

58-80 FLEETSIDE FULL TAILGATE COVER

The fleetside full tailgate cover is designed to fit over the complete tailgate with no seams exposed on the rear face of the tailgate. It covers over the original latch handle area so another latch mechanism which operates from the inside of the tailgate must be provided by the installer. Tailgate should be removed from the truck.

SUGGESTED INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Straighten the tailgate if it is bent or twisted. If installing a louvered cover, paint the rear face of the tailgate with a flat black paint to prevent the original paint from showing through the louvers. Any distortion in the top of the tailgate should be hammered flat to allow the cover to follow the original tailgate contour.
2. Be sure the latch mechanism is modified and working correctly. After the cover is installed the original mechanism is not accessible.
3. On 58-66 covers, remove the latch brackets at each end of the tailgate before installing the cover. If the original 58-66 latch brackets are to be used with the cover, cut the rectangular openings at each end to align with the openings in the original tailgate. Cut them a little smaller so they may be enlarged to exactly align with the openings in the tailgate after the cover is installed.
4. Place the cover over the top of the tailgate first then push the bottom over the bottom of the tailgate.
5. Push downward on the cover to make sure that it fits properly-especially along the top of the tailgate. There will be a gap at the sides which will be closed by clamping before welding on the cover.
6. Clamp both sides of the tailgate cover to the tailgate using at least four clamps on each side and a pad under the clamps to protect the tailgate cover. Start at the top on each side and work downward with the clamps. Clamp carefully to eliminate gaps between the cover and the curved upper portion of the tailgate. The cover is slightly wider than the tailgate and should overhang equally on each side. Be sure the cover is tight against the tailgate along the bottom edge.
7. The cover is now ready to be welded permanently to the tailgate. Tack weld the edges under the clamps in a few places at each end before fully welding the cover in place. It isn't necessary to weld a continuous bead for the entire seam, but only as required to hold the cover to the original tailgate contour.
8. Clamp the cover tightly against the lower edge of the tailgate and tack weld a few places to keep it tight.
9. Finish grind any rough welds and the ends of the tailgate. Prepare the tailgate for painting as the rest of the pickup.

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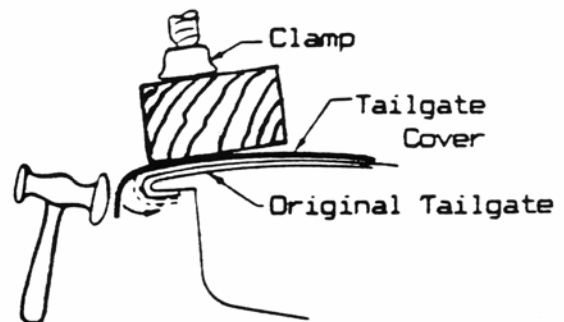
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81-87 FLEETSIDE FULL TAILGATE COVER **SUGGESTED INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

The fleetside full tailgate cover is designed to fit over the complete tailgate with no seams exposed on the rear face of the tailgate. It covers over the original latch handle area so another latch mechanism which operates from the inside of the tailgate must be provided by the installer. Tailgate should be removed from the truck.

1. Straighten the tailgate if it is bent or twisted. If installing a louvered cover, paint the rear face of the tailgate with a flat black paint to prevent the original paint from showing through the louvres. Any distortion in the top of the tailgate should be hammered flat to allow the cover to follow the original tailgate contour.
2. Place the cover over the top of the tailgate first then push the bottom over the bottom of the tailgate.
3. Push downward on the cover to make sure that it fits properly-especially along the top of the tailgate. There will be a gap at the sides which will be closed by clamping before welding on the cover.
4. Clamp the sides of the tailgate cover to the tailgate using at least four clamps on each side and a pad under the clamps to protect the tailgate cover. Start at the top on each side and work downward with the clamps. Clamp carefully to eliminate gaps between the tailgate cover and the original tailgate skin. The cover is slightly wider than the tailgate and should overhang equally on each side. Be sure the cover is tight against the tailgate along the bottom edge.
5. The cover is now ready to be welded permanently to the tailgate. Tack weld the edges under the clamps in a few places at each end before fully welding the cover in place. It isn't necessary to weld a continuous bead for the entire seam, but only as required to hold the cover to the original tailgate contour.
6. Do not weld the bottom edge. Clamp the tailgate cover tightly to the tailgate using several clamps and a long board at the lower edge. Fold the bottom edge of the cover over the lower edge of the tailgate to form a tight seam along the bottom, as shown in the sketch. Use a smooth hammer and work back and forth along the edge to prevent distortion on the outer surface.
7. Finish grind the ends of the tailgate and prepare for painting.



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