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BOLT J-MOUNT INSTALL

A New Hi-Lift Mounting Option

By: **Matt Bleakley**

We're always looking for new Jeep stuff and the J-Mount from BOLT certainly caught our attention as something we've never seen before.



WITH A FAIRLY SIMPLE INSTALLATION, the J-Mount allows you to get your Hi-Lift jack out of your Jeep to free up space and potentially make your passengers safer in the event of misfortune. As with all BOLT products, it has a lock that learns your Jeep's key for easy access.

We'll admit to occasionally having put our jack in the storage area in a Jeep without bolting it down or securing it if there was no mounting option. In the event of a crash or a rollover, anything unsecured in the Jeep becomes a projectile and the idea of catching a Hi-Lift to the back of the head is not appealing.

Follow along as we mount our Hi-Lift on a J-Mount on a Rubicon Hard Rock JKU.



The J-Mount kit is really simple

PACKAGING AND PREPARATION

This is not a complicated kit or installation. All the necessary parts were included along with clear instructions. We did note that package says there is a rubber gasket to protect painted surface where the J-Mount bolts to the Jeep windshield hinge, but it was actually a piece of hard plastic. We'd like to see a rubber gasket for the mounting surface and another one for the lower tension bolt.

Programming the BOLT lock to the Jeep key was simple. Insert the key and turn it about three-quarters of a turn to program. Be prepared to keep pressure on the key and continue until stops. After programming, the lock operates easily with about a quarter-turn of the key.

TOOLS NEEDED:

- T40 Torx wrench or socket
- 9/16" open end wrench
- 1/2" wrench
- Flat head screwdriver



Two views of prior to addi

ASSEMBLY

Start by removing the t side of the lower winds get the J-Mount for eith ours is a driver-side mo that have seen weather ficult to remove and an Torx bit could be neede ing oil. If you're worried loose, start spraying the ing oil a few days in adv

The J-Mount attaches to plastic gasket and the p washers. Once the bolts Head Screwdriver, exte is tight against fender. C the position, tighten the against the J-mount fra

That's it! 10 minutes or l loose easily.)



of the installed J-Mount
ing the jack and knobs

Two Torx screws on the shield hinge. You can...
other side of the Jeep,
mount. On older Jeeps
these could be dif-
impact wrench and
ed along with penetrat-
d about them coming
e bolts with penetrat-
vance.

to the Jeep using the
provided bolts and
s are secure, using Flat
nd lower bumper until it
Once you're happy with
e 9/16" nut outward
me to lock it in place.

ess (if your bolts come



3

Check for door clearance!

MOUNTING THE JACK

The jack mounts over the extended lock post and the end of the lower bumper bolt. Getting the lock post through our Hi-Lift Extreme jack was a tight fit. It required pushing hard on the jack the first time while holding the mount to prevent the fender flexing. When you mount the jack, ensure that the jack handle is toward rear of the Jeep.

Once the hack is on, you tighten the two provided knobs and attach the BOLT lock and the jack is secure.

CHECK FOR DOOR CLEARANCE!

We first mounted the jack with the mechanism in the lowest position but the door hinge bumped the jack and would not open entirely. This would have scratched the paint if we had not tested first. We unmounted the jack and raised the mechanism a few notches, that gave clearance to fully open the door.

IMPRESSIONS

The mounted jack is out of the way a little better than we expected going into this installation. It does not interfere with door opening as long as you pay attention to the mechanism position. From driver seat, the jack is behind the A pillar and does not obstruct any of your view. With that said, you can simply lean left or right to see how it is riding on the Jeep. Stability and usability on rough terrain is good and it rides well on city streets too. It performs as advertised and we have no problem recommending it.

One thing that's often overlooked in Hi-Lift mounts is the weight of the jack. They're not light! Having to get one high above your spare or on your roof can be difficult for some people and can damage your Jeep or other equipment if they're dropped. Particularly consider that you and your Jeep may not be in the best situation when it comes time to need the jack. The J-Mount is ideal in this regard.

Once you install it, get used to people wanting to grab the jack and yank on it to see how solid it is. Trust us, it is plenty solid!

Matt Bleakley is the Texas Chapter director of Jeep Expeditions.

SOURCES:

BOLT

Hi-Lift



The BOLT lock learns keys needed

Pros:

Easy to retrieve. If you have the driver's door door, you can reach the Hi-Lift.

Easy on and off mount. You can use the J-Mount fine-tuning Lock once you're on the access.

Not having to deal with the thanks to the BOLT lock.

With the jack installed, you prepared look to the



your Jeep key, no extra



With the lock in place, it extends 6" past the side of the Jeep. We'll likely remove it when on the trails to prevent hitting it.

Cons:

you can get out of the
you can get to your

Appears a little precarious, or maybe that's just the cautious worrier in us?

mounting of jack. You can
without the BOLT
the trail for even easier

The lower bumper rests against a fairly flimsy fender. We will have to see how it holds up to vibrations and bumps over a long period of time but so far it has held up and performs well.

with a second key
lock is very convenient.

You must position the jack's mechanism in a limited space to prevent interference with the mount and/or door.

ed, it gives a rugged,
e Jeep.

The BOLT lock extends 6" from the fender and may catch on things on the trail, possibly damaging the fender. We will probably remove the lock when wheeling.