

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

Mazda MX-5 Miata (2016+)  
**ROCK GUARDS**



# PREPARING FOR INSTALLATION

## Before you start

Thank you for choosing **FX3D Design Rock Guards**.

This guide will walk you through the installation process step by step.

The installation is straightforward and requires **no drilling or permanent modification** to your vehicle.

**Estimated installation time:** 45 - 60 minutes

**Difficulty level:** Easy to moderate (basic hand tools required)

Tip: Take a few minutes to read the full guide before starting. It will make the installation smoother and faster.

## What's in the package

**A.** Front Rock Guards (x2)

**B.** Rear Rock Guards (x2)

**C.** #8 spring u-nut (x4)

**D.** Threaded Rubber Grommets (x2)

**E.** #8 x 3/4" (19mm) screw (x6)

**F.** M5 x 6 mm Screw (x6)

**G.** 1/16" (1.75 mm) Plastic Washers (x6)

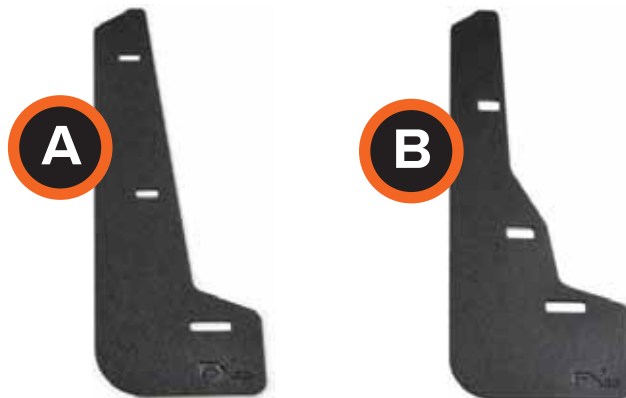
**H.** Rear Brackets 1 (x4)

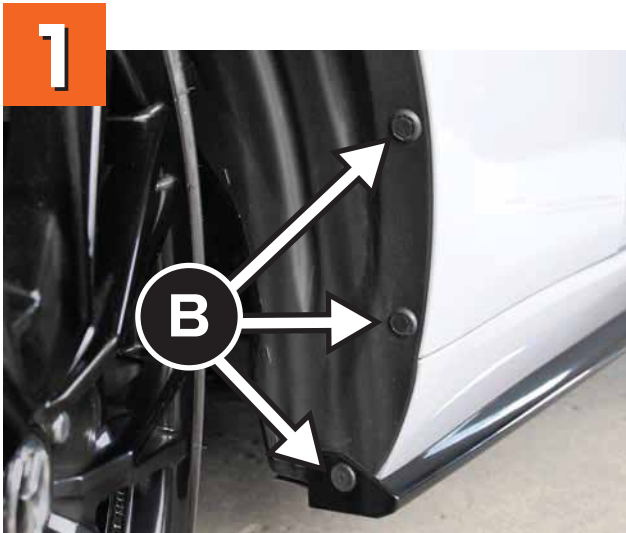
**I.** Rear Brackets 2 (x2)

**J.** Isopropyl alcohol pad (x4)

**K.** Adhesion promoter primer (x2)

**L.** Stubby screwdriver (x1)





## Step 1 - Remove Factory Fasteners

- A.** Turn the front wheels fully to access the fender liner fasteners.
- B.** Carefully remove the three plastic clips using a clip removal tool or flathead screwdriver. A small amount of lubricant (such as WD-40) may help.



## Step 2 - Installing Mounting Hardware

- A.** Gently pull on the fender liner to expose the fender tabs.
- B.** Slide a u-nut (C) on each of the two upper tabs of the fender. Ensure that the flat side of the u-nut is facing towards the front of the vehicle.
- C.** Place the fender liner back to its original position.

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## Step 3 - Installing Rubber Grommet

**A.** Using a Phillips screwdriver, insert one of the rubber screw grommet (D) into the lower hole of the fender liner.

Tip: Push firmly while turning the screwdriver to fully seat the grommet.

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## Step 4 - Mount the Front Guard

**A.** Position the front rock guard with the FX3D logo facing the rear of the vehicle.

**B.** Insert the provided screws (E) through the three slotted holes of the rock guard and thread them into the previously installed u-nuts and rubber grommet. Do not fully tighten yet.

**C.** Adjust the guard to your desired angle and protrusion then fully tighten the three screws.

**D.** Repeat steps 1 through 4 on the opposite side of the vehicle.

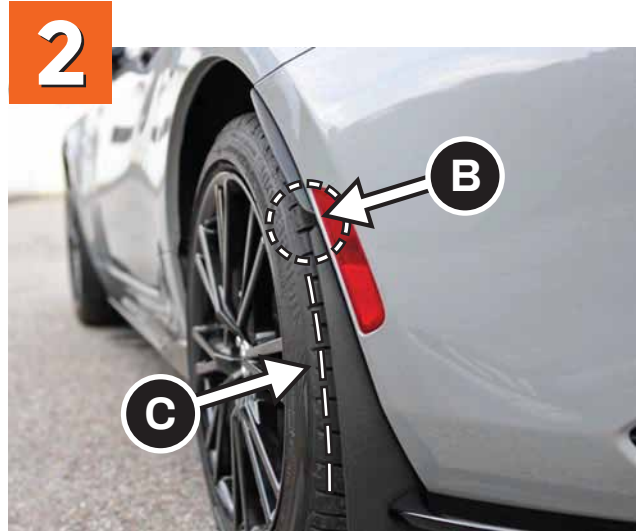


## Step 1 - Verify Bracket Position

**A.** The mounting brackets are pre-installed at the factory to simplify installation.

Before proceeding, verify that all three brackets are still positioned as shown in the reference photo. Although uncommon, a bracket may shift slightly during shipping.

If necessary, reposition the bracket(s) before continuing by loosening the screw holding the bracket in place.



## Step 2 - Test Fit & Alignment

**A.** Before proceeding, raise the rear of the vehicle using a floor jack (or vehicle lift) to provide adequate access to the rear fender liner.

**B.** Position the rock guard against the rear fender liner and verify the vertical alignment using the factory protective strip located on the rear bumper.

The top edge of the rock guard should sit slightly below the factory protective strip, leaving a small and consistent gap.

**C.** Keep the same vertical position while verifying the horizontal position.

The outer edge of the rock guard should follow the tire vertical line.

This step is only intended to establish a visual reference before bonding the mounting brackets.



## Step 3 - Surface Preparation

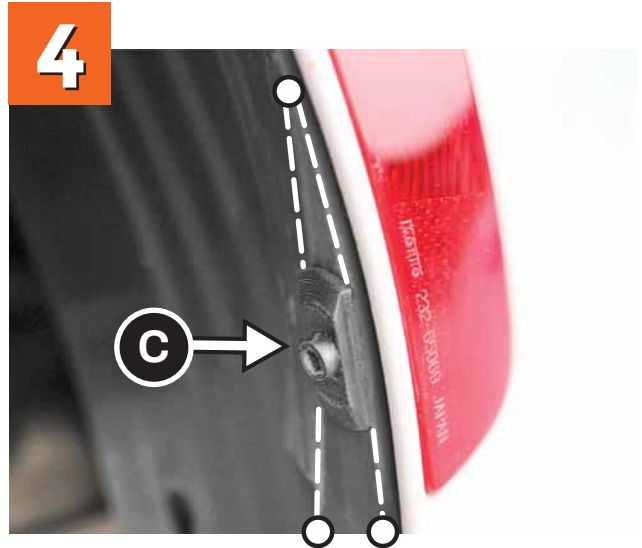
### A. Clean the Surface

Using the supplied isopropyl alcohol pad (J), thoroughly clean the entire contact area shown in the reference image.

### B. Apply Adhesion Promoter

Apply the supplied adhesion promoter (K) to the same area.

Allow the promoter to flash off for approximately 1–2 minutes before proceeding.



## Step 4 - Bond the Upper Bracket

**A.** With the mounting brackets still attached to the rock guard: remove the red backing from the upper bracket only.

**B.** Warm the 3M VHB tape using a heat gun or hair dryer.

**C.** Verify the alignment using the reference photos. The upper bracket must sit fully on the flat triangular section of the fender liner, without overhanging the edge. Proper placement of this bracket determines the final position of the rock guard.

**D.** Firmly press the upper bracket onto the prepared surface of the fender liner.

**Do not remove or loosen the remaining brackets.** The mounting brackets are factory-installed on the rock guard to ensure accurate positioning during installation.



## Step 5 - Bond the Remaining Brackets

- A.** Once the upper bracket is securely bonded: Using the supplied FX3D stubby screwdriver (L), slightly loosen the upper bracket screw. Do not remove the screw completely.
- B.** Pivot the rock guard outward to access the remaining two brackets.
- C.** Remove the red backing from the remaining VHB tape.
- D.** Pivot the rock guard back into position, ensuring both brackets are fully contacting the prepared flat section of the fender liner.
- E.** Warm the VHB tape using a heat gun or hair dryer, then firmly press both brackets onto the fender liner.



## Step 6 - Adjust the Rock Guard

- A.** Loosen all three bracket screws slightly, adjust the rock guard to the desired position, then securely tighten all three screws using the supplied FX3D stubby screwdriver (L).
- B.** Repeat steps 1 through 4 on the opposite side of the vehicle.

**3M VHB double-sided tape requires up to 24 hours to achieve optimal adhesion. Avoid unnecessary driving or exposure to stress during this period to ensure proper bonding.**