



# Rocky Mountain Westy Vanagon Ladder

## Assembly & Installation Instructions



### Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the Rocky Mountain Westy **Vanagon Ladder Kit**. We pride ourselves in the products we develop and would not bring an item to market that we did not fully believe in. This **Vanagon Ladder Kit** will mount to your van without any modifications. The ladder will help give you safe access to your roof top boxes and other stowed gear such as surfboards and/or bikes.

## Before You Get Started

It is recommended that you read through these instructions fully before beginning the installation process. This step will help you understand the entire process beforehand which will make the installation go smoothly. The **Vanagon Ladder Kit** will be installed on the rear **Driver's Side** of your Vanagon.

### Tools Required:

- 13mm Wrench
- 3/16", 5/32", 7/32" Hex Bit Socket
- Ratchet
- Mallet

### Parts Included:

- Top Angle Mount (x1)
- Upper Ladder Stringer (x2)
- Lower Ladder Stringer (x2)
- Rain Gutter Angle Mount (x2)
- Threaded Rungs (x5)
- Bottom Rung (x1)
- Bottom Support (x1)
- Hardware Package

## Supplied Hardware

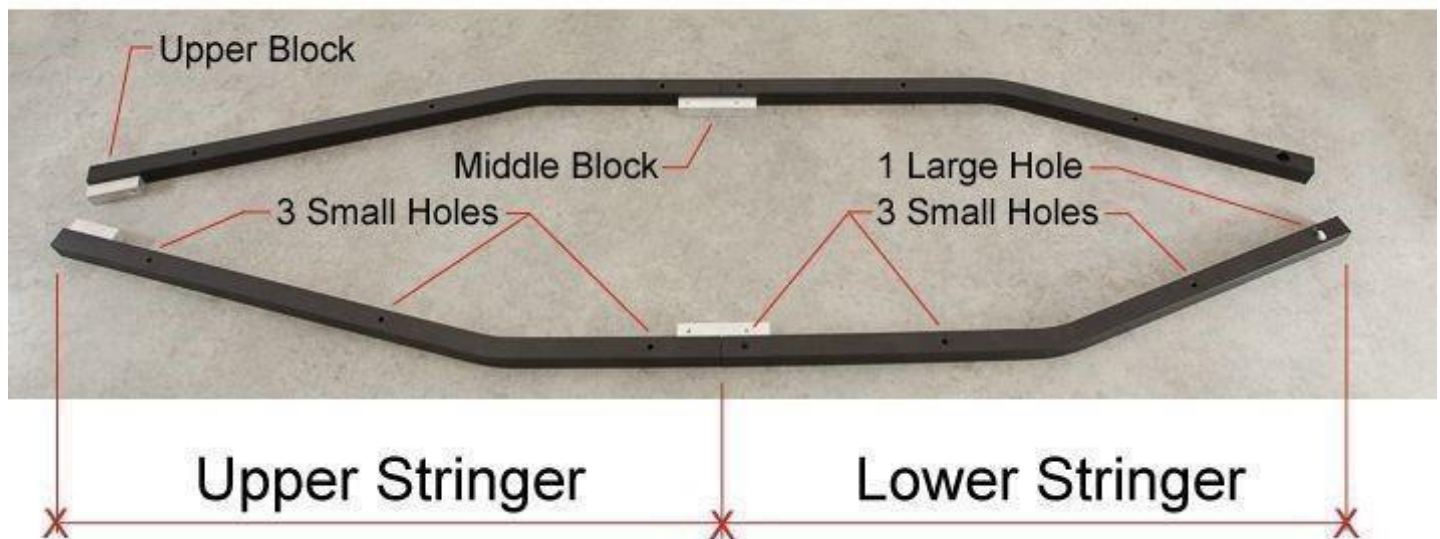


Included in the **Vanagon Ladder Kit** is a **Hardware Package** containing the following:

- Upper Block – Short x2
- Middle Block – Long x2
- 5/8" Button Cover Cap
- 5/16 x 18 x 2" Foot Adjusters (x2)
- 5/16" x 18 Flanged Jam Nut (X2)
- 5/16" Plastic Washer (X2)
- 5/8 Button Cover Cap (X10)
- 3/4 End Cap (X2)
- 1/4X20X1 SS Socket Head Screw (X10)
- 1/4 SS Washer (X14)
- 3/8 SS Buttonhead Screw(X2)
- 3/8 SS Washer (X2)
- 1/4X20X3/4 SS Buttonhead Screw (x4)
- Ladder Locking Pins (X2)
- Lanyard

## Assembling the Ladder

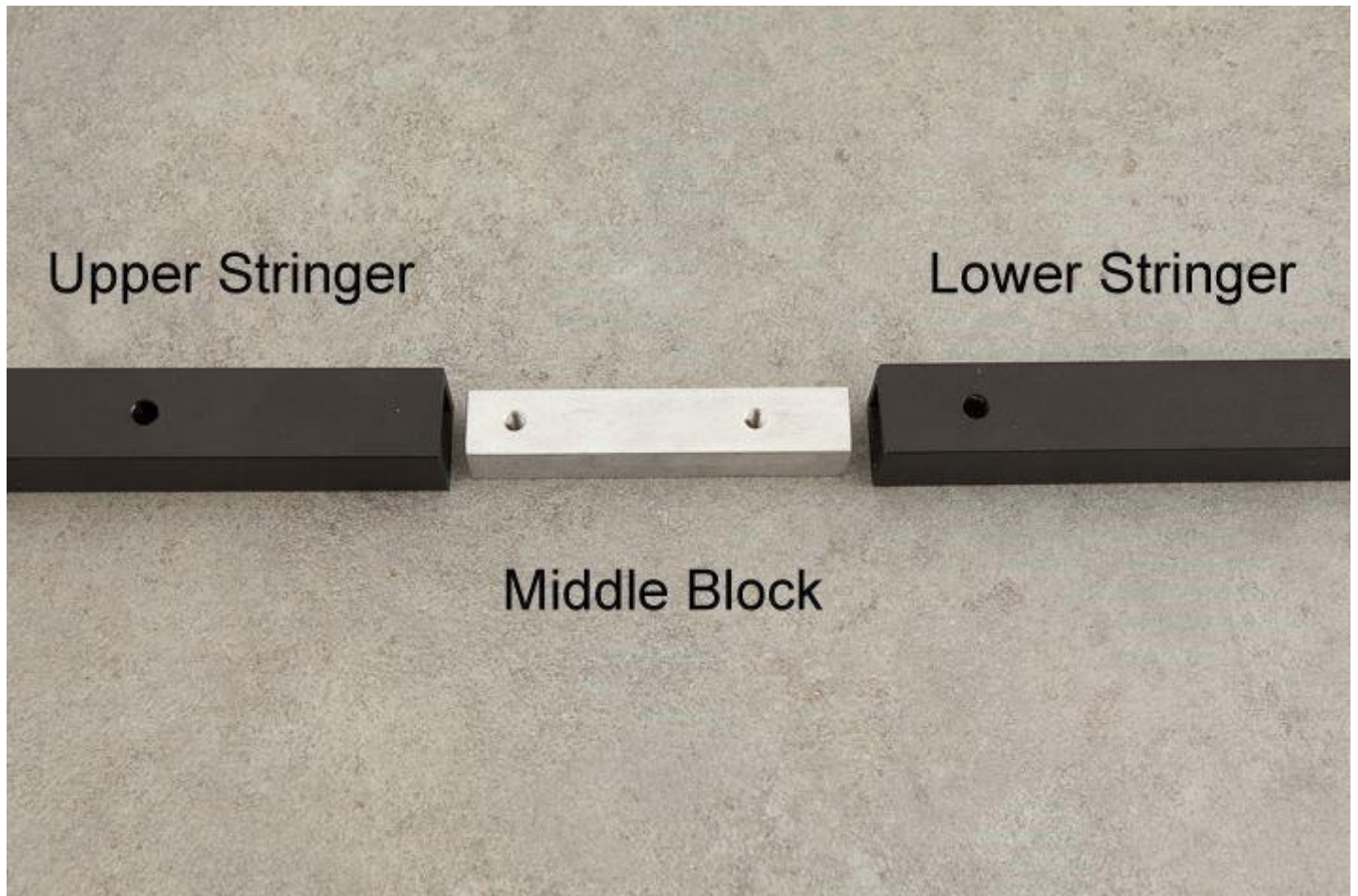
We recommend laying the Upper Ladder Stringers and the Lower Ladder Stringers onto a table or flat work surface. Find the Upper Blocks and Middle Blocks. Study the diagram below carefully and place your components in the same fashion.



The **Upper Ladder Stringer** has three small holes on one side of the stringer. The **Lower Ladder Stringer** has three small holes as well as one large hole on one side of the stringer. The orientation of these stringers is very important so please make sure you have the items laid out exactly as shown above prior to moving on.



Slide the **Upper Ladder Stringer** and the **Lower Ladder Stringer** apart about 6". Place the **Middle Block** in between the two stringers and make sure the screw holes in the block match the photo below. Take note that the **Middle Block** screw hole furthest from the edge of the **Middle Block** end points toward the **Lower Ladder Stringer**.



Slide the **Middle Block** into the open end of the **Lower Ladder Stringer** until the threaded hole of the **Middle Block** lines up with the small hole in the **Lower Ladder Stringer**.

Take a **1/4x20x3/4" SS Button Head Screw** and a **1/4 SS Washer** from the hardware kit and hand thread the screw into both the **Lower Ladder Stringer** and the **Middle Block**. Use a **5/32" Hex Bit Socket** and a **Ratchet** in order to fully tighten the **Button Head Screw**. Repeat the process for the other **Lower Ladder Stringer** as well.



Flip both the **Upper Ladder Stringer** and the **Lower Ladder Stringer** over to expose the small hole in the **Upper Ladder Stringer**. You can now line up with the threaded hole in the **Middle Block**.

Slide the **Middle Block** into the open end of the **Upper Ladder Stringer** until the threaded hole of the **Middle Block** lines up with the small hole in the **Upper Ladder Stringer**.

Take a **1/4x20x3/4" SS Button Head Screw** and a **1/4 SS Washer** from **Hardware Package A** and hand thread the screw into both the **Upper Ladder Stringer** and the **Middle Block**. Use a **5/32" Hex Bit Socket** and a **Ratchet** in order to fully tighten the **Button Head Screw**. Repeat the process for the other **Upper Ladder Stringer** as well.





At this point both sets of the **Upper Ladder Stringers** and **Lower Ladder Stringers** should be mounted together.





Now place the assembled **Ladder Stringers** onto a table or flat work surface. Study the diagram below carefully and place your components in the same fashion.



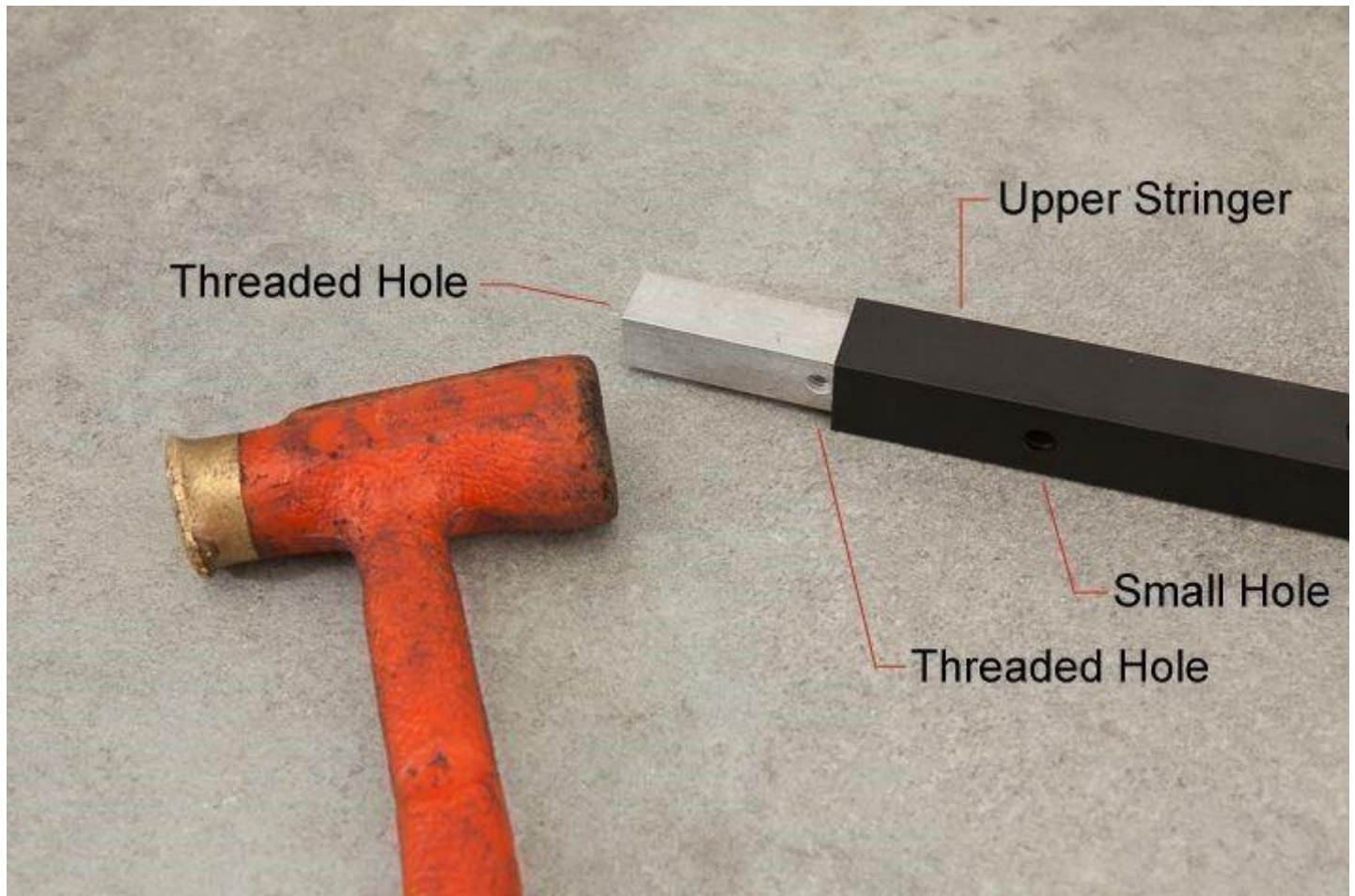
The **Upper Ladder Stringer** has three large holes on one side of the stringer. The **Lower Ladder Stringer** has two large holes on one side of the stringer. The orientation of these stringers is very important so please make sure you have the items laid out exactly as shown above prior to moving on.

Orient the **Upper Block** with the **Upper Ladder Stringer** as shown. Make sure the small threaded hole on the side of the **Upper Block** is on the same side as the small hole on the **Upper Ladder Stringer**. It is important to align these correctly.

If the **Upper Block** is installed into the **Upper Ladder Stringer** incorrectly it will be extremely difficult to disassemble to orient correctly so please take a moment to make sure your orientation is correct.

Use a **Mallet** to lightly tap the **Upper Block** into place making sure the two holes mentioned line up correctly.

Repeat the process for the other **Upper Ladder Stringer**.



Both **Upper Blocks** installed into the **Upper Ladder Stringers**.



Place the **Ladder Stringers** as shown with the **Upper Ladder Stringers** pointing towards the left. Set the **Top Angle**

**Mount** and both **Rain Gutter Angle Mounts** near the upper end of the ladder. Place the **Bottom Rung** and the **Bottom Support** near the lower end of the ladder. The five **Ladder Rungs** can be laid out as well.

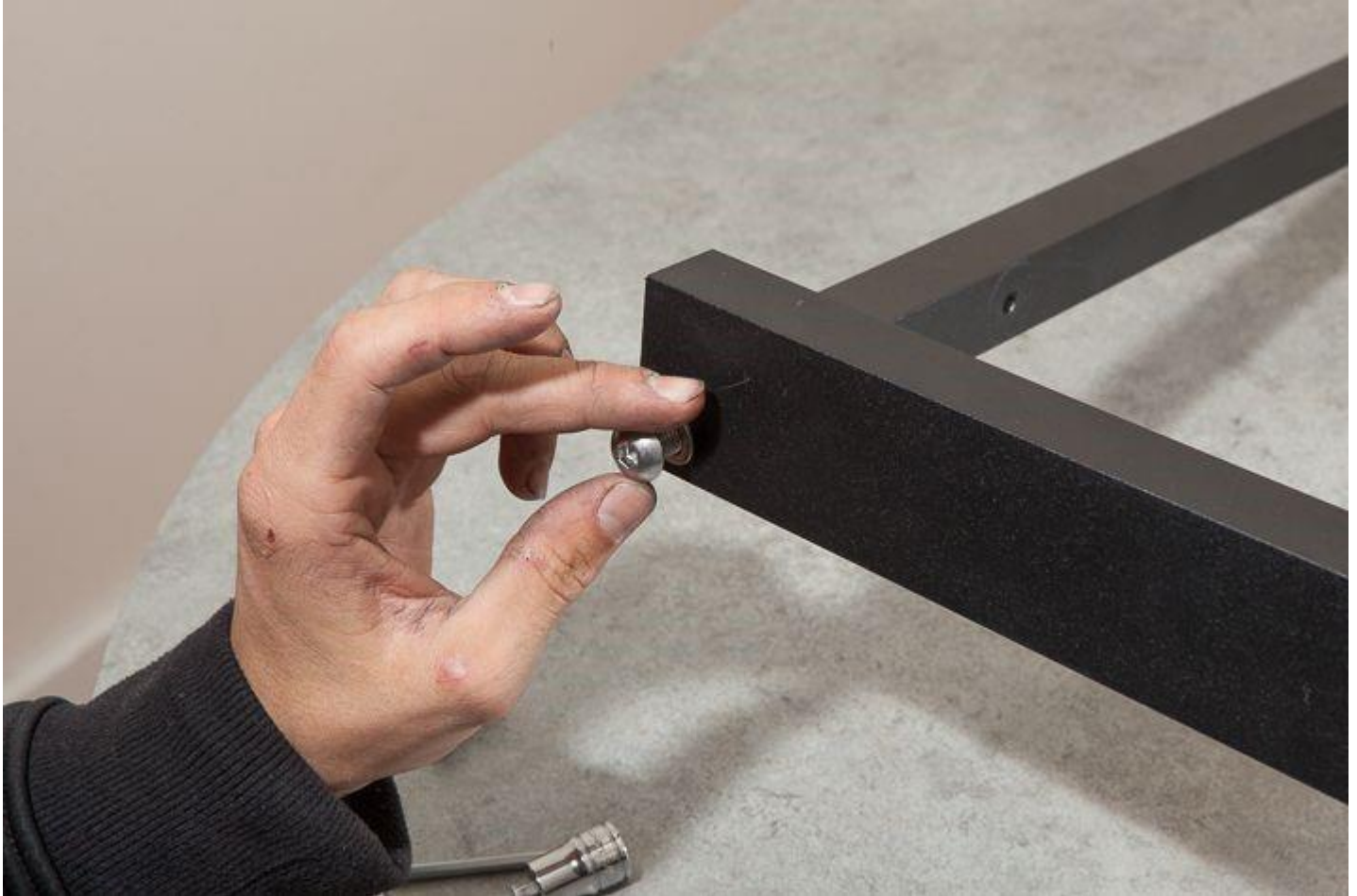




Take a **3 /8 SS Button Head Screw** and a **3 /8 SS Washer** from the hardware kit.



Place the **Top Angle Mount** onto the **Ladder Stringers** and thread a **3/8 SS Button Head Screw** and a **3/8 SS Washer** through the **Top Angle Plate** and into the **Upper Block** that is mounted inside the **Upper Ladder Stringer**. Do this at both **Ladder Stringers**.



Use a 7/32" **Hex Bit Socket** and a **Ratchet** in order to tighten the **Button Head Screw**. **DO NOT FULLY TIGHTEN AT THIS POINT.** Leave a few threads shy of fully tightening. This will allow the installation of the **Ladder Rungs** to go more smoothly. Repeat the process for the opposite **Upper Ladder Stringer** as well.



Slide the **Bottom Support** over the **Bottom Rung** which has exposed aluminum ends. These exposed aluminum ends will be inserted into the large holes at the bottom of the **Lower Ladder Stringers**.





Take a **1/4x20x1 SS Socket Head Screw** and a **1/4 SS Washer** from the hardware kit.



Use a **3 /16” Hex Bit Socket** in order to hand thread the **1/4x20x1 SS Socket Head Screw** and a **1/4 SS Washer** into one of the **Ladder Rungs**. Do not fully tighten. Repeat the process on the other end of the **Ladder Rung** and on the four remaining **Ladder Rungs** as well.



Once all **Ladder Rungs** have had their **Socket Head Screws** hand threaded, use a **3 /16” Hex Bit Socket** and a **Ratchet** to fully tighten the **Socket Head Screws** at each **Ladder Rung**.



Once all **Ladder Rungs** are tightened in place, use a **7/32" Hex Bit Socket** and a **Ratchet** in order to fully tighten the two **Button Head Screws** at the **Top Angle Mount**.





Take a **5/8" Button Cover Cap** and simply press them into place covering the **Socket Head Screw** that secures the **Ladder Rung**. Repeat this process at every open hole allowing access to the **Socket Head Screws**.



The finished look of the **5/8" Button Cover Cap**.



Though not shown in the photos, we now include a plastic washer to go under the 5/16" flange nut to protect the foot adjuster. Thread one of the 5/16 plastic washers and 5/16x18 Flanged Jam Nuts onto the 5/16x18x2" LG Foot Adjuster.

Slide the **Foot Adjuster** through the **Rain Gutter Angle Mount** and thread it into the threaded hole of the **Upper Block** in the **Ladder Stringer**. Leave the **Jam Nut** loose until you finalize the ladder's mounting position. Repeat this process for the other stringer.



The **3 /4“ End Caps** can now be pressed into the bottom of the **Ladder Stringers**. These can be very snug and may need to be pressed in by using your weight down on the ladder while the **End Cap** is against a sturdy surface like a floor.





Lay the **Nylon Lanyard** down onto the table as seen below. Thread one of the **SS Quick Release Pins** over the **Nylon Lanyard** and then thread the loop of the **Nylon Lanyard** onto the key ring of the second **SS Quick Release Pin**.



Insert each of the **SS Quick Release Pins** into the holes on the **Bottom Support**.



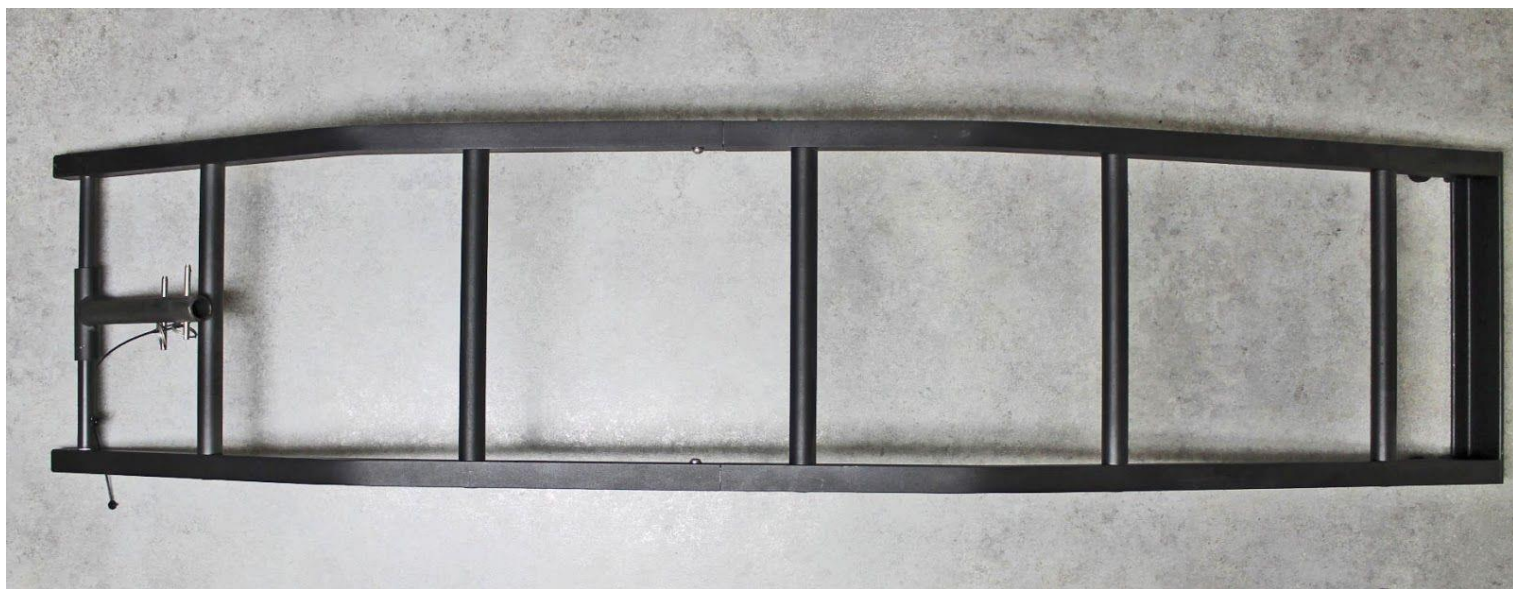
Wrap the loose end of the **Nylon Lanyard** around the **Bottom Rung** and snap the **Nylon Lanyard** onto itself. This will tether the **Nylon Lanyard** and **SS Quick Release Pins** to the ladder so they're not lost during the process of using the Ladder.





## Assembly Complete

The **Vanagon Ladder Kit** is now completely assembled and ready for installation.





## Installing the RMW Ladder on your Van

Take a look inside the jack point of your van. There is a small tab at the upper inside of the jack point that needs to be bent upward by about  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". You can use a small pry bar or large screwdriver, etc.



Hang the ladder from the rain gutter and screw the bump stop **OUT** until it just touches the body of your van.



Move to the lower section and push the bottom of the ladder into the jack point until the hole for the second pin is inside the jack point. The ladder should now be under slight tension so it does not rattle or vibrate. If there is still looseness in the fit, screw the bump stop a little tighter against the body of the van. The goal is to have the ladder secure but not tightly sprung.





## Installation Complete

Congratulations! Please enjoy your Rocky Mountain Westy ladder.



Thank you for your continued support of  
Rocky Mountain Westy products!