

Hints and Tips

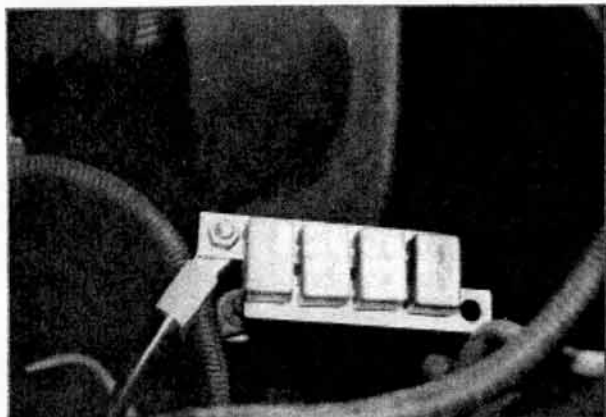


Photo #1



Photo #2

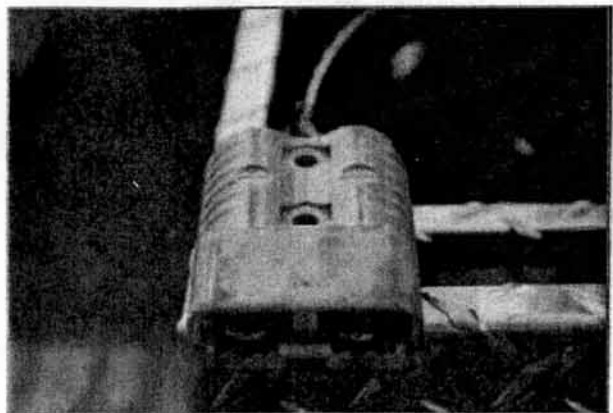


Photo #3

Remote Wiring for a Trailer Mounted Winch

by Rick Tufts

I mounted a 3500 pound winch to my Les King tilt trailer and devised a wiring hookup for ease of operation.

The winch came with a breaker panel (shown in photo #1) that is attached to the battery (but not in this picture). I ran AWG #2 copper wire from the breaker, down the frame rail and to the rear bumper (shown in photo #2).

I used AWG #6 red stranded wire for the ground wire. The ground wire is attached to the frame at the rear of the truck.

Photo # 3 shows the "plug-in" type connector I bought from my local golf cart dealership. I live in a golf community, so they are easy to find. I believe your welding supply store and NAPA also have these type of connectors. These come in different sizes so I used the larger size to accommodate the large diameter of wire selected. I soldered the wire ends to the lugs inside these connectors instead of crimping them. The crimping doesn't seem to be as strong and the solder offers better electrical contact.

Photo #4 shows the complete hookup from the rear of my truck and over to the winch. I made the winch cable from the same size wire as what I ran from the breaker to the rear of the truck. I cut the winch cable to four feet in case I ever wanted to remount my winch to another location.

When the two cables are disconnected, the truck mounted cables are neatly tucked away under the rear bumper. I used a 6013 welding rod, chipped the compound off the rod, and formed the majority of it to the shape of a large U. I bent the other end around so I could bolt it to the truck frame. This is what holds the cable and connector out of sight and out of the way. I simply reach up under the bumper, lift the cable off the welding rod, hook them together, and I'm ready to winch.

This was a trial and error setup that worked out pretty well. You can perfect this setup if you like,

continued . . .

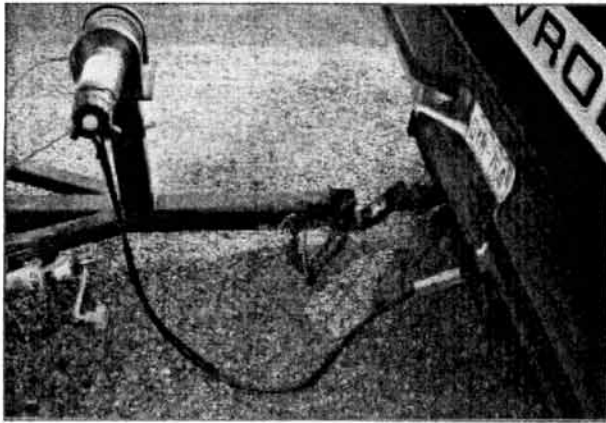


Photo #4



Photo #5

using whatever type of wire or components you find that works best for your truck and winch.

Here is a list of supplies I used:

Choices of wire from Lowes Hardware:

AWG # 2 copper wire, Item # 72611

AWG # 4 stranded thin black copper wire, Item # 72610

AWG # 6 red stranded wire, Item # 72687

Your choices of breaker panels from NAPA:

782-3027 w/6 - 15A 782-3002 breakers included

782-3028 w/6 - 20A 782-3106 breakers included

782-3032 without breakers included, but has slots for six breakers.

I listed three different wire sizes from Lowes Hardware and three different breaker panels from NAPA that you can choose from.

In photo #5, I replaced the stock Les King winch stand with a 20 inch tall, thin walled square tubing. This increased winch elevation, lessens the strain of the winch and cable angle when my trailer is tilted. In picture #5 you can also see I mounted an "I" bolt in the winch stand and used that to clip the end of the winch cable to. I used a rolling block in-line that I hook to my motorcar. This doubling of the winch cable really improves the pulling capabilities of my winch.

If any of you are looking for a way to wire up your winch trailer and do it easily, this is one way to do it. If you need any extra pictures, drop me an email (rtufts@nc.rr.com) and I'll get them in the mail.

Rick Tufts

