

# Fitting Instructions



SKU

PRODUCT

**T4F655**

**TAG Heavy Duty Towbar to suit  
Ford Escape (09/2016 - 04/2020)**



## Example Image Only

Towbars are designed specifically for each vehicle and may differ from the example above



Scan for latest version of these instructions

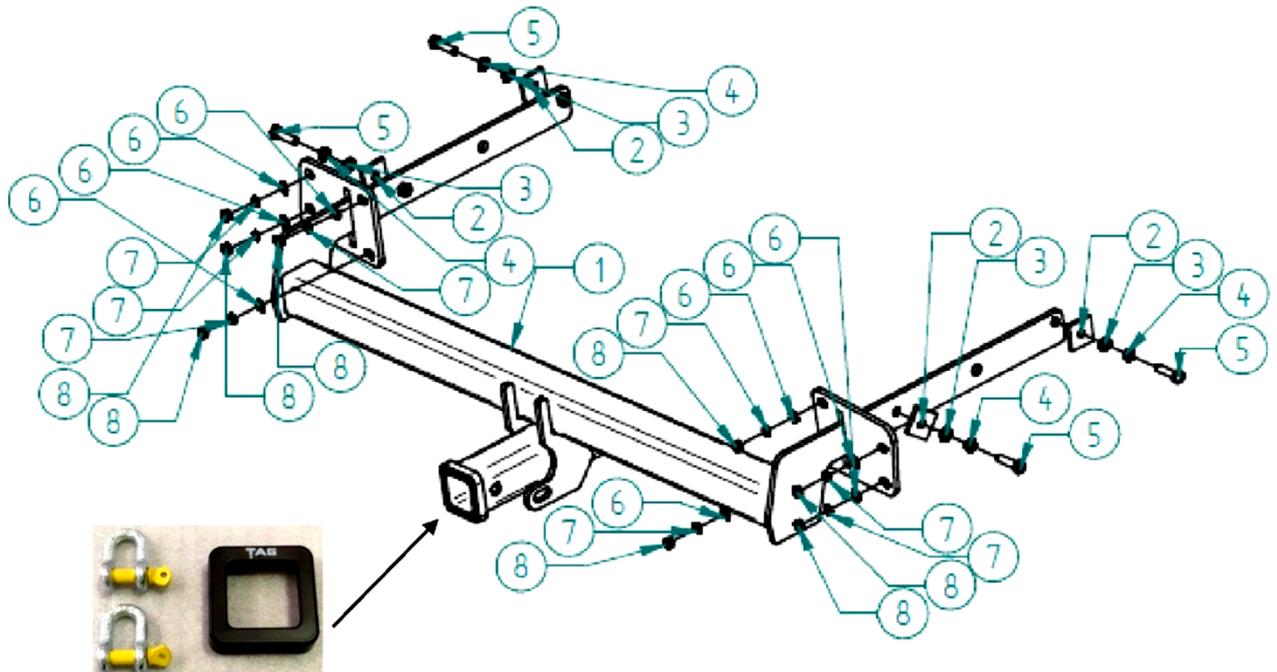
## SPECIFICATIONS

- Towbar Class: Heavy Duty
- Towing Capacity: 3500kg

## IN THIS GUIDE

- Fitment Instructions
- Torque Settings
- Warranty Info

# Towbar Fitting Instructions



Item Number	File Name (no extension)	Quantity
1	Towbar	1
2	Top Plate	4
3	3/8 Flat Washer	4
4	3/8 Shakeproof Washer	4
5	3/8 x 1,1/4 Bolt	4
6	M8 Washer	8
7	M8 Shakeproof washer	8
8	M8 Nut	8

Tools Required: Spanners, Screwdriver, Sockets, Torque wrench

## Step-By-Step Instructions

### Warning:

- This product is for towing purposes only and must only be loaded as shown in your vehicle Owner's Manual.
- This towbar is NOT to be drilled, cut, welded, or modified in any way.
- Check behind chassis rail and body panels before drilling to ensure no hazards are present
- All load ratings shown are under the assumption your trailer has a functional braking system installed
- When installed in positions other than the one depicted in these instructions the Tow Ball Mount may interfere or obstruct certain features of your vehicle (tailgate opening, Chassis clearance, etc.)

### General:

- Before fitting this towbar read fitting instructions and check installation hardware is correct.
- Check that the towbar is suitable for the vehicle and be wary of any changes to the vehicle design that may conflict with the fitting of this towbar. (Tray, Canopy, Suspension etc.)
- After drilling, blow any filings clear, remove any swarf and treat exposed metal with a rust inhibitor.
- The high tensile fasteners supplied with this product are an integral feature to achieving the specified rating, if replacement is required ensure that fasteners of the same grade (8.8) & quality are used. Contact an authorised TAG distributor or the TAG fitment centre - (07) 3208 3022 - if further information is required.

### Towbar Maintenance and Care:

It is recommended, when not in use, the Tow Ball Mount assembly and class 4 Pin and Clip is stored inside the car away from moisture to prevent standing water from forming rust. Inspect to ensure, on regular basis, fasteners are torqued to the specifications below and in good condition.

**Ensure that the fitting instructions are read and understood prior to fitment  
Place these instructions in the vehicle's glovebox after installation is completed**

## Step 1. Remove Bumper

- a. Remove 5x scrivenets from each wheel arch.
- b. Carefully un-clip wheel arch flare / trim to expose the screw at the top edge of bumper.
- c. Remove the screw.
- d. Lift the tailgate and remove the plastic covers over each taillight assembly fasteners. Remove fasteners and the taillight assemblies. Note: Some rearward force is required. Disconnect wiring harness.
- e. Remove the 2x screws each side of the tail gate directly below the taillight assemblies securing the bumper to the body.
- f. Remove the 4x scrivenets located along the bottom edge of the bumper. 2x left & 2x right.
- g. Disconnect the 3x wiring harnesses from the under the bumper. These are the fog lights & reverse sensors.
- h. Beginning at each wheel arch carefully peel the bumper away from the body making sure to disconnect any remaining harness (if any).
- i. Remove and discard the impact bar and fasteners.

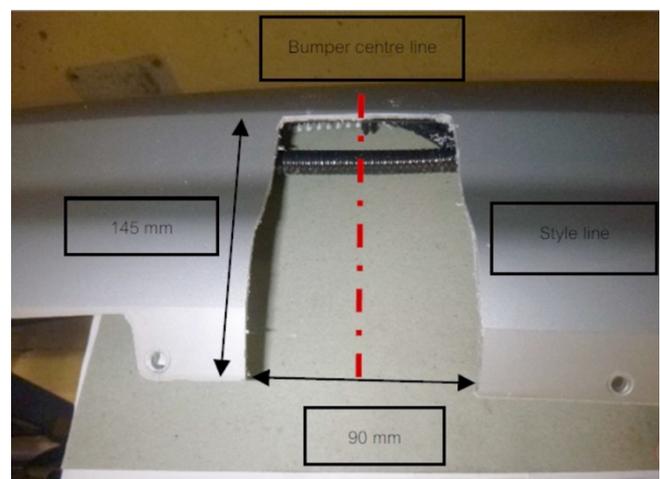
## Step 2. Fit Towbar

- a. Insert side arms of towbar into chassis.
- b. Insert 3/8" x 1 1/4 bolts with flat plates & washers into align with towbar side arms. Secure loosely.
- c. Secure the towbar side plates to the rear panel with M8 nuts & washers.
- d. Tighten all bolts to torque spec on back page.

## Step 3. Cut Bumper

The towbar installer is ultimately responsible for the location & quality of the bumper cut. To avoid mistakes, please use the following measurements as a guide only. We suggest making small incremental cuts and regularly test fit the bumper to ensure an accurate and tidy appearance. The additional application of rubber pinch-weld around the cut edge ensures a neat & tidy look.

- a. Establish the centreline of the bumper and mark.



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- b. Using an air saw or similar, cut the bumper using the measurements to the right as a guide.
- c. Refit the bumper in reverse of steps 1a-h.
- d. Attach plastic hitch surround.
- e. Insert ball mount and secure with pull pin & clip..

## Step 3. Apply Compliance Label

- a. Apply one of the compliance labels to the pillar of the driver's door. Leave the remaining label and the fitting instructions in the vehicle handbook



## Torque table for bolt tightening

Diameter	Pitch	Grade	Torque	Unit
M8	1.25	8.8	29	Nm
M10	1.25	8.8	57	Nm
M10	1.50	8.8	44	Nm
M12	1.25	8.8	101	Nm
M12	1.50	8.8	97	Nm
M12	1.75	8.8	77	Nm
M14	2.00	8.8	122	Nm
M16	2.00	8.8	190	Nm
<b>Imperial Bolt Torque Settings</b>				
3/8"	UNC	8	44.75	Nm
1/2"	UNC	8	108.5	Nm

## TAG Warranty Statement

SWD warrants your TAG Towbar for its full product life under the following conditions:

- You can show proof of purchase.
- The towbar has been correctly installed by a suitably qualified installer.
- The towbar has not been modified or abused in any way and has only been used for the purpose intended.
- The towbar was not fitted second hand to your vehicle.

The extent of this warranty includes materials and workmanship used in the manufacture of the towbar and is to the equivalent value of current, full replacement cost.

Nothing stated or implied in this warranty limits in any way, the statutory rights that you may have.

To make a claim visit the original installer in the first instance or, if you are unable to or are not satisfied with their help, then contact us direct by phone on 1300 669122 or visit [www.swd.com.au](http://www.swd.com.au)