

# T-REX

## GRILLES



## UPPER CLASS GRILLE MAIN GRILLE REPLACEMENT

#51181 / #56181

2015i - 2016 CADILLAC ESCALADE

### PARTS INCLUDED

(1) Upper Class Grille - Main

Black Stainless Steel Main Grille

- Replacement
- Part #51181

OR

Chrome Plated Stainless Steel Main Grille

- Replacement
- Part #56181

### HARDWARE INCLUDED

- (1) - Large Top Mounting Plate
- (6) - 10/32 Nylon Lock Nuts
- (6) - #10 Flat Washers
- (8) - #8 Screwa
- (8) - #8 Flat Nuts
- (2) - #6/32 Nylon Lock Nuts
- (2) - #6 Flat Washers
- (2) - Black Nylon Spacers
- (4) - AV - 16671

### TOOLS REQUIRED

- Socket Set
- Ratchet Tool / Extensions
- Set of Nut Drivers
- Screwdriver set
- Needle Nose Pliers
- 1/2" Plastic Spatula
- Prying Wedge

### GRILLE REMOVAL & GRILLE INSTALLATION GUIDE

#### START HERE

PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE INSTALLATION.

Auto makers offer varied models to each vehicle and occasionally manufacture more than one body style of the same model. To assure your part is correct; our tech department can be contacted at [tech@trexbillet.com](mailto:tech@trexbillet.com) to verify fitment and assist with technical questions. All other inquires can be directed to [info@trexbillet.com](mailto:info@trexbillet.com). In the event you do not have internet access please call 1-800-287-5900.

\* APPLICATION MODELS VARY. WE RECOMMEND TO VERIFY FITMENT BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION PROCESS.  
\* IMAGES FEATURED IN THE INSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS MAY NOT ALWAYS EXACTLY MATCH YOUR GRILL.

#### STEP 1 FRONT BUMPER REMOVAL

1) Turn off engine and chalk tires with stop block. Open Hood. Disconnect Battery.

#### PRO TIP:

Before you begin, use "3M Painters Tape" to apply a protective guard around the work areas. Attend to the fender and bumper valance. This will help protect the paint and finish of your vehicle.

#### STEP 2

2) Begin by removing plastic radiator cover shroud.

There should be a dozen or so plastic push tabs. Pry them out and remove them to set aside for later re-installation of factory components.



FIG 1

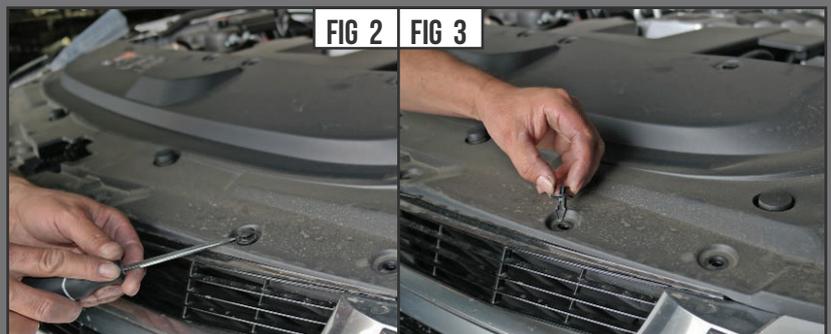


FIG 2

FIG 3

# UPPER CLASS GRILLE MAIN GRILLE REPLACEMENT

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## GRILLE REMOVAL - CONTINUED



FIG 4



FIG 5



FIG 6

### STEP 3

SEE FIGURE 4

3) Remove the Plastic Radiator Shroud and set aside.

### STEP 4

SEE FIGURES 5 - 8

4) For this next step it is recommended to put the vehicle on a car lift, or raise the front end on jack stands, and remove the front tires.

Turn to the inner wheel well liners and remove all the hex bolts that fixes the liner to the fender wheel well.



FIG 7



FIG 9



FIG 10



FIG 8



FIG 11

### STEP 5

SEE FIGURES 9 - 12

5) Note that there are a couple bolts that hangs and secures the front bumper fascia to the vehicles fender.

Move on to underneath the vehicles front end where the wheel well liner overhangs and is bolted to the under carriage.



FIG 12

# UPPER CLASS GRILLE MAIN GRILLE REPLACEMENT

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## GRILLE REMOVAL - CONTINUED



### STEP 6

SEE FIGURES 13 - 17

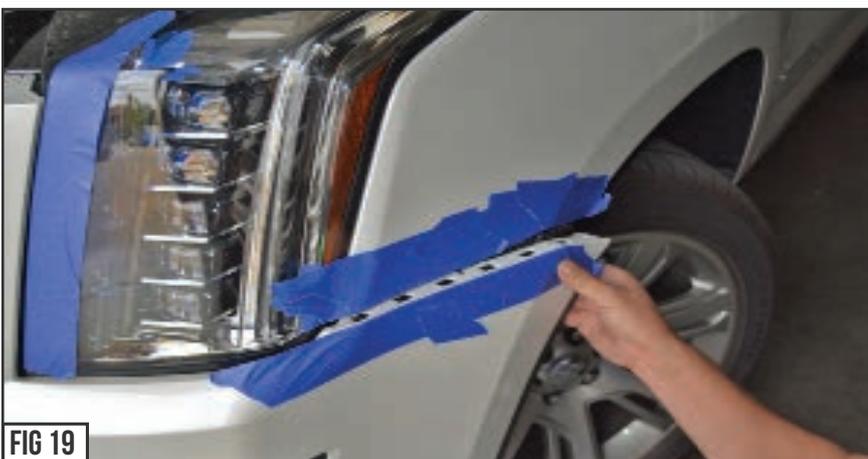
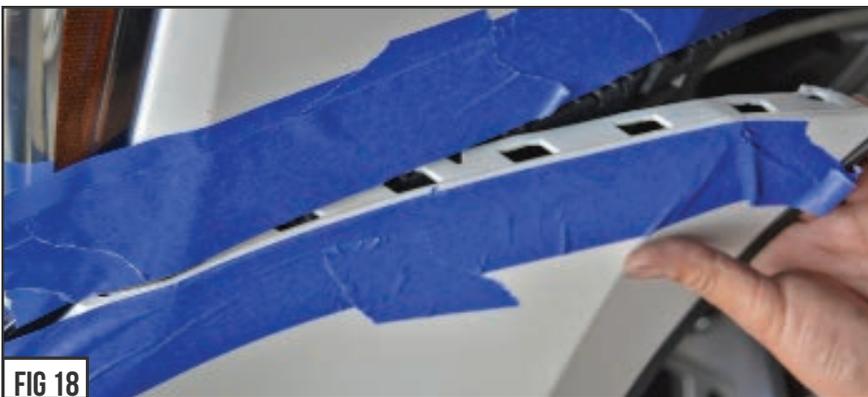
6) Go ahead and unbolt the (2) bolts on the vehicle's Driver Side and the other (2) bolts on the Passenger's Side. Set aside for re-installation. NOTE There is a single plastic push tab fastener on other side which will also need to be removed.

### STEPS 7 & 8

SEE FIGURES 18-19

7) Peel back the liner and locate the block that sandwiches the fenders with the front fascia. Remove the (2) 8 MM screws and it should loosen the front fascia.

8) Pull the lower panel out and down to expose the tabs. Make sure you are not damaging molding as this will all have to be in perfect condition to be reassembled.



## VEHICLE FRONT FASCIA REMOVAL CONTINUED

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## GRILLE REMOVAL - CONTINUED



### STEP 9

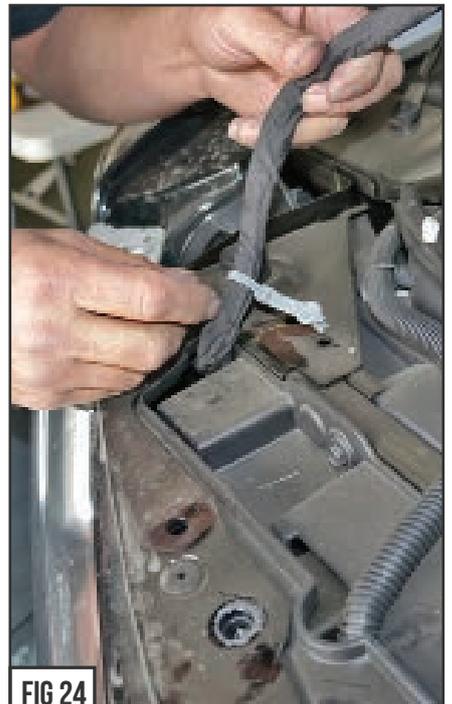
SEE FIGURE 20

9) Remove the Hex Screws that holds and hangs the top of the front fascia unit. There are (2) on each side.

### STEP 10

SEE FIGURES 21 - 22

10) Now you must disconnect and pull free the Vehicle's Fog Lamps Electrical Wiring Loom.



### STEP 11

SEE FIGURES 23 - 24

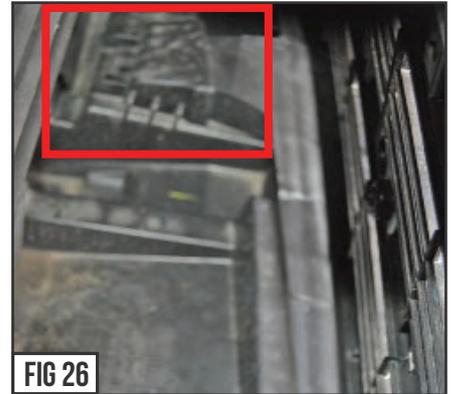
11) With the Loom's quick connector disconnected, trace the wires back to the loom's holster tabs and carefully pluck them out of their mounting points till the Vehicle's Front Bumper Fascia will be free and clear.

## VEHICLE FRONT FASCIA REMOVAL CONTINUED

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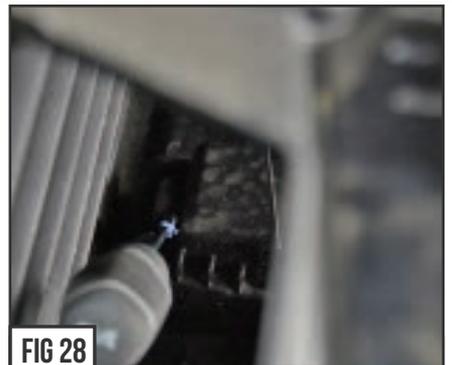
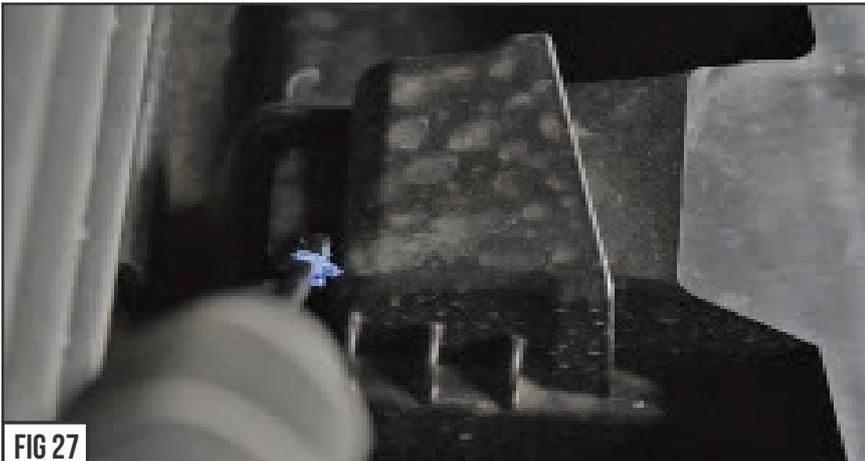
## GRILLE REMOVAL - CONTINUED



### STEP 12

SEE FIGURES 25 & 26

12) NOTE There are (2) final tabs to be un-clipped. Behind the grille, use a broad flat head screw driver to pop them free.



### STEP 13

SEE FIGURES 27-28

13) Pop the tabs free as seen in Figures #27 - #28 to help locate the tabs behind the grille on either side.

### STEP 14

14) At this time, prepare your work bench / work table with a soft cushioned foam pad.



## BETTER GRAB A FRIEND TO HELP

### STEP 15

SEE FIGURES 30 - 33

15) Grab a friend to help lift off and remove the entire nose off the front end of the vehicle and set it on the padded work bench.

VEHICLE FRONT FASCIA REMOVAL COMPLETE

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## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY - START



### STEP 16

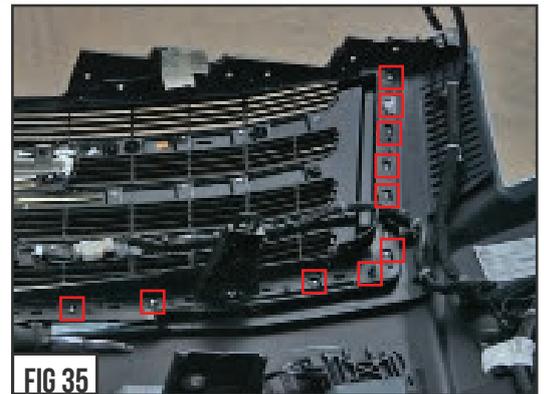
SEE FIGURES 30 - 33

16) The vehicle's front nose should now be easily detached. Carefully lift off its mounts and confirm the front fascia grille component is free and all wires are disconnected.

### STEP 17

SEE FIGURE 34

17) Set the nose face down on cushioned work bench.



### STEP 18

SEE FIGURES 34 - 35

18) With the nose face down examine and identify the grille tab mounting locations.

### STEP 19

SEE FIGURES 36 - 37

19) Using a broad flat head screwdriver, pop the plastic clips free and pry the tabs loose.

## BEGIN GRILLE SEPARATION



## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY CONTINUED

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## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY - CONTINUED



### STEP 20

SEE FIGURES 38 - 40

20) Continue pressing the tabs, clips, and fasteners to free the factory grille from the shell. Once free from the fasteners, the factory grille shell should be easily separated from shell.

### STEP 21

SEE FIGURE 41 - 42

21) NOTE There will be a few more tabs and several screws along the bottom edge.



## DISCONNECT FORWARD FACING CAMERA

### STEP 22

SEE FIGURES 43 - 44

22) Disconnect the Vehicle's Factory Grille Forward Facing Camera.



## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY CONTINUED

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## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY - CONTINUED



### STEP 23

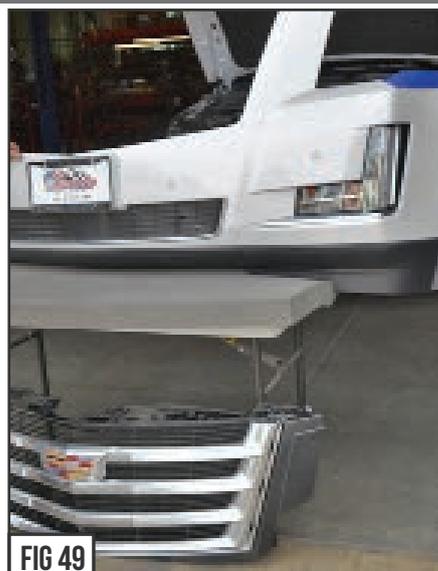
SEE FIGURES 45 - 47

23) Carefully pop free the wiring loom's holster tabs.

### STEP 24

SEE FIGURE 48

24) At this point the grille should now be totally free from the shell and front bumper fascia.



### STEP 25

SEE FIGURES 50 - 51

25) It is now time to capture the factory badging. From the backside of grille, pry the badge's tabs free.

The step is not optional and is needed to properly complete the new T-REX Replacement Grille.

## BADGE REMOVAL COMPLETE



## GRILLE DISASSEMBLY COMPLETE

# UPPER CLASS GRILLE MAIN GRILLE REPLACEMENT

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## GRILLE ASSEMBLY - START



FIG 52



FIG 53



FIG 54

### STEP 26

SEE FIGURES 52 - 60

26) It is now time to assemble and install the Vehicle's Factory Forward Facing Camera.

### STEP 27

SEE FIGURES 52 - 56

27) Just for the purpose of mocking up to gain familiarity with proper assembly follow the steps in Figures #60 - #62.



FIG 55



FIG 56



FIG 57

### STEP 28

SEE FIGURES 57 - 58

28) Put into place the T-REX manufactured Camera Frame on the front side of the grille mesh and around the mesh cut out. Put into place the provided Nylong Spacers.

### STEP 29

SEE FIGURES 59 - 60

29) Put into place the Vehicle's Factory Forward Facing Camera and bolt it down till secure.



FIG 59



FIG 60



FIG 58

## CHECK CAMERA FITMENT

### STEP 30

SEE FIGURE 56

30) Check your work and confirm you are satisfied with the camera fitment and positioned angle of camera lens view.

## FORWARD FACING CAMERA INSTALL COMPLETE

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## GRILLE ASSEMBLY - CONTINUED



FIG 61



FIG 62

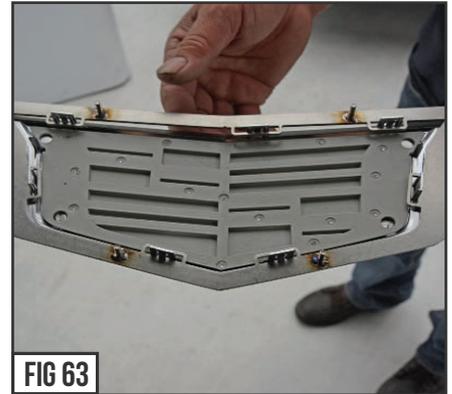


FIG 63

### STEP 31

SEE FIGURES 61 - 63

31) Put into place and install the Factory Badge into the new T-REX Grille Replacement so the Badge's tabs are fitted to the grille frame cut outs that receives the tabs.

### STEP 32

SEE FIGURE 64

32) Carefully Put into place the OEM Badge over and onto the new T-REX Grille.

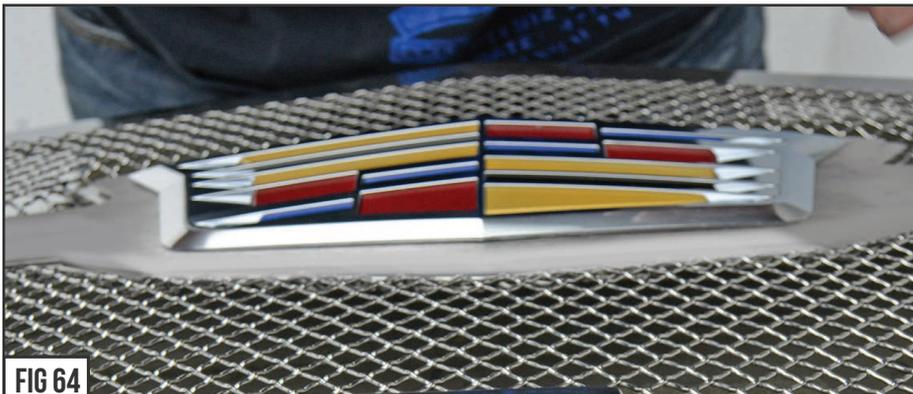


FIG 64



FIG 65

### STEP 33

SEE FIGURES 65 - 66

33) With the OEM Badge fitted and put into place, flip it over and place it on its face.

### STEP 34

SEE FIGURES 67 - 68

34) Finally secure the Factory Badge with the provided Tab Push Clips. Push down over the tabs till the clips latch on and firmly secure the Badge to grille.

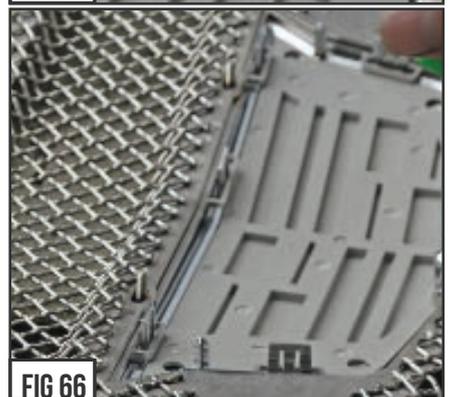


FIG 66



FIG 67



FIG 68

## CHECK YOUR WORK

### STEP 35

35) Carefully look over your work. Inspect for proper alignment throughout the grille, trim piece, forward facing camera, ect.

**FACTORY BADGE INSTALL COMPLETE**

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## GRILLE ASSEMBLY - CONTINUED



### STEP 36

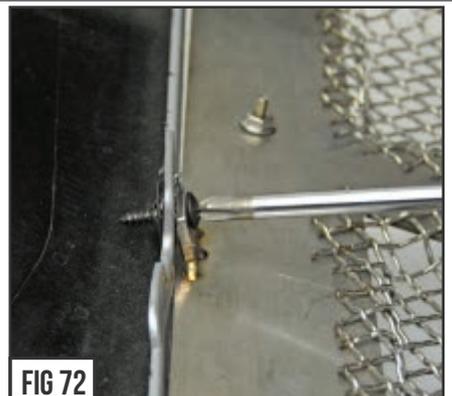
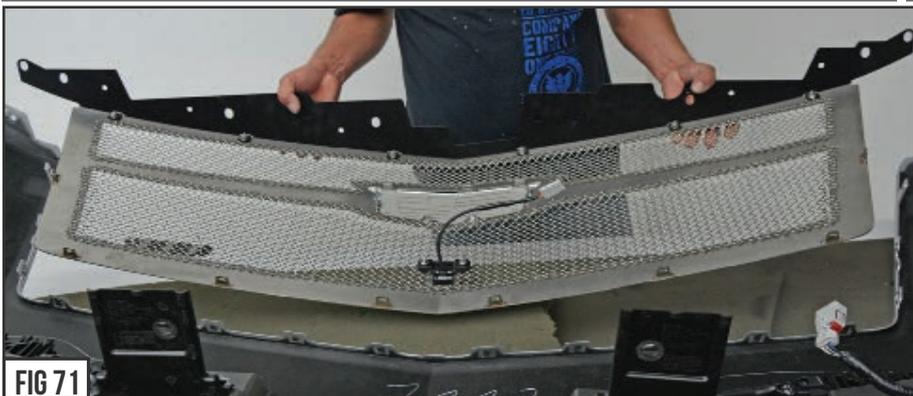
SEE FIGURES 69 & 70

36) Align the Grille's Top Mounting Plate tabs to the Grille's pre-determined threaded studs. The Top Mounting Plate can only work in one configuration so take note of Figure # 69.

### STEP 37

SEE FIGURE 70

37) Using the provided hardware, bolt the Top Mounting Plate down and tighten to the new T-REX Grille.



### STEP 38

SEE FIGURE 71

38) Put into place the fully assembled grille. Align the grille's pre-determined mounting tabs to the bumper fascia's molded mounting points.

### STEP 39

SEE FIGURES 72 - 74

39) With the (8) grille tabs properly lined up insert the provided screws and tighten down with the flat U-Nuts.

## INSTALL ALL FRONT BUMPER FASCIA

### STEP 40

40) The new T-REX Grille is now fully assembled. Check the grille fitment with the front bumper fascia. Once satisfied reinstall the front bumper fascia in the reverse order it was removed.

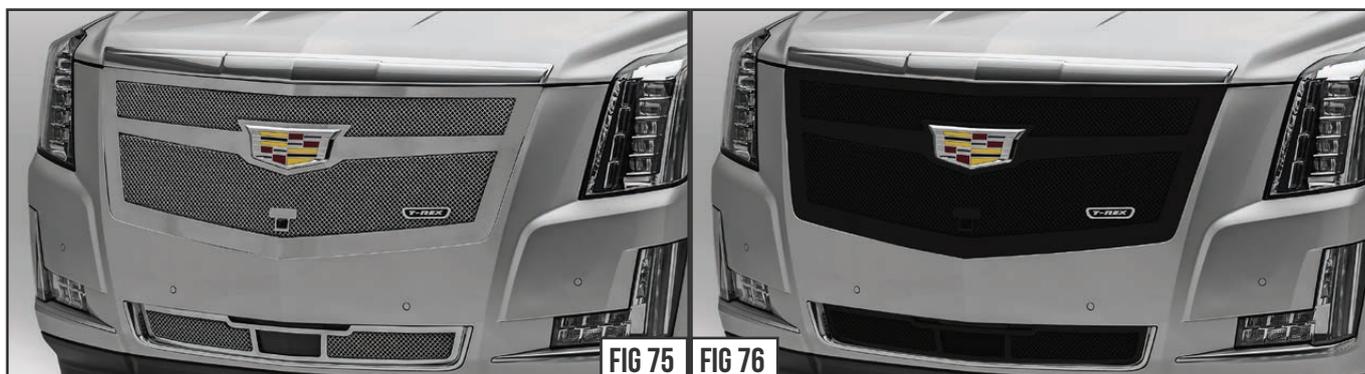
**FORWARD FACING CAMERA INSTALL COMPLETE**

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GRILLE INSTALL - COMPLETE



## STEPS 41 & 42

41) Re-install the grille assembly in the reverse order that it was removed from the vehicle.

42) Check over your work for hardware tightness and visual inspection.

## STEP 43

SEE FIGURES 75 - 76

43) At this point you want to look over your work and examine the gap alignments around all edges and in between the new T-REX Grille and the vehicle components and body lines. Carefully close the hood for a complete visual inspection. If adjustment is needed, you can remove grille and loosen the hardware mounts and shift side to side or up & down to achieve proper look.

GRILLE INSTALL - COMPLETE





## T-REX GRILLES PRODUCT WARRANTY

### T-REX GRILLES PRODUCT WARRANTY

T-REX Truck Products warrants its grille products to be free from defects in material and workmanship for the lifetime of the grille. T-REX Truck Products warrants the finish of its grille products for a 3 year period beginning at the time of sale to the end user. These warranties are limited warranties and do not cover abuse, modification or improper installation nor do they cover finish failure caused by caustic cleaning agents, road salts or other chemicals. T-REX Truck Products reserves the right to repair or replace a defective product at its sole discretion. Any T-REX product must be returned to T-REX for warranty consideration and must be returned at the customer's expense. In the event that the product is deemed to be defective, the repaired or replaced item will be returned via a surface shipping method to the customer at T-REX Truck Products expense. No provision is made for any labor, rental car or other costs incurred by the failure of its products.

## LED LIGHTING EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION / DISCLAIMER

### WARNING

**PLEASE CONSULT YOUR LOCAL AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICAL PROFESSIONAL FOR INSTALLATION SERVICES AND ADVICE.** T-REX IS ONLY EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE BASIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DUE TO THE DIVERSITY OF VEHICLES, VEHICLE OPTIONS & MODIFICATIONS AND LIGHTING CONFIGURATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE. T-REX Truck Products cannot be held liable due to improper component installation and / or faulty wiring.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

LED Lights & LED Light Bars operate at relatively high currents and should only be installed by qualified personnel with experience in Switched / relayed high draw DC Circuits.

- Light Bars are designed for use only with standard 12v DC power systems
- Light Bars are for OFF-ROAD USE ONLY. Check your local laws & regulations regarding vehicle mounted lights.
- Some Light Bars are equipped with waterproof connectors while others are simply pig-tailed
- Red Wires = POSITIVE | Black Wires = NEGATIVE
- ALWAYS install your lights on a fused circuit. Basic fusing guidelines: maximum 5A for every 10" of LED Light Bar.

### GENERAL USE, INSTALL AND ADJUSTMENT TIPS

NOTE 1: T-REX Torch Series Grilles (with LED Light Bars installed), and LED Light Bars themselves are for OFF-ROAD USE ONLY.

NOTE 2: Light Bars in Torch Series Grilles are installed flush with the grille from the factory. This may or may not be the ideal angle for each light depending on the configuration of your vehicle and its options and/or modifications. To adjust the angle of your light bars simply loosen the mounting hardware on either side of each Light Bar, rotate the Light Bar to adjust the angle, then tighten the hardware once the desired angle is achieved (please be careful not to over-tighten the mounting hardware or scratch the protective powder-coat finish). It is best to adjust the angle with the vehicle on level ground with the lights facing a wall, garage door or other solid barrier at a distance of approximately 25-30 feet.

NOTE 3: Please consult a qualified automotive electrical professional for light bar wiring installation.

NOTE 4: An optional universal wiring harness (part# 639HAR1) is also available that includes high-heat & oil/fuel resistant wires, waterproof connector, 12v relay, 12v rocker switch, in-line fuse holder. Our universal wiring harness significantly expedites the installation process but is not a vehicles specific "Plug & Play" product and does not eliminate the need for a professional installation.

Please contact your local T-REX dealer for more information or visit [www.trexbilliet.com](http://www.trexbilliet.com).

## GRILLE CARE INFORMATION

### GRILLE CARE INFORMATION

T-REX grilles are finest in the industry but do require normal care. Wash regularly as you would when caring for your vehicles. Never use dish soap.

### POLISHED FINISH

T-REX polished grilles should be waxed at the same time that you wax the vehicle and can be cleaned with soap and water. A polished finish can be cared for in the same fashion that would care for your vehicles factory chrome. Never leave wet water spots as that may leave a blemish.

### MATTE BLACK FINISH

Paint warranty applies to defects in material and / or workmanship, it does not cover the matte finish surface appearance.

To enjoy the matte appearance for many years to come, please follow these owner care and maintenance tips.

Get a no-shine matte car wash soap that uses no fillers, no silicone, and won't strip your matte paint of its layer of protection.

Do not use wax, detail spray, armorall®, or any products made for normal paint. Use only products specifically developed for matte finish paint. Do not use products that are even mildly abrasive, such as polishes, glazes, or rubbing compounds. Do not use mechanical cleaners or polishers. Do not use terry cloth, cloth, or paper towels. Do not rub the finish vigorously, this will burnish the paint finish, causing a permanent shiny spot. Shiny spots cannot be removed.

Do not use commercial car wash facilities or their shine enhancement products. Most car wash brushes, large mechanized "towels," and shine enhancement products can damage matte paint.

Remove foreign substances such as insect remains, tar, and road debris using a soft applicator and a mild solvent; saturate and soak area before cleaning—rub lightly.

Hand-wash with a soft wash mitt and mild cleaning product safe for matte paint. Use microfiber cleaning cloths with alcohol-based window cleaner for basic surface clean-up.

### GLOSS BLACK FINISH

T-REX Grilles with Gloss Black Powder Coated Finish may be washed regularly as you would when caring for your vehicles finish using soap and water. T-REX grilles should be waxed at the same time that you wax the vehicle. As a general rule, anything you use to clean your vehicles painted surfaces can be used to clean and maintain your T-REX grille. A Gloss powder Coated Finish can be cared for in the same fashion that you would care for your vehicles factory paint job. Never leave wet water spots as that may leave a blemish.