



## Airtab® Installation Instructions

**NOTE: THE POINTED END OF THE AIRTAB® ALWAYS POINTS AFT**

**General.** - All work should be performed with due care and in accordance with all existing codes, safety regulations, labour laws, hazardous material practices etc.  
- For photos of typical installations, painting instructions, or for removal instructions, go to [www.Airtab.com](http://www.Airtab.com)

**Materials.** - Sufficient Airtabs™, 15ft or greater metal tape measure, duct tape.  
- Automotive soap & water, degreaser & paint thinner (if necessary) clean shop rags or paper towel.  
**Ensure the vehicle manufacturer's guidelines on cleaning are followed.**  
- Scaffolding or secure work platform (preferred) or secured ladder.  
- Vehicle on level ground with wheels chocked.

**Surface & Site Preparation.** Airtabs™ should be installed when vehicle skin temperatures are at or above +40F (+5C). The surfaces must be free of all contaminants. Airtabs™ should be installed on warm, clean, dry, flat surfaces. If a degreaser is used, it must be **completely** removed before installation. Regardless of the cleaning agent used, the final cleaning process should use a final cleaning agent such as rubbing alcohol or paint thinner. **DO NOT USE** Windex or window cleaners containing ammonia. Use clean shop rags. **In short, for installation purposes, the cleaner, the dryer, the warmer, the better.**

**Location On Vehicles.** Airtabs™ should be installed as close as possible to the back (trailing) edge of the vehicle. If the Airtabs must be moved forward to avoid rivet heads etc, keep the wide edges of the Airtabs within 12-18 inches of the back for optimum performance. Airtabs are effective shielding gaps or reducing turbulence entering undesirable areas. Any vehicle component with an edge that is 90 degrees to the airflow is a possible Airtab® location provided that location receives an adequate supply of relatively undisturbed airflow. Examples: forward of wheel wells, slung tool boxes, trailer skirts etc. Airtabs are also effective on roof trailing edges of automobiles with a rear window slope exceeding 30 degrees. For ALL applications, ensure that the leading (wide) edge of the Airtab® is absolutely flush with the mounting surface.

**Trailers.** (NOTE: For Kemlite®/Fiberglass translucent trailer roof applications, order "Kemlite" Airtabs™. Kemlite® is a registered trademark of Kemlite Inc. No endorsement of Airtabs™ by Kemlite is implied.) Place Airtabs® forward of the rain ridge on the roof. **CAUTION:** Ensure trailer side Airtab® placement is adjusted so that when barn style trailer doors are opened, the door hinge bolts do not impact any Airtabs™ and cause damage.

**Tractors.** Do not install on flexible side extender rubber strips, exhaust stacks, or heat shields. The ideal surface is flat but Airtabs™ can be installed on slightly curved surfaces as long as the leading edge is absolutely flush and the majority of the tape is in contact. If the pointed tip is slightly raised, it poses no performance degradation.

**Installation.** Install Airtabs 3 per foot which is one every 4 inches on center. Airtabs are 4.76" long, 3.25" wide, and 1" high. Metric: 12cm long, 8.2cm wide, 2.5cm high. Spacing is 10.1 cm on center. Increase spacing to avoid rivet heads, lights, grab bars etc. Do NOT decrease spacing as this may decrease performance. Locate the vertical line where the leading (wide) edges of the Airtabs will be. Using duct tape, fasten the tape end to the top of the vehicle just forward of this line. Unwind the tape to the bottom of the vehicle. When the tape hangs absolutely vertically, secure the lower end with tape. Install the first Airtab at the top at an appropriate inch mark. Continue every 4 inches until complete. The tape provides accurate spacing and a perfect straight edge. **DO NOT** let the backing papers accumulate underfoot. They are very slippery. For planning purposes, allow 1 man-hour per unit. Full setting of the tape takes 24 hours but vehicles will be operational after 15 minutes. The warmer the surface temperature, the faster the tape will set.