



**1. Prior to hook-up, check hitch on tow vehicle.**

- a. Check for loose bolts, attaching pins, etc.
- b. Check ball for proper torque and size to match trailer coupler.
- c. When receiver hitch is used, check cross pin and safety pin.

Caution, an incorrectly matched coupler and ball will most likely lead to an accident and could cause damage to the trailer and/or injury to involved persons.

Always check to insure a clear path before backing your tow vehicle to the trailer. Check to be sure that no small children and/or other persons are in the specific (immediate) area when backing up to your trailer. Until you have become accustomed to the procedure, generally it is much easier to back the vehicle with someone guiding you for correct alignment with the trailer coupler. Make sure that the trailer coupler will clear the top of the ball, failure to do so could cause you to push your trailer and possibly cause damage to your trailer. Always back your vehicle at a slow rolling speed. If you are not familiar or it is unclear how the hitch or couplers operate, see the section on Bumper Pull Coupler And Hitch or Gooseneck Coupler And Hitch located in the manual.

**2. Check electrical connector plug on vehicle.**

- a. Visually check for loose or frayed wires hanging from the plug and where it's connected to tow vehicle wiring.
- b. Using test light or test stand, check for electric current in plug at the proper pin location in the plug. (Marker lights, Left turn, Right turn, Brake, Ground and Auxiliary hot wire, if applicable)

**3. Hook trailer to tow vehicle.**

- a. Check for proper ball size to match trailer hitch coupler, verify coupler securely attached to ball and insert safety pin.
- b. Connect trailer to tow vehicle.
- c. Attach safety chains to safety chain loops on the tow vehicle.

(Chains must be hooked to a permanent member of the tow vehicle. The addition of eyes or loops may be necessary to accommodate the safety chain properly. It is suggested to cross the chains when hooking them to the tow vehicle. This should allow the coupler to be cradled should the trailer improperly leave the tow vehicle.)

**4. Check trailer for proper towing attitude. A loaded or unloaded trailer must be towed with a positive hitch height for a safe towing.**

- a. When the hook-up is slightly higher compared to a level trailer, smoother performance is given.

**5. Connect electrical plug to the vehicle by opening the lid covering the receptacle and lining up the notch in the receptacle with the protrusion on the plug, then pressing firmly into place. Then check lights by verifying on trailer as follows:**

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- a. Check marker light (running lights) with only park lights on. If interior dome lights are applicable, they should be tested now to see if they are wired in conjunction with marker lights on the trailer.
- b. Turn off tow vehicle park lights, then turn on left turn signal and verify on the trailer.
- c. Turn off left turn signal, then turn on right turn signal and verify on the trailer.
- d. With turn signals and park lights at the off position, apply pressure to the brake pedal on the towing vehicle and verify that the brake (stop) lights are working.

Warning, always check that your trailer lights are operating before you begin towing the trailer.

**6. Check electric brakes if applicable.**

- a. Check electronic brake control for proper setting. Set the control's level adjustment and adjust the gain control as needed. Consult the brake control manual for proper adjustment procedure.
- b. After setting the brake control, start the tow vehicle and pull the trailer forward. Apply the trailer brakes manually using the brake control only. Repeat this several times adjusting the gain control until smooth braking is achieved.

**7. Check the emergency brake-away system with the break-away battery installed.**

- a. Pull the emergency brake-away cable pin from the emergency break-away switch.
- b. Start the tow vehicle and try to pull the trailer forward, the brakes should now be engaged on the trailer only, causing a dragging pressure against the trailer.
- c. As soon as this procedure is tested, reapply the emergency break-away pin back into the switch. (While the pin is removed a depletion of energy is occurring from the battery.)

Connect the emergency breakaway switch independently and not to the safety chain or hitch ball, it needs to be attached securely to the tow vehicle.

Warning, always check the operation of the emergency breakaway switch and insure that it is connected to the tow vehicle.

**8. Check all tires for proper inflation.**

- a. Recommended proper tire inflation will be listed on the side wall of the tire.

Warning, never exceed the tire manufacturer's recommended capacity. If you feel that you will be loading your trailer beyond tire capacity, traveling excessive mileage, or in rough terrain, you may choose to upgrade your tires.

**9. Check all lug nuts for proper torque.**

- a. During the life of the trailer, it is recommended to periodically check lug nut torque. Failure to do so may result in damage to trailer and contents or injury.

Check suspension components, wheel and lug nuts for proper wear.

**10. Check all gates and latches.**

- a. All doors and gates should be closed and latched during towing.

**11. Demonstrate proper methods of latching all gates and doors.**