



# TOP Reproductions

## Tailgate Panel Bracket Set

1987 – 1991 & 1992 – 1996 Ford F150, F250 & F350

### Contents:

- 3 – Panel brackets
- 6 – #8 stainless screws
- 6 – Washers with EPDM rubber backing
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### Removal:

- Remove four acorn nuts on outside edge of tailgate and six screws on the back of the tailgate. Remove panel.
- Use a marker to draw lines on the sides of each bracket.
- The outside edge of the panels will be indented on each side, or the center, of the brackets. Use a flat tool or pliers to pry the dents up allowing the brackets to move to the side. Be careful not to deform the tailgate panel.
- Slide each bracket to the removal gap on the bottom edge of the trim panel. Lift and remove.

### Install:

- **IMPORTANT:** Test fit each bracket on the tailgate. Bracket should sit flush along the curve of the tailgate. If bracket is lifted off the curve, even a little, modification will be necessary. See Modification section.
- Slide each bracket into the the previously marked locations.
- Gently re-indent the back edge to hold the brackets in place
- Install the panel into the tailgate.
- Fasten outside edges using the acorn nuts.
- Fasten the brackets to the tailgate from the back side using the six #8 stainless screws and rubber backed washers. The rubber side of the waster faces the tailgate.

### Modification:

It is very common for the inside edge of the tailgate to be dented slightly causing the trim panel to sit proud of the tailgate. These brackets have been designed to allow shortening of the posts to compensate. The posts can be safely shortened up to 3/4"

- **IMPORTANT** – Shorten each post in smaller steps to ensure too much is not removed.
- Test fit the bracket into the outside holes of the tailgate. If bracket is lifted off the curve, even a little, the bracket posts will need to be shortened.
- Measure the gap between the bracket and the tailgate for both posts.
- For small modifications, less than 1/8", a coarse grit sandpaper can be used to shorten the post.
- Use a hack saw to remove larger sections from the posts.
- Be sure to support the post in a vice when cutting or sanding. **DO NOT** support the bracket edge only.
- Test fit the bracket again to confirm it sits flat. Check the mounting holes on the back side of the tailgate to make sure the post just touch the inside.
- Repeat until proper fit is achieved.
- Repeat process for each bracket

