

# AMERICAN CAR CRAFT

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## HHR STAINLESS RADIATOR COVER/HEADER PLATE /GRILLE FACSIA INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS PART # HHHP123

### PARTS INCLUDED:

- \_\_\_ 5-Stainless Grille Kit Covers
- \_\_\_ 2-Small Yellow Plastic Spacers
- \_\_\_ 2-Stainless 8mm Button Head Bolts
- \_\_\_ 2- Tight Stainless Washers
- \_\_\_ 2-Shortened #10 Stainless Pan Head Screws
- \_\_\_ 3-Adhesive Promoter Packs
- \_\_\_ 2-Adhesive Promoter Tube
- \_\_\_ 2-Length of 5/8" Chrome Trim
- \_\_\_ 1-Length of 3/8 Half Round Chrome Trim
- \_\_\_ 2-Chrome Decorative Bezels
- \_\_\_ 4-1" Chrome Bolt Caps
- \_\_\_ 2-Furry Cookies

Your new multi section grill kit comes to you with a clear protective liner. Do not remove this liner until you have been instructed to do so.

Your new kit has 5 separate parts that will come together beautifully one section at a time. In order to install these sections you will be asked to perform some minor modifications and repositioning of a couple of items.

1. With the hood fully opened temporarily remove the entire front grill and set it aside.
2. Unbolt the two radiator support brackets with a 10mm socket. NOTE: These brackets will not be reused.
3. Detach the hood release cable from the radiator support as well as the electrical harness from the top of the radiator and push these two items completely and securely under the radiator support.

4. Temporarily remove just the two 9/32 bolts securing the two short fender brackets to the radiator support frame. Do NOT remove the entire bracket.
5. Forcibly bend the long 90 degree bent hood catch release lever up as far as possible. Do not worry this will not hurt the mechanism.
6. Your new main grill section comes to you preassembled and shaped however it will be ABSOLUTLEY NECESSARY to further shape the unit so that it matches the factory radiator support rail and frame. To do this temporarily set the unit in place by working it under the hood catch lever and gently working it over the two small fender brackets at the lower sides. Work the top left and right tabs of the unit behind the fender. Holding the unit against the radiator support frame check the match of the curve in these two tab areas and make any adjustments by hand so that when the unit is in place these two tabs rest nicely against the radiator support with out forcing.
7. Temporarily insert the two 9/32 bolts removed earlier in through the unit holes and snug them in place. At this time you will need to determine if any spacers are needed and also make any adjustment to the profile or shape of the bottom area of the unit. To do this place the small lower section over the tab at the base of the unit. Set the lower section so that it is completely seated to the unit face and take a look at the sides. This lower section should match in to the fenders perfectly. If one side or both should seem to fit too far in they will need to be spaced out using the small yellow plastic spacers provided. If it is determined that any of the two spacers are needed, remove the entire unit completely and set the spacers directly to the back of the units holes via a small drop of instant adhesive. Allow a few minutes to set.
8. Now that all adjustment have been identified and adjusted you can now permanently install the unit. Carefully place the unit in position being careful not to knock off the spacers if installed. Loosely install the two 9/32 screws. Do not tighten just yet. Insert the two stainless button head bolts and washers into the upper mounting holes and leave loose for now. Move the radiator back or forward until the factory mounting studs line up with the holes in the new unit and attach using the two shortened # 10 stainless pan head screws provided. Once you have inserted all six screw locations adjust the overall position of the new grill fascia. Make sure that the top edge of the unit lines up flush with the top of the radiator support. Also take a look at the unit to make sure that it is nice and straight and then tighten down the entire fascia.
9. Place the lower section into position and check the final fit. NOTE: It maybe necessary to pull along the bottom edge of the main grill fascia so that it nicely matches this lower plate. A properly seated lower plate will have very

little or no gaps along the edge of the two sections and sit nice and flat along the bumper ridge. If not simply make any adjustments by hand until it does. Once you have a good fitment apply some adhesive promoter pack provided to the under side of the lower section as well as the entire length of the bumper ridge. Allow a few seconds to dry then simply remove the red release liner from the grill fascias lower tab as well as the liner on back of the lower section and carefully set into position pressing firmly along the taped areas to set. At this time you will need to remove all the protective liner from the entire main fascia. You have been provided with a length of 5/8 chrome trim to be applied directly to the face of the new fascia. This will close the seam between the fascia and lower plate. To install simply apply a bead of adhesive promoter tube along the bottom edge then peel a small length of the red release liner from one end of the trim. Set it directly to the bottom side of the fascia and pull the tape as you set the trim in place. As you approach the opposite end you may need to snip away any excess trim before you set the end.

10. Thoroughly clean the top area of the radiator support with alcohol to remove any dirt and then swipe the area once with the adhesive promoter pack provided. Place the radiator support cover onto the radiator support to check the fit and also to get acquainted with just how you will set it into place. This cover has come to you pre shaped however it is MANDATORY that you further shape the cover so that it will set in place nice and flat without forcing doing this will insure that the cover will not become detached by itself any where along its length. It is important to know that the metal will NOT BEND itself out of place so take your time to match the new cover to the support. Once you are satisfied with the fit and shape peel the red release liner from the back of the cover and carefully position it in place pressing firmly along the taped areas to set.

NOTE: A properly placed radiator support cover is one that sets OVER the top fascia about 1/16" of an inch.

11. Your kit has come to you with two small filler panels to be used to fill the gap at the sides of the fascia. To install them scrub the inside edge of the fenders with alcohol to remove dirt and wax then swipe once with the adhesive promoter pack provided. Place each of the two panels in position and adjust the shape so that it nicely contours to both the fender and the new fascia. Once you are satisfied with the adjustments simply peel the release liner from the back of the panels and carefully position in place pressing firmly along the taped areas to set.

12. You have been provided with two additional lengths of chrome trim. This trim has been provided to be placed along the gap between the radiator support cover and fascia as well as along the seam of the two filler panels. To install this trim, run a small bead of adhesive promoter tube along the two areas. Remove a small section of the red release liner from the back of the trim and set the end of the larger trim to the far edge of the radiator support cover directly to the paint making sure that it butts up nicely under the radiator support covers 1/16" overlap. Pulling the liner as you set the entire length in position until you reach the opposite end. Trim away any excess with a snip or scissor. The smaller length of trim installs in the same way however its placement begins along the top of the filler panel and runs along to the opposite side.

13. Remove the two rubber hood stops and force them through the two chrome decorative bezels provided and reinstall.

14. You have been provided with four 1" chrome bolt caps. Simply apply a small dab of clear 100% silicone to the underside of each cover and place them over the four exposed attachment bolts.

15. At this time you will carefully lower the hood catch lever back into position. Try to make sure that the lever is as close to the new fascia as possible without actually making contact. Move the lever back and forth to check that it moves freely and correctly.

16. The last thing that will need to be done is to create clearance between the new fascia and the hood. Carefully and slowly lower the hood. You will notice two contact points in the hood rim. Mark these two locations. Lift the hood and apply the two furry cookies to these two areas and allow the cookies to roll over the edge completely as in the pictures below. These two cookies will serve as a paint protection and also to buffer the contact points. With these two cookies in place roll the metal ridge towards you with a common pair of pliers until you have achieved adequate clearance. The metal at these two areas is very thin and will conform to your adjustments. If necessary you can also gently tap the area with a hammer to nicely shape the overall bend to a nice natural looking shape.

17. Your factory grill also has a plastic liner that sits between the grill and hood. This liner will also have to be trimmed for the new modification. Simply trim the two areas with a snap knife or utility knife. The plastic is very soft and this step will be very easy. After you have completed these modifications close the hood gently to make sure the modifications have been performed correctly leaving just enough space for the hood to close without

touching the new fascia. With the modifications complete simply replace the hoods factory grill to finish the installation.



**If any questions occur during installation, please contact American Car Craft at 727 857-1151. Thank you and enjoy your new purchase.**

**Note: Care must be taken when cleaning your covers. It is a good idea to lightly dust your covers with a clean soft cloth first in order to prevent any particles from scratching them. Then wipe (using a new clean soft cloth) with a good quality streak free glass cleaner.**