



STEELCAP

Instructions: Steelcap Mounting System®

Before you get started please read all of the instructions carefully. An understanding of the overall process will ensure excellent results.

To Place Cap - Fit the peg into the hole in the plaque. Apply pressure to the front of the cap near the base of the peg and gently work the cap into place.

To Remove Cap - Push the peg part way out from the backside of the plaque.

Remove antlers from deer. Remove all hide and tissue from skull plate. The skull plate must be cured before mounting the antlers to the plaque. The most common curing method is pouring liberal amounts of salt, a salt / baking soda combination or Borax on the entire skull plate and allowing to dry completely. Remove salt & residue before beginning the mounting process.

Cutting The Skull Plate

STEP 1.) IMPORTANT! The vertical cut on the back of the skull plate (figure A) will determine the orientation of the antlers on the plaque.

The vertical cut should be made parallel to the back of the antlers and at an angle that will result in a vertical or slightly forward final antler presentation. Shimming can aid in achieving desired results (see Shimming).

The vertical cut should be made approximately 1/2 inch behind the antler burrs, less for larger diameter antlers and more for small diameter antlers.

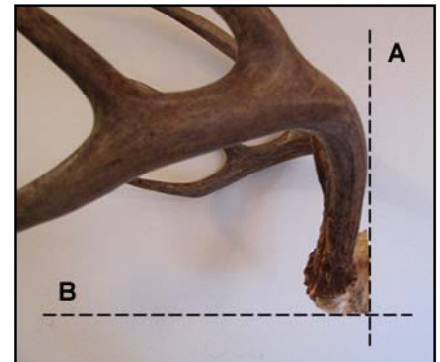


figure A



STEP 2.) Place the back of the skull plate on a flat surface and observe the antler orientation to determine the quality of the cut made during antler removal.

If the cut is not satisfactory, use a pencil to mark a line around the back of the skull plate where a new cut is desired. Cut along the pencil line with a saw or sand to the line with a sanding tool. Recheck antler orientation.

Securing Antlers to Plaque



figure B

STEP 3.) Using a 13/64" bit, drill holes A and B straight through the top of the skull plate. (figure B)

STEP 4.) Choose from the provided 2" or 2 1/2" screws and determine the best match for your antlers by inserting screws through holes A and B as shown.



The screw head should be slightly less than 3/4 inches (the thickness of the plaque) above the skull plate. The provided washers may be added as spacers to achieve the best fit. (instructions continued on next page)



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Securing Antlers to Plaque (continued from Page 1)

STEP 5.) If the antler burrs fit into the cap, the best look will be achieved with the bottom of the burrs positioned just inside the edge of the cap when viewed from the side (figure C). If the burrs do not fit into the cap, position the burrs just above the edge of the cap (figure D).



figure C



figure D

STEP 6.) With the cap in place, hold the antlers in the desired position; use a pencil to mark a line along the top of the skull plate onto the plaque. Also make a vertical reference mark on the skull plate and plaque (figure E).



figure E

Remove the cap and reposition the antlers onto the plaque along your pencil line.

Using a Phillips screwdriver and selected screws and washers, secure the antlers to the plaque through holes A and B as shown.

DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN!

Note: If the burrs are being positioned above the cap, leave some space between the burrs and the cap to ensure unobstructed cap placement.

TIP) Before driving in the second screw, put the cap on and check the vertical alignment (figure F). If necessary, make adjustments, then drive in the second screw.

Minor final adjustments can be made by firmly holding the plaque and slightly rotating the antlers.

STEP 7.) You are now ready to put the cap on and display your finished mount using the provided 1 1/4" pan head screw. Optional plastic anchor provided.



figure F

Shimming

To angle the antlers forward, a thin wood shim may be added to the top of the back of the skull plate. To bring antlers to a more vertical position, a thin wood shim can be added to the bottom of the back of the skull plate.

Some antlers can benefit from added height. This is easily achieved by placing a wood shim between the back of the skull plate and the plaque. The shim should be the approximate shape of the back of the skull plate, but slightly larger.