

RAV4 Roof Rail Installation Guide

Preparation and Access

- Remove all necessary interior components to access the area beneath the headliner:
- Handles (four total)
 - Use a pick to remove the covers on each end
 - Use needle nose pliers to squeeze the metal clip and break it loose from the handles (pull on the handles while you squeeze)
- A pillar
 - Remove the door seal strip
 - There will be an airbag-safe clip keeping the cover from completely coming off. You will need to pull it back as far as it goes, then squeeze on the two small tabs at the base to break the clip free from the pillar.
- B pillar, including the seatbelt
 - Remove the door seal strip
 - Pull the plastic cover off from the top only
- C pillar
 - Remove the door seal strip
 - Pull away from the top so that the headliner can drop down
- Rear Hatch
 - Remove the door seal strip
 - Pull back the rear portion of the c-pillar cover to get access to the rearmost m8 nut (on some models only)

Removing the Original Roof Rail

- Loosen the M8 nuts to free the roof rail:
- Two at the front
- Two in the middle
- One at the back (on certain models)

Fully remove the original roof rail.

Installing the New Roof Rail System

- There will be 9 exposed holes in total.
 - Counting from the FRONT of the car, holes 1,4,5,9 will be plugged using the provided plugs (and silicone)
 - Holes 2,3,6,7 will utilize the 24mm spacer
 - Hole 8 will be drilled out with 9mm drill and have an m6 rivnut installed

- Some models will not have “extra” holes that need to be plugged. This is the same model that will also have the single M8 nut at the very back. If this is your case then you will have to locate and drill the m6 rivnut hole from scratch (hole 8). You can locate this hole precisely once the rest of the rack is in position.
- Place the spacers appropriately.
- Install each side rail one at a time; do not fully tighten the M8 nuts yet.
- Mount the deflector and crossbars.
- Position the rear supports; some models may require drilling a hole for rivnut installation.
- Set the supports loosely on the crossbars and then securely tighten all hardware on top.
- Complete the tightening of all M8 nuts around the assembly.

Reinstalling Interior Components

- Replace the handles and ensure each clip is properly reinserted. Be sure the handles are installed in the correct orientation.
- Reinstall the A pillar cover, taking care to remove and “reset” the inside clips as needed.
- Reattach the B pillar cover. Confirm that the seatbelt adjustment mechanism is correctly positioned within the seatbelt for smooth sliding motion.
- Reinstall the C pillar cover.