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› Dee Zee DZ43206 Tailgate Assist Instruction Manual for Ford Ranger (2019-Current)

DEE ZEE DZ 43206

Dee Zee DZ43206 Tailgate Assist Instruction Manual

Brand: DEE ZEE | Model: DZ 43206

1. INTRODUCTION

The Dee Zee DZ43206 Tailgate Assist is designed to safely control the drop of your truck's tailgate. This custom-designed unit works in conjunction with factory cables, easing strain on the tailgate and preventing sudden drops. It is tested for heavy use and includes all necessary mounting hardware for a straightforward installation.

Compatibility: This tailgate assist fits 2019-Current Ford Ranger models. It does NOT fit Foreign Model Rangers.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- Shock Damper
- Mounting Hardware (with pre-applied thread locker)



Figure 2.1: Included components of the Dee Zee Tailgate Assist, showing the shock damper and various mounting hardware pieces.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The Dee Zee Tailgate Assist features an easy, no-drill installation process that can be completed in minutes. The improved hardware comes with thread locker pre-applied, eliminating the need for separate application.

Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare Tailgate:** Open your truck's tailgate to access the mounting points.
2. **Remove Tailgate Cable Bolt:** Locate the bolt securing the tailgate support cable on the truck bed side. Loosen and remove this bolt.
3. **Install Upper Mounting Bracket:** Attach the upper mounting bracket to the truck bed using the previously removed bolt. Ensure the bracket is oriented correctly as per the instructions.
4. **Remove Tailgate Hinge Bolt:** Locate the bolt on the tailgate hinge that will secure the lower mounting bracket. Loosen and remove this bolt.
5. **Install Lower Mounting Bracket:** Attach the lower mounting bracket to the tailgate hinge using the removed bolt.
6. **Attach Shock Damper:** Snap the ends of the shock damper onto the ball studs of the installed upper and lower mounting brackets. Ensure both ends are securely fastened.
7. **Re-attach Tailgate Cable:** Re-attach the tailgate support cable to its original mounting point.
8. **Test Operation:** Slowly lower and raise the tailgate to confirm smooth operation and proper function of the assist.



Figure 3.1: Close-up of the Dee Zee Tailgate Assist shock damper installed on the truck bed side, connected to the tailgate.



Figure 3.2: The Dee Zee Tailgate Assist installed, providing a controlled and smooth lowering of the tailgate.



Figure 3.3: Visual representation of the tailgate's smooth, controlled descent with the assist in action.

Installation Video:

Video 3.1: Official installation guide for a similar hydraulic tailgate assist by Rough Country. While not the exact Dee Zee product, the installation principles are comparable for many truck models.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Dee Zee Tailgate Assist simplifies tailgate operation. To open the tailgate, simply release the latch. The assist will then provide a smooth, controlled drop, preventing the tailgate from slamming down. This allows for one-handed operation and enhances safety, especially when loading or unloading items.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Dee Zee Tailgate Assist, consider the following maintenance tips:

- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically check the shock damper and mounting hardware for any signs of wear, damage, or looseness.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the shock damper and surrounding areas free from dirt, debris, and excessive moisture. Clean with a mild soap and water solution if necessary.
- **Lubrication:** While the unit is designed for minimal maintenance, a light application of silicone spray on the piston rod (if exposed) can help maintain smooth operation, especially in harsh weather conditions. Avoid petroleum-based lubricants.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Dee Zee Tailgate Assist, consider the following:

- **Tailgate Not Lowering Smoothly:** Ensure the shock damper is securely attached at both ends. Check for any obstructions or debris that might be interfering with the damper's movement.
- **Unusual Noises (e.g., scraping, squeaking):** This could indicate friction between components or a need for lubrication. Inspect the mounting points and the piston rod for any signs of wear or contact with other parts. Applying a small amount of silicone lubricant to the piston rod may resolve the issue.
- **Loose Hardware:** Re-tighten all mounting bolts if they appear loose. The pre-applied thread locker

should help prevent this, but periodic checks are recommended.

- **Damper Failure:** If the tailgate assist completely fails to control the tailgate's drop, the shock damper may need replacement. Refer to the warranty information for replacement options.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	DEE ZEE
Model Number	DZ 43206
Material	Aluminum
Color	Silver
Product Dimensions	13"L x 0.5"W
Item Weight	1 Pound
Fit Type	Vehicle Specific (2019-Current Ford Ranger)
Installation	No Drilling Required
Included Components	Mounting Hardware, Shock Damper

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Dee Zee DZ43206 Tailgate Assist comes with a **3-Year Limited Warranty** from the manufacturer, Dee Zee. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use.

For warranty claims, technical support, or any questions regarding your product, please contact Dee Zee customer service directly. Refer to the product packaging or the official Dee Zee website for the most current contact information.