



## Airtab® Installation Instructions

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

**General:** Work should be performed in compliance with all local safety codes, labour laws, hazardous material and environmental handling regulations etc. Photos of typical installations, painting and removal instructions can be found at [www.Airtab.com](http://www.Airtab.com)

**Equipment Required:** Automotive soap & water, degreasing agent (if necessary) mineral (white) spirits or isopropyl alcohol, clean shop rags.  
Tape measure, straight edge, washable marker pen.  
Scaffolding, wheel chocks, work platform (preferred) or secured ladder.

**Surface & Site Preparation:** Ensure vehicle manufacturer (OEM) cleaning guidelines are followed. Vehicle should be on level ground with wheels chocked. Airtabs™ should be installed when vehicle skin is dry and at temperatures at or above +40F (+5C). All surfaces must be free of all contaminants. If water based cleaner is used, rinse thoroughly with water until all residue is removed. If a degreaser is used, it must be **completely** removed in accordance with that cleaning agent's instructions before installation. If allowed by regulation, a final cleaning using mineral (white) spirits or isopropyl alcohol and clean shop rags is recommended. Do **NOT USE** Windex or any agent containing ammonia. **For installation purposes, the cleaner, the dryer, the warmer, the better.** **NOTE: DO NOT INSTALL ON VINYL TARP.** Contact [techsupport@airtab.com](mailto:techsupport@airtab.com) first.

**Location:** Airtabs™ are installed as close as possible to the rear (trailing) edges of the vehicle and with the wide leading edge vertical. If the Airtabs must be moved forward to avoid rivet heads, obstacles, awning bars etc., keep the wide ends of the Airtabs within 12-18 inches of the back for optimum performance. Placement examples: forward of wheel wells, on slung tool boxes, trailing edges of trailer & tank skirts etc.

**Trailers:** Place Airtabs™ forward of roof rain ridges. CAUTION: Ensure side Airtab® placement avoids possible impact damage from trailer "barn door" hinge bolts.

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

**RVs:** Airtabs should be mounted normally if awning bars are 18 inches *or more* from the back of the RV. If the bar is closer than 18 inches from the back, mount Airtabs 5-6 inches *forward* of the bar. For buses, coaches etc, the 18 inch limit may have to be exceeded to accommodate grills, vents etc. Do not cover vents or grills.

**Installation:** Use the tape measure and marker for placement guidance. Space Airtabs no closer than 4 inches (10cm) on center. Increase spacing to avoid rivet heads, lights, grab bars etc. but do **NOT** decrease spacing as this will decrease performance. Ensure that they are mounted in a straight vertical line. "Staggering" of the Airtabs to accommodate body curvature is fine as long as the spacing remains consistent. **DO NOT** let the backing papers accumulate underfoot as they are very slippery and hazardous. For planning purposes, allow 1 man-hour per unit. Full setting of the tape takes 24 hours. Vehicles will be operational after 15 minutes. Do not power wash for 2-3 days. The warmer the surface temperature, the faster the tape will set.