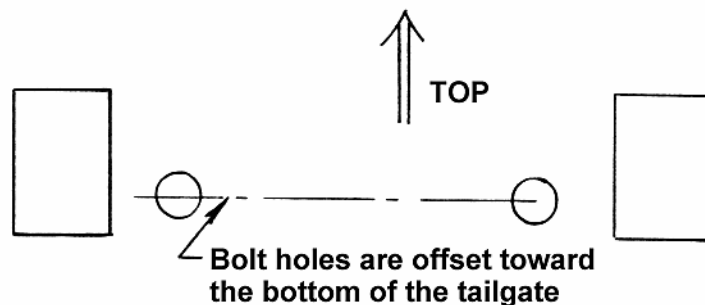


LATCH HANDLE RELOCATOR KIT FOR 87-96 FULL SIZE FORD

This kit changes the tailgate latch handle to operate the tailgate latches from the inside, or front face of the tailgate. This modification requires welding and repainting of the outside surface of the tailgate. The suggested procedure is as follows:

1. Remove the inner panel covering the tailgate handle mechanism
2. Remove the two nuts which attach the handle and latch mechanism to tailgate. Remove the handle from outside tailgate. Disconnect the linkage rods from the handle mechanism by releasing the plastic retainers and remove the mechanism from inside the tailgate. Leave the linkage rods inside tailgate.
3. Install the handle cover plate over original handle opening on the outer surface of tailgate as follows:
 - a. Hold the plate in position over the opening
 - b. Tack weld it in a few spots and verify correct fit
 - c. Continue tack welding the cover plate to the tailgate. Keep weld heat at a minimum and make successive welds located diagonally across the cover plate to avoid warping and distortion of the tailgate. When the cover plate is welded about every 1/2" it is ready to grind.
 - d. Grind the welds to match the tailgate original contour.
 - e. Fill the weld seam with plastic body filler or lead and continue sanding to match the tailgate contour.
 - f. Seal the back side of the cover plate (inside the tailgate) with a good quality primer and sealer to help prevent eventual rusting of the welded seam.
 - g. Prime and finish paint the outside surface of the tailgate as desired to match the pickup. This would also be a good time to finish paint the new inside cover panel as needed.
4. Insert the handle into the furnished inside cover panel. See the sketch below to be sure it is not upside down. The two 6 mm studs should extend through the two holes under the handle. Bolt the handle mechanism to the back side of the inside cover panel using the two 6 mm studs and nuts from the handle. Tighten the nuts with a 10 mm wrench. Verify the handle operates smoothly.



5. Position the inner cover panel and handle mechanism over the opening on the inside of the tailgate near the linkage rod tips. The actuator arms should point toward the bottom of the tailgate. Lift the rod tips and insert them into the plastic retainers on the handle mechanism. Shift the rods in the retainers to obtain slight tension in the mechanism and snap the retainers closed. Both rods should overlap the retainers by equal amounts.
6. Lower the assembled panel and handle into the opening in the tailgate. Verify that the handle mechanism will operate smoothly without rubbing or binding on the tailgate.
7. Attach the cover panel with the original screws.

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