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.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Kit Contents ..................................................................................................................... pg.3
Required Tools and Equipment ................................................................................ pg.6
Shop Supplies and Materials ..................................................................................... pg.7
Installation and Safety Information ........................................................................ pg.8
Skid Plate Installation ................................................................................................... pg.9
Torque Specifications ................................................................................................... pg.16
Replacement Parts and Hardware ............................................................................ pg.16
Schwaben Tools ............................................................................................................. pg.17
(1) Street Shield Skid Plate  
(1) Riv-Nut Installation Tool  
(3) Riv-Nuts  
(3) Allen Head Skid Plate Bolts  
Speed Nuts - Quantity varies depending on model year - See pages 4,5  
Dowel Pins - Quantity varies depending on model year - See pages 4,5
Re-use Stock Dowels and Speed Nuts

Narrow Speed Nut

Silver Dowel Pins

Wide Speed Nuts

Allen Head Skid Plate Bolts

Silver Dowel Pins

Re-use Stock Dowels and Speed Nuts

Narrow Speed Nut

Wide Speed Nuts
ES#2771912 B8 SKID PLATE FASTENER LOCATION 2013 AND NEWER

- Re-use Stock Dowels and Speed Nuts
- Wide Speed Nuts
- Silver Dowel Pins
- Narrow Speed Nut
- Allen Head Skid Plate Bolts
- Wide Speed Nuts and Black Dowel Pins
- Wide Speed Nuts
### REQUIRED TOOLS

#### Standard Automotive Tools

- Protecta-Sockets (for lug nuts): ES#2221243
- 3/8” Drive Ratchet: ES#2765902
- 3/8” Drive Torque Wrench: ES#2221245
- 3/8” Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets: ES#2763772
- 3/8” Drive Extensions: ES#2804822
- Hydraulic Floor Jack: ES#240941
- Torx Drivers and Sockets: ES#114178
- 1/2” Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets: ES#2839106
- 1/2” Drive Ratchet
- 1/2” Drive Extensions
- 1/2” Drive Torque Wrench: ES#2221244
- 1/2” Drive Breaker Bar: ES#2776653
- File Set
- Air Nozzle/Blow Gun
- **Triple Square Socket Set**: ES#1910125
- Bench Mounted Vise
- Crows Foot Wrenches
- Hook and Pick Tool Set: ES#2778980

#### Required For This Install

- 1/4” Drive Ratchet: ES#2823235
- 1/4” Drive Deep and Shallow Sockets: ES#2823235
- 1/4” Drive Extensions: ES#2823235
- 1/4” Drive Torque Wrench
- Plier and Cutter Set: ES#2804496
- **Flat and Phillips Screwdrivers**
- Jack Stands: ES#2763355
- Ball Pein Hammers
- Pry Bar Set: ES#1899378
- Electric/Cordless Drill
- Wire Strippers/Crimpers
- Adjustable (Crescent) Type Wrenches
- Drill Bits
- Punch and Chisel Set
- **Hex Bit (Allen) Wrenches and Sockets**: ES#11420
- Thread Repair Tools: ES#1306824
- **Open/Boxed End Wrench Set**: ES#2765907

#### Available On Our Website

- Standard Automotive Tools Available On Our Website Required For This Install
Standard Shop Supply Recommendations: We recommend that you have a standard inventory of automotive shop supplies before beginning this or any automotive repair procedure. The following list outlines the basic shop supplies that we like to keep on hand. Shop supplies with a hyperlink are available on our website.

- Hand Cleaner/Degreaser - [Click Here]
- Pig Mats - for protecting your garage floor and work area from spills and stains - [Click Here]
- Spray detailer - for rapid cleaning of anything that comes into contact with your paint such as brake fluid - [Click Here]
- Micro Fiber Towels - for cleaning the paint on your car - [Click Here]
- Latex Gloves - for the extra oily and dirty jobs - [Click Here]
- Medium and High Strength Loctite Thread lock compound - to prevent bolts from backing out - [Click Here]
- Anti-Seize Compound - to prevent seizing, galling, and corrosion of fasteners - [Click Here]
- Aerosol Brake/Parts Cleaner - for cleaning and degreasing parts
- Shop Rags - used for wiping hands, tools, and parts
- Penetrating oil - for helping to free rusted or stuck bolts and nuts
- Mechanics wire - for securing components out of the way
- Silicone spray lube - for rubber components such as exhaust hangers
- Paint Marker - for marking installation positions or bolts during a torquing sequence
- Plastic Wire Ties/Zip Ties - for routing and securing wiring harnesses or vacuum hoses
- Electrical tape - for wrapping wiring harnesses or temporary securing of small components
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.
- If using an automotive lift, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points. Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- When lifting a vehicle using a jack, always 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. Always make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.
B8 SKID PLATE INSTALLATION

**Step 1:**

Safely lift and support the vehicle.

Never get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack. Always make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands or an automotive lift.

**Step 2:**

Using a flat blade screwdriver, remove the 11 dowel pins for the noise insulation panel underneath the engine and remove the panel.

Some vehicles also have a noise insulation panel underneath the transmission. It is not necessary to remove this panel.
B8 SKID PLATE INSTALLATION

**Step 3:**

Using a T30 torx bit, loosen but do not remove the four screws (arrows) securing the lower radiator shroud to the radiator core support.

**Step 4:**

If your vehicle is equipped with electric power steering, it will have an aluminum shield bolted onto the subframe (highlighted in the picture). Remove this shield using an M10 triple square socket. If your vehicle does not have electric power steering or this shield is not installed, proceed with step five.
Step 5:

Using the procedures outlined in steps six through nine, install riv-nuts in the three holes located in the subframe, just behind the front sway bar (arrows).

Step 6:

Prepare the riv-nut tool by making sure the pressing screw is threaded all the way in.

The threads on the riv-nut tool pressing screw are reverse thread.
B8 SKID PLATE INSTALLATION

Step 7:

Thread a riv-nut (arrow) all the way onto the center screw of the riv-nut tool.

Step 8:

Insert the riv-nut (installed on the tool) into one of the holes in the subframe as shown in the picture. Make sure the riv-nut is fully seated in the hole.
Step 9:

While holding the riv-nut tool body with a 24mm wrench, torque the riv-nut tool pressing screw in a clockwise direction to 27 Nm (20 Ft-lbs). Once the proper torque has been reached, turn the pressing screw counter clockwise until it loosens up, then unthread the center screw from the riv-nut. Repeat this procedure for the other two riv-nuts.

Step 10:

Locate the nine original speed nuts (circled in the photo). Then, reference the charts on pages 4 and 5 for your specific model year, and determine which speed nuts will need to be replaced for your application.
**Step 11:**

Pull off each speed nut and replace it with the correct speed nut in the correct location according to the charts on pages 4 and 5.

**Step 12:**

Install the new skid plate in place by first inserting the front edge under the lower radiator shroud, then pushing the rear of the skid plate up against the subframe.
B8 SKID PLATE INSTALLATION

**Step 13:**

Loosely install the three Allen head skid plate bolts that hold the skid plate to the subframe. Next, install the dowel pins in the rear of the skid plate.

![Image of dowel pins](image1)

**NOTE**

If your vehicle has the rear sound insulation panel, make sure it is located underneath the rear of the skid plate at this time.

These dowel pins only require one-quarter of a revolution to tighten. Over tightening these screws can damage the speed nuts.

**Step 14:**

First install all remaining dowel pins (circles). Next, hand tighten the front lower radiator shroud screws (squares) using a T30 torx bit. Finally, using a 5mm Allen socket, torque the three skid plate to subframe bolts (triangles) to 20 Nm (15 Ft-lbs).

![Image of skid plate installation](image2)
**TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS**

- Riv-Nut Installation ......................................................... 27 Nm (20 Ft-lbs)
- Skid Plate Screws .............................................................. 20 Nm (15 Ft-lbs)
- Wheels .................................................................................. 120 Nm (89 Ft-lbs)

**REPLACEMENT PARTS AND HARDWARE**

- Dowel pin (Silver) 6 x 18 ([ES#2539060](#))
- Dowel pin (Black) 6 x 21.5 ([ES#337789](#))
- Riv-Nut ([ES#467682](#))
- Wide Speed Nut ([ES#262323](#))
- Narrow Speed Nut ([ES#437857](#))
At ECS Tuning, we carry a line of high quality Schwaben tools and equipment to help you build your ultimate tool collection. Never before has affordability and quality been so closely related. Our entire Schwaben line is subjected to strict in house testing for strength and durability. See what we have to offer and equip your garage without breaking the bank.
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