Luggage roof rack

My ‚bath tub' – as my garagist calls it - has the size of 180x143x10 cm und is made of 3mm aluminum checker plate. Although the whole thing is quite heavy, it is also very practical. On the basis of my experience, I cannot complain at all. The price is much lower than any other professional rack roof system. I have mounted the ‚bath-tub' on four ‚Thule' mounting racks in such a way that it can be attached/detached with a few screws or bolts without pulling down the Thule basic bars. This has the advantage that I can realise various options. Whether I mount my luggage rack, my roof tent or something else, it's done with a few screws.

The size of the roof rack is more than adequate. It normally carries my spare tire, four standard aluminum cases as well as two self-made (adapted) aluminum boxes. In case of emergency (eg broken parts of my Zebra) there is even some room left in the spacing between the standard load. I have fixed all elements with normal bails that are easily available. As the space between my roof and the rack is roughly 10 cm, there is no problem of fixing the bails to the rack. However, make sure that the weight is evenly spread, specifically between left and right as otherwise you run into stability problems while driving (apart from the lopsided strain of the bumpers, tires etc). Those who want to be perfect can balance the load also in regard to the rear and front axles. In addition, I have screwed a bar system on the rack that I can extract when camping and attach a parasol, a rain shield or a mosquito repellent (or a combination of them) when needed.

Admittedly, there is one disadvantage. As the roof rack is quite heavy, I had to constuct a crane to lift it onto the roof. That cost quite some money and was as expensive as the rack itself. I built it in a modular concept. It can be assembled in about 30 minutes and needs only minimal space if not in use. It's not a professional construction but it's ok for my needs (I don't change the roof rack every week).

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