

# BRAKELOCK INSTALLATION

**Congratulations!** You are the owner of the latest in safety equipment available for towing vehicles "four-wheels-down". The Brakelock may be the most valuable towing safety feature you own, that you may never use. When installed properly, the Brakelock will apply the brakes of the towed vehicle and keep them applied, in the event that the towed and towing vehicles become separated during towing. Automatic Equipment sincerely hopes this never happens, but the Brakelock will give you additional peace of mind while towing.

Some states and Canada **REQUIRE** the use of a device that applies the towed vehicles brakes in case of disengagement from the towing vehicle. The Brakelock fulfills this requirement. Check your state and local laws regarding this issue.

**IMPORTANT:** The Brakelock **DOES NOT** aid in stopping the towing unit during normal day to day towing, only the towed vehicle if it becomes disengaged. The Brakelock can be installed on a towing system that is utilizing an AutoStop. It can be installed in conjunction with a motorhome-mounted or a ball coupler style tow bar.

Read and understand the following installation and hook up instructions thoroughly before attempting to install the Brakelock.

1. Hook the towed vehicle to the towing vehicle for towing. If a self aligning tow bar is being used, be sure both arms, or chains, are fully extended to the locked towing position.
2. **Refer to Figure 1 for part names while installing.** Check the front of the towed vehicle for a suitable location to mount the Brakelock. The Brakelock must be mounted securely to the towed vehicle. Keep in mind that the brake cable and connector cable should be as straight as possible when the installation is completed. Usually, the Brakelock can be mounted behind the grill to a sound structural part of the frame. (Figure 3) Two 1/4 x 1 1/2 bolts have been included for this purpose. Two 9/32 holes will need to be drilled in the towed vehicle for mounting the Brakelock.

3. Once the Brakelock has been mounted, the brake cable housing can be installed. Visually select a route that will not interfere with any moving components or possibly contact electrical terminals and will lead the cable housing from the Brakelock to the general area where the steering column goes through the floor of the towed vehicle.
4. From the drivers seat note the distance and direction from the steering column to the brake pedal when the brake pedal is fully depressed. This will normally be a little below and a little inboard of the steering column. Mark a spot on the carpet with chalk where the cable should pass through the floor after making a loop around the brake pedal arm. (Figure 2) Measure the distance and direction and confirm that a drilled hole will not interfere with anything as stated in Step 3. When selecting the location for the hole, it should be positioned so the cable is pulling straight away on the brake pedal arm, not to either side and not up or down. (Figure 2)

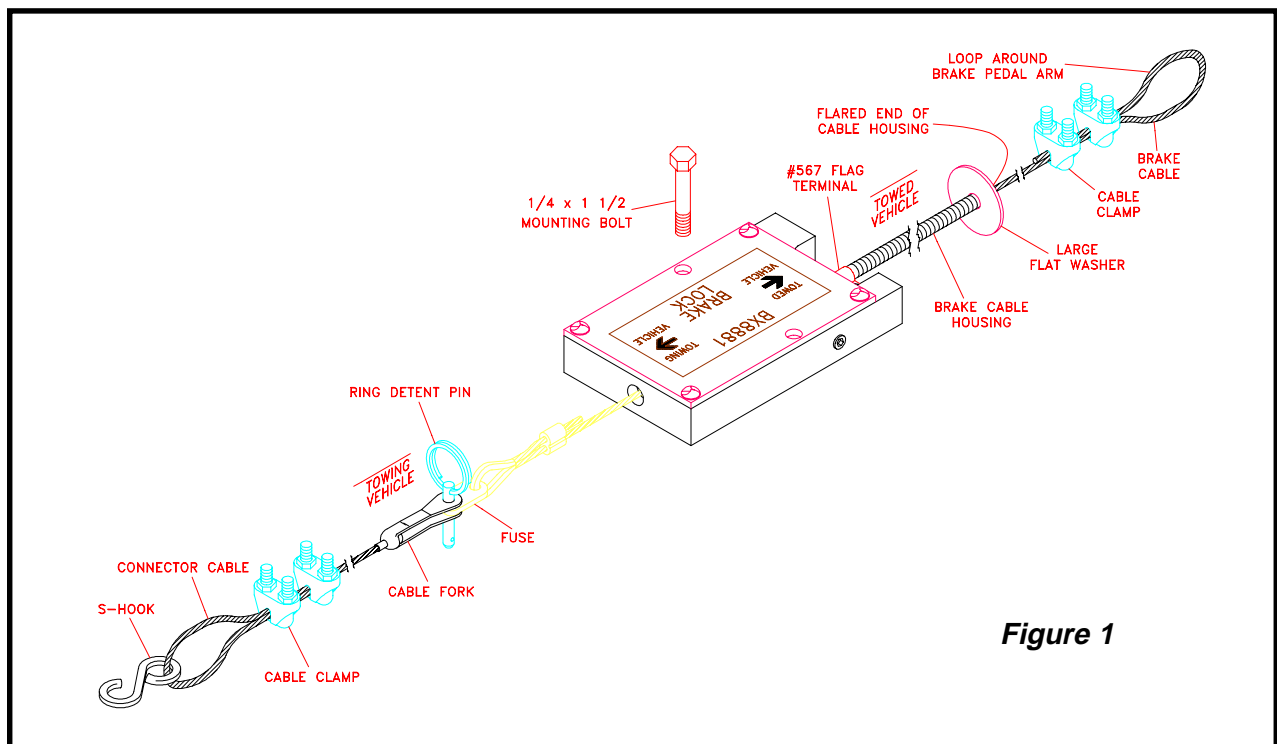
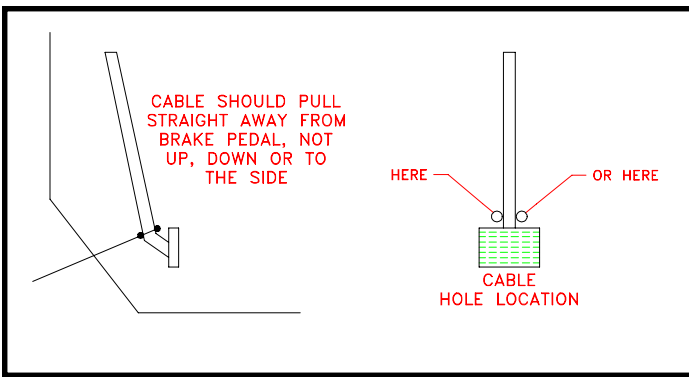


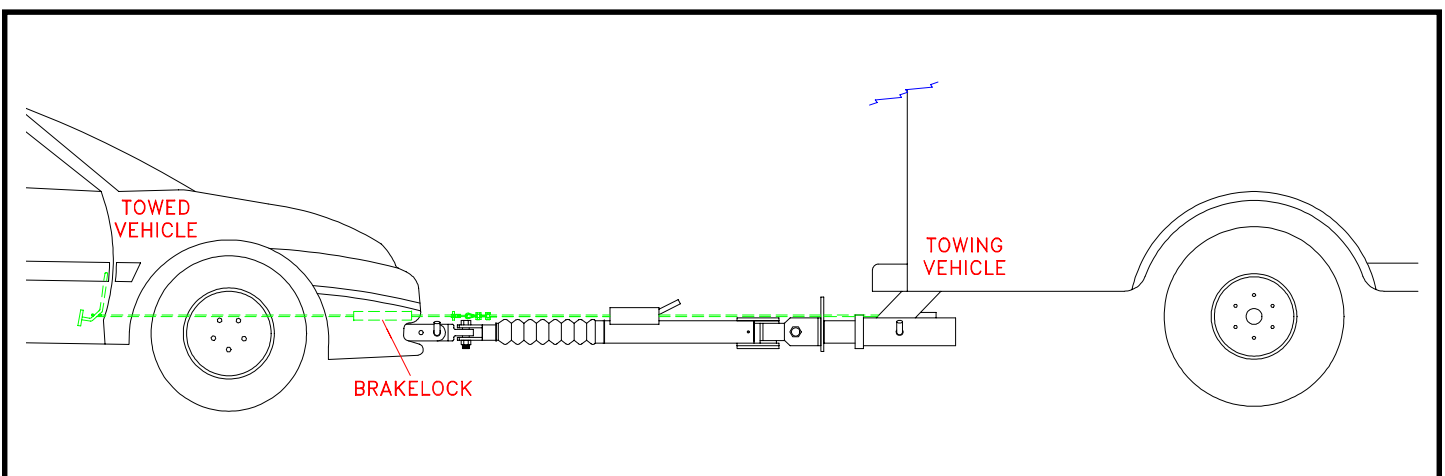
Figure 1

## BRAKELOCK INSTALLATION



**Figure 2**

- After you have confirmed that the location for the hole will not cause any problems, pull the carpet back and drill a 1/8 inch pilot hole. Allow the drill bit to just barely break through the metal floor. Next, inspect where the hole actually is from the engine compartment side to verify that this location will not cause problems and to see how the cable aligns with the brake arm. If the hole needs to be relocated slightly, re-drill and seal the previous hole with a rivet or sealant. When alignment is correct, enlarge the pilot hole with a 1/4 inch bit.
- Cut a slit in the carpet to correspond with the hole in the floor. Slide the large flat washer over the cable housing then feed the housing through the carpet and hole in the floor following your selected route as mentioned before. Do not make a turn tighter than a four (4) inch radius. If you need to make a bend in the housing you will need to anchor the housing in the middle of the bend with plastic cable ties available at most automotive and hardware stores. When installed properly, the flared end of the housing and the washer should be showing on top of the carpet. Avoid abrupt bends in the cable housing. Hold the end of the housing up to the rear of the Brakelock to determine the length needed and cut off excess housing with a pair of side cutters.
- Lubricate the brake cable with silicon spray and feed the cable from the Brakelock back through the cable housing. Secure the cable housing to the rear of the Brakelock body using the #567 flag terminal #10 washer and #10 screw provided in the parts bag.
- Loop the end of the cable around the brake pedal arm allowing the cable to feed directly and straight into the cable housing. Remove all of the slack in the cable, double the cable back on itself and secure it with the two U-bolt style cable clamps provided in the parts bag. Cut off the excess brake cable with a pair of side cutters. (Figure 2) **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to locate the cable clamps so that they will not come in contact with the floor when the brake pedal is depressed.
- Using the ring detent pin, attach the cable fork of the connector cable to the fuse on the brake cable at the front side of the Brakelock. Extend the connector cable to determine the length needed for the S-hook to reach the towing vehicle. **NOTE:** Most hitches have holes or loops provided to attach safety cables while towing. This is a good location to attach the S-hook of the connector cable. If your hitch does not have these, locate another suitable location in line with the Brakelock to attach the S-hook.
- With the S-hook attached there should be about 3-4 inches of vertical play in the connector cable. If this is not the case, you must loosen the cable clamps and adjust the length of the connector cable. When adjusted properly, cut the excess cable off and discard. **NOTE:** Be sure to tighten the cable clamps completely.
- Install all other safety and towing equipment as required. **IMPORTANT:** The Brakelock does not eliminate the necessity of safety chains, towing lights, transmission pumps or driveshaft disconnects. It is designed solely to apply the brakes in the event the towed and towing vehicles become separated.



**Figure 3**



## UNLOCKING THE BRAKELOCK

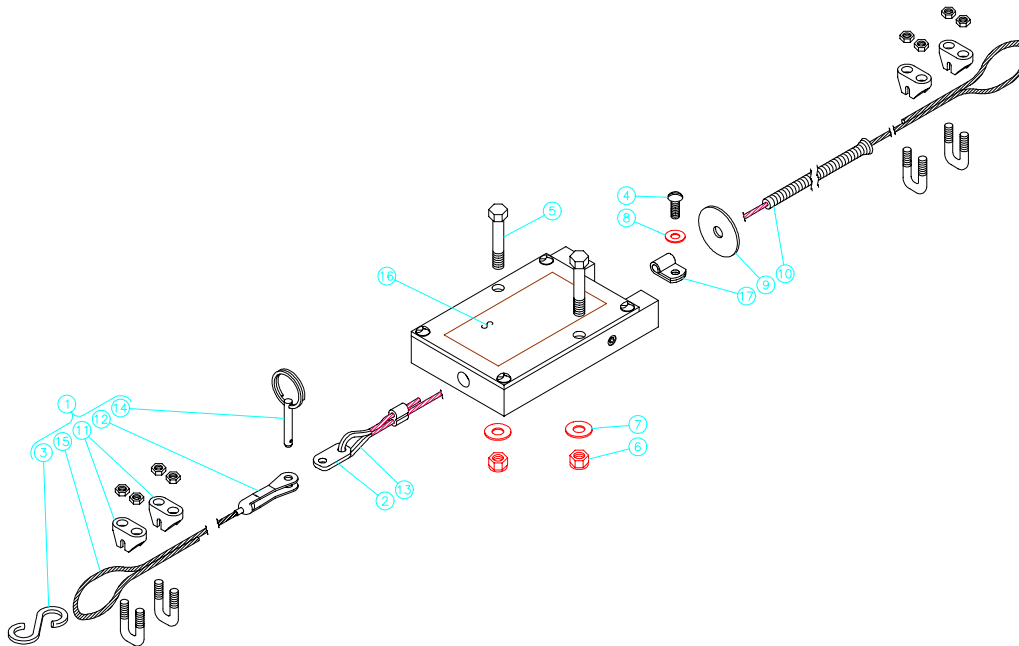
If the towed vehicle ever becomes disengaged and the Brakelock locks the brakes on, they will stay locked until the Brakelock is released. To do this, use an Allen wrench to remove the 3/8 set screw from the side of the Brakelock body. Once the set screw is out, remove the spring that is in the hole. This will release the cable.

**IMPORTANT:** Set the parking brake of the towed vehicle before releasing the Brakelock to keep it from rolling and possibly causing personal injury or property damage.

The Brakelock cables and fuse should be checked periodically for damage or wear. In order for the Brakelock to operate properly, all components must be in good condition. If there are any visible signs of wear or damage the component in question should be replaced immediately. Check all cable clamps periodically for tightness.

**IMPORTANT:** The fuse is designed to allow separation at a predetermined rate of pressure. If the fuse is damaged, the system may not operate as designed. To replace the fuse, order two cable clamps (item 11) a cable thimble (item 13) and a fuse (item 2). Cut the cable and replace the fuse and cable thimble then fasten the cable back together with the two cable clamps.

The Brakelock will only activate the towed vehicles brakes in the event of total separation of the two vehicles. The Brakelock is loaded with several feet of cable that will extend from the front of the Brakelock to allow the safety cables to do their job in keeping the towed vehicle behind the towing vehicle.



## Parts List

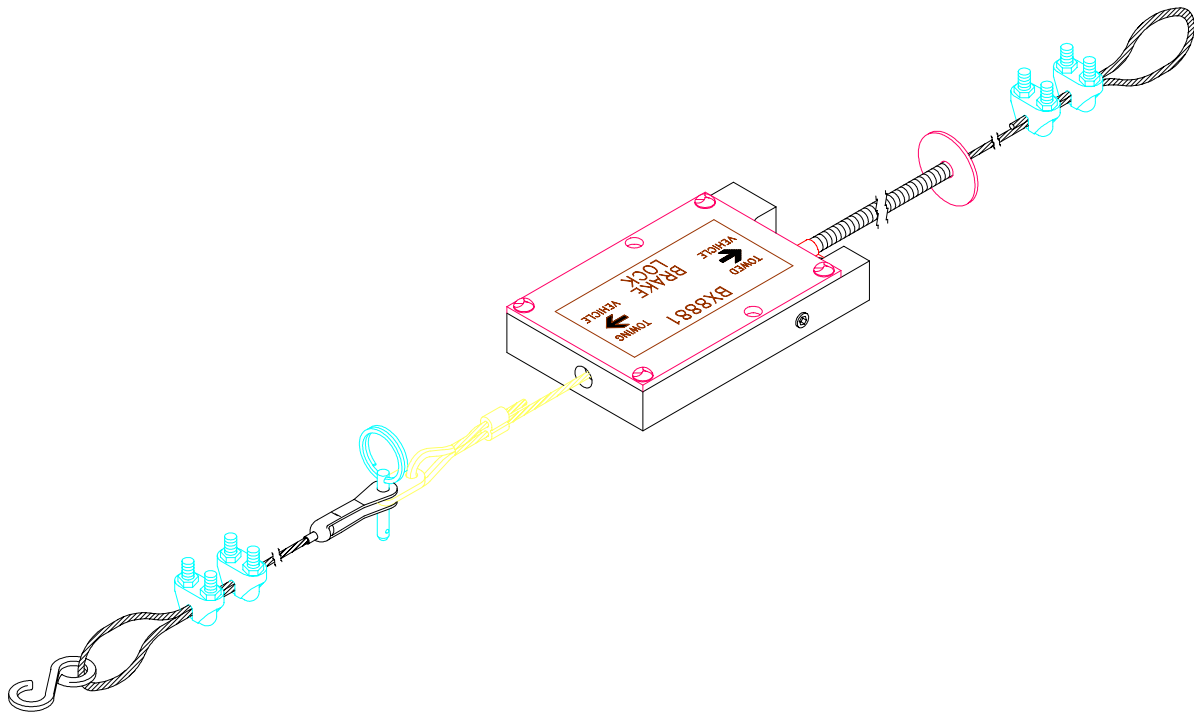
Ref. No.	Qty.	Part No.	Description	Ref. No.	Qty.	Part No.	Description
1*	1	62-3298	Connector Cable Assembly	10	1	222-0067	Cable Housing, 3/32 x 72
2	1	101-5681	Brake Lock Fuse	11	4	225-0052	Cable Clamp with U-Bolt, 3/32
3	1	200-0149	S-Hook	12	1	229-0361	Cable Fork
4	1	201-0318	#10-24 x 1/2 Slotted Round Head Screw	13	1	229-0362	Cable Thimble
5	2	201-0448	1/4-20 x 1 1/2 Hex Bolt, Grade 5	14	1	229-0363	Ring Detent Pin, 3/16 x 1 3/16
6	2	202-0102	1/4-20 Hex Nylon Insert Lock Nut	15	1	229-0494	3/32 Cable with Ball End x 84
7	2	203-0001	1/4 Flat Washer	16	1	292-2080	Brakelock Decal
8	1	203-0053	#10 Flat Washer	17	1	294-0248	#567 Flag Type Terminal
9	1	203-0128	1 1/4 OD x 9/32 ID x 1/16 Washer				

\* Includes one each of items 3, 12, 14, 15 & two of item 11

# Automatic



# BRAKELOCK



## PARTS AND INSTALLATION MANUAL

**BX8881  
BRAKELOCK**

**Automatic**

TOWING PRODUCTS DIVISION