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X-BULL AM0009

X-BULL Winch Cradle Universal Mount Plate Instruction Manual

Model: AM0009

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your X-BULL Winch Cradle Universal Mount Plate, Model AM0009. This product is designed to securely mount recovery winches ranging from 8,000 lbs to 15,000 lbs onto vehicles equipped with a 2-inch receiver hitch. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure safe and effective operation.

2. Safety Information

Always prioritize safety when handling and installing heavy equipment. Failure to follow these safety guidelines may result in personal injury or property damage.

- Ensure all components are securely fastened before use.
- Verify that your vehicle's receiver hitch has an adequate weight rating for the combined weight of the winch cradle and the winch.
- Do not exceed the maximum load capacity of the winch cradle or your vehicle's hitch.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and eye protection, during installation and operation.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts during winch operation.
- Inspect the winch cradle for any signs of damage or wear before each use. Do not use if damaged.

3. Product Specifications

Feature	Specification
Brand	X-BULL

Model Number	AM0009
Color	Black
Material	6 mm Thick Solid Steel
Item Weight	10.8 kg (24.8 lbs)
Winch Compatibility	8,000 lbs to 15,000 lbs
Mounting Plate Size	39 cm x 20 cm (15.35 in x 7.87 in)
Winch Mounting Hole Pattern	Standard 25.4 cm x 11.4 cm (10 in x 4.5 in)
Surface Finish	Durable Corrosion-Resistant Powder Coating
Receiver Hitch Compatibility	Standard 2-inch receiver



Figure 1: The X-BULL Winch Cradle, emphasizing its 6mm thick solid steel material.

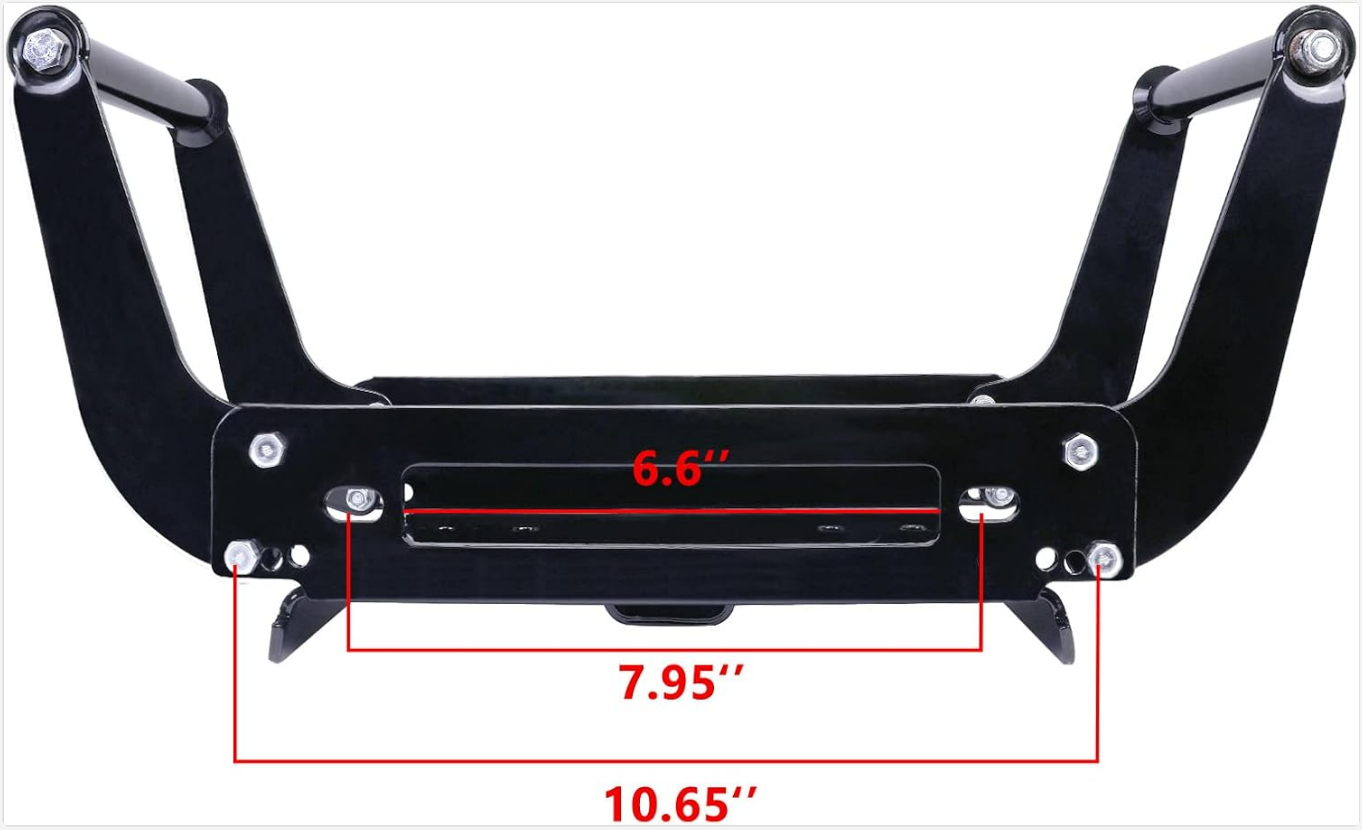


Figure 2: Top-down view of the winch cradle with dimensions for the winch mounting area (6.6" x 7.95" x 10.65").

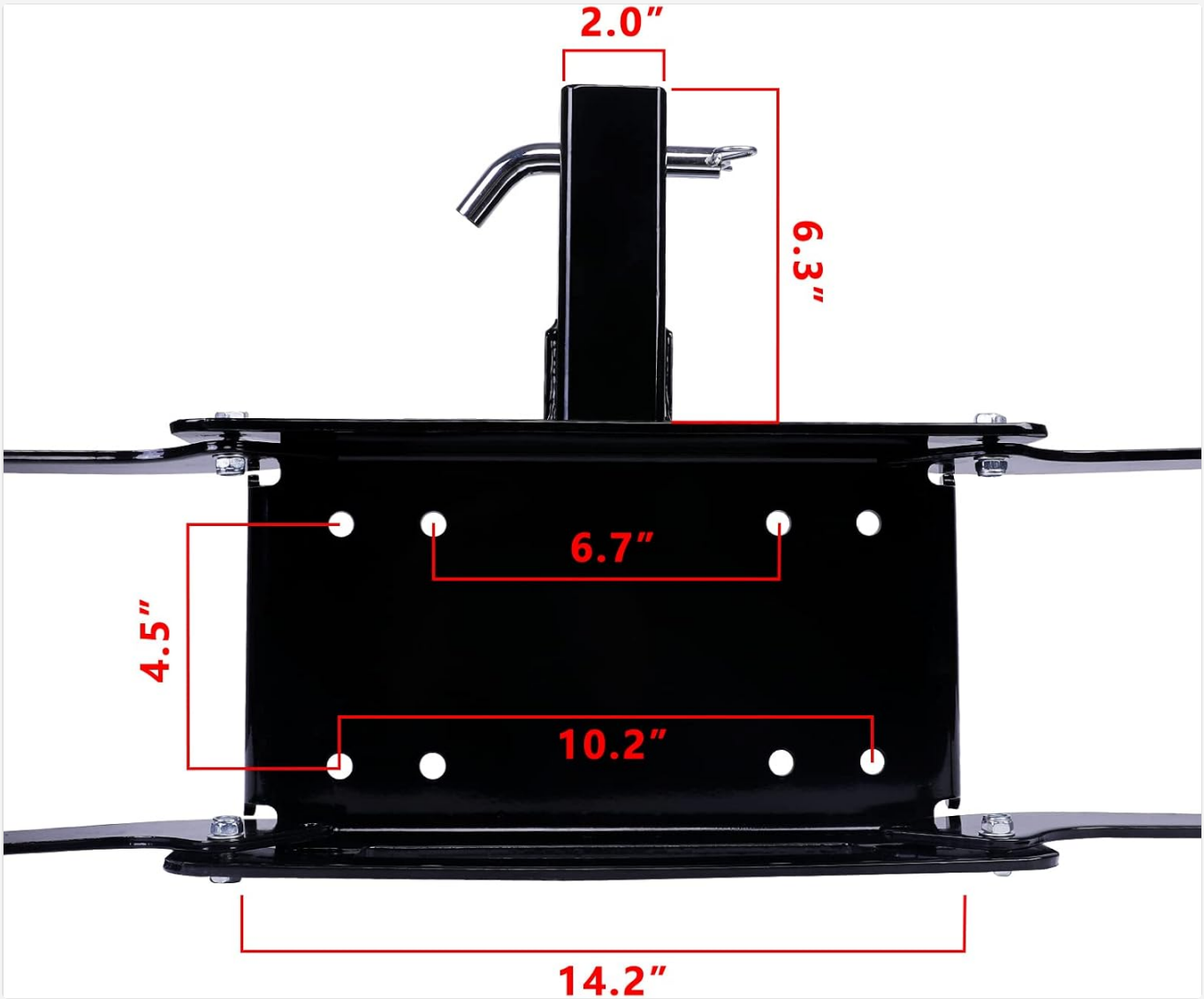


Figure 3: Side view of the winch cradle, showing the receiver hitch dimensions (2.0" x 6.3") and overall plate dimensions (4.5" x 6.7" x 10.2" x 14.2").

4. Package Contents

Upon unpacking, please verify that all components are present and undamaged:

- 1 x X-BULL Winch Cradle Universal Mount Plate
- Necessary mounting hardware (bolts, nuts, washers for assembly of the cradle and attachment of a winch)
- 1 x Hitch pin and clip



Figure 4: Detailed views of the hitch pin, robust construction, and integrated handles.

5. Setup and Installation

The X-BULL Winch Cradle is designed for straightforward installation. Follow these steps to assemble the cradle and mount your winch.

1. **Assemble the Cradle:** Attach the side handles to the main mounting plate using the provided bolts, nuts, and washers. Ensure all fasteners are tightened securely.
2. **Mount the Winch:** Position your recovery winch onto the main mounting plate. Align the winch's mounting holes with the standard 10" x 4.5" (25.4 cm x 11.4 cm) bolt pattern on the cradle. Secure the winch using appropriate high-strength bolts, nuts, and washers (typically supplied with the winch or purchased separately).
3. **Connect Winch Wiring:** Route the winch's power cables and control wiring. Ensure cables are not pinched or rubbing against any sharp edges. Some winches may have a tight fit for power cables; ensure proper clearance to prevent damage.
4. **Install Fairlead:** Attach your roller fairlead to the designated mounting points on the front of the cradle.
5. **Attach to Vehicle:** Insert the assembled winch cradle into your vehicle's 2-inch receiver hitch. Secure it with the provided hitch pin and clip. Double-check that the hitch pin is fully inserted and the clip is engaged.



Figure 5: Assembled X-BULL Winch Cradle with hitch receiver.



Figure 6: Example of a winch mounted on the cradle.

6. Operating Instructions

Once the winch cradle and winch are securely installed, operate your winch according to the winch manufacturer's instructions. The X-BULL Winch Cradle provides a stable and portable platform for your recovery operations.

- Ensure the winch cradle is firmly seated in the receiver hitch and secured with the hitch pin before initiating any winching operations.
- Always follow safe winching practices, including using appropriate anchor points, proper rigging, and maintaining a safe distance from the winch line under tension.
- The integrated handles on the winch cradle facilitate easy carrying and positioning of the winch assembly when not attached to the vehicle.

7. Maintenance

Regular maintenance will extend the life of your X-BULL Winch Cradle.

- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the entire winch cradle for signs of wear, corrosion, cracks, or deformation, especially after heavy use. Pay close attention to welds and mounting points.
- **Cleaning:** Clean the cradle with mild soap and water to remove dirt, mud, and debris. Rinse thoroughly and dry to prevent rust.
- **Corrosion Protection:** The cradle features a durable corrosion-resistant powder coating. If the coating becomes chipped or scratched, touch up with rust-inhibiting paint to prevent rust formation.
- **Fasteners:** Check all bolts, nuts, and the hitch pin for tightness before each use. Re-tighten as necessary.

8. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with the winch cradle.

- **Winch does not fit:** Verify your winch's mounting hole pattern matches the standard 10" x 4.5" (25.4 cm x 11.4 cm) pattern of the cradle. Ensure your winch's dimensions (especially depth) are compatible with the cradle's design.
- **Tight fit for winch cables:** Some winch models may have limited space for power cable routing. Carefully route cables to avoid pinching or abrasion. Consider using cable ties to secure them away from moving parts or sharp edges.
- **Cradle feels loose in receiver:** Ensure the hitch pin is fully inserted and the clip is engaged. Check for excessive play in your vehicle's receiver hitch. Anti-rattle devices can be used if excessive movement is observed.
- **Rust appearing:** Despite the corrosion-resistant coating, prolonged exposure to harsh elements or damage to the coating can lead to rust. Follow maintenance guidelines for cleaning and touch-up painting.

9. Warranty Information

For detailed warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the official X-BULL website or contact X-BULL customer service. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

10. Customer Support

If you have any questions, require assistance, or need to report an issue with your X-BULL Winch Cradle, please contact X-BULL customer service through their official website or the contact information provided with your purchase.

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