



# RUST BUSTER

**RB7711**  
**Front Fuel Tank Crossmember**  
**1997-2004 Dodge Dakota**  
**Club Cab – 6.5 ft. Bed**



**VIDEO AVAILABLE**



**REQUIRED TOOLS**

Jack Stands or Lift  
Mig Welder  
Paint/Primer  
Hand Grinder  
Cutting Wheel or Torch  
Welding Gloves  
Welding Hood/Shield  
Ear & Eye Protection  
Sockets & Ratchet  
Fire Extinguisher  
Hammer  
Punch  
Wrench

**KIT CONTAINS**

Front Fuel Tank Crossmember  
Bed Mount  
Shock Mount Bracket  
M10 Flanged Hex Head Screw  
M10 Hex Nut

**QTY**

1  
2  
1  
8  
8



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**1) PREPARING YOUR VEHICLE**

Begin by disconnecting your battery prior to starting your installation.

Inspect your vehicle for leaking fuel lines, fuel tank and engine components. If you have fuel leaks repair all leaks prior to starting your installation. If your fuel tank is near your welding area **remove your tank prior to welding.**

Remove all combustible items above the work area such as seats, carpets, padding, etc.

**Keep all flammable materials away from the vehicle work area.**

**2) PREPARING YOUR WORKSTATION**

Keep a fire extinguisher close by in the case of fire and make sure you always have a designated “Fire Watch” to assist during the cutting or welding phases.

Abide by all apprenticed welding safety standards and practices.

Always use appropriate welding eye protection, ear protection, and work and fire safety gloves during the installation and within the work area.



**WARNING!**

If you are unsure on how to perform the installation or how to operate any of the required tools listed above, it is **HIGHLY** advised that you enlist the work of a certified welder/installer.

Failure to follow proper safety precautions and instructions may result in serious injury. **The user assumes all liability when installing the product.**



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### 3) PREPARING FOR YOUR INSTALL

Remove or lift your bed out of the way. Remove or protect any fuel lines, brake lines, and wiring harnesses. Unbolt your shock and push it out of the way.

### 4) CUT

Cut out the rivets retaining the factory front fuel tank crossmember.

**NOTE:** The bolts will most likely be rusted due to the age of the vehicle. If so, you will need to cut off the head of the bolt and punch it out with a punch.



Grind the frame free of rust and debris, revealing bare metal.



Spray the work area with a weld through primer to help prevent against rust development.

### 5) INSTALL THE CROSSMEMBER

Slide your crossmember into place sitting against the inner side of your frame rail. You can use a hammer to tap it into place.



Once you have your crossmember in place, take four of the included bolts and nuts and screw them into place retaining your crossmember. Then, tighten them with a 14mm socket and 15mm wrench.







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### 6) **INSTALL THE BED MOUNTS**

After securing your crossmember, take one of the included bed mount brackets and line up the holes with the holes on the top of your frame rail.

Then, use a 14mm socket and 15mm wrench to install the remaining hardware, securing the mount.



Once you have your mount lined up with your crossmember, follow proper welding procedures and tac weld the rounded end of your mount onto the frame. Then, weld it on fully. Weld 100% around edges.

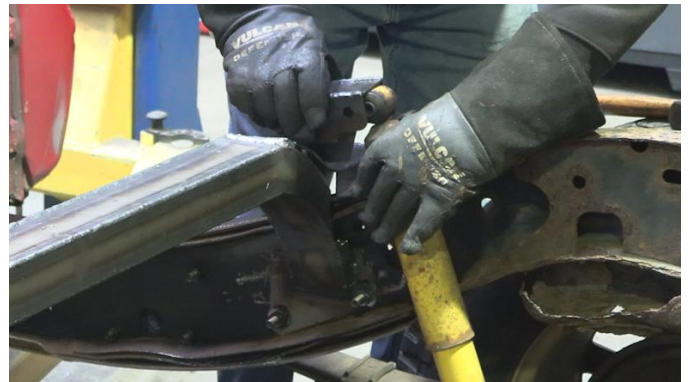


*Repeat this step for the opposite side*

### 7) **INSTALL THE SHOCK MOUNT BRACKET**

After installing your bed mounts, take your shock mount bracket and hold it up the passenger's side of your crossmember.

**NOTE:** Your bracket will be facing the rear of your vehicle.



Use your shock to help with the alignment. Once you've confirmed the placement of your bracket, tac weld it onto the crossmember before welding it on fully.





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Then, you can reinstall your shock.



### **8) PAINT**

Paint the part with primer or other rust inhibitor to help prevent or reduce the risk of rust formation.

We recommend our Rust Buster Rust Converter & Primer Spray Paint (RB9917).

