



## Fitting Instructions - 3 bar set for Ford Transit Connect

Thank you for choosing **Aiko Design** roof bars – we aim to produce a no-nonsense product so all you will need to install your bars are two spanners- 13mm and 10mm- and a means to safely work at a comfortable height above your van without falling off.

When you get up there you'll find black plastic bungs in the roof, beneath each of which is an M8 threaded hole. If the van has had a rack fitted previously then sometimes those bungs- designed to keep the weather out of the threads- can be missing. If this is the case, **be sure to check that the threads are clean and free running because you really don't want to snap a bolt off in there.** Ideally, you should be able to run a bolt in and out with your fingers.

Here are two of your brackets-



They are shown here as if you are looking at the left hand/near side of your vehicle- i.e, the taller bracket goes at the front. This arrangement keeps your bars parallel to the road surface so that when you put large sheets of material up there, your van will neither try to take off nor drive you into the road- both of which are known in engineering terms as 'bad'.

The brackets attach to the roof with the M8 x 16 bolts and a spring washer so with the taller brackets at the front and with the 'Aiko' stickers facing outwards (this will ensure that each bracket is in the right orientation, and passers-by will see where you bought such a fabulous product) crack on and fit your

brackets. Once the spring washer is flat and the bracket has stopped moving, around, you're good to go.



You can probably see what's coming next- lay your cross bars across the tops of your brackets, drop a strap over the top and put in the M6 bolts, with a washer and Nyloc nut underneath; don't tighten things fully yet though as first we need to add the longitudinal bars. (Plain for RS customers, and with the raised sides on the FS set- FS shown)

Again, these are very straightforward- they bolt into the ends of the cross bars with an M8 x 16 bolt with a spring washer.

Put one longitudinal in place with the barest nip on the bolts- this will begin to align the cross bars...





...and fit the roller at the back as you install the other side. The bearings are made from self-lubricating Nylotron (graphite impregnated nylon) and need no additional lubrication.

With Ford deciding that you only needed roof mountings at the front and middle of your van, the aft-most crossbar uses a pair of adjustable rubber feet instead and has an extra M6 nut and bolt at the end to prevent it from turning. Drop this into place but again, don't tighten everything fully yet.



By now you should have the whole rack loosely assembled and it's time to have a walk around admiring your handiwork and giving it a nudge here and there until everything lines up nice and square and looks the part. Once you're happy with the position and fit it's finally time to tighten everything up. Don't over-tighten things- it's all too easy to snap bolts by being heavy handed- and don't forget the adjustable feet- wind them down until they are in firm contact with your roof, and then do up the lock nuts.

Make sure everything is secure and don't forget to give your rack periodic spanner-checks over the next week or so just in case it needs any settling down and that's it; we suggest a nice cup of tea at this stage.

Should you get stuck though please give us a call and we'll be happy to talk you through it.

**Cheers!**

**Note- Please check your vehicle manufacturer's handbook for the maximum recommended roof load.**