

Must Read Before Installation

TadPole™ Safety and Warnings

The recommendations, requirements, rules, and instructions of your Vehicle's "Roof-Top" Rack System should **ALWAYS** be followed. The TadPole™, and its presence, should in **NO WAY** change or alter the requirements of your existing system. If you find there is a contradiction, you are confused about the instructions, or the instructions for the TadPole™ negate instructions for your Roof-Top system, **DO NOT USE** the TadPole™.

- ◆ The STYKOR TadPole™ should only be used to supplement your "Already-Installed" Roof-Top Rack System.
- ◆ The TadPole™ should **NOT** be attached to the trunk of a vehicle unless it is actively being used to assist Roof-Top Carry.
- ◆ The load/object(s) being carried must be continuous items that extend over **BOTH** Roof-Top Racks and the TadPole™.
- ◆ The load/object that is being carried must extend the entire length of **BOTH** Roof-Top Racks and the TadPole™.
- ◆ The load/object being transported should be secured to the Roof-Top Rack System as though the Tadpole™ was not installed.
- ◆ The Tadpole™ is only meant to prevent the object that you are carrying from excessive bouncing, shifting, & stress at the point of rack-contact.
- ◆ The Tadpole™ is **NOT** meant to increase the weight capacity of your "already-installed" Roof-Top Rack System.
- ◆ The Tadpole™ is **NOT** meant to increase, exceed, or alter in any way, the recommendations of your Vehicle's Roof-Top System.
- ◆ **Always** use appropriate markers/flags at the end of any object that may extend beyond the vehicle itself.
- ◆ It is normal for the Tadpole™ to lack perfect-stability until the continuous load/object is placed across your Roof-Top racks and the Tadpole™.
- ◆ Excessive weight on the Tadpole™ could damage your Trunk.
- ◆ The Tadpole™ is **only** meant to prevent excessive bouncing, shifting, & stress of/on the object(s) being transported and assist with wind resistance.
- ◆ Do not forcefully close/slam the trunk with the Tadpole™ installed. This could damage your trunk.
- ◆ Place the Tadpole™ near the rear of your vehicle's trunk where there is usually an increase in trunk rigidity.
- ◆ Remove any dirt, sand, or other abrasives from your trunk's surface and the TadPole's™ protective pad, to prevent scratching paint. Store the TadPole™ in a dry location.
- ◆ It is the user's responsibility to ensure that the use of this product meets all state and local laws.
- ◆ Always secure the TadPole™ to the trunk using **ALL** 4 straps and vinyl coated hooks (provided).
- ◆ Inspect parts for wear before each use.



Some types of kayaks & canoes are very heavy. While the TadPole is capable of supporting their weight, your trunk lid may not be. Use caution when loading heavier objects such as these, and monitor the top of your trunk for any malformation or indentation. This is a sign that the object you are carrying is too heavy for your vehicle type.

Proper attachment of the TadPole to your vehicle is critical. It is the users responsibility to attach and use the TadPole correctly and is beyond the control of the manufacturer or retailers. The manufacturer and seller expressly disclaim any and all liability for personal injury, property, vehicle damage or loss, whether direct, indirect, or incidental, resulting from the incorrect attachment, improper use, inadequate maintenance or neglect of this product, or its parts.



STOP Before Installation, Please Read **TadPole Safety & Warnings**

TadPole Installation Instructions

These instructions are guidelines. You are ultimately responsible for attaching anything to the outside of your vehicle. Use good judgment by testing the installation before and during your drive.

A. TadPole Assembly

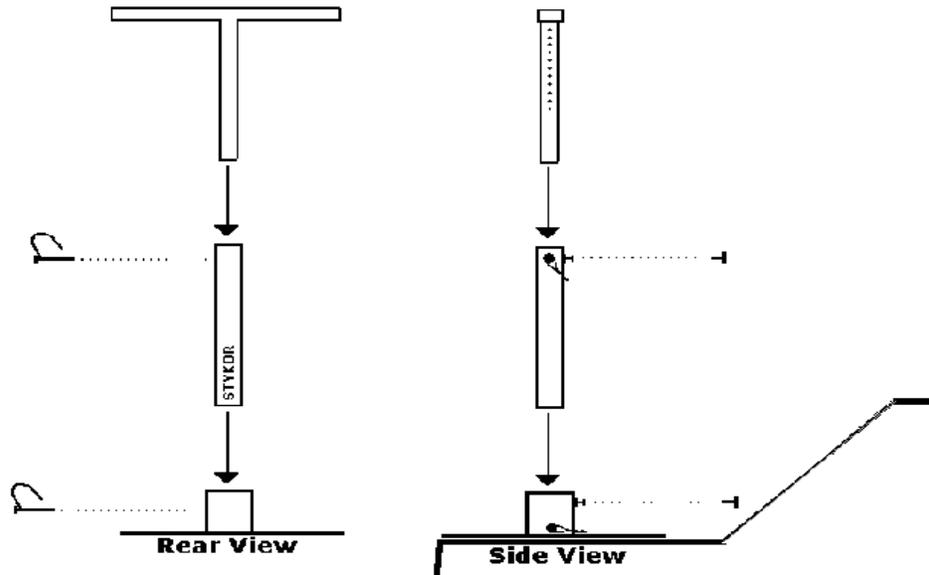


Fig I

- 1) Insert each section of tubing into its appropriate fitting as shown above in Fig I.
- 2) Adjust "T" section to match height of load being carried and insert pin 
- 3) Make sure safety pin is securely closed after inserting it through both tubes. 
- 4) Tighten black nylon screws (by hand). This will help eliminate rattle and vibration. 

B. Hook and Strap Installation: Shown in Figure II

- 1) With buckle on strap pointing toward TadPole base, insert opposite end of strap through opening on hook, from hook's "top-side"
- 2) Continue feeding strap through TadPole base, from its underside.
- 3) Continue feeding strap toward buckle. Feed strap from "underside" of buckle
- 4) Pull strap through buckle, re-insert strap in second opening on tip from its "top-side"
- 5) Complete this process for all 4 straps and hooks.



Fig II

C. TadPole Installation

The TadPole should not be attached to the trunk of a vehicle unless it is actively being used to assist “Roof-Top Carry”.

- 1) Clean all surfaces of the vehicle which may come in contact with the base of The TadPole, hooks, or straps. Not doing so can dull or scratch the vehicle’s finish.
- 2) With straps and hooks attached to the TadPole base, place the TadPole on the center of the surface of your vehicle’s trunk. The TadPole should be close to the back edge where there is usually more trunk rigidity, but should not hang off of trunk lid. See figure III.
- 3) You must use the top and bottom slots marked A & B. Slots C & D can be substituted with the two optional slots located on the corners. This ensures that four straps and hooks are always in use. See Figure III

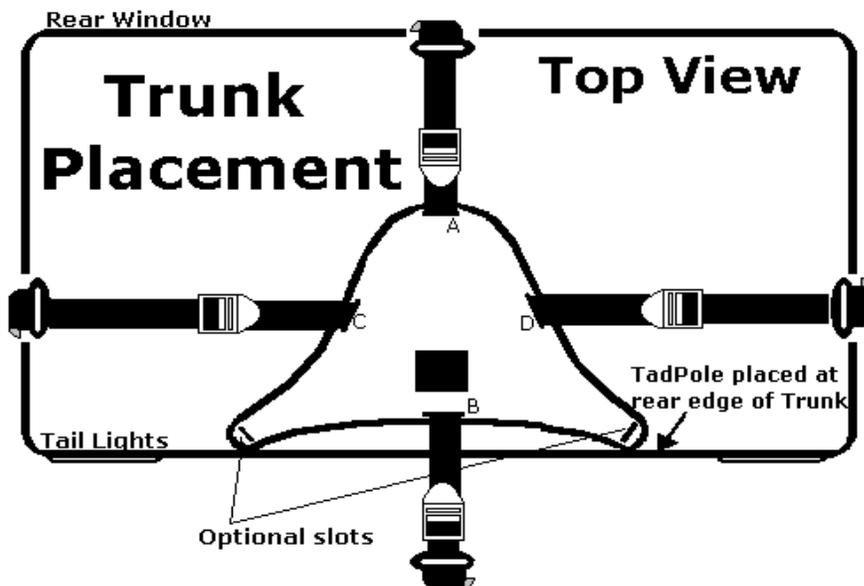


Fig III

- 4) With Trunk Lid partially open, Attach first J-Hook “A” to top Edge of Trunk Lid (hinge side) Make sure there is enough of a clearance with the rear window, or closing your trunk lid could break rear window glass. All J-Hooks should only be attached to metal. Never hook to glass, rubber, or plastic. See Figure III
- 5) With Trunk lid still partially open, Attach J-Hook “B” to bottom of Trunk lid, See Figure IV
- 6) Attach Strap & Hook C & D (Figure III) on sides of trunk lid.
- 7) Tighten all 4 straps by pulling on remaining length (DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN: This can dent the trunk lid. Excessive force is not needed, given that there is very little “left-to-right”, “front-to-back” torque on the TadPole when it is being used correctly). Gently close trunk lid.
- 8) Tape excess straps down so they will not flap in the wind. You can also cut excess straps off at a 45 degree angle and melt the ends to prevent fraying. See [Alternative Installation](#) before cutting straps. It is possible that you may not know that your vehicle requires the [Alternative Installation](#) until you attempt to transport an object.

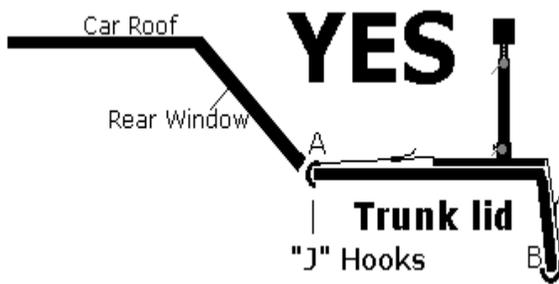


Fig IV

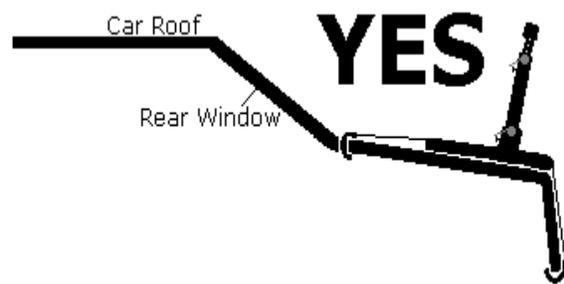


Fig V

- Some vehicle designs may cause your TadPole to rest at the position seen above in **Figure V**. This is an acceptable position because the majority of the TadPole base is in contact with the surface of the Trunk Lid. Some minimal lifting may occur near the front of the TadPole's base. A small amount of lift is acceptable as long as the majority of the base rests on the surface of the Trunk.

- Take care not to pull the item you are carrying backward toward the rear of the vehicle when loading. This practice will cause the TadPole to "lift" at the front of the base. See **Figure VI**. This can often be resolved by raising the object you are transporting with one hand, and repositioning the TadPole, so that its base is in complete contact with the trunk lid.

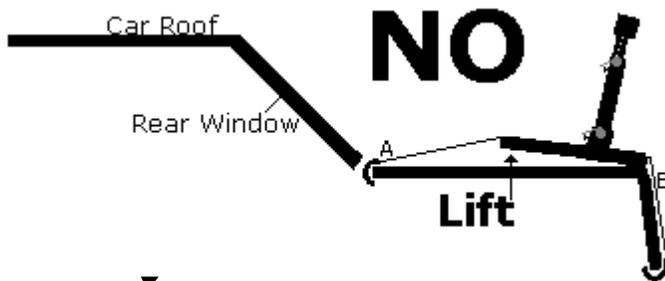


Fig VI

If "Lift" still occurs, see [Alternative Strap Installation](#)

9) - Load object onto vehicle.

- Secure the object that you are transporting to your roof top rack system.
- Adjust the TadPole's T-section upward (**Figure VII**) until it makes contact with the object and insert the lock pin & nylon screw as shown in TadPole assembly, **Figure I**



Fig VII

10) Always secure anything that rests upon the TadPole with rope, twine, or webbing (straps). One method is to remove the end caps and thread webbing (strap) through the hollow, square tubing - See **Figure VIII**.

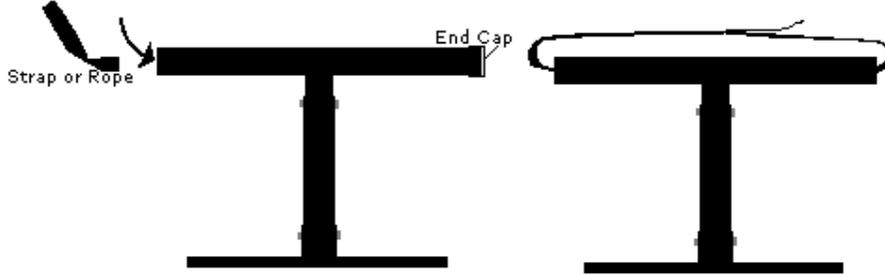


Fig VIII

A pad can also be added to the bar as shown. A small center section of foam may need to be removed from the center of the pad to secure a flush fit, given the TadPole's "T" shape.



Alternative Strap Installation

- The shape and contour of some vehicle's trunks may still cause "Lift" as seen in **Figure VI**. This can be corrected by adjusting strap A to run through the upper safety pin AND the TadPole base as shown below in **Figure IX**. Be certain not to over-tighten this strap since there is now downward force being applied to the TadPole base.

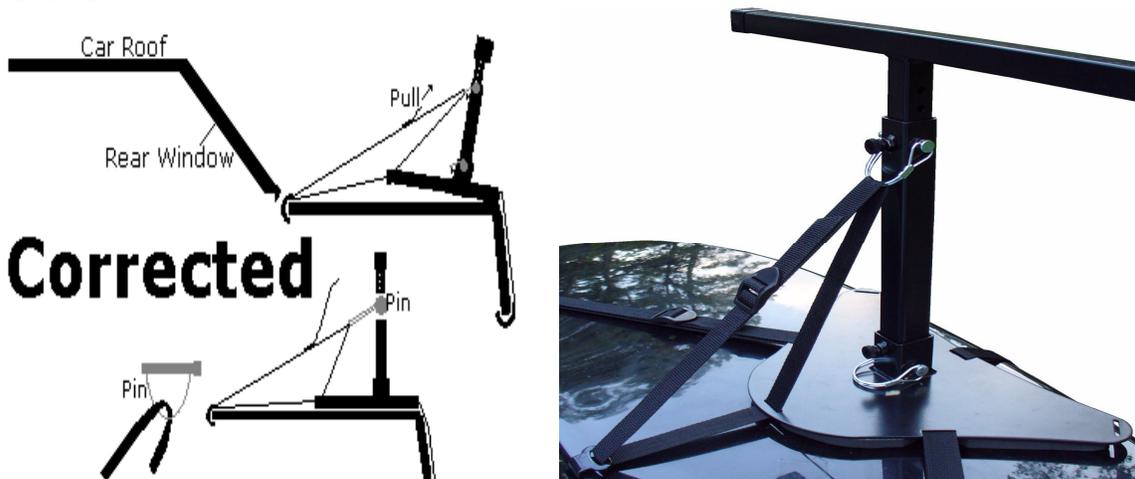


Fig IX

Please check www.STYKOR.com for any updates related to installation, instructions, and safety.