

[Manuals.plus](#) /

› [RACO](#) /

› Instruction Manual for Hubbell Raco 8977 Grip-Loc Old Work Switch Box Straps and Support

RACO 8977

Instruction Manual

Product: Hubbell Raco 8977 Grip-Loc Old Work Switch Box Straps and Support

Brand: RACO | **Model:** 8977

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The RACO 8977 Grip-Loc Old Work Switch Box Straps and Support are designed to provide secure mounting for electrical switch boxes in hollow wall cavities. This product is essential for stabilizing loose or improperly installed electrical boxes, ensuring a flush and secure fit with the wall surface. Supplied as a pair, these straps are particularly useful for 3-inch by 2-inch switch boxes equipped with plaster ears and 1-7/8-inch long legs.



Figure 1: RACO 8977 Grip-Loc Old Work Switch Box Straps and Support (Pair)

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Follow these steps to properly install the Grip-Loc straps and secure your electrical box. Always ensure power to the circuit is turned off at the breaker before beginning any electrical work.

Required Tools:

- Screwdriver (manual or electric)
- Voltage Tester (recommended for safety)

Installation Steps:

1. Step 1: Power Off and Remove Cover Plate

Before starting, turn off the power to the electrical box at the main circuit breaker. Use a voltage tester to confirm that the power is off. Unscrew and remove the existing cover plate from the electrical receptacle or switch.



Figure 2: Removing the cover plate from the electrical outlet.

2. **Step 2: Remove Receptacle/Switch from Wall**

Carefully unscrew the receptacle or switch from the electrical box. Gently pull the device out of the wall cavity, allowing access to the loose electrical box. Observe how the box is currently installed; often, it may be loosely nailed or not fully supported, leading to gaps.



Figure 3: Identifying a loose electrical box in the wall cavity.

3. **Step 3: Prepare the Grip-Loc Strap**

The Grip-Loc straps come as a pair. Separate one strap from the pair by bending it off. Each strap has an arrow indicating the upward direction for proper installation. Ensure the arrow points up when inserting the strap.

4. **Step 4: Insert the Strap Behind the Box**

Slide the Grip-Loc strap behind the electrical box, into the wall cavity. Position it so that the tabs of the strap align with the edges of the electrical box. The strap is designed to grip the drywall from behind.

5. **Step 5: Fold Tabs Over the Box Edge**

Once the strap is in place behind the box, push the electrical box back into the wall cavity. Then, fold the tabs of the Grip-Loc strap over the front edge of the electrical box. This action secures the box firmly against the drywall, eliminating any gaps or looseness.

6. **Step 6: Repeat for Other Side (if necessary)**

If the box is still loose or if it's a larger box requiring more support, repeat Steps 3-5 for the opposite side of the electrical box using the second strap from the pair.

7. **Step 7: Reinstall Receptacle/Switch and Cover Plate**

Carefully push the receptacle or switch back into the now-secure electrical box and fasten it with its screws. Finally, reattach the cover plate. The electrical box should now be completely flush and stable within the wall.

The RACO 8977 Grip-Loc straps are passive support components. Once correctly installed, they continuously provide stability to the electrical box, preventing it from becoming loose or recessed within the wall. No ongoing operation or adjustment is required after installation.

MAINTENANCE

These support straps are designed for long-term, maintenance-free performance. Once installed, they do not require regular cleaning, lubrication, or adjustment. Periodically inspect the electrical box and cover plate for any signs of loosening, especially if the area experiences frequent use or vibration. If looseness recurs, re-evaluate the installation and consider adding additional support if needed.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Electrical box remains loose after installation.	◦ Strap not fully engaged with drywall. ◦ Tabs not bent sufficiently over the box edge. ◦ Wall cavity too large or damaged. ◦ Only one strap used for a box requiring two.	◦ Ensure strap is fully inserted and gripping the drywall. ◦ Firmly bend the tabs over the box edge until secure. ◦ Consider using both straps (one on each side) for maximum stability. ◦ If wall damage is severe, professional repair may be necessary.
Cover plate does not sit flush.	◦ Electrical box not pushed fully into the wall. ◦ Wires are obstructing the box's position.	◦ Ensure the electrical box is pushed as far back as possible. ◦ Carefully arrange wires within the box to prevent obstruction.

SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Model Number	8977
Item Weight	0.96 ounces
Product Dimensions	0.1 x 5.5 x 3.5 inches
Country of Origin	USA
Material	Alloy Steel
Installation Method	Slide-In or Clip-On
Item Package Quantity	1 (pair)

WARRANTY INFORMATION

This product comes with a Limited Warranty. For specific details regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the official RACO warranty documentation or contact RACO customer support.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries about the RACO 8977 Grip-Loc Old Work Switch Box Straps and Support, please visit the official RACO brand store or contact their customer service department.

RACO Brand Store: [Visit RACO Store on Amazon](#)

