

Tech Bulletin - Warn Powerplant Winch on Body Armor Bumpers and Winch Plates

If you purchased a Warn Powerplant to fit to your Body Armor bumper and winch plate, you will encounter fitment issues and functionality issues of your "compressor-to-winch" selector switch.

NOTE: The Warn Powerplant will not fit with our "Quad Hoop" front bumper and winch plate.

It has come to our attention and found that due to the tight tolerances with which we designed and built into our bumpers and winch plates, that the Powerplant Winch's housing contacts the upper light tabs, and the selector switch contacts the backside of the main hoop. As noted above, our "Quad Hoop" bumper cannot be made to fit with the Powerplant due to top hoop and winch housing clearance issues. At the present time no plans to modify our bumpers and / or winch plates are in place. There are a few possible solutions (outlined below) to aid in fitting the Powerplant to our bumpers with a center hoop & winch plate.

- 1) Re-drilling "foot" pattern
 - a. The mounting holes in the plate can be re-drilled to afford a little room to lessen or eliminate major modification. Mark the new holes exactly 5/8" from the center of the existing holes and drill to 7/16". The mounting bolts supplied with your Powerplant are 3/8" grade 5 bolts. We've found they may be a little short of the desired length to use with our winch plates. We would recommend about a 1/4" longer bolt for this application.
 - b. Notching the hoop (if not re-drilling the plate)

While the cutting of a new bumper is probably the least desirable modification, it is one of only a few options in order to clearance the main hoop for a Powerplant winch. Do not guess as to where to notch the hoop. With the bumper and winch plate mounted, set your Powerplant on the plate and thread the bolts into the housing inserts. Now turn the selector switch to the point of contact with the main hoop and mark this point with chalk or a paint-pen. Notching should now be done by whatever method you choose best and / or easiest for you.
 - c. Dimpling the hoop (if not re-drilling the plate)

Dimpling the hoop is the easier, and simpler, of options to clearance your main hoop for a Powerplant. With the hoop marked at the point of selector switch contact, you can use a large ball-peen hammer to dent the backside of the main hoop to clearance the switch. It is recommended you tape the hoop heavily with duct tape or a thick masking tape before striking the tube with a hammer. This should cut down on excessive scuffing of the powder-coating as well as protect from chipping as much as possible.
- 2) Light tab modification
 - a. Bending the tabs is one solution. Using a large crescent wrench, clamp the jaws of the wrench down on the tab and bend upward to the point of winch housing clearance. Most lights using a single-stud mount can be adjusted with the tabs bent at up to an estimated 45 degree angle. Bending the tabs should not prohibit light adjustment. Our light tabs are extremely strong, bending them is not easy.
 - b. Shortening or removing the tabs. Use a die grinder with a metal-cutting blade to trim or cut off the tabs. Refinish as desired.

NOTE: Notching may involve fabrication and welding depending on your desired end results.

Touch-up painting may or may not be required with any of the above mentioned modifications. We recommend a urethane based spray paint for touch-up due to its flexibility.

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