

X-Treme Toyz Tech: Daystar Hood Wranglers, Part # KJ09145BK

"Stop the Flutter!"

If you own a 2007-'09 Jeep Wrangler JK and have driven at even moderate speeds or in a headwind, you've probably noticed the hood looks as if it's ready to take flight, pounding up and down like a crazed drum solo. The problem is the rubber used on the factory hold downs. While adequate for normal speeds, it becomes somewhat of a rubber band when stressed.

Daystar products saw this issue and came up with an inexpensive, easy to install fix, the "Hood Wrangler". The Hood Wrangler kit comes with everything needed to replace the factory rubber on both hood latches with premium polyurethane units that hold the hood down securely in the strongest winds. So, follow along as we install a pair on a 2009 Jeep Wrangler JK. Prior to our installation, we lifted the hood edge to see how much we could lift the hood with minimal effort. We were surprised just how easily the hood lifted (**photo 1**).



Photo 1

1) Release the hood latches. On the driver side, remove the factory thru pin. We found that a pair of diagonal cutters wedged under the end cap and squeezed slightly quickly and easily removed the end caps (**photo 2**). Alternately, you can use 2 pairs of vise grip pliers and twist the factory pin apart.



Photo 2

2) Install the Daystar Hood Wrangler with the flat cut end facing down using the supplied new hardware. Apply a small amount of the supplied Loctite to the screw before installing (**photo 3**). Repeat steps on passenger side.



Photo 3

3) Once installed, the hood was impossible to lift with the same amount of force we'd used earlier on the factory mounts (**photo 4**).



Photo 4