EXPLORIST.LIFE SERVICES · PRE-BUILT SYSTEMS

Tool Guide for Pre-Built System Installations

This guide lists the tools you'll need to install your pre-built electrical system. Find your vehicle type below, gather the listed tools before you begin, and review the mounting options at the end to plan where your system will go.

Vans, Expedition Trucks & Skoolies

These installations include cutting new openings for the shore power inlet and solar cable entry, so you'll need a few more tools than an RV with solar prep.

DRILLING AND CUTTING

- [ ] Power drill
- [ ] 2⅞" hole saw (shore power inlet)
- [ ] 1" hole saw (solar cord flange)
- [ ] 5/16" drill bit (grounding hole)

HAND TOOLS

- [ ] 13 mm socket
- [ ] 13 mm wrench (open or box end)
- [ ] Pliers
- [ ] Phillips screwdriver or driver bit

SEALING AND FINISHING

- [ ] **Rust-Oleum**, to seal bare metal edges on every cut opening and prevent rust
- [ ] **Sikaflex sealant**, to weatherproof the shore power inlet and solar cord flange

OEM RVs with Solar Prep

RVs that come from the manufacturer with solar prep already have a roof entry and wiring in place, so no hole saws or sealants are needed. You'll connect to the factory splice box instead.

DRILLING

- [ ] Power drill
- [ ] 5/16" drill bit (grounding hole)

HAND TOOLS

- [ ] 13 mm socket
- [ ] 13 mm wrench (open or box end)
- [ ] Pliers
- [ ] Phillips screwdriver or driver bit

FOR THE OEM SPLICE BOX

- [ ] Flat-head screwdriver
- [ ] Wire cutters
- [ ] Wire strippers

Alternator Connection

If your system includes an alternator charging connection, you'll also need:

- [ ] Socket set

PLAN YOUR INSTALL

Mounting Your System

Mounting hardware is not included with your system. Because every vehicle's interior is different, you'll choose the method and gather the hardware that best fits your build.

The electrical enclosure or backer board can be mounted using any of the methods below, depending on your vehicle's existing structure and how permanent you'd like the installation to be.

1

L-Track

Attach the enclosure to existing L-track using L-track bolts and fender washers. This flexible, non-permanent option lets you reposition the system later without drilling into your vehicle.

2

Sheet Metal Screws

Drive sheet metal screws through the back of the enclosure directly into your vehicle's sheet metal. This gives you a secure, low-profile mount with no additional hardware.

3

Cabinet, Wall, or Floor

Fasten the enclosure to an existing cabinet, wall, or floor that is at least ½" thick. This method works well in a fully built-out interior with structural panels already in place.

4

L-Brackets

Use L-brackets to anchor the enclosure to the floor, wall, or both. As with cabinet mounting, the surface must be at least ½" thick to hold fasteners securely.

5

Rivnuts

Install rivnuts (threaded inserts) in your vehicle's sheet metal, then bolt through the back of the enclosure or backer board into them. Rivnuts create strong, clean mounting points in thin sheet metal that couldn't otherwise hold a bolt.

Questions before you start?

Every purchase from our shop comes with free tech support, plus our library of install and programming guides.

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