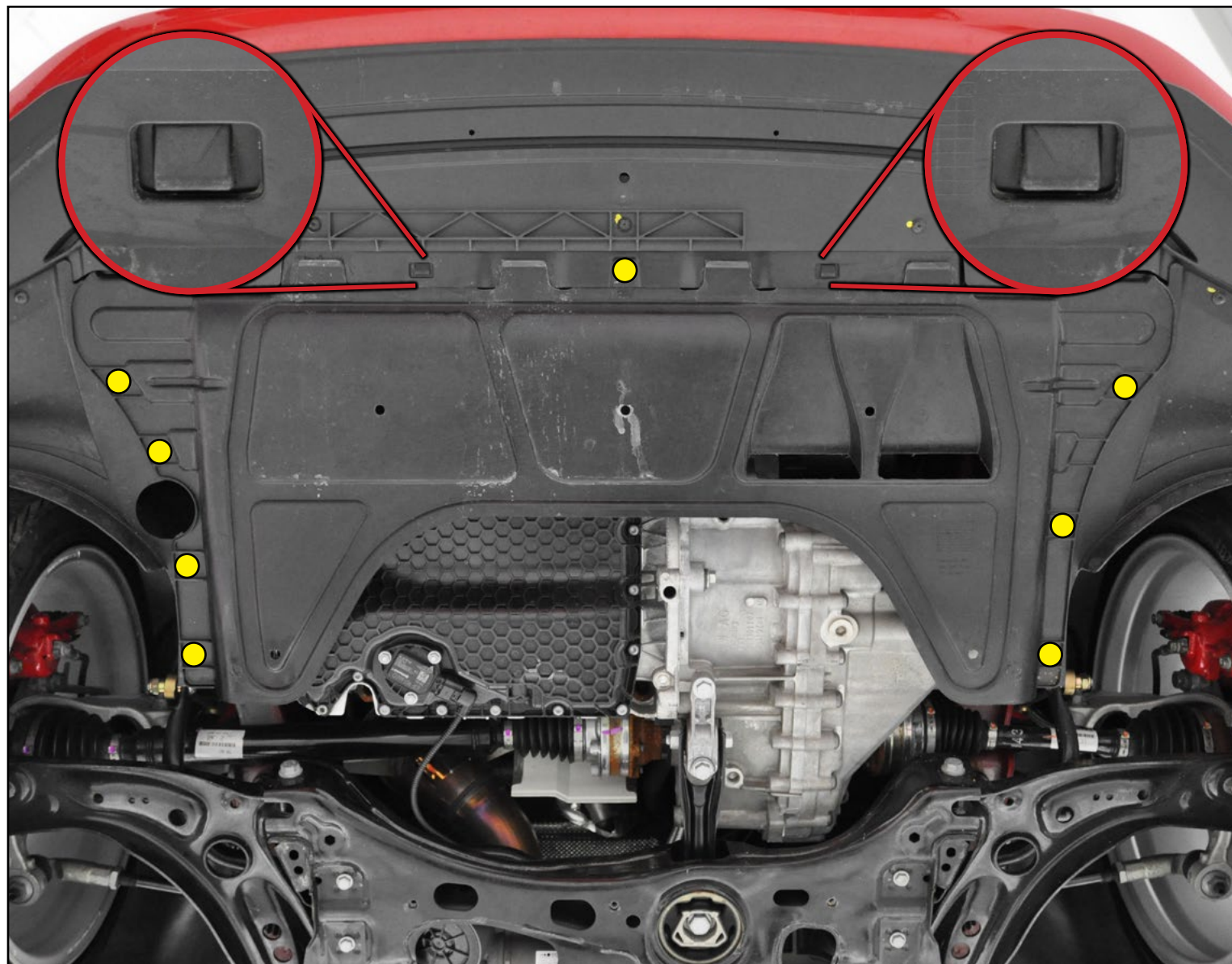


## REMOVING THE ORIGINAL INSULATION PANEL

### Step 1:

To remove the original insulation panel, first remove the eight screws around the perimeter using a T25 Torx driver (highlighted in **YELLOW**). It is worth noting that some vehicles may be equipped with full length insulation panels, which will include three additional bolts at the rear.

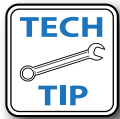
Next, release the two forward hooks using a flat blade screwdriver and pull the panel rearward to remove it.



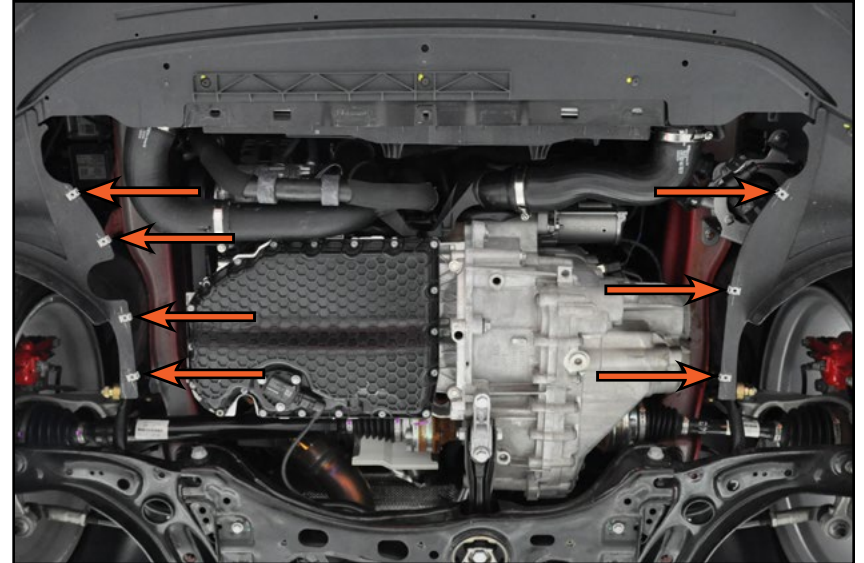
## INSTALLING THE NEW STREET SHIELD SKID PLATE

### Step 1:

Locate the seven speed nuts on the side wings.



To make this installation even easier, refer to the installed photo on [Page 9](#) at any time.

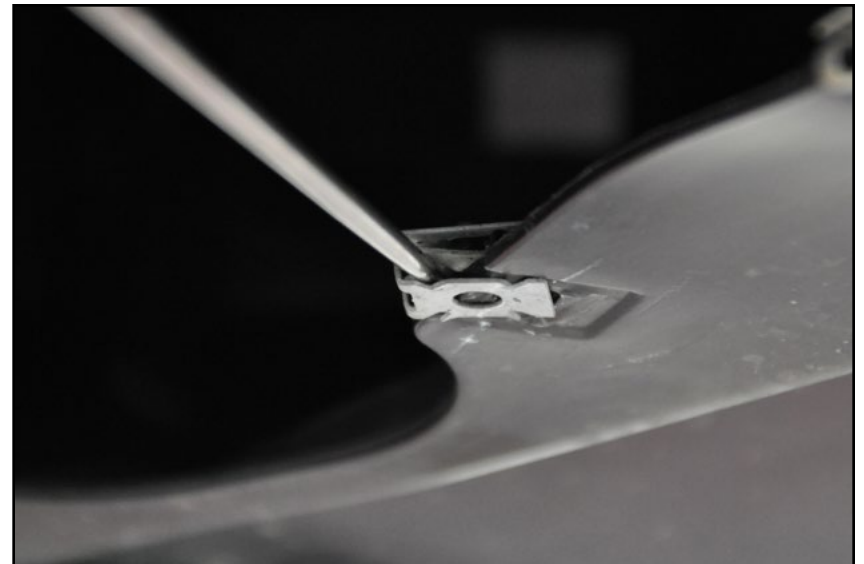


### Step 2: Small Pick

Pry them all off using a small pick or screwdriver and replace them with the new ones included in the kit.



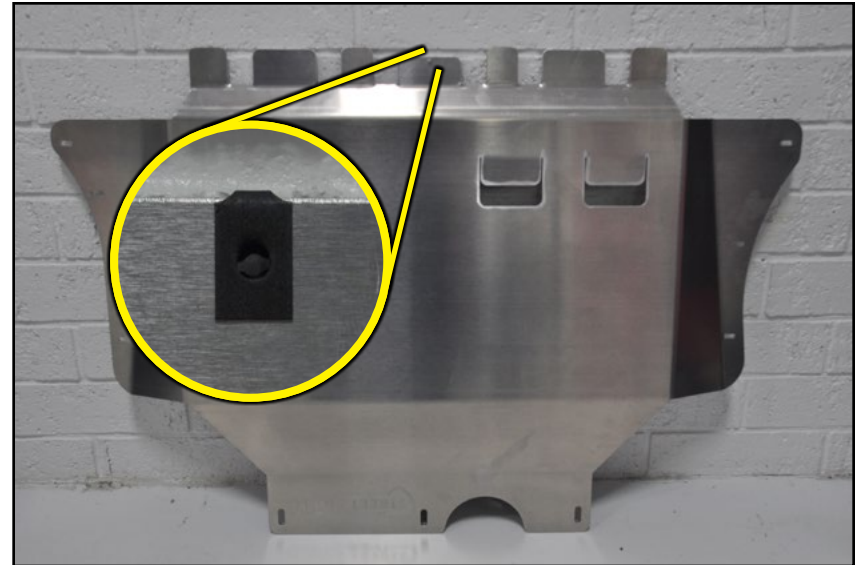
The side wing speed nuts and mounting screws are the same as the OE panel hardware. We include new ones with the kit since they are commonly worn out, but you may choose to reuse your original speed nuts and screws if they are in good condition.



## INSTALLING THE NEW STREET SHIELD SKID PLATE

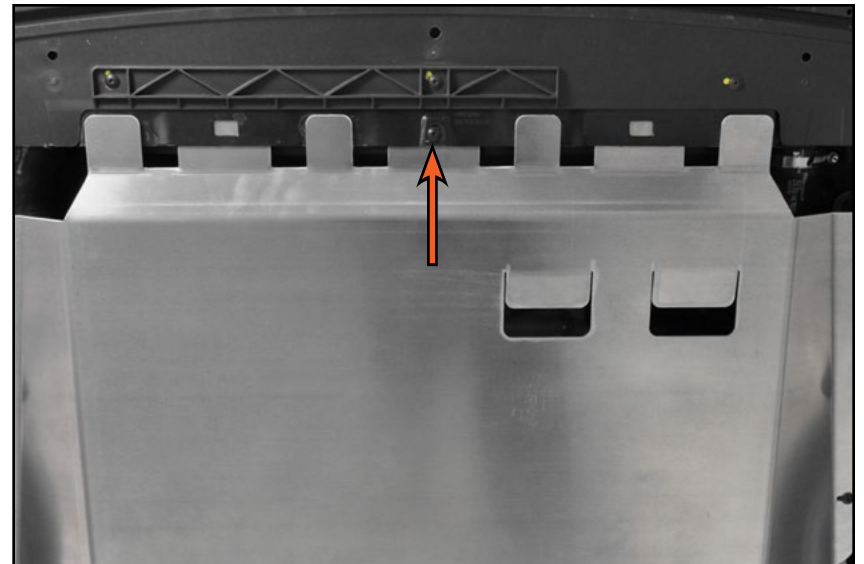
### Step 3:

Install the single front speed nut onto the front center of the new Street Shield skid plate. Make sure the open hole is facing the bottom side of the Street Shield and the “threads” are on the top.



### Step 4: T25 Torx

Slide the new skid plate into place, making sure the tabs on the front edge alternate and fit into the lower core support as shown. Thread one of the mounting screws into the front center to keep the skid plate from sliding backwards.



**CAUTION:** Be sure to support the rear of the skid plate during the next few steps, the full weight of the skid plate should **not** be supported by the plastic lower core support alone.

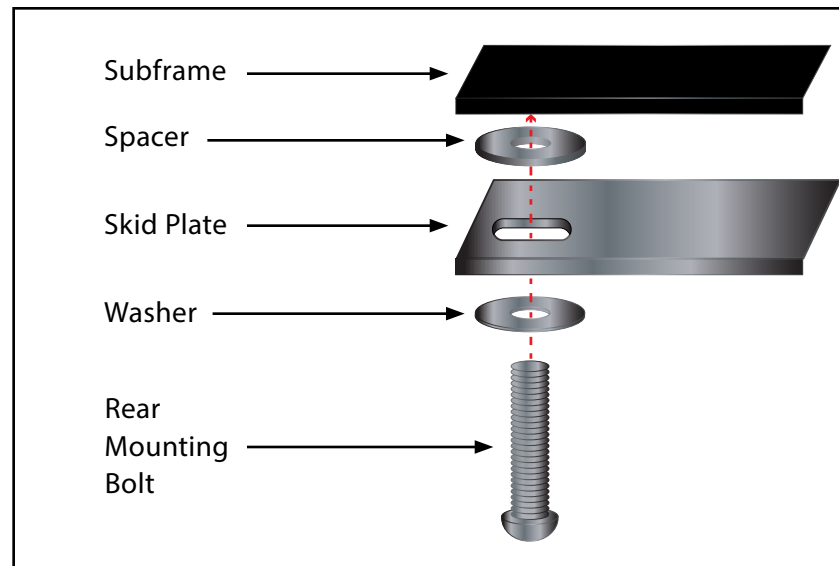
## INSTALLING THE NEW STREET SHIELD SKID PLATE

### Step 5:

Inspect the drawing on the right for the correct placement of the rear mounting hardware, then proceed with step 6.



The washers and spacers may appear very similar, however you will be able to see upon inspection that the spacers are thicker than the washers.



### Step 6: 5mm Hex (Allen)

Install the rear mounting bolts, washers, and spacers into the three rear mounting holes of the skid plate, making sure to place a washer onto each bolt and position the spacers between the skid plate and the subframe, as shown in step 5. Thread all of the bolts in loosely but do not tighten them at this time.



**CAUTION:** It is not uncommon for the threads in the subframe to be rusty or corroded. If the bolts do not thread in easily, chase the threads in each hole prior to installing them.

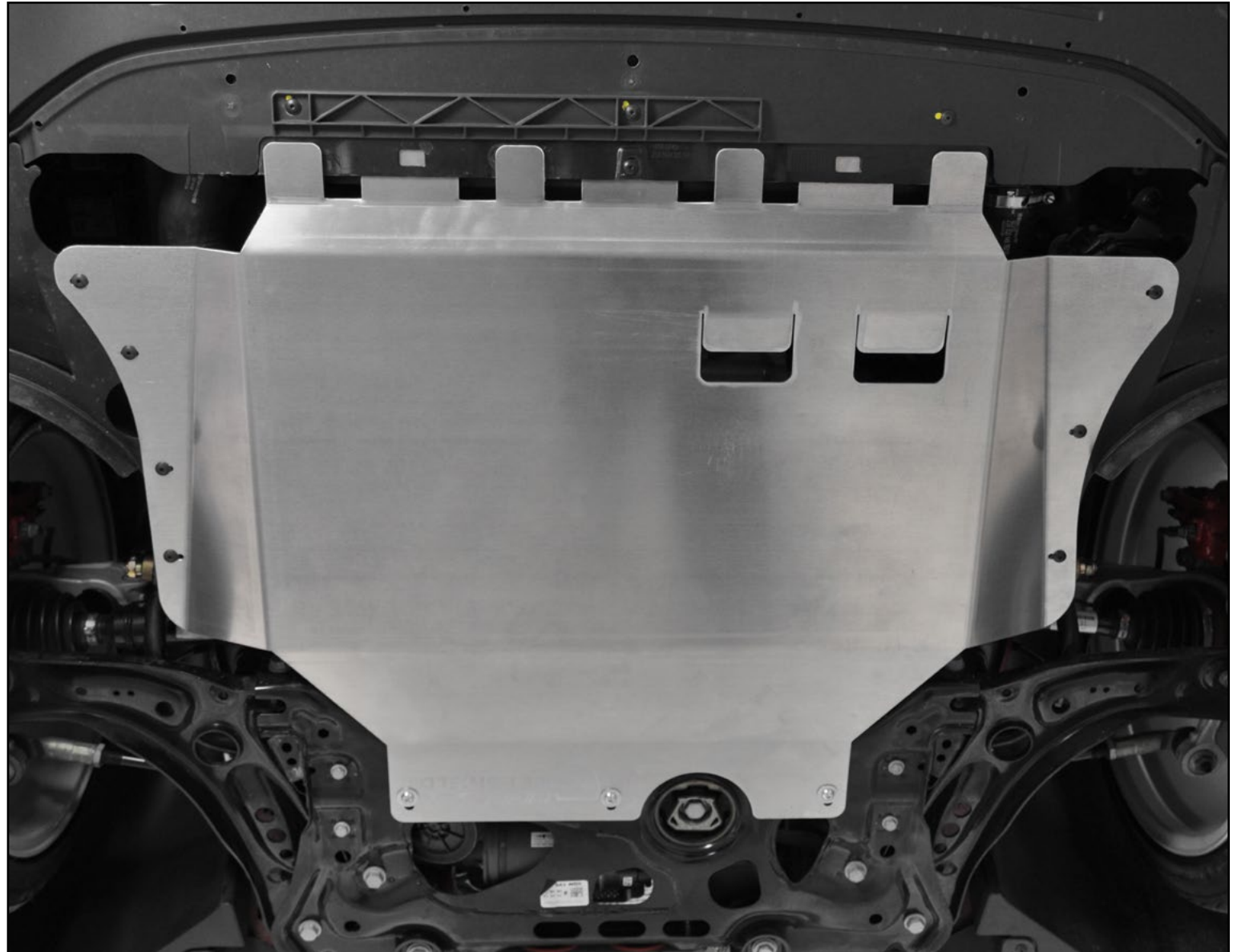




## INSTALLING THE NEW STREET SHIELD SKID PLATE

### Step 7:

Install the seven remaining side wing screws, then tighten all eight T25 Torx screws and the three 5mm hex (Allen) rear mounting bolts.



## SCHWABEN - BUILD THE ULTIMATE TOOL COLLECTION

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**Your Street Shield Skid Plate installation is complete!**



**These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning**

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