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# FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

Vehicle Recovery Electric Winch

# T-MAX

#### **VEHICLE RECOVERY ELECTRIC WINCH FITTING INSTRUCTIONS**

# **GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

#### **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

Warning! Observe safety precautions for personal safety and the safety of others. Improper equipment operation may cause personal injury and equipment damage. Read the following carefully before attempting to operate your winch and keep the instructions for future reference.

#### 1. Dress Properly:

- -Don't wear loose clothing or jewellery. They can be caught in moving parts.
- -Wear leather gloves when handling winch cable. Do not handle cable with bare hands as broken wires can cause injuries.
- -Non-skid footwear is recommended.
- -Protective hair covering to contain long hair.

#### 2. Keep a Safe Distance:

- -Ensure that all persons stand well clear of winch cable and load during winch operation, 1.5 times the cable length recommended. If a cable pulls loose or breaks under load it can lash back and cause serious personal injury or death.
- -Don't step over the cable.
- -All visitors and onlookers should be kept away from the work area.
- -Keep proper footing and balance at all times.

#### 3. Don't Abuse the Cord:

- -Never carry your winch by the cord or yank it to disconnect it from the receptacle.
- -Keep cord from heat, oil and sharp edges.

#### 4. Don't Overwork the winch:

- If the motor becomes uncomfortably hot to touch, stop and let it cool for a few minutes.
- Don't maintain power to the winch if the motor stalls.
- Don't exceed maximum line pull ratings shown in tables. Shock loads must not exceed these ratings.

#### 5. Avoid Unintentional Starting:

- Winch clutch should be disengaged when not in use and fully engaged when in use.

#### 6. Check Damaged Parts:

- Before using, you should check your winch carefully. Any part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorized service centre.

#### 7. Repair Your Winch:

- When repairing, use only identical replacement parts or it may cause considerable danger to the user.

#### 8. Re-spool the cable:

- Leather gloves must be worn while re-spooling. To re-spool correctly, it is necessary to keep a slight load on the cable. Hold the cable with one hand and the remote control switch with the other. Start as far back and in the centre as you can .Walk up keeping load on the cable as the winch is powered in.
- Do not allow the cable to slop through your hand and do not approach the winch too closely.
- Turn off the winch and repeat the procedure until all the cable except 1m is left.
- Disconnect the remote control switch and finish spooling in cable by rotating the drum by hand with clutch disengaged.
- -On hidden winches, spool in cable under power but keep hands clear.

**Warning:** The use of any other accessory or attachment other than those recommended in the Fitting Instructions may present a risk of personal injury.



### **WINCH OPERATION WARNINGS**

Read the following carefully before attempting to operate your winch and keep the instructions for future reference.

- 1. The uneven spooling of cable, while pulling a load, is not a problem, unless there is a cable pile up on one end of the drum. If this happens reverse the winch to relieve the load and move your anchor point further to the centre of the vehicle. After the job is done, you can un-spool and rewind for a neat lay of the cable.
- 2. Store the remote control switch inside your vehicle where it will not become damaged, inspect before you plug it in.
- **3.** When ready to begin spooling in, plug in remote control switch with clutch disengaged, do not engage clutch with motor running.
- **4.** Never connect the hook back to the cable. This causes cable damage. Always use a sling or chain of suitable strength.
- **5.** Observe your winch while winching, if possible while standing at a safe distance. Stop the winching process every metre or so to assure the cable is not piling up in one corner. Jamming the cable can break your winch.
- 6. Do not attach tow hooks to winch mounting apparatus. They must be attached to vehicle frame.
- 7. The use of a snatch block will aid recovery operations by providing a doubling of the winch capacity and a halving of the winching speed, and the means to maintain a direct line pull to the centre of the rollers. When double loading during stationary winching, the winch hook should be attached to the chassis of the vehicle.
- **8.** Ensure rated "D" or bow shackles are used in conjunction with an approved tree trunk protector to provide a safe anchor point.
- 9. When extending winch cable, ensure that at least FIVE (5) wraps of cable remain on drum at all times. Failure to do this could result in the cable parting from the drum under load. Serious personal injury or property damage may result.
- **10.** All winches are provided with a Red Cable marking to identify that 5 cable wraps remain on the winch drum when this mark appears at the rollers. No recovery should be attempted beyond this marking.
- 11. Since the greatest pulling power is achieved on the innermost layer of your winch, it is desirable to pull off as much line as you can for heavy pulls (you must leave 5 wraps minimum on the drum-red cable). If this is not practical use a snatch block and double line arrangement.
- **12.** Draping a heavy blanket or similar object over the extended winch cable is recommended as it will dampen any back lash should a failure occur.



- 13. Neat, tight spooling avoids cable blinding, which is caused when a load is applied and the cable is pinched between the others. If this happens, alternatively power the winch in and out. Do not attempt to work a bound cable under load, free by hand.
- 14. Apply blocks to wheels when vehicles are on an incline.

#### 15. Battery:

- -Be sure that the battery is in good condition. Avoid contact with battery acid or other contaminants.
- -Always wear eye protection when working around a battery.
- -Have the engine running when using the winch, to avoid flattening the battery.

#### 16. Winch cable:

- -Be sure that the cable is in good condition and is attached properly.
- -Do not use the winch if cable is frayed.
- -Do not move the vehicle to pull a load.
- -Do not replace the cable with a cable of lesser strength.
- -The life of cable is directly related to the use and care it receives. Following its first and subsequent uses, a cable must be wound onto the drum under a load of at least 500lbs (230kg) or the outer wraps will draw into the inner wraps and severely damage the cable during winching. The first winch use should be a familiar run while ina relaxed, non-recovery situation. Spool out the cable until the red cable mark appears (about five wraps on the drum), when rewind the cable onto the drum under a load of 500lbs (230kg) or more. This will slightly tension and stretch the new cable and create a tight cable wrap around the drum. Failure to do so may result in cable damage and reduced cable life.
- When the cable is replaced, be sure to apply locktite, or the cable clamp thread. Tighten the clamp screw properly but do not over-tighten. The locktite will prevent loosening of the screw in arduous conditions. Locktite 7471 primer and 222 Thread Locker are recommended.
- When replacing the steel wire rope or the fiber rope, be sure to disconnect the winch cable to "+" (positive) of the battery, and disengage the clutch by move the clutch handle to the "OUT" position.

Should you choose fiber rope to take place of the winch steel wire rope,

- Please make sure this fiber rope preferred can with stands the maximum capacity of your winch. Always bear in mind the working load limitation of this fiber rope, and never exceed the working load limitation or shock load of your rope.
- Fiber rope should be attached to winch drum properly, always remain enough wraps on the winch drum when extending rope. Failure to do this could result in rope parting from the drum. Serious personal injury or property damage may result.
- Please make sure the fiber rope in good condition, without cuts or pulled strands. Fiber rope will fail in case worn, damaged, overloaded, or not properly maintained.
- Do not stand within the lash-back area.
- Do not use over rough surfaces without chafe protection.
- Do not bend around unprotected, sharp corners.

T-MAX manufactures high performance winch synthetic ropes, which are made with Dyneema SK-75 fiber. Please contact T-MAX official distributors or write to tmax@tmaxtools.com for more information.



- 17. Do not attempt to exceed the pulling limits of this winch.
- **18.** Do not drive your vehicle to assist the winch in any way. Vehicle movement in combination with winch operation may overload the cable, the winch itself or cause damaging shock loads.
- **19.** Shock loads when winching are dangerous! A shock load occurs when an increased force is suddenly applied to the cable. A vehicle rolling back on a slack cable may induce a damaging shock load.
- 20. The winches shown in this manual are solely for vehicle and boat mount, non-industrial applications.
- 21. Do not use winch in hoisting applications due to required hoist safety factors and features.
- 22. Do not use the winch to lift, support or otherwise transport personnel.
- 23. Never operation your eletric winch in gas (petrol) station, or any place has explosive gas.
- 24. Only DC power can be applied to the winch stated in this Fitting Instructions.

# **INSTALLATION**

#### **MOUNTING YOUR WINCH**

- 1. a) The winch is to be mounted into a suitable steel mounting frame using the 4 point foot mounting system in either a horizontal or vertical plane.
  - b) It is very important that the winch be mounted on a flat surface so that the three sections (motor, cable drum and gear housing) are properly aligned.
  - c) Before commencing installation, ensure the mounting facility being used is capable of with standing the rated capacity of the winch.
  - d) The fitment of winches and / or a frontal protection system may affect the triggering of SRS air bags. Check that the mounting system has been tested and approved for winch fitment in the air bag equipped vehicle.
- 2. Should you wish to manufacture your own mounting plate the dimensions below will assist. A steel mount plate of at least 6mm thickness is recommended. Fasteners should be steel high tensile grade 5 or better. A poorly designed mount may void warranty.
- 3. The winch should be secured to the mounting with 3/8 " UNC\* 1-1/4" steel bolts and spring washers provided.
- 4. The roller fairlead is to be mounted so as to guide the rope onto the drum evenly.
- 5. Winch dimensions and mounting patterns are provided together with the winch specification.

#### **LUBRICATION INSTALLATION**

All moving parts in the winch are permanently lubricated with high temperature lithium grease at the time of assembly. Under normal conditions factory lubrication will suffice. Lubricate cable periodically using light penetrating oil. Inspect for broken strands and replace if necessary. If the cable becomes worn or damaged, it must be replaced.



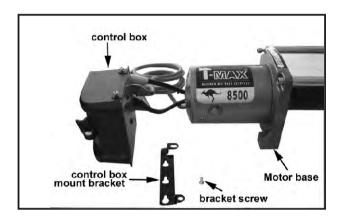
#### **CABLE INSTALLATION**

Unwind the new cable by rolling it along the ground, to prevent kinking. Remove old cable and observe the manner in which it is attached to the drum flange.

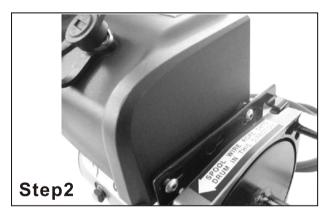
#### **MOUNT THE CONTROL BOX**

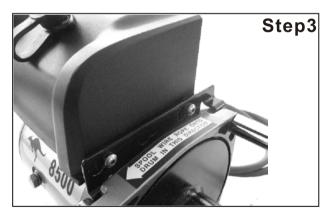
Note please the control box can be mounted in various ways according to the different actual situations. What stated in this Fitting Instruction is only two of the mount solutions suggested by the manufacturer, which shows the steps to attach the control box to the winch motor base.

#### Solution1





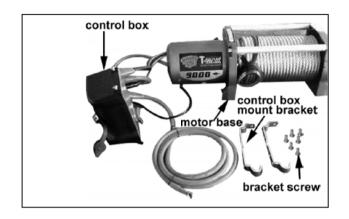


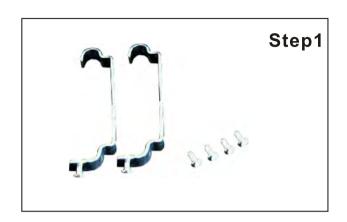


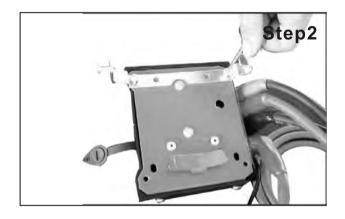


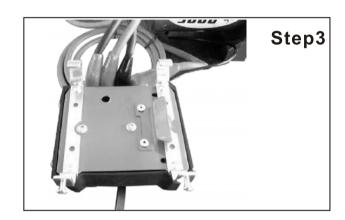


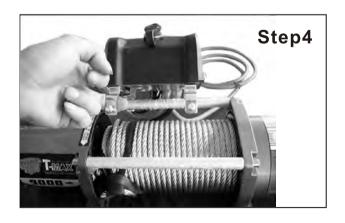
# Solution2

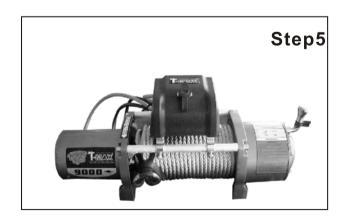












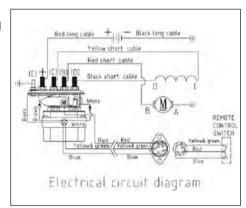


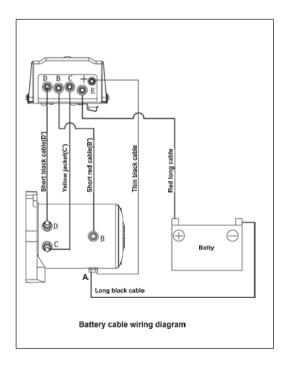
#### **ELECTRICAL CONNECTION**

For normal self-recovery work, you existing electrical system is adequate. A fully charged battery and proper connections are essential. Run the vehicle engine during winching operations to keep battery charged.

Pay close attention to proper electrical cable connection as follows (refer to Diagram 1)

- 1. Short Red cable (B') connecting to the red terminal (B) of the motor.
- 2. Short black cable with yellow jacket (C') connecting to the yellow terminal (C)of the motor.
- Short black cable with black jacket (D') connecting to the black terminal (D) of the motor
- **4.** Thin black cable (E) connecting to bottom terminal (A) of the motor.
- **5.** Long Black Cable(1.8m), one terminal (A') connecting to the bottom terminal (A) of the motor, and the other terminal negative (-) connecting to negative (-) terminal of battery.
- **6.** Long red cable positive (+) connecting to positive (+) terminal of battery.





#### NOTE:

- 1. Your battery must be kept in good condition.
- 2. Be sure battery cables are not drawn taught across any surfaces, which could possibly damage them.
- 3. Corrosion on electrical connections will reduce performance or may cause a short.
- 4. Clean all connections especially in remote control switch and receptacle.
- 5. In salty environments use a silicone sealer to protect from corrosion.
- 6. Index the heads of the plate sutds into the keyhole slots on the back of the winch.
- 7. Attached the winch/Adaptor plate assembly to your trailer hitch, by inserting the trailer hitch ball through the shaped hole in the Adaptor plate.



# **WINCH OPERATION**

#### SUGGESTION:

The best way to get acquainted with how your winch operates is to make a few test runs before you actually need to use it. Plan your test in advance. Remember you can hear your winch as well as you can see it operate. Get to recognize the sound of a light steady pull, a heavy pull, and sounds caused by load jerking or shifting. Soon you will gain confidence in operating your winch and its use will become second nature to you.

#### **OPERATING:**

- 1. Ensure the vehicle is secured by applying the parking brake or chocking the wheels.
- 2. Pull out the winch cable the desired length and connect to an anchor point. The winch clutch allows rapid uncoiling of the cable for hooking onto the load or anchor point. The shifter tab located on the gear housing of the winch operates the clutch as follows:
  - (A) To disengage the clutch, move the clutch shifter tab to the "OUT" position. Cable may be free spooled off the drum.
  - (B) To engage the clutch, move the clutch shifter tab into the "IN" position. The winch is now ready for pulling.
- 3. Recheck all cable rigging before proceeding.
- **4.** Plug in the winch hand control. It is recommended that the winching operation takes place from the driver's position to ensure safe operation.
- 5. To commence winching operation, start vehicle engine, select neutral in transmission, maintain engine speed at idle.
- **6.** Operate the remote control switch to IN or OUT until the vehicle has been retrieved. Regularly check the winch to ensure cable is winding onto the drum evenly.

#### Note:

- 1. Never winch with your vehicle in gear or in park, which would damage your vehicle's transmission.
- 2. Never wrap the cable around the object and hook onto the cable when winching.
- 3. Keep hands, clothing, hair and jewellery clear of the drum area and cable when winching.
- 4. Hever use the winch if the cable is frayed, kinked or damaged.
- **5.** Never allow anyone to stand near the cable, or in line with the cable behind the winch while it is under power. If the cable should slip or brake, it can suddenly whip back towards the winch, causing a hazzard for anyone in the area. Always stand well to the side while winding.
- 6. Don't leave the switch plugged in when winch is not in use.

#### CHECK THE WINCH CAREFULLY AND THOROUGHLY BEFORE OPERATING!



# **MAINTENANCE**

It is highly recommended that the winch be used regularly (once a month). Simply power the cable out 15m, free spool 5m and then power back in. This will keep all components in good working condition so that the winch can be relied on when needed. Contact your authorized outlet for technical assistance and repairs.

#### **SPARE PARTS:**

A comprehensive range of spare parts is available. For further information please contact the distributors from whom you get your winch.

#### NOTE:

The safety precautions and instructions discussed in this manual can't cover all possible conditions and situations that may occur. It must be understood by the operator that common sense and caution are factors, which cannot be built into this product, but must be applied by the operator.