

RP-1669 4ft. Breakaway Switch Installation Instructions

Tools and materials needed:

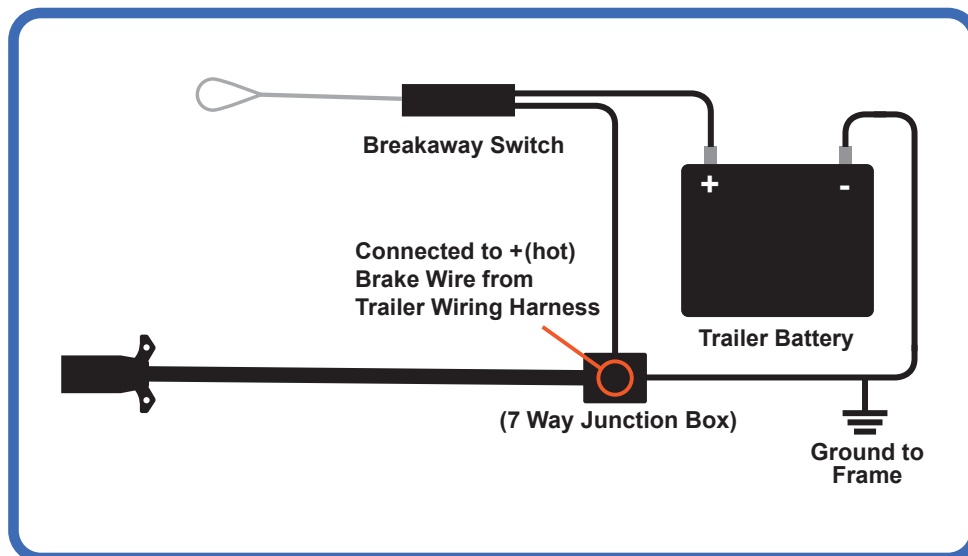
- Electric drill
- Drill bits
- Socket set
- 1/4" Diameter Bolt

The breakaway switch is designed to activate when the trailer detaches from the tow vehicle. In the event of trailer detachment, the lanyard cable pin is pulled out of the breakaway switch. This closes the circuit between the trailer battery and the brakes, which engages the brakes.



For proper breakaway function, it is important that the trailer battery be the right size for the brakes of the trailer, the terminal connections are clean, the trailer battery is fully charged, and the breakaway switch is installed following the guidelines below.

1. The breakaway switch should be mounted on a flat, horizontal area as close to the hitch as possible. The lanyard cable should not strain or encounter obstacles when connecting to the tow vehicle. The tow vehicle should be able to make sharp right and left turns without straining the lanyard cable.
2. Bolt the breakaway switch to the trailer frame using a minimum 1/4" diameter bolt. The bolt should be able to handle up to 75lbs of pull on the switch while allowing the switch to swivel.
3. Once the switch is installed and wired, (see diagram below) test the switch for proper functionality. Do this by pulling the lanyard pin out of the switch and verify that the trailer brakes engage. Push the lanyard pin back into the breakaway switch until flush, and verify the trailer brakes have been released.
4. Do not allow the lanyard cable to drag on the ground or become tangled. Tightly fasten the cable to the tow vehicle frame using tools such as tape or zip ties. **DO NOT fasten the lanyard cable to the trailer safety chains or hitch ball.**
5. Regularly test the breakaway switch before and after travel. Inspect the lanyard cable to ensure it is not damaged or loose. Verify the trailer battery is fully charged and maintained.
6. To test the breakaway switch, first disconnect the trailer cord from the tow vehicle. Pull the lanyard pin out of the breakaway switch, which should engage the brakes. Verify the brakes are engaged by attempting to move the tow vehicle forward.
7. When you are finished testing the breakaway switch, re-insert the pin until it is flush with the breakaway switch, which should disengage the brakes. Reconnect the trailer cable to the tow vehicle.
9. **DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES attempt to use the breakaway switch as a parking brake.**



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