



# STEP BOARD KIT #27-1115

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Instruction Sheet**  
**No. 75-0276**

1996 & UP FORD EXPLORER, 4 DOOR  
 (USES 72" RUNNING BOARDS #27-0000 & 27-0005)

**NOTE: WESTIN RECOMMENDS THAT YOU USE A PROFESSIONAL TO INSTALL THE WIRING HARNESS FOR THE LIGHTED VERSION.**

<p><b>CAUTION:</b>  <b>BEFORE BEGINNING THIS INSTALLATION PROCEDURE, READ THROUGH INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY</b></p>	<p><b>HARDWARE KIT</b></p>						
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">8 Main Brackets</td> <td style="width: 50%;">40 SAE Washers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8 #14 Hex Head Self Tapping Screws</td> <td>24 5/16" Nylock Nuts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 5/16 X 3/4 Square Head Bolts</td> <td>8 8mm X 3/4" Hex Screws</td> </tr> </table>	8 Main Brackets	40 SAE Washers	8 #14 Hex Head Self Tapping Screws	24 5/16" Nylock Nuts	24 5/16 X 3/4 Square Head Bolts	8 8mm X 3/4" Hex Screws
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**STEP 1:** Remove all the Brackets from the wrappers and examine the hardware to be sure that all the parts are included in the installation kit.

**STEP 2:** On the backside of the vehicle's rocker panel, remove the factory rubber plugs to expose the threaded inserts. Bolt (3) front and (1) rear bracket per side using 8mm X 3/4" bolts at the top, square head 5/16" X 3/4" with a washer and 5/16" nylock nut at pinch weld. **Leave loose at this time.**

**STEP 3:** Carefully remove the Step Boards from the box and place them face down on a soft clean surface. Slide (4) square head bolts into inner track of aluminum base board and (3) into outer most track. **Note: Debur the aluminum channel if the 5/16" Square Head Bolt cannot pass through the opening.**

For the unlighted version, skip to STEP 6.

**INSTALLING THE LIGHTS & WIRING HARNESS TO YOUR STEP BOARDS (FOR LIGHTED VERSION):**

**STEP 4:** A three piece wiring harness is included with the Lighted Step Board. The harness includes four (4) light sockets and three plugs. Carefully plan a wire route from the right side Step Board to the left. Then choose a pass-through point (floor board to inner cab) for the wire harness. WESTIN RECOMMENDS YOU USE A PROFESSIONAL TO INSTALL THE WIRING HARNESS—SEE STEPS 9-13 BELOW.

**STEP 5:** Attach wire harness and lights. Be sure all rubber seals are in place before installation. The rubber grommet around the red and blue wires going into rear of sockets should be completely inserted and recessed about 1/4". **NOTE: Ensure the longevity of your lights by removing the bulb and placing a small amount of white grease into the sockets and replacing the bulb. Place a small amount of RTV Silicone where the wires go into the socket. This keeps the sockets dry and adds to longevity.** Screw lights into each end of the board and run conduit in center slot of aluminum base board. This will hold the harness in place.

**STEP 6:** Tighten top 8mm and Rocker 5/16" square head bolts at this time, leaving the aluminum extrusion bolts loose.

**STEP 7:** Slide Step Boards on the brackets to center the Step Boards between wheel openings. Now tighten the 5/16 nylock nuts to firmly mount the Step Board to the aluminum base board.

**STEP 8:** This concludes the installation procedure for the Step Boards. Follow the light installation instructions, for installing lights. For the Lighted version, proceed to STEP 9.

**STEP 9: GENERAL TIPS FOR WIRING HARNESS INSTALLATION. PLEASE NOTE: The light wiring harness installation requires splicing into your vehicle's electrical system. WESTIN HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU USE A PROFESSIONAL TO INSTALL THE WIRING HARNESS FOR THE LIGHTED VERSION.**

**STEP 10:** After choosing a pass-through point for the cab harness (STEP 6), follow this sequence: Route long lead harness to short lead harness and plug connectors securely. Note: Avoid areas of excess heat, vibration, pinch or rotation when securing harness to vehicle.

**STEP 11:** Plug open-ended connection into unused connection. Note: Either connector on short lead board harness will work. Route open ended wire harness through truck cab. Note: Find the closest position to door light switch lead wire. Seal pass-through hole using silicone or permanent sealer.

**STEP 12:** Connect positive and negative lead wires to vehicle sources (dome light or courtesy light under dash). Use vehicle door switch for ground lead source and appropriate positive lead for supply. ALWAYS USE A FUSED POSITIVE (+) POWER SOURCE.

**STEP 13:** Test circuit for proper function and connection before tape sealing all exposed wire.

INSTALLATION IS COMPLETE.

**THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING WESTIN!**