

*Rudy's*

*\*\* Removable side panel cover retainer system \*\**

# PanelKeeper Deluxe Kit

## for GL1500 Side Panels

- Installs in about 10 minutes per retainer - No tools required! Both sides, front and rear included
- Prevents loss of detachable panels – Stop losing expensive side panels and covers
- SecondBase prevents paint and pin damage due to wind flapping that can occur with single tethers.
- Ultra-strong tethers and clips – Install once and forget it from then on
- Detachable connectors included for easy panel removal and re-attachment
- Won't rust or make noise, no holes required
- Allows hanging panel from rear strap by detaching front strap for maintenance or battery access
- 2 Year Materials and Workmanship Warranty! Even the stitching is sealed!

Congratulations on the purchase of your new PanelKeeper Deluxe GL1500 kit. This super strong and easy to install kit will save you countless headaches and money by preventing the unexpected loss of your expensive side covers and protect your paint at the same time. The kit is a one time install-and-forget system to provide years of trouble free use for your motorcycle.



### Installation:

**Warning: Successful adhesion is critical.** Failure to follow these steps for preparation of the panel to adhere the special adhesive base to the panel will likely be cause for failure of the adhesive and possible loss of the panel!!! This adhesive is rated by 3M at 140 lb/sq. in. tensile strength and operational temps of -40F to 200F but ONLY if it is installed properly and done so between temps of 60F-80F. This VHB adhesive REQUIRES, a perfectly clean, dry, oil-free surface that mates perfectly with of the facing tape surface. Additionally, you only get one chance to place it! It is permanent, so do it right the first time. We will not be responsible for adhesion failure due to improper preparation procedures, from deviations from the outlined in the steps below.

**Note:** The forward-most (front) mounting base is the one which is not designed for flat surfaces and it has no adhesive, or tape, on the back side touching the stainless rod. The rear mounting base is flat or nearly flat and has a clear adhesive, or tape, covering the back of the stainless rod. The clear adhesive, or tape, prevents noise from the rear base stainless rod. The front base is restricted by the base, the strap and the panel when mounted and does not require adhesive to be silent.

**Read all directions before starting installation steps.**

1. This kit contains one packet of 3M adhesion promoter. It is recommended that all four mount locations be prepared and ready before opening the packet. This way you will have enough adhesion promoter for all four base locations. It should be applied sparingly in each location. It is recommended that protective rubber gloves be used when handling open packages of adhesion promoter. Once the packet is opened, it evaporates quickly and cannot be saved.
2. Be sure to protect the outside paint on the panels while preparing them for base attachment.
3. Open the Kit and place the bases on the panels where they will go without removing the protective film on the adhesive strips. **DO NOT REMOVE THE ADHESIVE COVERS AT THIS TIME.** You should slide the bases around on the insides of the panels to identify the best mounting locations for each. (see photo on page 1)

Typically, for the forward-most PanelKeeper base, one corner of the base will be near the panel's molded grommet base and the diagonally opposite corner of the base will be near the edge of the panel. (see highlight yellow marker dots in the photo on page 1) You may need to rotate and reposition the base to find the best contact for the adhesive pads. The stainless rod in the base will 'hang' in the space allowed where the curved ridge in the panel occurs. The stainless rod must not lift the panel pads off of the contact points on the panel.

Repeat the process for the rear-most SecondBase. It is intended that the rear base be mounted to the panel horizontally (parallel to the top of the panel). Typically it will sit just above two of the panel badge alignment pins (indicated by yellow dots on the page 1 photo).

The adhesive surfaces of the bases are not intended to contact 100% of the panel. The tape adhesive surface area is designed so that the bases would hold the panel with much less contact area. However, the more contaminant free surface area of the tape making contact to the panel, the stronger the mounting will be.

4. Once the positions have been identified, use the bases in position to act as a template to allow you to mark the outline of the bases onto the panel. This can be done with a felt pen or masking/painter's tape. Then set the bases aside.
5. Prepare the base locations by removing any paint down to the black ABS panel inside the outlines you made by using light sandpaper, followed by fine steel wool. Do not use power tools to achieve this as you risk damaging the thin plastic base of the panels. Once finished, the plastic surfaces should be smooth. Any area you do not remove paint will not be nearly as strong as if the surface of the VHB tape were direct to the ABS panel. It is common for paint to easily pull away from plastic panels.
6. Once the base locations are smooth, they should be cleaned of all oil and debris (including dust) with a clean cloth or towel and isopropyl alcohol and allowed to dry.

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7. After all four base locations are cleaned and ready, open the 3M adhesion promoter where the tear line in the side of the packet indicates. Do not touch the liquid inside. Instead, wear rubber gloves and hold the packet by the remaining end. Wipe the liquid from the exposed sponge over the prepared surfaces. Adhesion promoter does not need to be excessive and should not be allowed outside of the outlined base areas. But if you need more, squeezing the package will force more of the remaining liquid onto the outer part of the sponge where you can use it. Once applied to all four base locations, dispose of the packet safely away from sparks, pets or children. Allow the applied liquid to dry completely before proceeding. The adhesion promoter is flammable. Please go to the 3M site for details and warnings about using this product.
8. Remove the VHB tape covers from one base at a time and carefully and slowly hover over the location exactly where the base will be placed (remember the outlines?). Slowly stick the base to the panel. Press the two parts together firmly. The adhesive is very aggressive and does not allow repositioning. So beware of this. Once stuck, it's there, wherever you stuck it. The adhesion will be about 70% strong on contact and about 90% strong overnight. 100% strength is achieved over the next few days. But this kit is overbuilt to take this into account so immediate use is possible and even recommended.
9. Now you are ready to attach the other ends (the loop ends) of the straps to your bike frame. Unbuckle the loop ended half of the webbing strap.
10. Feed the end of the webbing with the sewn loop end around whatever point you wish to use for the bike attachment of the kit. I like to use the round tube just under the forward panel mount post for the front strap and up on the frame under the seat behind the cross strap for the rear connection. Due to the size and reach for the rear strap, I do not double wrap that one. But you can place it and move it wherever you prefer.
11. Take the plastic open end of the buckle and feed it through the sewn loop in the same strap and pull tight. As mentioned, if you need a shorter strap, increase the number of wraps around the frame before sticking the buckle through the loop.
12. Snap the buckle ends into each other and tuck the excess (if any) underneath the panel and press your panel back in place.

That's all there is to it! Assuming you did both side panels, you are done!

See the images on the next page for a better idea about the procedures.

It is recommended that you review the install guide for the LidKeeper Kit that was done by GSMacLean on his site at <http://www.goldwingdocs.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=11&t=1112>. The base preparation he uses in that review is very clearly done and well explained.



Please contact us about any questions or problems you may have with your PanelKeeper Deluxe GL1500 kit installation or usage at [support@thefarend.com](mailto:support@thefarend.com)

Your comments or suggestions are always welcome.

We have done our best to make this kit as strong, reliable and easy to install as possible for you.

If you followed the instructions carefully, this kit will easily prevent the loss of your panels and at the same time, prevent them from flying around in the wind when loose which will save damage to your paint, pins, panels and persons.

A few usage suggestions: We have found that it may be convenient to secure the buckle of the straps that hang from the bike to other objects on the bike to prevent having to hunt for the bike side of the strap after a panel has been detached (avoid attaching to hot and acidic areas).

For example, the right side rear strap does well when cable tied to the large ground wire coming from the battery (assuming that the battery acid is controlled). That way the buckle mate can be found and easily reattached using only one hand.

You can also detach just the front buckle, swing the panel outward hanging on the rear strap and set the bottom corner of the panel onto the foot board support bar. This allows access to that area without having to remove the panel entirely. This is very convenient for doing battery jumps and checking fuses on the road. This procedure cannot be recommended in windy conditions.

The PanelKeeper and SecondBase kits are also available separately for other purposes on ebay and on our Keeper Grid page at:

[http://rudysbackyard.com/Rudys\\_Keeper\\_Grid.html](http://rudysbackyard.com/Rudys_Keeper_Grid.html)

Thanks for purchasing Rudy's PanelKeeper Deluxe GL1500 kit.