

Do you need a Brake-Lite Relay?

You only need a Brake-Lite Relay if you're installing a supplemental towed vehicle braking system that pushes or pulls the brake pedal.

Exceptions–

- With the engine off, step on your brakes. If the brake lights do **not** illuminate, you do not need a Brake-lite Relay.
- If you're using magnetic tow lights or a bulb and socket wiring kit, you do **not** need a Brake-Lite Relay.
- If both your motorhome and towed vehicle are wired for separate brake and turn signals, you do **not** need a Brake-Lite Relay.

Note: many newer vehicles have a sleep mode which shuts down most electronics, including the brake lights, when the engine is turned off. However, this sleep mode isn't instantaneous – it takes a certain amount of time to kick in. Until that happens, your vehicle's brake lights will override the turn signal during towing.

To avoid this, you can either: a) install a Brake-Lite Relay; b) wire the vehicle so that the turn signals function while towing; c) install a bulb and socket kit; or d) wait for the sleep mode to activate before towing. The option you choose is a function of what works best for your particular towing combination.