



## **Jeep Cherokee XJ 84-01 Flat Flare Install Guide**

1984-96 XJ Four Door and Two Door  
1997-01 XJ Four Door and Two Door



## Flat Flare Install Guide - Jeep Cherokee 84-01

*Includes: 84-96 Four Door, 97-01 Four Door, Two Door All year models*

*Thank you for the decision to use Napier Precision Products Fender Flares.  
We believe that our Fender Flares are the toughest and best looking fender flares available.*

During the installation process you may find that your situation is not identical to what is described in this *Installation Guide*. Adjust as needed to work with your situation.

**Please, be safe - double check each step.  
Read this *Installation Guide* before beginning.**

### **Suggested Tools & Materials:**

- |                  |   |                                      |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| - safety glasses | - face shield   | - mechanics gloves                   |
| - utility knife  | - pencil and marker                                     | - masking tape                       |
| - jack stand/s   | - small angle grinder                                   | - drill with 1/8", 3/16" & 1/4" bits |
| - socket set     | - locking pliers  | - hammer/s                           |
| - jig saw        | - reciprocating saw with fine tooth metal cutting blade |                                      |

### **Guidelines:**

- Inspect the fender flares to make sure they meet your expectations
  - Removing sheet metal from around the wheel wells is required
  - The front air dam, wheel well liners, and bumper caps (on 97-01 Xjs) will require modification or removal
  - Trimming these fender flares to fit your vehicle is required
    - Variations in the body of the Jeep due to age, body work, and use prevent a perfect fit.
  - Edge Trim: install the edge trim after the flares have been fit to the sheet metal
- 
- **Paint:** Painting maximizes the UV resistance of the Fender Flares. If you decide to paint the fender flares, then do that after they have been fit to the Jeep Cherokee but before the final installation
    - See the General Paint Information on the last page
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- Use safety glasses, face shield, gloves and other protective equipment as needed.

[www.NapierPrecisionProducts.com](http://www.NapierPrecisionProducts.com) Contact Assistance: <[jdougn@napierprecisionproducts.com](mailto:jdougn@napierprecisionproducts.com)>  
502-727-8348 Eastern Time 9:00am - 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday

### **Parts List – Jeep Cherokee XJ (all years, four door & two door)**

- Two (2) fender flares for the front
- Two (2) fender flares for rear quarter panels
- Four (4) plastic inserts. One for each fender flare
- Twenty-Four (24) short stainless steel screws used with plastic inserts
- Thirty-Six (36) Black Stainless Steel screws with Black S/S washers for Fender Flares
- Spacers for screws not captured by the inserts
- Philips Head driver bit
- Edge Trim 20'+-
- U-Trim 12" +-
- Installation Guide

# Flat Flare Install Guide - Jeep Cherokee 84-01

*Includes: 84-96 Four Door, 97-01 Four Door, Two Door All year models*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **NOTE:** Your year model and body style of XJ may not match the pictures shown exactly but the installation process is the same
- Use masking tape to protect the paint and provide an easy surface for tracing lines
- It is easier to install the flares if the tires are removed
- Use proper protective equipment such as safety glasses, face shields, and gloves

## CAUTION

- 1997-2001 XJ: Front driver's side front fender – Recommended to remove the **windshield washer bottle** from underneath the fender to prevent accidentally drilling into the bottle
- All years: Passenger's side front fender – make sure the **radio antennae cable** is protected

## FRONT FLAT FENDER FLARES

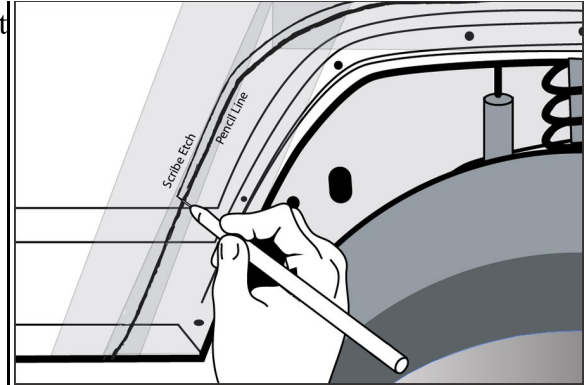
- Apply masking tape around wheel opening
- Use large spring clamps or masking tape to hold flare in place
  - Top edge of front flare runs parallel to the bolt holes for the OEM flares
    - The top edge of the front flare does not follow the upper body line
  - Front bottom corner of the flare is just a little above the edge of the sheet metal at the front bumper
  - The offset on the rear leg of the fender flare should line up with the body line offset



- The top edge of the front flare should be around 1/4" away from the upper body line.
  - 84-96
    - Adjust to avoid "**Cherokee**" **Logo** as needed
    - Front lower portion of the front fender will need to be trimmed
  - 97-01: Adjust so that inner edge of flare is just behind **metal tab** on backside of front of the sheet metal fender



- Trace inner edge of front fender flare
  - Sketch a second line about 1/4" outside first line
    - This second line is where the sheet metal will cut



- Cut on the second line with a jig saw or other appropriate tool
- Finish the cut for the longer leg of the fender flare with a reciprocating saw as needed
  - If necessary, use a small angle grinder to fine tune any high spots in the cut edge of the sheet metal to allow the flare to fit perfectly



- Trace outer edge of front fender flare
  - The high point of the front fender flare should be around 1/4" from the offset in the upper body line



- Mount the Plastic Insert
  - Position the plastic insert about 3/16" below the line just traced
  - Use one short sheet metal screw to temporarily mount the plastic insert





- Temporarily position the fender flare
  - Make sure fender flare looks right when on the plastic insert
  - Drill and install the rest of the screws in the plastic insert
    - Works best to drill through the plastic first, remove the insert, then drill the sheet metal. The drill bit may try to walk and chew into the plastic



- Fit Front Fender Flare
  - The sheet metal will flex to the flare some
  - The edge trim can cover around 1/8"
  - If trimming of the fender flare is required
    - A small angle grinder or power sander works well
    - Only remove about half then check the flare for fit
    - Trim the lower end of the longest leg first
    - The top edge of the fender flares seldom needs trimming
- Front Fender Flare holes
  - Use a drill with bit to **mark** the fender flare hole locations (don't drill the holes yet)
  - Remove the fender flare and plastic insert to drill the sheet metal
    - Drill a pilot hole as needed
    - Adjust the angle of the drill as needed to keep the bit from walking
  - Reinstall the fender brace as desired
    - Use vise grips to bend the brace to length
    - Use vise grips to hold the brace and sheet metal together
      - Drill a 3/16" hole through the sheet metal and brace
      - Increase the size of the hole in the sheet metal to 1/4"
      - Use a short stainless steel screw through the sheet metal into the fender brace
      - Cut off the end of the brace that shows past the sheet metal
- Final install
  - Pull the tape off
  - Smooth sharp edges of sheet metal with a file.
  - Primer and paint as desired
  - At the lower rear edge of the front wheel opening install around 6" of u-shaped edging over the sheet metal (supplied)
  - Install the plastic insert
    - Use short sheet metal screws
  - Install the fender flare
    - Use a black washer under the head of each black screw



## REAR FLAT FENDER FLARES

- **NOTE:** Your year model and body style of XJ may not match the pictures shown exactly.
- **Position:** The rear fender flare centers left to right on the wheel opening.
- **Spacing at Door:** Maintain a minimum 1/4" distance away from the edge at the door when tracing the top edge of the fender flare.
  - This space will allow for the edge trim and for minor adjustments
- **Spot Welds:** The unibody frame of the XJ is held together by the spot welds around the rear opening.
  - The spot welds appear as round indentations in the face of the sheet metal
  - Don't cut out the spot welds in the sheet metal

## INSTALLATION

- Apply masking tape on the sheet metal around the rear wheel opening
- There is a body line in the sheet metal about 1/2" in from the wheel opening.
  - Cut this 1/2" of sheet metal away around the entire opening.
  - Do not cut past the spot welds. The spot welds appear as slight indentations in the sheet metal.



- Clamp or tape the rear fender flare in place
  - The rear fender flare should be about 1/4" away from the door opening on 4 door models
  - The rear fender flare should be parallel to the upper body line
    - 97-01 **4 Door:** The distance from the upper body line to the top edge of the fender flare is roughly 4 1/4" +/- . This may vary
    - 97-01 **2 Door:** From the upper body line to the top edge of the fender flare is roughly 3 1/2" +/- . This may vary
  - The left & right legs of rear fender flare should appear symmetrical to the existing opening in the sheet metal.
  - Trace the inner edge of the rear fender flare
    - Sketch a line about 1/4" above the line just traced
    - **Do Not Cut This Line!**



- Cut and Fold Radial Cuts
  - Use a jig saw or sawzall to make radial cuts from the edge of the rear wheel opening to the second line to create “tabs” that will fold back
  - Use a hammer to gently fold each tab back into the rear wheel opening and tight against the sheet metal inside the opening
- Temporarily install the plastic insert with one short sheet metal screw
  - Leave 3/16” between the plastic insert and the line
  - Set rear fender flare over plastic insert and confirm that the flare looks visually correct
  - Install the remainder of the short sheet metal screws into the plastic insert
- Mark each hole for the rear fender flare
  - Remove the rear fender flare and drill holes through the plastic insert
    - Remove the plastic insert then drill through the sheet metal
    - Drill a pilot hole in the sheet metal
      - Carefully adjust the angle of the drill to keep the bit from walking
  - Adjust the fit of the rear fender flare with a small angle grinder
  - Install edge trim on the rear fender flare
  - Prime & paint any exposed steel as desired
    - To fill any gaps use automotive caulk
      - *Regular Silicone caulk since is acidic and will promote rust*
  - Final install of the rear fender flare



Install your new Flat Fender Flares on all four corners, then you're done! Enjoy the look and improved capabilities of your Jeep Cherokee with the new fender flares!

Contact Technical Assistance: <[jdougn@napierprecisionproducts.com](mailto:jdougn@napierprecisionproducts.com)>  
 502-727-8348 9:00am - 8:00pm Eastern Time, Monday - Saturday  
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## GENERAL PAINT INFORMATION

Painting the Jeep Cherokee Flat Fender Flares will maximize the UV resistance of the flares and is not difficult. Here are some recommendations that have worked well.

Dupli-Color spray paint is readily available and has some products that work well in preparing and painting the ABS plastic fender flares. Any quality spray paint made for plastic should work.

*(Always follow the instructions on the products and paint you plan on using. They take priority over this general information.)*

### Preparation:

- Clean and dry the fender flares thoroughly
- Use a “Grease & Wax Removal” product to clean the surfaces. Wipe with a lint free cloth
- Use red Scotch Brite scuff pad on all areas to be painted
- Wipe of any dust with a lint free tack cloth
- Repeat this process if there is any doubt that finger prints, grease, oil, or residue remain
- Use dry compressed air to remove remaining dust

NOTE: Do not use any cleaning product containing acetone or M.E.K.. Acetone based products will dissolve the unpainted plastic.

### Prime/Paint

- Use a plastic adhesion promoter as a primer
- Use paint designed to work with plastic
  - Apply the recommended number of coats
  - Clear coat as desired

If there are any questions about painting these fender flares please consult the manufacturer product details for that specific product.

### Return Policy

- *If you don't like what you see when you receive your order feel free to contact us for a return authorization.*
- *To receive a full refund, all items must be returned including the installation guide and any related hardware or edge trim.*
- *Items must be returned in original protective packaging.*
- *The buyer is responsible for ensuring that the items are returned to Napier Precision Products in original sell-able condition.*
- *The items cannot have been installed, painted, trimmed, or be dirty.*
- *Refund will be made using the same method as payment. Refund will be issued within 5 business days of the returned order being received by Napier Precision Products.*
  - *Buyer pays shipping costs.*
  - *Buyer is responsible for insuring the shipment.*
  - *Returns damaged in transit are the Buyer's responsibility.*