

## 2001+ Ford Escape QuickLIFT Installation Guide

### Step 1 - Unpack QuickLIFT system and verify contents.

Remove all items from the packing tube. You should have the following before beginning:

- \* (2) Gas Charged Springs - (RT-QL-200-7A)
- \* (8) 3/16" Steel Rivets
- \* (2) Fender Steel brackets (ball stud pointing in)
- \* (2) Hood Steel brackets (45 degree bend)
- \* Printed Instructions

### Step 2 - Gather the required tools.

Please gather the following tools before you begin the installation:

- \* Power Drill
- \* 3/16" drill bits
- \* Fine permanent marker or felt tip pen
- \* Masking tape
- \* Tape Measure
- \* Hammer & center punch
- \* Rivet gun, capable of 3/16" rivets (most brands can handle this size)

Note: Only use the rivets supplied in the QuickLIFT system.



Recommended: Craftsman standard or Swivel Riveter (shown - 974749) - \$9.99 to \$17.99

### Step 3 - Locate Driver's side upper bracket.

A. Place a piece of masking tape on the edge of the hood as shown to the right. Run the tape along the edge of the hood - this will be used to mark the centerline of the hood bracket.

B. Place a mark at exactly 12" from the front lower corner of the hood as shown. Mark both sides the same way and verify your measurement.

This mark is to be used as the centerline for the hood ballstud.



## Step 4 - Align Driver's side hood bracket and mark 1st hole.

A. Hold hood bracket such that the ball stud faces away from the vehicle and so that the bracket sits on the hood's structural member as shown.

B. Using a marker, place a dot at the center of the upper hole once the centerline of the ball stud is lined up with your mark.

C. Using a center punch and a hammer, tap the center of the dot you just made (the indentation will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering). Place bracket back in place to be sure it is still centered where it should be before moving to Step 5. Set bracket aside.



## Step 5 - Drill 3/16" hole.

A. Carefully drill the upper bracket hole as shown to the right using a **3/16"** drill bit.

**Only use a 3/16" drill bit - the rivet will not work properly with any other size drill bit. Be careful not to drill up through your hood! Rivet may require slight reaming of hole, though tight fit is necessary for proper attachment.**



## Step 6 - Rivet upper end of bracket to hood.

A. With the bracket in place, insert a rivet through the bracket and hole with the long stem sticking outward. The rivet may require a few twists while firmly pushing it in. Hold bracket in place using a piece of tape at the other end of the bracket.

B. Check to be sure your rivet gun has the 3/16" rivet head installed, then slide rivet gun onto rivet. While applying force to the rivet and bracket, firmly squeeze riveter handle multiple times until rivet gun pops and snaps off the rivet stem. **Be careful when rivet stem snaps off not to scratch paint.**



## Step 7 - Drill lower hole of hood bracket and rivet in place.

A. Reposition and align bracket into the proper position against hood lip.

B. Use center punch to indent center of hole before drilling. Carefully drill the second hole through bracket hole and hood. **Be careful not to drill up through top of the hood.**

C. Rivet the lower hole as described in the previous step.

D. Drill and rivet center hole - USE THE ALUMINUM RIVET SUPPLIED.



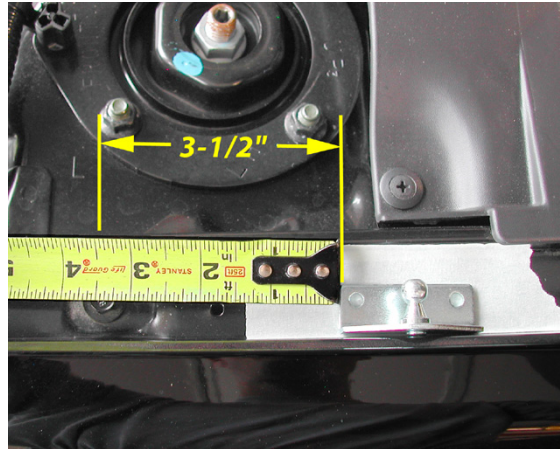
## Step 8 - Repeat steps 3-7 and install the passenger side hood bracket.

A. The hood has a symmetrical under structure. Repeat Steps 3-7 to install the upper passenger side hood bracket. Take your time and verify the measurements using the bracket you just installed - if you were 1/4" off on the drivers side, put the passenger side bracket at the same distance so that the hood sits level when up. Small variations will not have an affect.

## Step 9 - Position and mark first hole for driver's side fender bracket.

A. Hold the bracket in position as shown to the right. The left or front edge of the bracket should sit **3-1/2"** from the center line of the fender bolt. The back of the bracket should sit up against the fender as shown. Ball stud should be pointing away from fender and toward the vehicle.

B. Verify measurements and then mark lower hole using a fine permanent marker.



## Step 10 - Mark hole center before drilling.

A. Using a center punch and a hammer, tap the center of the marked hole. This will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering.

## Step 11 - Drill lower or left hole using 3/16" drill bit.

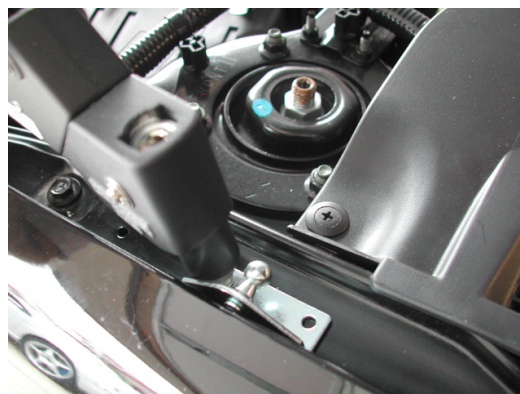
A. Drill the lower or left hole at the marked position using a **3/16"** drill bit. Test fit rivet in hole until it makes it all the way in, then remove rivet and put bracket in place.



## Step 12 - Rivet the lower or left end of the bracket to fender.

A. With the bracket lined up again, place a rivet thru the bracket and hole with the long stem sticking upright - shown to the right.

B. Check to be sure your rivet gun has the 3/16" rivet head installed, then slide rivet gun onto rivet. While applying downward force on rivet and bracket, firmly squeeze riveter handle multiple times until rivet gun pops and snaps off the rivet.

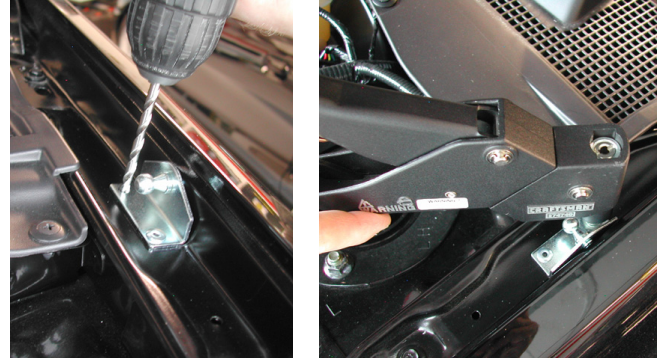


### Step 13 - Mark center with marker and indent with center punch.

- A. Using a permanent marker, mark the right or upper hole of the fender bracket. **Be sure the bracket is up against the fender. Twist to align if necessary.**
- B. Using a center punch and hammer, tap the center of the marked hole. This will help guide the drill bit and keep it from wandering.

### Step 14 - Drill second hole and rivet bracket to fender.

- A. Drill the second hole through the bracket hole using a **3/16"** drill bit. Do not ream or over drill the hole.
- B. Rivet the bracket in place.



### Step 15 - Repeat steps 9-14 to attach the passenger fender bracket.

- A. Repeat Steps 9-14 to attach the passenger side fender bracket. The vehicle is symmetrical so the same locators can be used. Feel free to measure off of key areas to ensure a perfect installation.

### Step 16 - Cycle gas springs and then install them.

- A. **CYCLE EACH GAS SPRING BEFORE INSTALLING** - firmly hold a gas spring with both hands by the thick cylindrical end - firmly press down on the floor or carpet and compress the spring. Do this to both springs. Have a friend hold the hood up. Remove the stock prop rod assembly at this time. If you are not physically able to cycle the gas springs, then do not worry, they will still work fine this just helps pre-lubricate the shafts.
- B. Install the driver's side gas spring with the cylinder at the top (large end up). Be sure that the sockets snap securely onto the ball studs. Have friend remain holding the hood up. This procedure is most easily completed if the hood ends are snapped on first and attach the lower fender ball studs last.