



## Softopper Installation Instructions

Please read instructions thoroughly before starting installation,  
or find our new installation video on YouTube under  
**"Softopper Official Installation Video for Trucks"!**

**\*\*Remove all contents of the Softopper carefully to protect from scratches.\*\***  
Windows scratch easily! Keep protective layer placed between them when they are stacked.



Estimated Installation Time: 1 hour

Begining Note: It is easiest to do the initial installation in warmer temperatures. The fabric of the top is at its tightest when it is new. Installing it in warmer temperatures initially will ensure that the fabric is easier to work with. The fabric of the top will relax slightly with time and become easier to attach.

## **\*\*Safety Notes\*\***

### **Please read the following before driving with the Softopper installed:**

1. It is highly recommended that a boot cover/storage bag (sold separately) is used when the topper is in its retracted position. This will prevent the top from catching in the wind and extend the longevity of the soft top.
2. **DO NOT** rely in any way on the soft top to contain occupants or objects within the vehicle bed, or to protect against injury or death in the event of an accident or a roll-over.
3. This top will not protect the occupants or objects from falling or flying objects. Never operate vehicle in excess of manufacturer's recommendations or specifications.

### **Tools needed for installation:**

#2 Phillips Screwdriver

#3 Phillips Screwdriver

9/16" Wrench or Socket

Drill

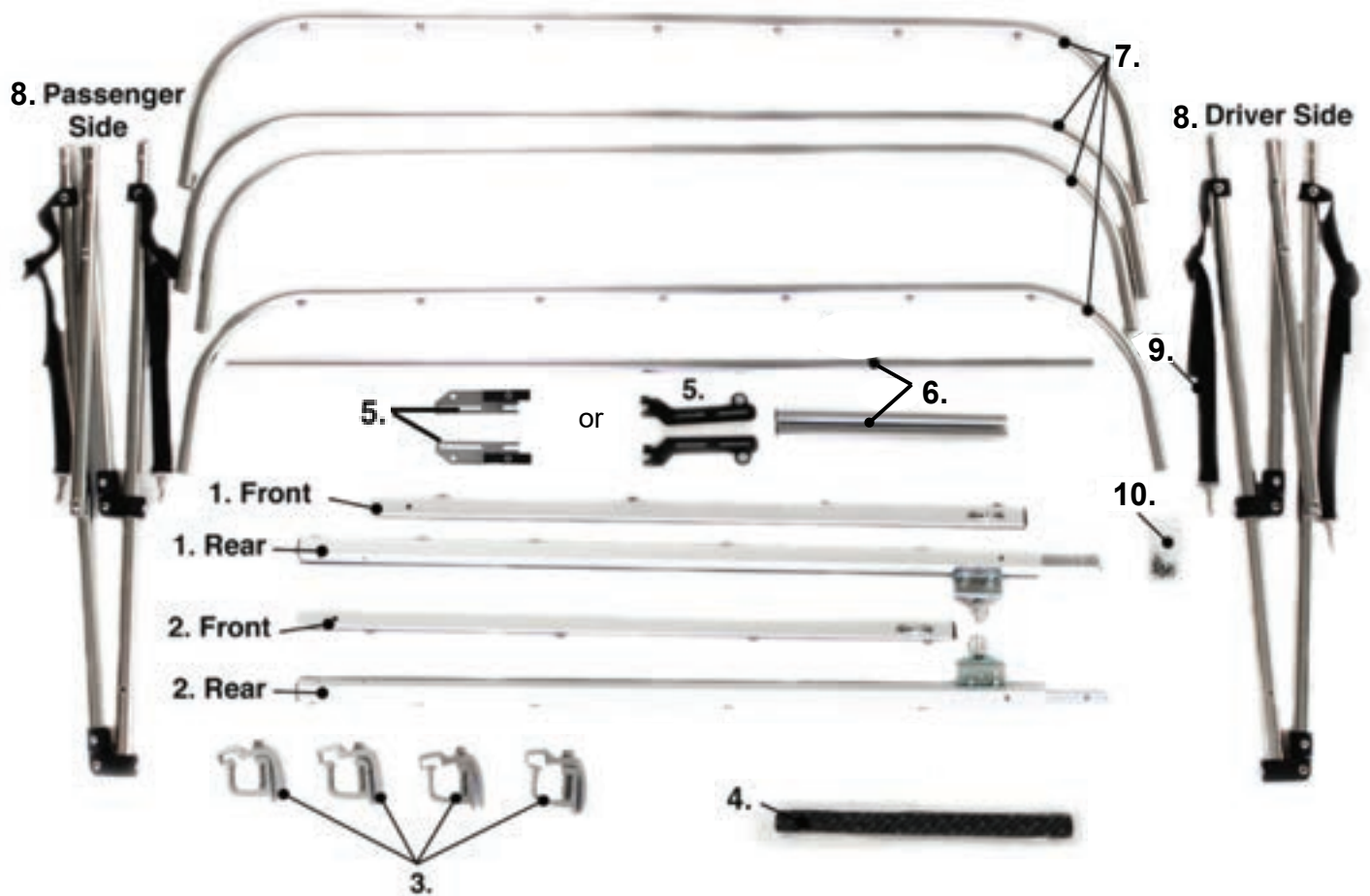
#2 Phillips Drill Bit

Pencil or Marker

1/8" Drill Bit (\*Optional; see page 14, "Installing Snap Screws", for more details)

## **Table of Contents**

<b>1. Inventory.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Hardware Installation</b>	
<b>Bedrails.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Clamps.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Folding Frame.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3. Soft Top Canopy Installation.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Snap Screws &amp; Hook Tape Strips.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>4. Rear Bar Installation.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>5. Retracting the Soft Top.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>6. Optional Driving Configurations.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>7. Rear Screen Installation (*Purchased Separately).....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>8. Softopper Care and Maintenance.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>9. Warranty Information.....</b>	<b>26</b>



1. Front and Rear Driver Side Bedrails
2. Front and Rear Passenger Side Bedrails
3. 4 Clamps (6 for Super Duty and 8 foot Beds)\*(Clamp Styles May Vary)
4. Adhesive Hook Strips
5. Driver and Passenger Side Rear Bar Retainers (Plastic or Stamped Metal)
6. 1 Long Rear Window Bar and 2 Short (12 inch) Rear Window Bars (Rear Bar styles may vary)
7. 4 Cross Bars (5 for 8 foot beds)
8. Driver and Passenger Side Folding Frame Uprights
9. Safety Straps (Riveted to Folding Frame Uprights)
10. Small Bag Containing Hardware
11. 1 Softopper Canopy (not depicted above)

## Bedrail Installation

**\*\*Note\*\***Driver side depicted in all photos and illustrations throughout instructions. Also, colored instructions are available on our website, [softopper.com](http://softopper.com), under “Installation Instructions”.

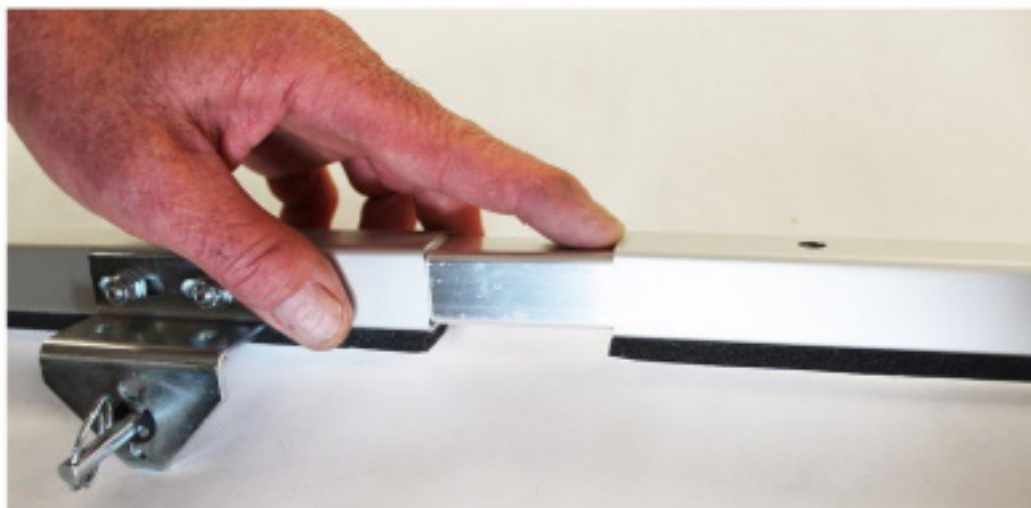
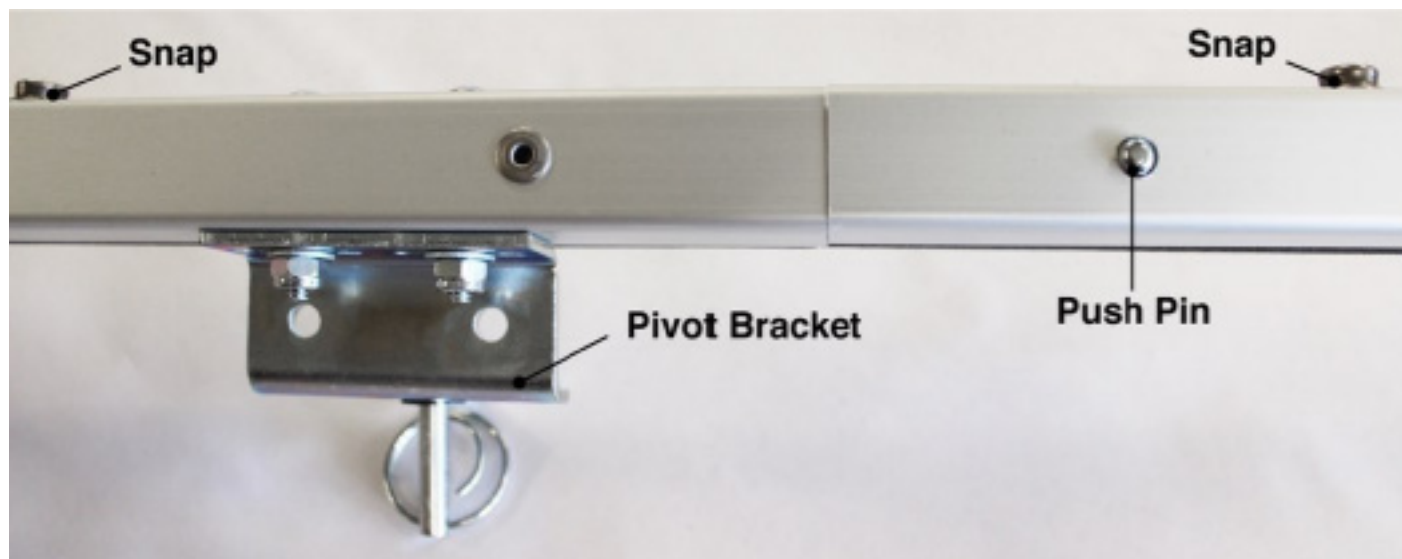
1. Locate the 2 driver side bedrails. There is a sticker which designates the driver side front bedrail.



2. Remove the white protective paper from the bottom of the bedrails that is covering the weather stripping. The weather stripping is NOT ADHESIVE, and will not stick to your truck.



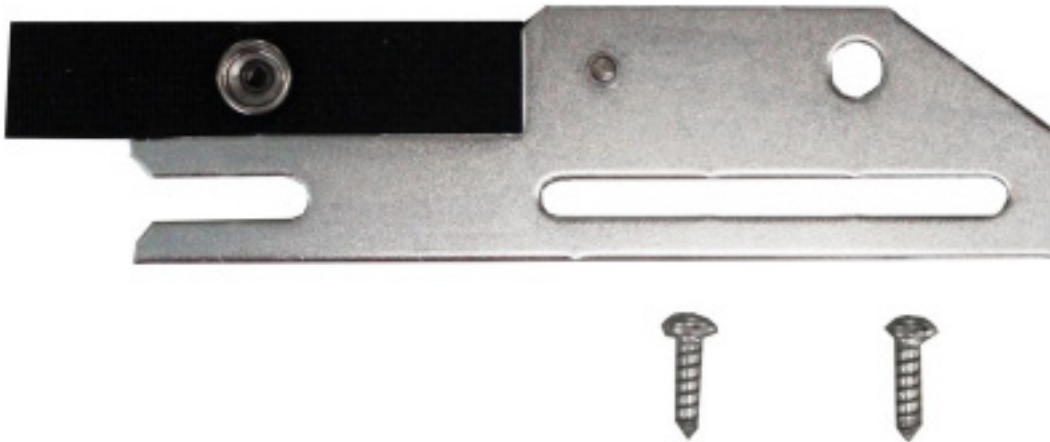
3. Join the driver side front bedrail piece and the driver side rear bedrail piece by pressing down on the push pin, and slide the rear bedrail into the front bedrail until the push pin finds the hole and pops through completely. Make sure that you have the driver side rear bedrail piece by ensuring that the snaps on the front and rear bedrails are facing the same direction.



4. Repeat for passenger side bedrails.

5. Locate the Driver Side Rear Bar Retainer, and the (4) #12 x 3/4" panhead screws. The rear bar retainers are side specific, so ensure you have the driver side rear bar retainer as shown.
6. Using a #3 Phillips screwdriver and 2 of the #12 screws, mount the rear bar retainer to the rear of the driver side bedrail through the long slot in the rear bar retainer and the pre-drilled holes in the bedrail as shown. Center the slot over the screws. Repeat on passenger side with remaining retainer and screws.

### **Driver Side Rear Bar Retainer (Curved rear bar)**



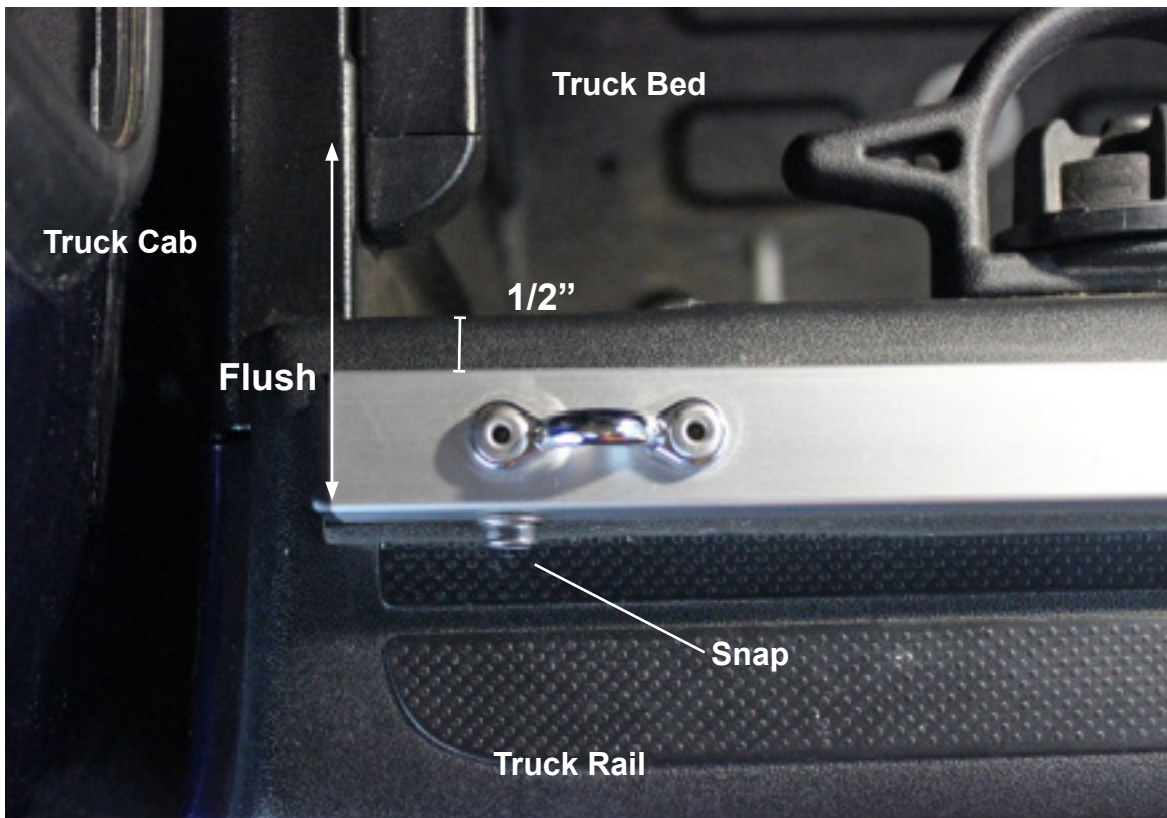
### **Driver Side Bedrail (Rear)**



### **Driver Side Rear Bar Retainer (Straight rear bar)**







7. Place the driver side bedrail atop the side of the truck's bed side rail with the snaps facing out, the rear bar retainer facing in, and the weather stripping down. The metal pivot bracket will hang over and down the truck's side rail towards the truck bed.
8. Align the front edge of the bedrail with the back edge of the truck bed's front inside wall as shown.
9. Align the bedrail evenly with the inside edge of the truck's side rail or moved outward slightly. It is recommended that it rests within 1/2" from the inside as shown.
10. Repeat on passenger side with passenger side bedrail.
11. Locate the 4 clamps (6 for Super Duty and 8-foot beds).
12. Clamp Installation (view photos below to determine which clamp installation to follow):



## Regular Clamps:

1. Placement of the clamps should be approximately 10"-13" from each end of the bedrail.
2. Install the clamps by carefully placing them, bolt side up, under the truck's side rail and over the top of the Softopper bedrail. Some vehicles have ridges under the side rail. In order to ensure a secure fit, avoid clamping onto such ridges.
3. Using a 9/16" wrench or socket, snugly fasten the clamp bolts until the bedrail is not able to shift. Do not over tighten. The bedrail location may need to be adjusted later in the installation process.



## Utility Clamps:

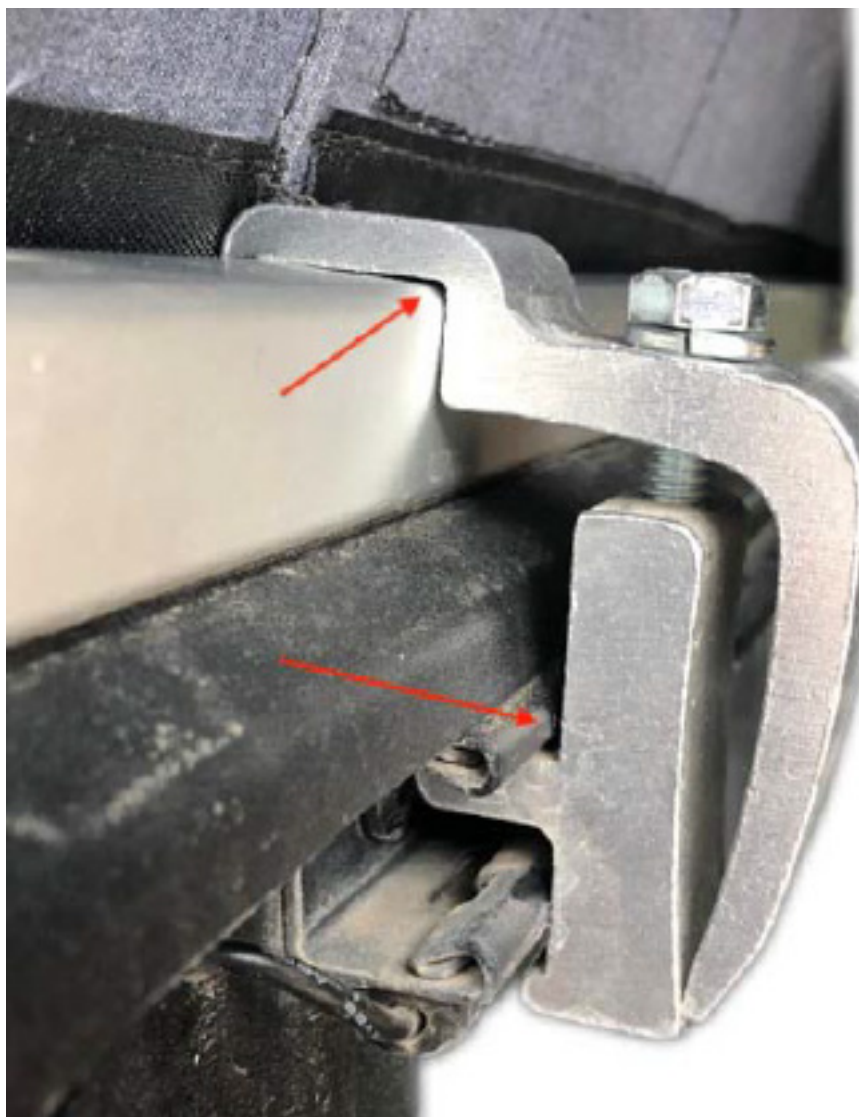
1. Locate the utility track, which is just under the truck bed side rails.
2. Install the clamps by carefully placing them, bolt side up, under the truck's side rail, into the utility track, and over the top of the Softopper bedrail as shown. Ensure that the flange on the clamp is securely latching all the way into the utility track.
3. Placement of the clamps should be approximately 10"-13" from each end of the bedrail.
4. Using a 9/16" wrench or socket, snugly fasten the clamp bolts until the bedrail is not able to shift. Do not over tighten. The bedrail location may need to be adjusted later in the installation process.





5. **If your bedrails are tilting inward** after installing the clamps, ensure that you are doing the following to correct the tilt:

- a) Before you place the top of the clamp over the bedrail, make sure the flange that goes into the utility clamp is nestled all the way IN and UP in the utility track.
- b) You may need to hammer the bottom half of the clamp into place, then place the top half over the bedrail.
- c) Make sure the bedrail is sitting flat on the truck side rail before placing the clamp over it.
- d) Lastly, ensure the bedrail is square in the top half of the clamp without leaving space between the top of the bedrail and the clamp.



6. **Longbeds (Super Duty and 8-foot beds)**

- a) Follow all instructions above according to your clamp type.
- b) Install the middle clamp approximately 6 inches rearward of the pivot bracket. Install the other clamps 10"-13" from each end of the bedrail.

## **Folding Frame Assembly and Installation**

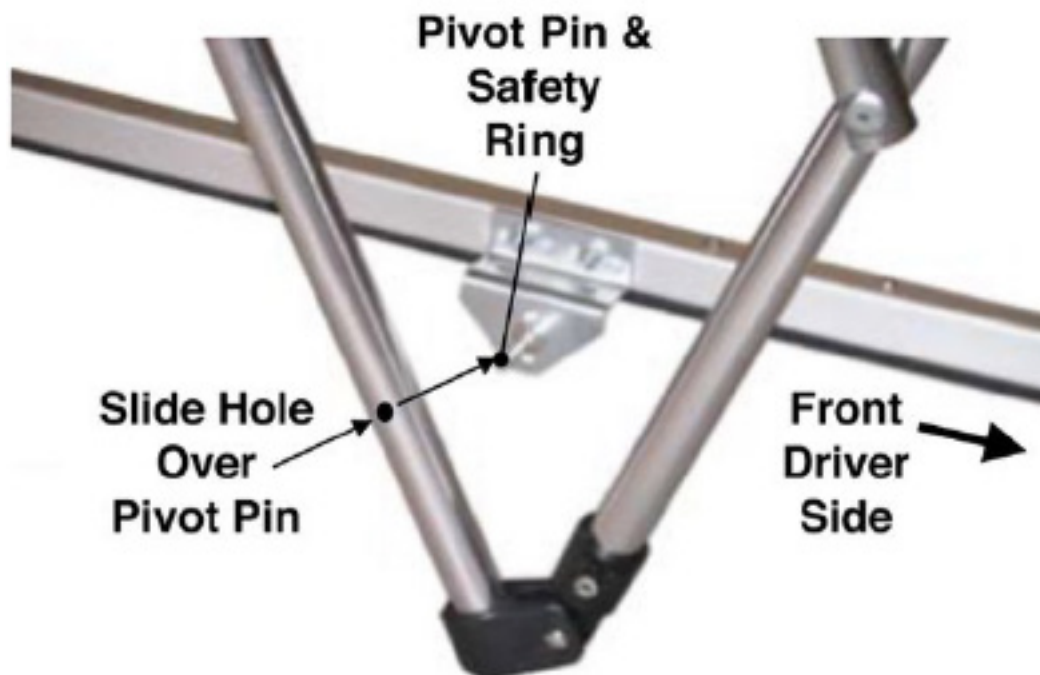
1. Locate the 4 Cross Bars (5 for 8 foot beds) and the 2 Folding Frames.
2. Join the 4 cross bars to the 2 folding frames by coordinating the **COLORED DOTS** provided on the pieces and ensuring ALL push pins are locked into their holes.

***\*\*Important: Keep fingers clear of the sharp, metal junction where the cross bars will meet the folding frame when clipping them together. Injury is likely if fingers get pinched.***

***\*\*Tip: It helps to stand the folding frame uprights up, and with another person, or a table to rest one end of the cross bars on, jiggle the cross bars down to join them to the uprights.***



3. Remove the safety rings from the pivot pins in the pivot brackets by turning the ring.
4. Using the pre-drilled holes near the bottom of the folding frame, slide the frame onto the pivot pins on each bedrail ensuring the forward cross bar is forward. The forward crossbar is the one with the RED DOT. Secure the safety rings back on. [The most common installation error is installing the frame on backwards. View photo to ensure correct orientation of the folding frame.]
5. Leave the 4 safety straps that are hanging on the folding frame unclipped for now.





6. If needed, realign the bedrails so that the crossbars rest on the front of the truck bed as shown without either falling down into the bed or impacting the cab window. Tighten clamps after finalizing the bedrail placement.



7. If you removed the frame to adjust the bedrails, be sure to replace the safety rings.



**Note:** When opening the frame from its front position, you must raise all of the cross bars to approximately cab-height before opening the folding frame completely. If the rear cross bar is raised on its own, it will force the forward most cross bar into the cab window.

\*\*\* You must use this same process when deploying the Softopper once the fabric canopy is attached.

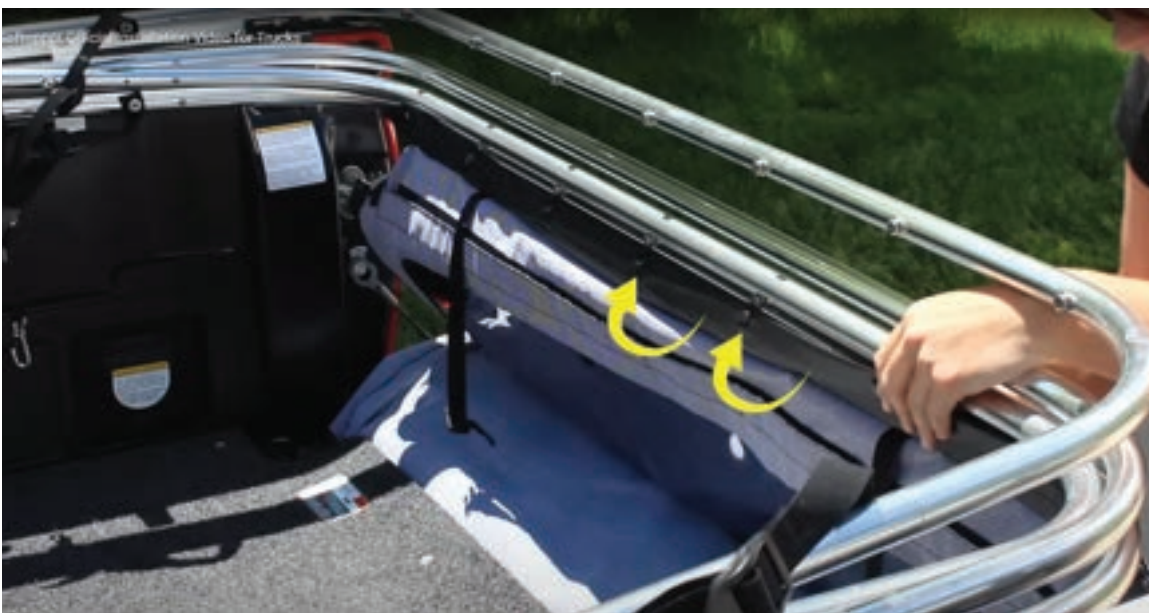


## Soft Top Canopy Installation

1. Carefully place the canopy on the tailgate, as shown.
2. With the tailgate open, lower the folding frame to the rear of the vehicle.

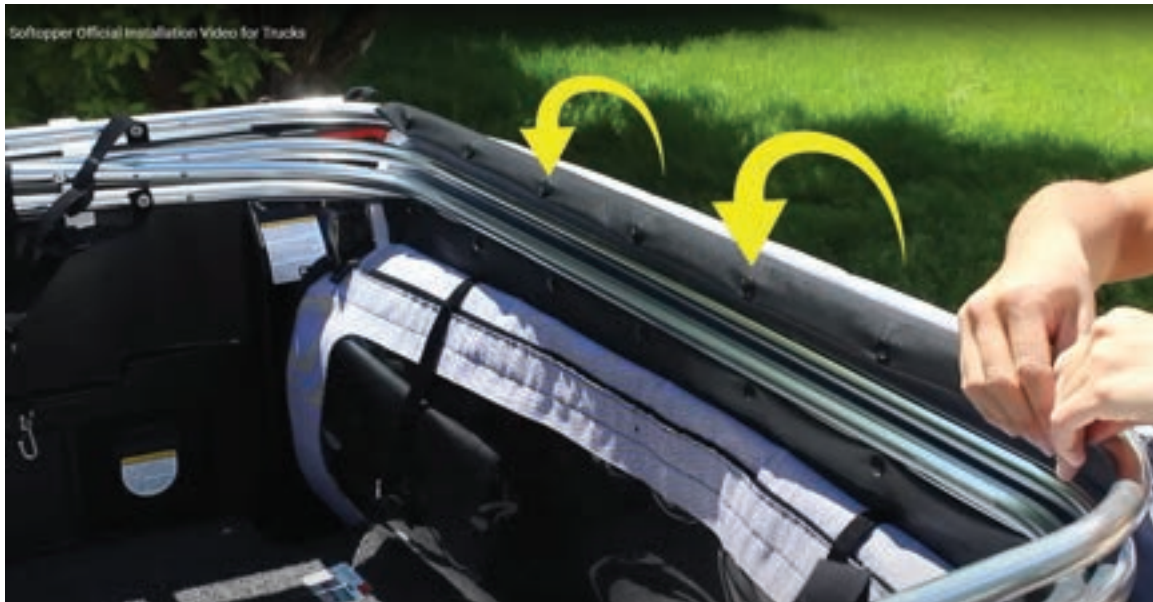


3. Locate the rear window panel snap flap and place it facing up and forward. The rear window has zippers, but the front one does not.
4. Snap the canopy to the snaps on the bottom/rear most cross bar by slipping the fabric **UNDER** the bar and around as shown. Snap the 2 outward most snaps first, then the remaining snaps.





5. Locate the front snap flap.
6. With the snaps facing down, wrap it OVER the upper/forward most cross bar (the other one with snaps), and snap all the snaps in the same manner as the rear.



7. From the side of the vehicle, raise the folding frame up into its upward position.



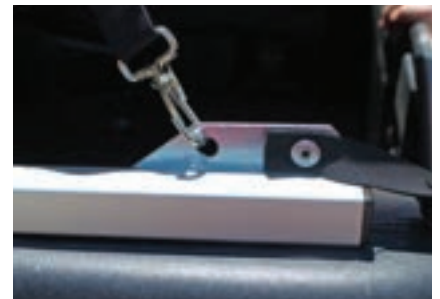
8. Latch the 2 front safety straps to the loops on the front of the bedrails, and latch the 2 rear safety straps to the upper hole in the rear bar retainers. Snug the straps.



Front Loop



Rear Loop for vehicles with  
Straight Tailgate Bar



Rear Loop for vehicles with  
Curved Tailgate Bar

9. Unfold the front window, side panels and the rear window. Let them hang loosely for now. Place the front window down between the cab and the bed with the lower snap flap inside the truck bed and the outer flap between the bed and the cab.



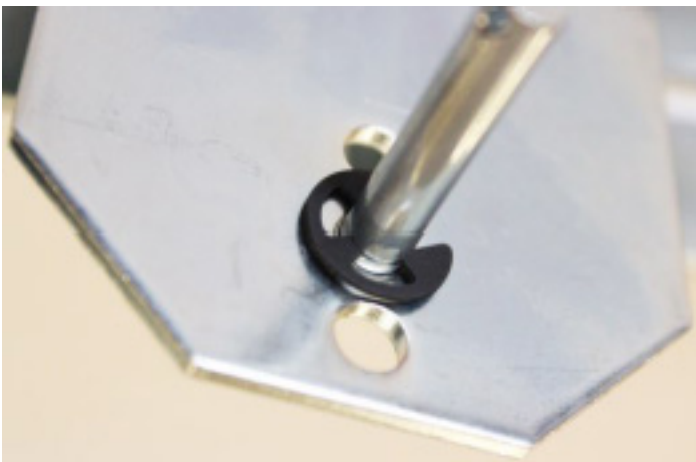
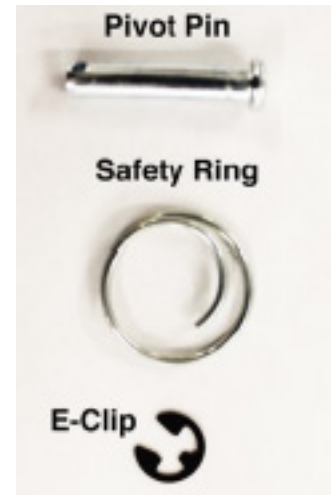
10. On the driver side, snap the forwardmost snap to the bedrail.  
11. On the same side, while pulling down on the rear cross bar, tighten the rear safety strap.  
12. Snap the rearmost snap on the side panel to the rearmost snap on the bedrail. Note: If snap is difficult to secure, pull down on the rear crossbar and tighten the safety strap further. Once snap is secured, loosen safety strap again to allow for easier snapping on the passenger side.  
13. Now snap the rest of the snaps on the driver side.  
14. Repeat the above on passenger side.  
15. Ensure all four safety straps are secured.

**Note: The safety straps should be snug, not loose or slack. Do not overtighten, as the tension should be shared between the safety straps and the snaps. This will also help with any wrinkles in the corners.**

**Note: We recommend snapping the forwardmost and rearmost snaps first each time you close the top. This makes it easier to snap the remaining snaps and align the canopy properly.**



**Pivot Bracket:** **\*Note that this is already installed on the bedrails.\*** However, at this point or any other point during the life of your Softopper, if the canopy is too loose or too tight, you can move the pivot pin to a higher or lower hole in the pivot bracket. Be sure to reinstall the black E-Clips onto the pivot pins. Also, ensure with any new adjustments that the folding frame does not impact the cab window. Make sure the E-Clip is in the small indent in the pivot pin. It helps to use the flat edge of something metal to push the E-Clip on. **\*\*Again, this is already installed for you.**

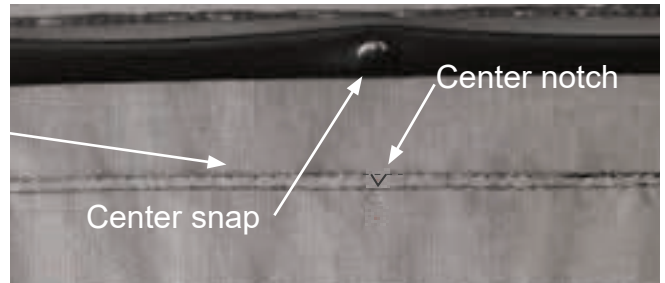




## Front Window Installation

There are 2 ways to secure the front window panel so that it doesn't flap while driving. Use the provided snap screws to snap the window panel to the inside of the truck bed, or use the provided adhesive hook to secure it. If you don't want to drill into the bed of the vehicle, we recommend using the adhesive hook and loop. (Loop is sewn to the fabric) However, the adhesive hook will not adhere to some bed liners. In this case, the snap screws must be installed.

Align the center notch in front window with the center snap on the front flap.



Wipe down inside front bed with alcohol then place 2 adhesive hook strips to the truck.



Pull flap down and attach the loop to the adhesive hook strips



### Installing Snap Screws (Optional):

1. Center the front window from inside the truck bed by lining up the notch at the top of the window with the center snap on the forward crossbar.
2. Using a pencil or marker, mark the placement for the 3 snap screws on the front of the truck bed while holding the front window snap flap in its correct location.
3. Using a 1/8" drill bit and a drill, drill the three holes for the snap screws. Apply caution. Drill bits are easily broken in this process. A bigger drill bit may be necessary depending on bed wall thickness. Do not force the snap stud as it could break.
4. Locate the 4 snap screws that are in the small hardware bag. We've provided an extra just in case.
5. Using a #2 Phillips screwdriver, gently screw the snap screws into the drilled holes.
6. Snap the front window snaps to the snaps on the vehicle.



## Curved Rear Bar Installation

1. Locate the 2 pieces of the curved rear bar, and put them together using the push pin.
2. Insert the rear bar into the sleeve on the inside of the rear window with the SNAPS (on plastic ends) FACING UP and curve toward the rear of the vehicle.



4. Snap the snap strap to the rear bar to ensure that it does not become dislodged while driving.



**\*\*Optional:** Use the provided extra strips of adhesive hook to hold the bottom of the rear window flap to the tailgate. Wipe clean and dry the tailgate surface before placing the sticky side of the adhesive hook onto the vehicle. Before putting excessive tension on the adhesive hook, we recommend letting it adhere for 24 hours.





## Straight Rear Bar Installation

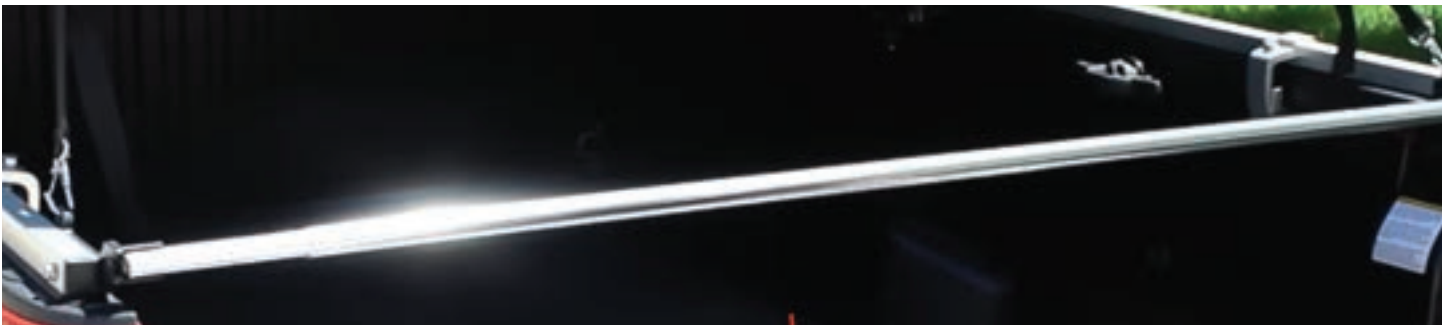
1. Locate the straight Rear Window bar, the (2) 12" bars, and the two remaining self drilling screws that were in the bag.



2. Insert the 2 shorter bars into the ends of the longer bar with the plastic end caps facing out.
3. Standing at the rear of the vehicle, push the two ends of the bar assembly into the rear plastic bar retainers while adjusting the length of the bar assembly as necessary. It should fit securely end to end into the given space within the plastic bar retainers as shown.

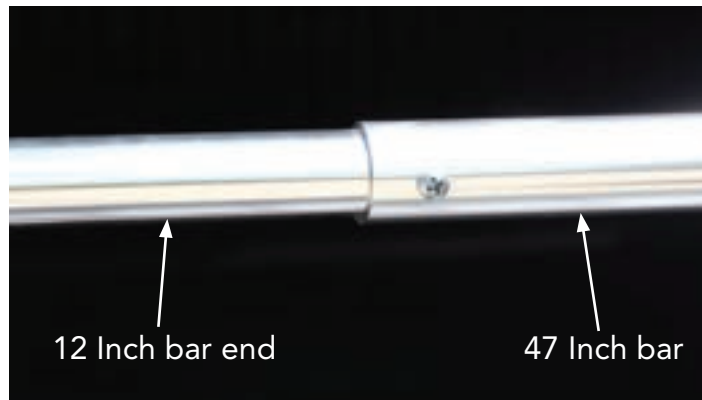


4. Center the long bar over the other two 12" bars.



## Straight Rear Bar Installation

5. Using a drill and a #2 Phillips bit, screw the 2 small self drilling screws into the pre-drilled holes to join the 3-bar assembly.



6. Remove tailgate bar from retainers, slide the bar into the flap on the rear window then snap the ends of the tailgate bar back into the plastic bar retainers.



**\*\*Optional:** Use the provided extra strips of adhesive hook to hold the bottom of the rear window flap to the tailgate. Wipe clean and dry the tailgate surface before placing the sticky side of the adhesive hook onto the vehicle. Before putting excessive tension on the adhesive hook, we recommend letting it adhere for 24 hours.



## Retracting the Softopper

1. Undo all side snaps.
2. Raise the rear window panel zippers all the way to the top without disconnecting them.
3. Release the rear window retainer bar.  
**\*\* Optional:** Undo hook and loop or snaps on the front window, carefully and neatly place front window on top of the canopy without creasing the window.  
You can leave the front window secured while retracting the canopy. However, we recommend putting it on top if you plan on storing the canopy in the folded position for a longer period of time, or putting the boot cover on.
5. Fold the side panels up onto the roof canopy neatly.
6. Fold the rear window panel up onto the roof as well with the upper zippers still connected.
7. Release the 2 rear safety straps.
8. Standing on the tailgate, or from the side of the vehicle, fold the folding frame forward with the entire canopy on top of the cross bars. The top should fold itself nicely into sections without damaging the windows. Ensure the correct folds are made the first few times.



**\*\*Always clip the 2 rear safety straps onto the bedrail loops and tighten them for safety while driving.**





## Softopper Configurations

Rear window rolled up and buckled.



Rear window and side panels rolled up and buckled.



Roll the side panels and the rear window up to create an open air truck bed without removing the upper canopy as shown. Carefully and neatly roll up the panels and secure them by buckling the straps on the canopy.



Side panels partially rolled up.



### Optional Softopper Boot

**Optional boot cover can be placed around the Softopper to make for clean, easy storage on or off the vehicle.**

1. Place your Softopper boot cover (purchased separately) around the Softopper to make for clean, easy storage on or off the vehicle.
2. To fully remove the Softopper, release all 4 safety straps, remove the 2 safety rings from the pivot pins, and completely remove the folding frame. Reinstall the safety rings.





## Optional Rear Screen

1. Open the tailgate. Unzip the rear window.
2. Completely remove the rear bar from the rear window.
3. Sit inside the Softopper on the tailgate, facing the rear window.
4. Undo the small, hook and loop flap covering the top of the zippers on each side of the rear window, and unfasten the zippers from the other half on the Softopper roof.
5. Pull the window to completely detach it from all of the hook and loop holding it on at the top. Gently place the window in a storage location where it will not get scratched.
6. While still sitting in the truck bed, place the screen panel right side out.
7. Attach the zippers first, and only pull them down a little bit. Secure the small hook and loop flap over the top of the zipper.
8. Make sure the roll-up straps are on the inside of the screen panel.
9. Find the small notch in the screen panel that is at the top, in the center. Line the notch up with the center snap on the cross bar above the hook and loop.
10. Secure the hook and loop all the way across the top of the screen panel evenly. No hook and loop should be showing on the outside of the window panel.
11. Slide the rear bar into the pocket at the bottom of the screen panel.



## Softopper Care and Maintenance

Your top is made of the finest materials available. To keep it looking new and for product longevity and durability, it will need periodic cleaning and maintenance. All pieces are individually replaceable; call 1-800-810-7227, or order your parts online at Softopper.com.

**Washing:** The fabric should be washed from time to time using a mild soap and warm water. Be sure to rinse all soap off the top when washing is complete.

**Vinyl Windows:** Windows should be kept clean to avoid scratching. Wash with a water-soaked sponge or cloth and a mild dishwashing detergent. Do not use a coarse brush on the windows and never wipe the windows when they are dry.

**COLD WEATHER:** As with all automotive and marine vinyls, extreme care must be taken when rolling up or folding the windows in cold temperatures. Vinyl becomes stiff in cold temperatures and may crack. Retracting the Softopper in cold temperatures is not recommended and will void the warranty for the windows (see Warranty information for more detail on length of window warranties). When opening the rear of the Softopper in cold weather, be sure to raise the zippers as high as possible so that any folding will occur to the topper fabric and not to the vinyl window.

**Zippers:** Keeping the zippers clean and lubricated with a silicone lubricant will help prevent damage and keep the zippers in smooth working condition.

**Leakage:** As with any sewn automotive top there is always a slight risk of leakage. Right out of the box the Softopper may not be 100% waterproof. If you experience any water seeping through at the seams, apply Seam Sure (sold separately), on the **INSIDE** of the affected seams. Shake Seam Sure well and apply liberally to the inside seams concentrating on areas where needle and thread penetrated the fabric.

**Snaps:** Keep snaps clean and lubricated with a silicone lubricant to help prevent snaps from sticking to the studs. If a snap does become stuck to a stud, use a screwdriver and gently pry apart to prevent damage to the snap or top fabric. If any snaps need to be replaced due to sticking or damage please call Softopper and we can send out a small do-it-yourself repair kit.

For further information please contact:  
Softopper LLC, customer service  
(800) 810-7227 or (303) 304-0533

## Warranty

We warrant all of our Softoppers to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of one year, with the exception of vinyl windows and zippers, provided there has been normal use and proper maintenance.

**Vinyl Windows** are warranted for a period of 3 months from the date of purchase.

**Zippers** are guaranteed to be in perfect working condition when leaving the factory. Due to atmospheric conditions, dirt, sand, road grime, dust, and abrasive cleaners, etc., zippers are warranted for a period of 6 months from the date of purchase.

**Toyota 4 Runner, Jeep Wrangler, Blazer, Jimmy, Scout, Bronco, and RamCharger** side curtain windows are warranted for 45 days from the date of purchase. Retracting or closing the top when the temperature is below 40 degrees may void the warranty on the side windows, as clear vinyl plastic can crack very easily at these temperatures. Use caution when retracting the top or cleaning off the windows in freezing temperatures.

## Softopper Consumer Returns Policy

We want you to be thrilled with your Softopper purchase. We are committed to providing you with the highest quality products possible, worthy of your trust and confidence.

If for any reason, you have concerns, questions, or need assistance with a product, please reach out to us: Contact us before returning it. We have found that when a product is not working as expected, a few adjustments or corrections can often set things right.

You may return a Softopper product within 30 days of your purchase, provided that the product is in its original packaging, and includes all original packaging. Please take note of our Exclusions on Returns:

We cannot accept products that are damaged due to negligence, abuse, or misuse.

**IMPORTANT:** ALL RETURNS MUST REFERENCE AN APPROPRIATE RGA (RETURNED GOODS AUTHORIZATION) NUMBER, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED FROM A SOFTOPPER CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT AT #800-810-7227, VIA LIVE CHAT, OR BY EMAILING [info@softopper.com](mailto:info@softopper.com). PLEASE WRITE THE RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER BELOW OUR ADDRESS ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BOX. ANY RETURNS WITHOUT A VALID RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER WILL BE REFUSED.

## **Returns Policy**

Please contact us at #800-810-7227, via Live Chat, or email us at [info@softopper.com](mailto:info@softopper.com) for an RGA number and assistance with this process. Returns must have an appropriate RGA (Returned Goods Authorization) number.

- When returning a product to Softopper, please return all parts in their original packaging. All products must be returned in their original box and include all original packaging materials.
- Products that are unopened and therefore in NEW condition are subject to a re-stocking fee equal to 5% of your order. If the merchandise has been used or damaged, the return will be subject to a restocking fee of 15%.
- Original shipping, return shipping, taxes, and handling costs are non-refundable.
- Refunds for installation are not permitted once services are rendered.
- Returns must be received by Softopper within 30 days of RGA authorization.
- Please allow 10–15 business days for us to process a return after it arrives at our offices.

## **Exclusions on Returns**

- We cannot accept products that are damaged due to negligence, abuse, or misuse.
- We cannot accept products that have not been used in accordance with their documentation or installation instructions.

## **Returns of Damaged Shipments**

If you receive a damaged package, please contact Softopper customer service at [info@softopper.com](mailto:info@softopper.com) within 30 calendar days of receipt of your package, for assistance.

Regarding damaged shipment claims:

- Please be prepared to describe the damage and provide photographs.
- Once photographs have been captured, please open the box with the inventory what is still contained inside, photographing any damaged parts.
- Softopper will replace any of the parts listed under a warranty.
- Returning a damaged shipment will follow the same procedure and policy as above.