



# Installation Instructions

## SkyMaster™ Freedom Panel Replacement Soft Top for 2007-2018 Jeep® Wrangler JK/JKU

Item # 158004XX



### Parts List:

A) Deck/Header Assembly	QTY 1
B) Driver's Side Door Surround	QTY 1
C) Passenger's Side Door Surround	QTY 1
D) Door Surround Knobs	QTY 4
E) Side Tube Brackets	QTY 2
F) Hardware Pack	QTY 1

### Required Tools:

Safety Glasses  
Razor Knife or Scissors  
Phillips Head Screwdriver  
5/32" Allen Head Driver  
9/16" Socket Wrench & Driver  
9/16" Wrench

### NOTICE

This Freedom Panel kit is designed to fit on your Factory hard top installed JK Jeep® Wrangler. Before beginning your installation of this product, you will need to remove your existing Hard Top Freedom Panels. All pictures shown in this instruction sheet are of a 4 door JK Wrangler. The Steps and installation for 2 Door JK Wrangler will be the same. When installing this product, we highly recommend that you have two people as the Deck/Header Assembly is quite large and is somewhat difficult to handle and maneuver with only one person.

### ⚠ WARNING ⚠

Loss of vehicle control involves risk of death or serious injury, particularly to parts of your body not restrained within vehicle. This product is intended for weather protection only and should not be relied upon to contain occupants in the event of an accident or to protect from either ground contact or falling objects. To reduce risk of accident or injury:

- ALWAYS WEAR SEATBELTS
- Always keep head, arms & body parts within vehicle.
- Fully secure or stow the soft top before driving according to instructions. Never try to latch or fold soft top while driving. Do not use if damaged or worn.
- Read and follow all instructions & warnings accompanying this product, in your vehicle owner's manual and Off Road Driving Supplement.

### ⚠ CAUTION ⚠

RISK OF EYE INJURY. Safety glasses should be worn at all times while installing or maintaining this product.



### Important Safety information

Your MasterTop® SkyMaster Top is intended to be used with other MasterTop Products to increase the fair-weather enjoyment of your off-road capable vehicle. Before installation, please take a moment to review the following safety information and installation instructions. Important safety information is generally preceded by one of three signal words indicating the relative risk of injury. The signal words mean:

#### **⚠ WARNING ⚠**

A hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. You CAN be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.

#### **⚠ CAUTION ⚠**

A hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury. You CAN be moderately HURT and also may suffer property damage if you don't follow instructions.

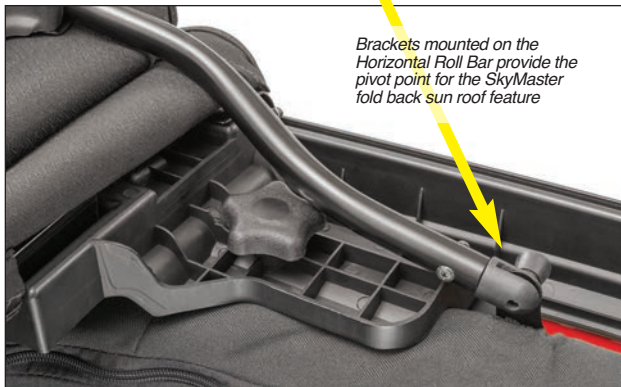
#### **NOTICE**

Careful attention is required to this instruction or operation but does generally not relate to personal injury. Damage to your MasterTop product or other property may result if you don't follow instructions.

### Before you begin Installation:

We are excited that you have chosen the SkyMaster Freedom Top Replacement Kit. This high-quality soft top is designed to provide protection from the elements and a stylish look on your Jeep®. Please note that it is important that you become familiar with the installation process of this top by reading the following instruction sheet and warnings thoroughly. When unpacking, carefully check to make sure all parts are included. If any part is missing or broken, please call MasterTop customer service at 720-575-5440.

### SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Concept:



*Brackets mounted on the Horizontal Roll Bar provide the pivot point for the SkyMaster fold back sun roof feature*

### Factory Hardware Requirement:

The SkyMaster Freedom Top Soft top is designed to replace the large, heavy factory Hardtop Freedom panels with an easy to use soft top that folds back to create an open-air sunroof.

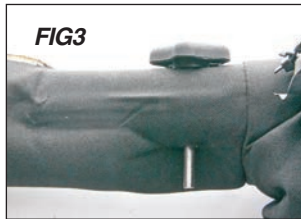
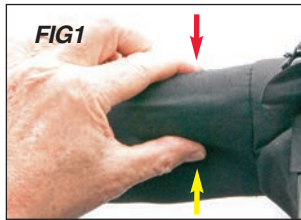
The unique design of the SkyMaster attaches the side bows to brackets that are installed on your horizontal roll bars.

These side tube brackets, once installed can stay on the vehicle when you remove your SkyMaster Top and put your Freedom Panels back on the vehicle or if you want to use other MasterTop Summer accessories.

The installation of these side tube brackets only has to be done once and you will then have them there whenever you need them.



## SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Installation:



### Step 1: Preparing the Horizontal over-door roll bar for mounting of the SkyMaster Top

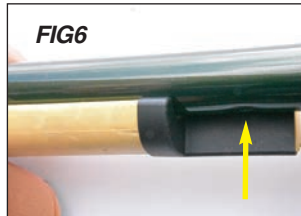
Put on safety glasses. After removing your Freedom Panels from the front of the vehicle, feel along the back of the horizontal roll bar above the driver's door for holes that are under the factory roll bar padding.

These holes are towards the rear of the front door opening (See FIG1). Once the holes are located, using an Allen head wrench or sharp razor knife tip, poke a hole in the top and bottom of the roll bar padding as shown in FIG2. Locate one of the door surround knobs and use it to widen the hole to the correct width (FIG3). The door surround knob will go through these holes in a future installation step securing the SkyMaster frame assembly to the vehicle and door surround.

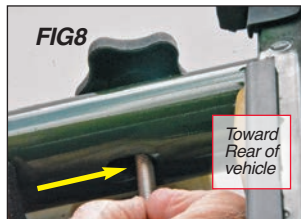
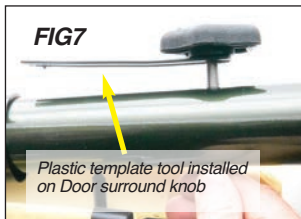


Locate the side tube roll bar padding zipper end and un-zip the roll bar padding on the horizontal roll bar over the front door approximately 12" (FIGs 4, 5, 5A & 6).

Do not un-zip the cover more than half the length of the side roll bar. The fabric will help hold the foam in place and make the re-installation of the foam and fabric much easier.



Once unzipped, again locate the door surround knob and also the plastic template tool in the hardware kit. Place the round end of the template tool over the door surround screw and place it in the exposed rear hole (FIG7).

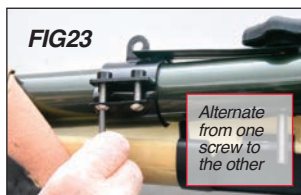
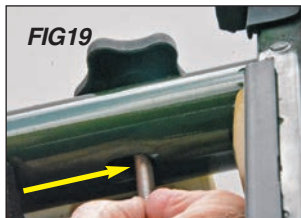
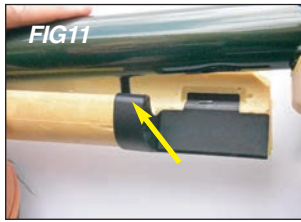


As shown in FIG 8, the door surround knob will need to be at the rear of the horizontal hole. This is important to make sure the location of the horizontal tube bracket is located correctly. Pull the door surround knob out of the rear hole and fold the roll bar padding back onto the horizontal roll bar enough to cover the rear hole. Place the Door surround knob with the plastic template tool attached through the roll bar fabric as shown in FIG 3.



With the door surround knob at the rear of the oval hole (FIG 8), carefully cut a 1" slit using a razor knife or scissors in the padding cover (Figs 9 & 10).

## SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Installation:



### Step 2: Mounting the Side Tube Brackets to the Horizontal Side Roll Bars

Un-zip the driver's side roll bar pad and fold it forward to expose the hard foam padding. Slowly pull down on the foam padding moving it side to side with a downward pressure to expose the "Christmas tree" fastener underneath (FIG11). Continue to slowly pull down until the fastener is released from the roll bar (FIG12).

Locate the side tube bracket and hinge it open.

Slide the bracket over the roll bar and under the Christmas tree fastener as shown in FIGS 13 & 14.

Note that the two weld nuts should be facing the outside of the vehicle. Locate the small piece of soft plastic glass in the hardware kit. As shown in FIG15, slide the plastic under the side tube bracket.

This insert will provide protection on your roll bar and ensure the side tube bracket does not slide under pressure (FIG16).

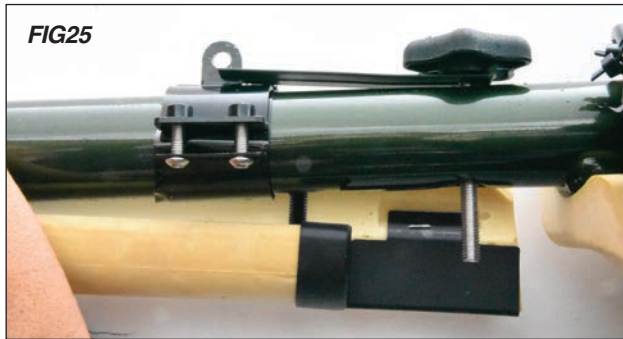
Using the plastic template tool and door surround knob used in step one, place the door surround knob threads in the rear hole exposed by the folding forward of the roll bar padding (FIGs 17 & 18).

With the door surround knob screw pushed to the rear of the hole (FIG19), slide the side tube bracket with the plastic insert into the slot on the plastic template tool as shown in FIG20.

Important: the vertical tab must be straight up at 90 degrees, centered on the roll bar!

Locate the two hex head bolts and with the template tool still attached and the door surround screw still in the rear-most portion of the hole, hand tighten each bolt into the side tube bracket (FIGs 21 & 22).

Using an Allen wrench, alternate tightening each hex head bolt until the side tube bracket is tight on the roll bar. Be sure to alternate from one screw to the other to ensure even tightening (FIGs 23 & 24).



## Step 2: Mounting the Side Tube Brackets to the Horizontal Side Roll Bars (continued)

When tightening, make sure the flat plastic is centered under the side tube bracket (FIG 25).

Repeat this procedure on the other side of the vehicle.

### NOTICE

Once these side tube brackets are located and secured you will not have to remove them to place the Freedom Top panels or other accessories on the vehicle. Once installed, they can remain installed making future installations of your SkyMaster Top easier.



After securing the side tube brackets, remove the door surround knob and template tool and locate the adhesive backed fabric reinforcement pieces from the hardware kit. This reinforcement is designed to protect your roll bar padding from further ripping.

Place the reinforcement piece over the top of the side tube bracket with the adhesive side facing up (FIG 26).



Remove the backing paper and slowly fold back the roll bar padding over the bracket with the vertical tab placed through the slit cut in step one (FIG 27).

Zip the roll bar padding back up and tuck the rear portion back into the B-Pillar to bring the look back to original (FIG 28).



## Step 3: Install Front Door Surrounds

Locate the driver's side front door surround and line up the C Channel opening (cutout) as shown in FIGs 29 & 30.

Push the door surround all the way forward until the front is tight against the windshield seal.



Once forward, push the door surround onto the roll bar. Making sure the Door seals are not caught under the door surrounds (See FIGs 31 & 32).



Locate the Door surround knob and secure the front of the door surround to the roll bar by threading the door surround knob through the door surround into the "C" Channel (Fig 33).

Repeat this procedure on the passenger side.

## SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Installation:

### CAUTION

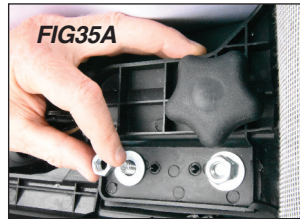
This next step requires two people to help lift and stabilize the Deck/Header Assembly on the vehicle. You must use caution when placing the Header/Deck Assembly on the vehicle to avoid scratching the vehicle or damaging the SkyMaster Assembly.



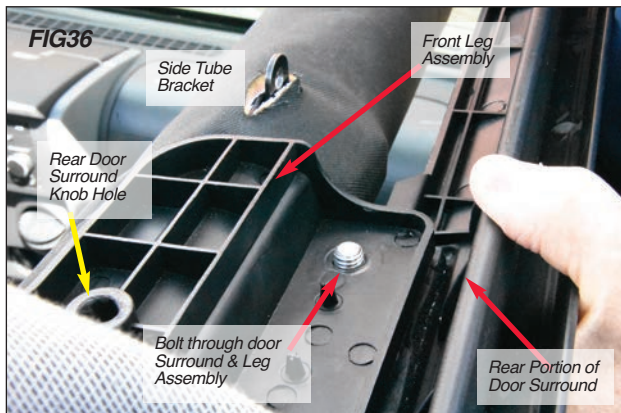
### Step 4: Securing the Deck/Header Assembly to the Jeep®

On the front corner of the Deck/Header Assembly you will find four nuts, washers and bolts loosely installed (one set of two on each side).

Remove these nuts, washers and bolts and set them aside for installation (FIGs 34, 35 & 35A).



With the help of a friend, carefully lift the SkyMaster Deck/Header Assembly up on top of the front of the hardtop just behind the front seats. The front header should be facing forward.



Once on top of the vehicle, slowly move the assembly forward, lining up the rear of the assembly with the edge of the hard top. As the assembly moves forward you will be able to see the two large holes in the front "legs" of the Assembly begin to line up with the holes in the rear of the installed door surround. While pushing in, line up the holes in the Leg assembly and the door surround and slip the bolts from the bottom up through the holes. See FIG 36 for location & identification of each component.

With the bolts through both assemblies, loosely install the nuts with washers on both sides of the assembly (Fig 37). The nut or bolt can be facing up or down but we have found it to be easier to install when the bolt comes from the bottom up. Repeat on other side of vehicle.



Locate the remaining door surround knobs and the hole located just behind and inboard of the nut and bolt you just installed (Figs 38 & 40). Insert the door surround knob into this hole, through the slit in the roll bar pad you made in step one, and into the bottom nut-insert in the door surround.

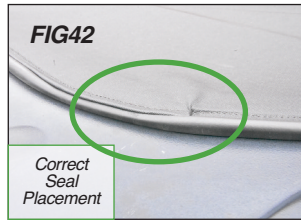
This process may take some downward pressure and alignment to get the knob to "seat" in the nut insert.

Once started, tighten the door surround knob tight securing the assembly to the door surround (Figs 39 & 40).



Go back to the nuts, washer and bolts that were loosely installed in the previous step and fully tighten.

## SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Installation:



### Step 5: Securing the rear of the Deck/Header Assembly to the Hard Top

With the Deck/Header Assembly attached to the door surrounds, it is extremely important to adjust the rear seal so it sits correctly onto the front of the hard top. If the seal is "tucked" under the hard top the SkyMaster will leak. FIG 41 shows the rear rubber seal tucked into the hard top. This is **NOT** correct. FIG 42 shows the rear rubber seal positioned correctly.

Once the rear seal is positioned correctly, go inside the vehicle and locate the driver's side rear bracket installed on the SkyMaster Assembly (FIG43). This bracket has been installed backwards from the factory to make it easier to install the Deck/Header assembly

With an Allen head wrench, remove the two screws from this bracket and re-position the mounting bracket onto the two holes in the SkyMaster Assembly locating the rubber seal against the Hard Top (FIGs 44 & 45).

Using an Allen head wrench, install and tighten each screw alternating between each to get even pressure on the bracket.

Repeat this procedure on the passenger side (FIG 46).

Go outside the vehicle and review the rear seal one more time. Make sure it is sitting outside the hard top as shown in FIG 42. Go inside the vehicle and re-install the two sound bar knobs that were removed when taking off your Freedom panels before Step 1. (FIG 47)



### Step 6: Securing the Side Arms to the Side Tube Brackets

With the rear portion of the SkyMaster Assembly installed, you now want to mount the side arms that come out of the front windshield header to the side tube brackets.

With the help of a friend, slowly fold the front fabric assembly forward placing the header on the windshield.

On the driver's side, lift up the fabric over the door where the side arms should be sitting. Line up the end of the side arms with the side tube bracket and while pulling the quick release knob out, slip the end of the side arms onto the side tube bracket and release the knob.

The side arms should lock into the side tube bracket (Figs 48 & 49).

Repeat this process on the passenger side.



## SkyMaster Fold Back Sun Roof Installation:



### Step 7: Secure the Front Header to Windshield

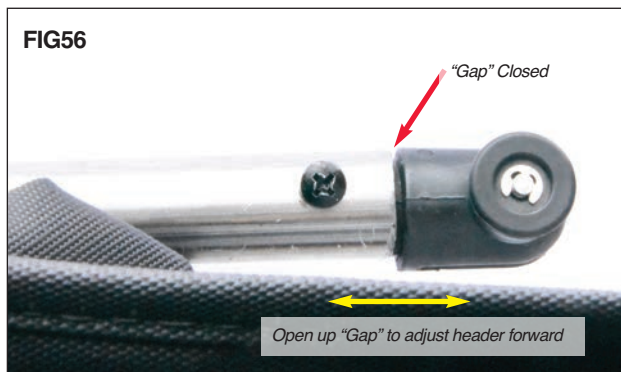
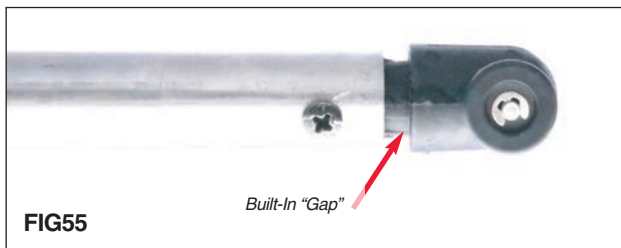
With the side arms attached, with a friend on the other side of the vehicle, pull down the front header and latch the header to the windshield (FIGs 50, 51 & 52). Note the first time this process takes place it is best to have a friend on the other side to make the "pull" uniform before latching. After the first time one person can safely pull the header down and latch.

### Using your SkyMaster Top

Your SkyMaster Top has a "dual" sun roof feature that gives you the option of either a partial sunroof (FIG53) or full sunroof feature (FIG54). The partial sun roof feature will block more sun on those really hot days while the full opening truly gives an open-air experience. To fold back your SkyMaster Top, unlatch the front header and push up in the middle of the top where we have placed a temporary "push" here sticker. This will put your top in the partial sun roof mode.

To fully open the sun roof, keep on pushing the fabric backwards and under the folded back header as shown.

## SkyMaster Optional Variation Adjustments:



Your SkyMaster Top has been designed to fit your JK/JKU Wrangler with the windshield set at the factory original hard and soft top settings.

The header to hardtop distance will vary from side to side, vehicle to vehicle and even change over time. We have built in an adjustment to help compensate if this vehicle variance causes you trouble.

Each side arm has the quick release knuckle installed with a small 1/4" gap as called out in FIG 55.

If you fold down your header and the front "triangular knobs" on the underside of the header hits the rubber windshield seal causing the front of the header to lift up, simply close the quick release gap called out in FIG 56 by removing the set screw, push the quick release knob and re-set the screw.

Alternatively, If it is extremely difficult to get the front latches hooked because the header is too far rearward, you can remove the set screw and move the quick release knob back relative to the side tube bracket (Fig 55). This may need to be done on either one or both sides.

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See separate sheet for Warranty and Care information.  
Part #941044.01 Version 5.8.20 LTR



## Care and Maintenance of your MasterTop® Product:

Your MasterTop Replacement Top is made of the finest materials available but to keep it looking new and for the maximum possible wear, it will need periodic cleaning and basic maintenance. The main threat to your soft top is pollutants, dirt and grime. By keeping your top clean you will prolong the life of your top.

**We recommend the following to keep your top like new: (if applicable)**

### Washing:

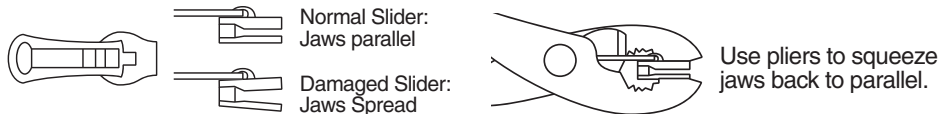
The soft top fabric should be washed often using a mild soap, warm water and a soft bristle brush. You can also use special soft top cleaners available on our Distributors websites. Make sure that after cleaning you rinse with clear water to remove all traces of soap to avoid residue.

### Water/Fabric:

In the event of seeping through the seams, 3M Scotchgard® may be applied on the inside of the seams to stop the seeping. Rips in the fabric may be repaired with Bondex® iron on patches. Iron the patches to the Inside of the top, carefully following the Bondex® instructions.

### Windows:

It is very important that you keep your Soft Top windows clean! Use a mild soap and water solution to gently clean your windows. NEVER wipe your windows clean with a dry cloth! Dust and dirt on a dry cloth can scratch your windows causing "fogging" and permanent damage. When removing your windows, store them with a towel. If frost or ice forms on the outside of your windows during the winter, DO NOT use an ice scraper to remove this frost. Over time you will see small micro scratches in your windows which are natural wear and tear. These Micro scratches can be "polished" out using the window polish available at your MasterTop Distributor.



### Zippers:

Keeping the zipper cleaned and lubricated with a silicone lubricant (available online) will help prevent damage and keep the zippers in a smooth working condition. If zipper opens behind the slider, the slider may have been spread apart. This problem can usually be fixed by using an ordinary pair of pliers to bring the sides back into parallel. Return slider to the end of the zipper in the normal Open position. Squeeze lightly at first and test zipper. If the zipper continues to remain open squeeze more firmly with pliers and try the zipper again. Repeat procedure until your zipper operates correctly.

### For more information on MasterTop:

This and other helpful product information is available on [www.mastertop.com](http://www.mastertop.com)  
Please visit our website frequently for product updates and exciting news.





## Limited 3 Year Warranty

Your MasterTop® accessory is covered by the following Limited Warranty provided exclusively by MasterTop, Inc., 420 J Corporate Circle, Golden, CO 80401.

This Limited Warranty is the only warranty made in connection with your purchase. MasterTop neither assumes nor authorizes any vendor, retailer or other person or entity to assume for it any other obligation or liability in connection with this product or Limited Warranty. This Limited Warranty does not apply and is not cumulative to any accessory or part distributed by any MasterTop distributor for which the Manufacturer provides a separate written warranty.

**What is Covered:** Subject to the terms, exclusions and limitations herein and with respect only to MasterTop branded accessories first sold in the United States, MasterTop warrants to the initial retail purchaser only that your MasterTop accessory shall be free of defects in material and workmanship; **for a period of 3 years from date of initial retail sale.**

All other warranties are hereby disclaimed, except to the extent prohibited by applicable law in which case any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose on this product is **limited to 3 years from date of initial retail sale.** MasterTop reserves the rights to: (a.) require invoice or other proof your product is within the terms of this Limited Warranty as a condition of warranty service and, (b.) make future revisions to this product and Limited Warranty without prior notice or obligation to upgrade your product.

**What is Not Covered:** Your MasterTop Limited Warranty does not cover products or parts MasterTop determines to have been damaged by or subjected to: (a.) installation damage, alteration, modification, failure to maintain or attempted repair or service by anyone not authorized by MasterTop, (b.) normal wear and tear, cosmetic damage or damage from water immersion, (c.) Acts of God, accidents, misuse, negligence, inadequate mounting or impact with vehicle(s), obstacles or other aspects of the environment, (d.) theft, vandalism or other intentional damage, (e.) fleet, rental or commercial use, (f.) use in competition or racing.

**Remedy Limited to Repair/Replacement:** The exclusive remedy provided hereunder shall, upon MasterTop inspection and at MasterTop's option, be either repair or replacement of product or parts (new or refurbished) covered under this Limited Warranty. Customers requesting warranty consideration on MasterTop Products should first contact MasterTop to obtain a RGA number (720-575-5440). All labor, removal, shipping and installation costs are customer's responsibility.

### **Other Limitations - Exclusion of Damages**

#### **- Your Rights Under State Law:**

In consideration of the purchase price paid, neither MasterTop nor any independent MasterTop distributor /licensee are responsible for any time loss, rental costs, or for any incidental, consequential, punitive or other damages you may have or incur in connection with any part or product purchased. Your exclusive remedy hereunder for covered parts is repair/replacement as described above.

This Limited Warranty gives you specific rights. You may also have other rights that vary from state to state. For example, some states do not allow limitations of how long an implied warranty lasts and/or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the limitations and exclusions herein may not apply to you.

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Part # Version 5.8.20 LTR

