

Z1 FRONTIER XTERRA TRANSFER CASE SKID PLATE INSTALLATION MANUAL



This Installation Manual is intended for the following models:	
2005-2021	Nissan Frontier (D40)
2022+	Nissan Frontier (D41)
2005-2015	Nissan Xterra

PROLOGUE:

Study these instructions completely before proceeding to assembly. The installer must have a thorough knowledge of automotive systems operation. If unfamiliar with any of the concepts outlined in this instruction, we recommend the installation be completed by a qualified professional.

WARNING!

Extreme caution should be taken when performing maintenance or performance upgrades to your vehicle. Please observe and abide by any Warning or Caution labels placed on the various components and tools used when servicing your vehicle. If you have any questions regarding installation or the various components included with the Z1 Off-Road Frontier Xterra Transfer Case Skid Plate, consult with a Professional Mechanic, or contact Z1 Off-Road for more information.

PARTS INCLUDED:

Item	Quantity	Description
Xterra Owners:		
1	1	Z1 Transfer Case Skid Plate
2	1	M10 x 30mm Bolt
3	1	M10 Nylon Lock Nut
4	2	M10 Oversized Washer
5	3	M8 x 30mm Bolt
6	3	M8 Washer
Frontier Owners:		
1	1	Z1 Transfer Case Skid Plate
2	1	M10 x 30mm Bolt
3	1	M10 Nylon Lock Nut
4	2	M10 Oversized Washer
5	2	M8 x 30mm Bolt
6	3	M8 Washer
7	1	M8 x 70mm Bolt
8	1	M8 Nylon Lock Nut

TOOLS REQUIRED:

- Hydraulic Jack
- (2) 2-Ton (or greater) Jack Stands
- Ratchet
- Ratchet Extension(s)
- Assorted Metric Sockets
- Assorted Metric Wrenches
- Torque Wrench

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

- Always wear safety glasses and any necessary protective garments. If using any fluids, chemicals, or solvents, a respirator is recommended.
- Always use properly rated jack stands when working under your vehicle.
- Always keep limbs and parts away from moving drivetrain parts.
- Always turn the ignition to the OFF position and disconnect the NEGATIVE battery terminal.
- Only operate drivetrain in safe space and well-ventilated areas.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Remove contents from the Z1 Off-Road Frontier/Xterra Transfer Skid Plate and verify that ALL necessary hardware is present. **The Skid Plate will come with extra hardware that is not needed. Use the Zinc Coated Hardware that is bagged together, the extra Black Phosphate Hardware can be discarded.**

PROCEDURE:

1. Place the transmission in Park position (or in Reverse gear if equipped with a manual transmission). Apply the parking brake.
2. Locate proper jacking points on the vehicle's chassis, refer to the Vehicle's Owner's Manual. Raise and support the vehicle using a jack and jack stands.
3. Remove the OE Transfer Case Cover. *Figure 1* below is of a D41 Frontier. D40 Frontiers and Xterra are in the same location but may be mounted with less hardware depending on model year.

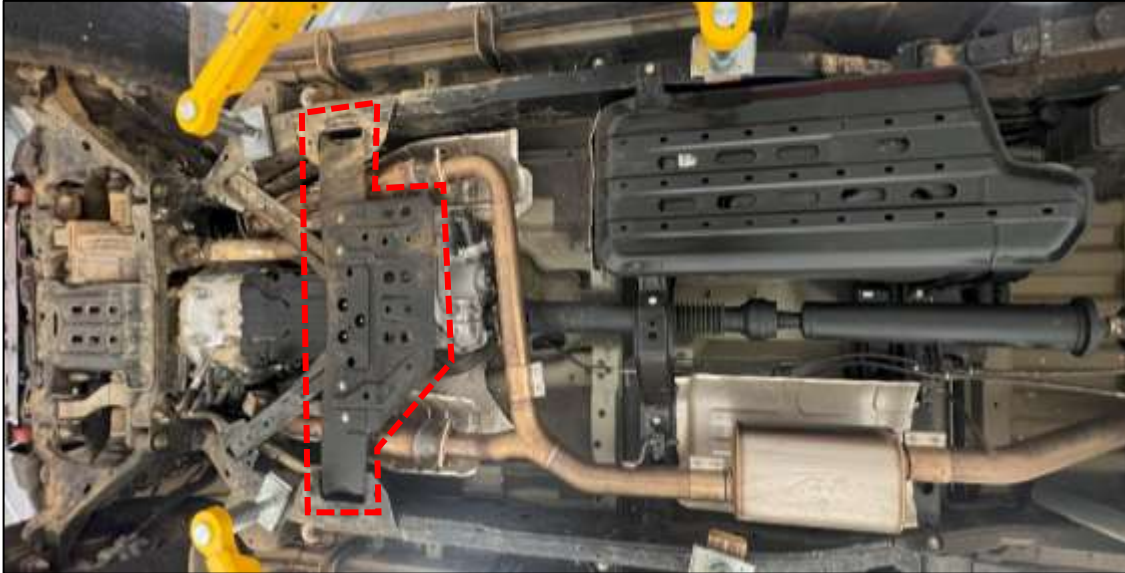


Figure 1

4. Locate the Z1 Transfer Case Skid plate and all hardware. **Use the Zinc Coated Hardware that is bagged together and discard the Black Phosphate Hardware.**
5. Hold the Z1 Skid Plate up to the vehicle and note which holes on the vehicle the slots on the Skid Plate line up with.
6. Loosely install the M8 x 30mm Bolts with a Washer into the holes noted in *Step 5*. Do not install the Bolts all the way, just get the threads started.

NOTE: On certain model years of the D40 Frontier, the passenger side front mounting point will **NOT** be threaded. If you encounter this, use the M8 x 70mm Bolt with a Nylon Lock Nut and Washer to secure it to the vehicle.

7. Slide the slots on the Z1 Skid Plate onto the bolts installed in *Step 6*. If you also purchased the [Z1 Transmission Skid Plate](#), make sure the Transfer Case Skid Plate is mounted **ABOVE** the Transmission Skid Plate (the Transfer Case Skid Plate is sandwiched between the Transmission Skid Plate and the vehicle).

NOTE: In general, when one Skid Plate overlaps another Skid Plate, the forward most Skid Plate should be on the bottom. This is to prevent the rearward Skid Plate from getting snagged on rocks or debris.

8. With the front of the Skid Plate resting on the bolts, swing the rear of the Skid Plate up into position. Secure the rear of the Cross Brace under the Driveshaft with (1) one M10 x 30mm Bolt, (2) two oversized M10 Washers and (1) one M10 Nylon Lock Nut. *Figure 2.*



Figure 2

9. With all of the bolts loosely installed and the Skid Plate in position, tighten all of the hardware in steps until the Skid Plate is secured and all of the bolts are tight.
10. Properly lower the vehicle from jack stands.

END

Additional Technical Support:
Contact Z1 Off-Road at info@z1offroad.com
Or call 678-839-8019 between 9am and 6pm ET