

## Windshield Wiper Blades

Installing wiper blades requires the use of tools to protect the vehicle's finish and windshield glass.



### CRITICAL TO SAFETY

**Ensure the vehicle is lowered before proceeding with the installation of wiper blades.**

**Use a platform ladder or stool to reach higher wiper blades. Do not stand on jacks, blocks, tires, or other tools.**

**Wear gloves to prevent cuts from sharp edges on the blades or wiper arms.**

**After installing each new wiper blade, tug on it to ensure it is properly attached.**



### CRITICAL TO QUALITY

**A clean fender cover and windshield mat must be used and properly placed prior to wiper blade installation.**

**Remove all packaging and protective covers from the blades prior to installation.**

**Use caution when replacing rear wiper blades to not pull the arm out too far.**

### The Whys

- **Raised Vehicle and Tools:**
  - A raised vehicle may move while you are installing the blades, which risks a fall and injury
  - Installing wiper blades during the tire service workflow impedes progress and creates a hazard
  - Standing on a jack or other equipment while installing wiper blades might make reaching the wipers easier, but is an unstable hazard
- Several employees have been cut by sharp edges on wiper blades and wiper blade arms.
- Tugging, pulling on the wiper blade to verify it is locked in place will prevent the wiper blade from falling off when in use. It also places the wiper in the right place on the windshield for maximum effectiveness.
- Any dirt or grease on the fender cover or windshield mat could scratch or soil the surface of the vehicle
- Leaning against the vehicle without a fender cover in place increases the risk of scuffing, soiling, or scratching the vehicle with your clothing or objects in your pocket.
- **Windshield Mat Use and Placement:**
  - A wiper arm with the blade removed can scratch the windshield
  - Wiper arms are spring-loaded, and an arm snapping to the windshield under that tension can scratch, crack, or shatter the glass
- Rear wiper arms do not pull out as far as front wiper arms. Pulling the rear wiper out too far will damage the arm and cause the blade to make improper contact or break completely.