

Attaching Factory Steel OR Aqualu Aluminum Half Doors to your Cowl

The hinge plates that we supply with either of our aluminum replacement cowls consists of two lengths of angle iron with four steel bushings welded onto each length. These are used to attach either your factory steel doors or our aluminum ½ doors to our cowl section.

When bolting these hinge plates to our aluminum cowl you will first attach one of the hinge plates to your factory door or one of our aluminum ½ doors using your factory door pins or a suitable bolt. Next you will introduce this assembly to your truck while keeping an eye on the gap at the top, bottom, front and rear edge of the door. Once you are happy with the positioning of the door you can use a couple of quick clamps or have an assistant hold it in position.

The relationship between the cowl and hinge plate can be marked using a felt pen. After you have marked the position of the hinge plate release the clamps and take your door back to the bench. Next you are going to remove the door pins and release our hinge plate from your door assembly.

Take the hinge plate that you just removed and hold it in position on our cowl using the lines that you have marked out for reference. Now you can mark the holes used for mounting the hinge plate to our cowl. You can either drill a few of the holes and reinstall your door to double check you alignment or drill all of the holes if you feel confident with the positioning and layout.

Once you are happy with the hinge plate and door installation you can proceed with the positioning of your striker assembly. If you are using our aluminum ½ doors we provide formed catches that will bolt to our tub and if you are installing your original steel doors you will re-use your factory strikers that are bolted to your original tub. With the door in the closed position you can now mark the location of the door striker or catch.

