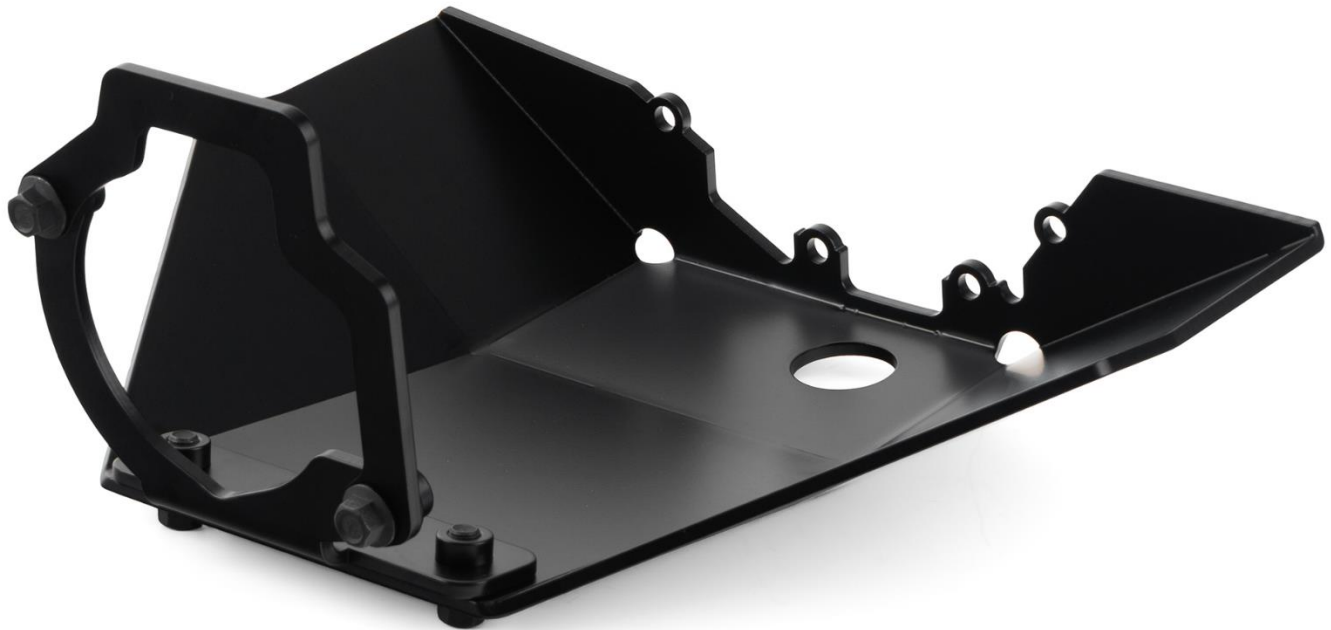


# Z1 M226 DIFFERENTIAL SKID PLATE INSTALLATION MANUAL



This Installation Manual is intended for the following models:

2022+	Nissan Frontier (D41)
2005-2022	Nissan Frontier (D40 Pro-4X, NISMO, Manual)
2004-2015	Nissan Titan (A60)

## 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 M226 Differential Skid Plate, consult with a Professional Mechanic or contact Z1 Off-Road for more information.

## **PARTS INCLUDED:**

Item	Quantity	Description
1	1	Skid Plate
2	1	Lower Collar
3	1	Upper Collar
4	4	M10 x 1.25 Flanged Bolt, 20mm
5	4	5/16" Bolt
If Optional with Differential Cover Shield:		
6	1	Differential Cover Shield
7	4	5/16" Flanged Locking Nut
8	4	5/16" Stud, 2" Long

## **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:**

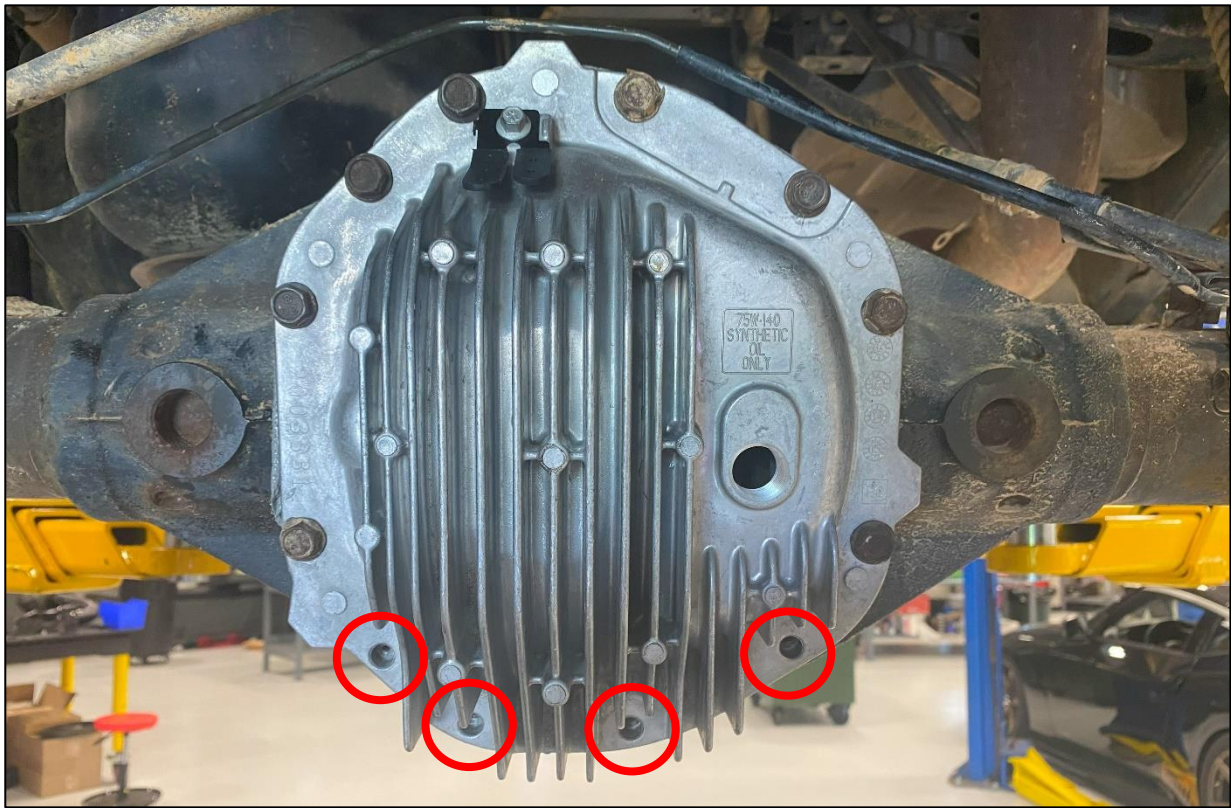
Remove contents from the Z1 Off-Road M226 Differential Skid Plate and verify that ALL necessary hardware is present.

This Product is intended for users who have the M226 Rearend in their vehicle and will not fit the other options available on some Nissan Truck Models.

## **PROCEDURE:**

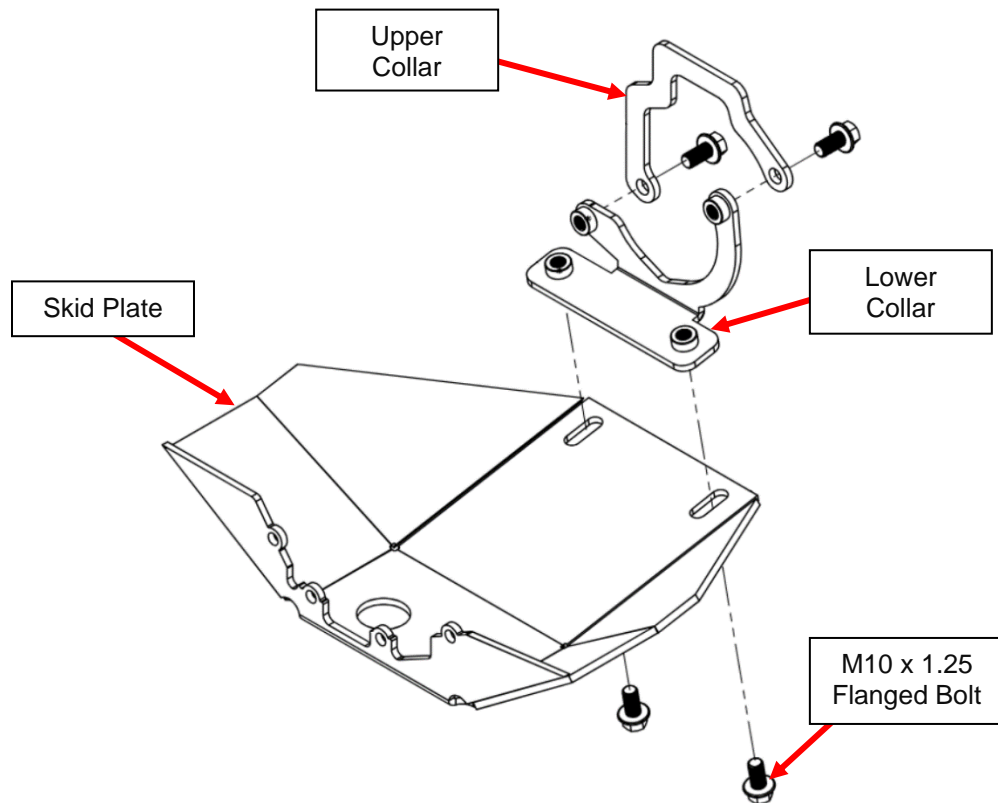
1. Place the transmission in Park position (or in Reverse gear if equipped with a manual transmission). Apply the parking brake.
2. Locate proper jacking points on vehicle's chassis (refer to vehicle's Owner Manual). Raise and support vehicle using jack & jack stands.
3. Locate the Differential Cover on your vehicle. Remove the (4) four lower bolts securing the Differential Cover to the Differential Case. *Figure 1.*

**NOTE:** If your Differential starts leaking, you will have to fully remove the Cover, drain and clean the Differential, and install more RTV or another Gasket onto the Differential Cover. Refill with new Differential Fluid after the installation of the new Differential Shield. We swapped to a different Cover and changed the fluid in the process of this installation.



*Figure 1*

**NOTE:** Use *Figure 2* below as a reference for the included parts for the Differential Shield.



*Figure 2*

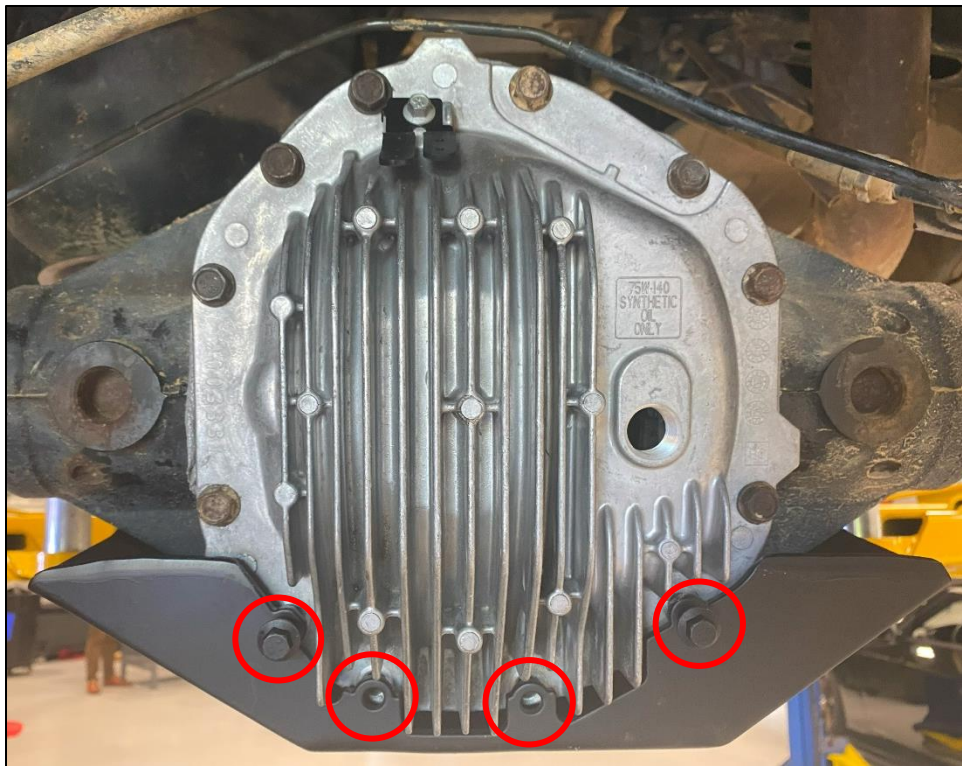
4. Locate the Skid Plate, Lower Collar, Upper Collar and (3) three M10 Flanged Bolts. Loosely attach the Lower Collar to the Skid Plate with (2) two M10 Bolts. After, loosely attach the Upper Collar to the Lower Collar with (1) one M10 Bolt, allowing it to rotate. *Figure 3.*



*Figure 3*

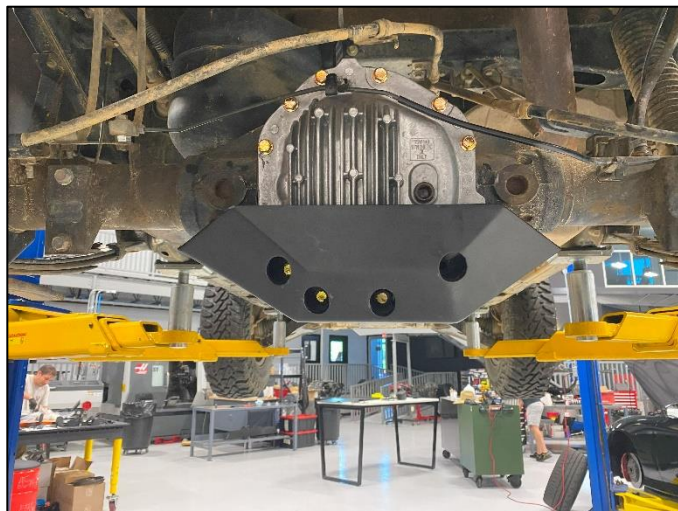


5. Position the Skid Plate Assembly onto the Differential Cover and loosely secure it with the (4) four 5/16" Bolts. *Figure 4.*



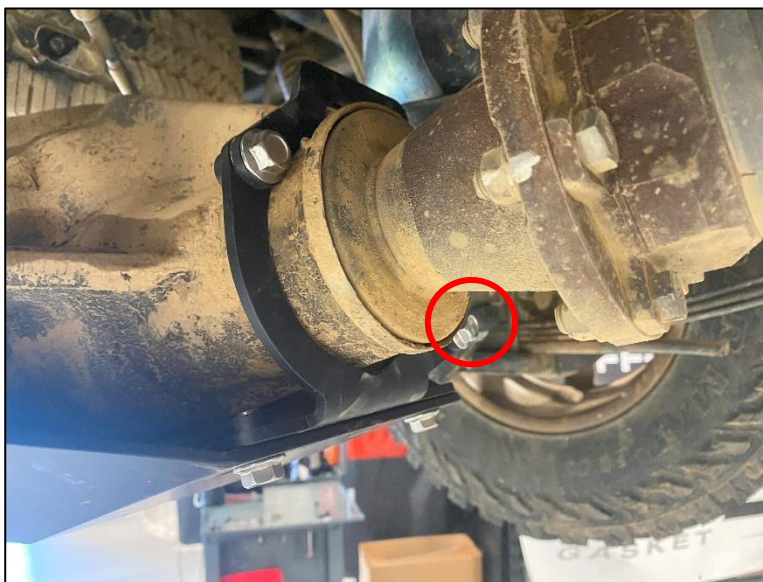
*Figure 4*

**NOTE:** If you are also installing the Z1 Differential Cover Shield, you will have (4) four 5/16" Studs and Locking Nuts included with that kit. Use the Studs with both the Differential Cover Shield and the Differential shield. The Differential Cover Shield Over will be positioned over the shim (if applicable) and the Differential Shield, and the 5/16" Studs, inserted through them and into the Differential Housing. Secure with the Locking Nuts. *Figure 5* below shows the Differential Cover Shield installed.



*Figure 5*

6. Rotate the Upper Collar around the Differential, and secure to the Lower Collar with the remaining M10 Bolt.  
*Figure 6.*



*Figure 6*

7. Adjust fitment of the Differential Shield Assembly as needed. Torque all M10 Bolts to **38 ft-lbs** once positioned.
8. Torque the (4) four 5/16" Bolts/Nuts on the Studs to **30 ft-lbs.**
9. If you drained your Differential fluid in *Step 3*, refill it now if the RTV Gasket has cured for long enough. Refer to your Factory Service Manual for Fluid type and quantity.
10. Account for and remove tools.
11. Safely lower vehicle from jack stands.

**END**

**Additional Technical Support:**

Contact Z1 Off-Road at [info@z1offroad.com](mailto:info@z1offroad.com)  
Or call 678-839-8019 between 9am and 6pm ET