



BMW E53 X5 Rock Sliders
Installation Instructions - [Click HERE to Shop](#)



Skill Level
2 - Moderate
Some Experience
Recommended



Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to eliminate the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety.

INSTALLATION NOTES

- **RH** refers to the *passenger side* of the vehicle.
- **LH** refers to the *driver side* of the vehicle.
- Always use the proper torque specifications.
- If applicable to this installation, torque specifications will be listed throughout the document and at the end as well.
- Please read all of these instructions and familiarize yourself with the complete process **BEFORE** you begin.

GENERAL PREPARATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

ECS Tuning cares about your health and safety, please read the following safety information. This information pertains to automotive service in general, and while it may not pertain to every job you do, please remember and share these important safety tips.

- Park your car in a safe, well lit, level area.
- Shut the engine off and remove the key from the ignition switch.
- Make sure any remote start devices are properly disabled.
- **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses.
- Make sure the parking brake is applied until the vehicle is safely lifted and supported.
- Whether lifting a vehicle using an automotive lift or a hydraulic jack, be sure and utilize the factory specified lift points.
- Lifting a vehicle in an incorrect location can cause damage to the suspension/running gear.
- **ALWAYS** support the vehicle with jack stands.
- **ALWAYS** read and follow all safety information and warnings for the equipment you are using.

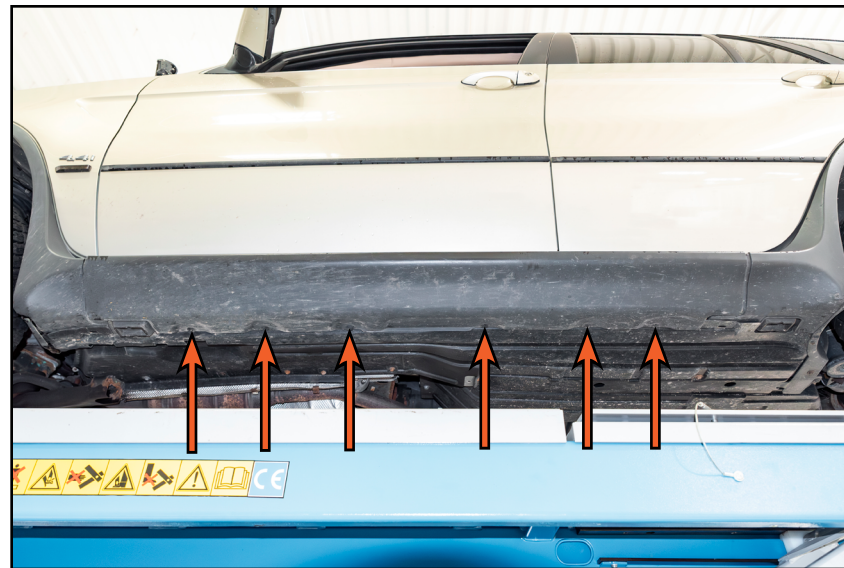


NEVER get underneath a vehicle that is supported only by a jack, and **ALWAYS** make sure that the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands.

INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 1:

Remove the six plastic push rivets (arrows) that secure each side skirt to the underside of the vehicle.



Step 2:

Open the doors, pivot the side skirt up as shown, and lift it off of the vehicle.



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 3: 13mm Socket & Ratchet

Remove the bolts (circled in **RED**) that secure the side skirt bracket to the vehicle.



Step 4:

Slide the side skirt bracket rearward (**photo #1**), then angle the front of the bracket downward and slide it out (**photo #2**).



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 5: 8mm, 10mm Socket & Ratchet

Remove the fasteners and pull the plastic side panel (highlighted in **RED**) free from the underside of the vehicle.

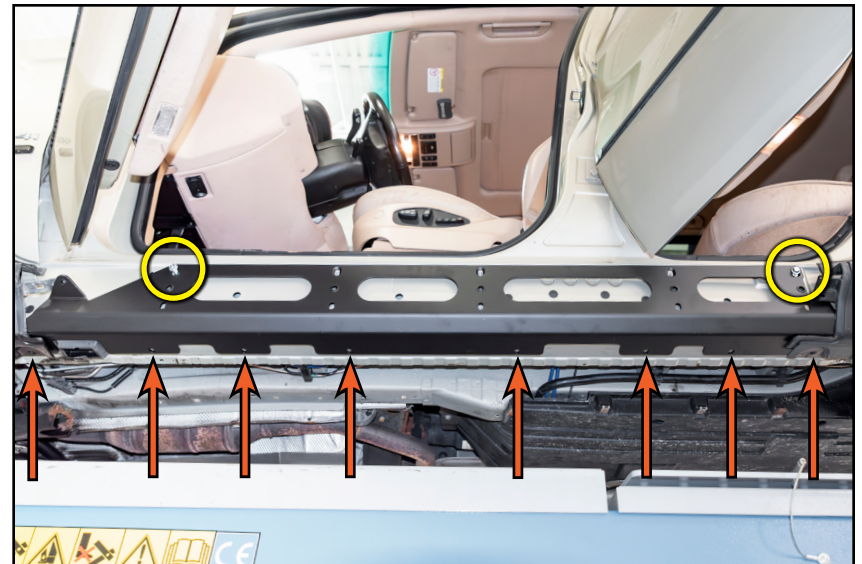


Step 6: 12mm Socket & Ratchet

Lift the base bracket assembly up into place and loosely thread in two bolts (circled in **YELLOW**) to hold it up into place. Mark the locations where each of the holes (arrows) on the underside of the base bracket align with the body.



There should be pre-existing holes at each of the locations marked which we will be drilling out.



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 7: 13.5mm Drill Bit & Drill

In line with each mark there should be a pre-existing hole, locate each hole (arrows) and drill it out with a 13.5mm drill bit.



Step 8: 15mm Drill Bit & Drill

Locate the pre-existing holes (circled in **YELLOW**) on the side of the rocker panel and drill them out with a 15mm drill bit.



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 9:

Apply a light coat of self-etching primer or paint (as shown in inset photo) to each of the holes we drilled and allow it to dry.



Step 10: Riv Nut Installation Tool

Install the riv nuts into each of the drilled holes (arrows) on the underside of the vehicle, crimping them into place (as shown in inset photo).



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

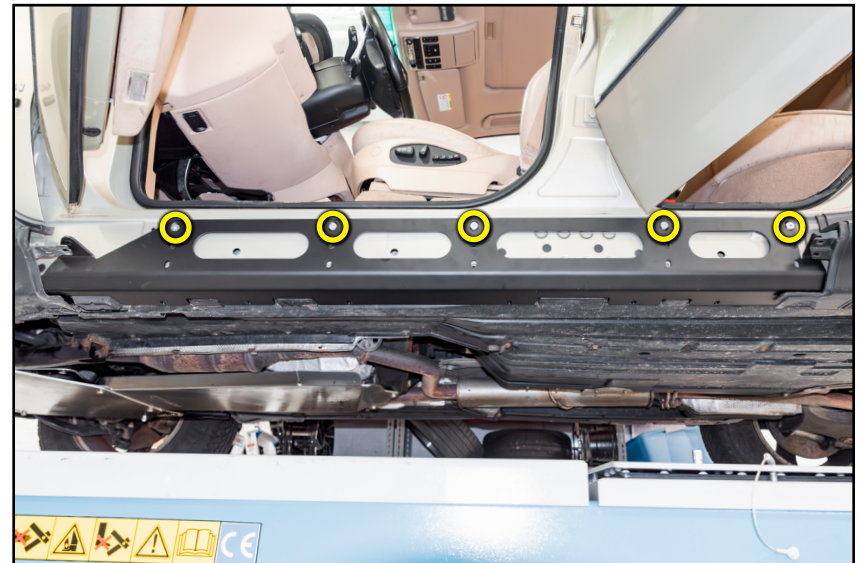
Step 11: 8mm, 10mm Socket & Ratchet

Reinstall the plastic underbody panels but do **not** install any hardware into the holes along the outside edge (**RED** circles).



Step 12: 5mm Hex (Allen) Socket & Ratchet

Lift the base bracket into place and install five of the M8 countersunk screws (circled in **YELLOW**) into the upper holes to secure it in place.



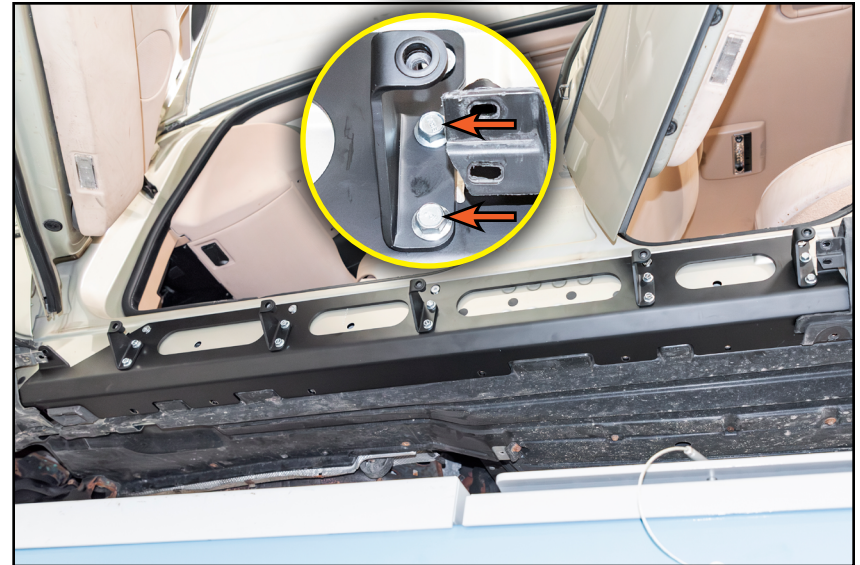
INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 13: 12mm Socket & Ratchet

Install the main brackets onto the riv nuts on the base bracket using the M8 x 30mm bolts (arrows in inset photo).

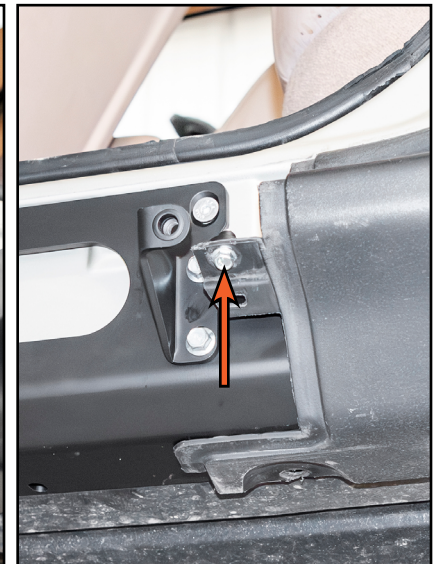
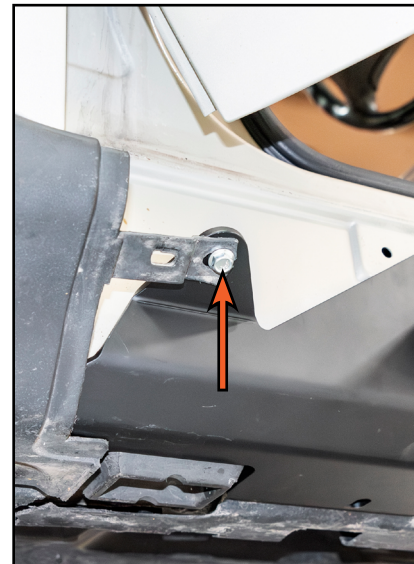


The brackets should be installed so that the open end of each bracket faces towards the rear of vehicle.



Step 14: 10mm Socket & Ratchet

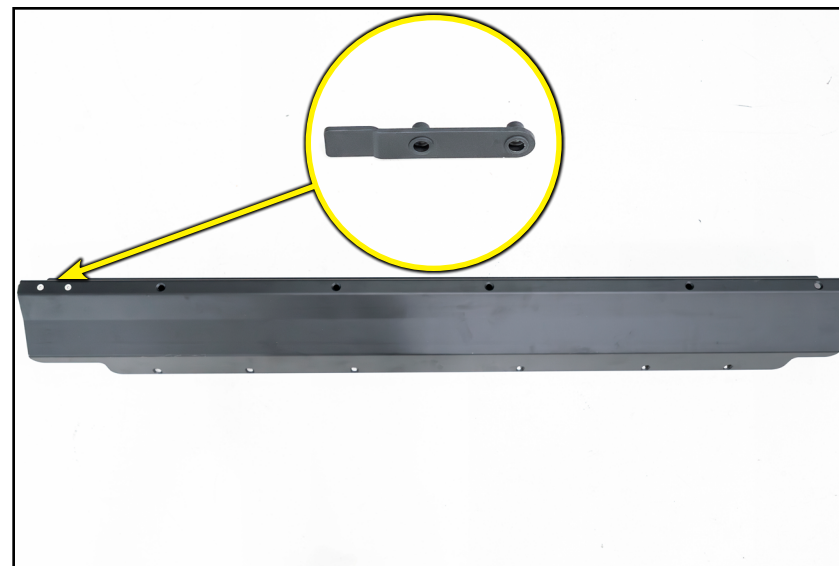
Secure the plastic fender flares to either end of the base bracket using the provided M6 x 20mm screws (arrows).



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

Step 15: 4mm Hex (Allen) Socket & Ratchet

Loosely secure the clamping tab (inset photo) to the slider using the M6 countersunk screws.



Step 16: 5mm Hex (Allen) Socket & Ratchet

Lift the slider into place, ensuring the front fender flare slides between the clamping tab and the slider, then loosely install the remaining M8 countersunk screws (circled in **YELLOW**) to hold the slider in place. Tighten all the screws until fully snug.



INSTALLING THE ROCK SLIDERS

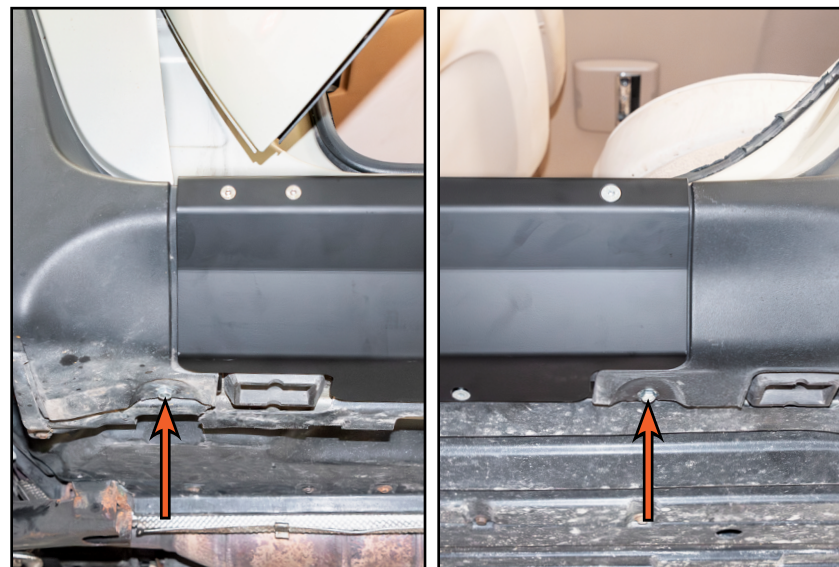
Step 17: 4mm Hex (Allen) Socket & Ratchet

Tighten the M6 countersunk screws (circled in **YELLOW**) to sandwich the front fender flare between the clamping tab and the slider.



Step 18: 12mm Socket & Ratchet

Install the remaining M8 x 30mm screws (arrows) to secure the underside of the fender flare on either end.



Congratulations, your installation is complete!

Your Rock Sliders installation is complete!



These instructions are provided as a courtesy by ECS Tuning

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