Using your safety cables

Safety cables are a secondary safety device, required by law in many states. To ensure your safety and that of your passengers, follow these instructions to use them properly:

- Always use safety cables when towing. The safety cables must connect the motorhome to the towed vehicle, frame to frame.
- The weight of the towed vehicle, including all its contents, cannot exceed the weight capacity of the safety cables or the safety cables will fail.
- Pull the safety cables so that all the slack is at the motorhome. Be certain there is enough slack in the cables at the motorhome to allow for sharp turns – if there is not enough slack, the towing system will be severely damaged when the motorhome turns.
- The safety cables must be the correct length...
- Make certain the cables are not too short – if you use a receiver hitch extension or other equipment that extends the distance between the towed vehicle and the motorhome, the standard cables may be too short. If the cables are too short, the towing system will be severely damaged when the motorhome turns a sharp corner. Safety cable extensions (or longer safety cables) may be necessary for use with accessories which extend the length of the towing system.
- Make certain the cables are not too long – the cables should not hang down to the extent they may catch on obstructions or drag on the ground. This much slack could cause damage to the towing system, the towed vehicle or the motorhome.
- If the cables are too long, wrap the excess cable around the tow bar to take up the slack. The last pass must be to the inside, to allow the towed vehicle to track in line behind the motorhome (Refer to the accompanying diagrams.). Be certain there is enough slack in the cables at the motorhome to allow for sharp turns.
- Always cross the cables under the hitch receiver, as shown in the diagrams on pages two, three and four. In the unlikely event the tow bar separates from the motorhome, crossing the cables will help prevent the tow bar from dragging on the ground, which can cause the tow bar to “pole vault” the towed vehicle.
- Many ROADMASTER tow bar mounting kits with removable arms use two safety cables on each side. If two sets of safety cables are required, both must be used. This is required by law.

Connection instructions

For all towing systems...

Use the built-in cable guides and cross the safety cables under the hitch receiver, as shown in the diagrams on pages two, three and four. Unscrew the connecting nuts on each quick link to connect the safety cable loops. Finger-tighten the nuts firmly, until the loop is completely closed, to secure the attachment. Do not substitute carabiners or other devices for the quick links – the quick links are designed to hold the weight of a towed vehicle; carabiners are not.

Option 1

If the tow bar mounting bracket is similar to the one shown in Figure 1 and the safety cables are long enough, connect the snap hooks (or quick links) to the safety cable anchors built into the mounting brackets.

Option 2

Some ROADMASTER tow bar mounting brackets with removable arms, such as the one in Figure 2, use both a long safety cable and a short safety cable on each side.

Each long safety cable runs from the towing vehicle to a quick link attaching it to one of the quick-disconnects. This quick link is also an attachment point for one of the short safety cables; another quick link attaches the short safety cable to the mounting bracket.

The safety cables must be carefully routed so that they cannot become pinched, frayed, scraped or otherwise damaged, and so they will not drag when going over dips or low spots. Do not use the cables if they show any signs of wear or damage – immediately discontinue towing and replace the cables.

Failure to follow these instructions will result in cable failure, which may cause property damage, personal injury or even death.

If the quick links are not completely tightened, with the loop closed, the safety cables may detach. In the event of a towing system failure, the towed vehicle will detach, which may cause property damage, personal injury or even death.

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**WARNING**

Failure to follow these instructions may cause property damage, personal injury or even death.

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If your towing system requires two sets of safety cables, always use both the long and the short safety cables. Connect them as shown in Figure 2. Otherwise, in the event of a towing system failure, the towed vehicle will detach, which may cause property damage, personal injury or even death.
StowMaster™ and Tracker™
(For ease of illustration we have shown straight safety cables; connect Flexo-Coil cables to the same attachment points.)

Cross the safety cables under the coupler (Attach the ends of one cable to the driver’s side of the tow bar and the passenger side of the motorhome, and vice versa.) This helps prevent the tow bar from hitting the road and “pole vaulting” if the tow bar separates from the hitch receiver.

Wind the safety cables around both tow bar arms to adjust for any excess slack. The last pass must be to the inside, to allow the towed vehicle to track in line behind the motorhome.

Pass the safety cables through this loop DO NOT ATTACH THE SAFETY CABLES TO THE LOOP.

Do not run the safety cables between the hitch ball and the coupler. Use an optional cable guide (part number 669) to help prevent the safety cables and the power cord from being crushed or damaged, either between the coupler and the hitch ball, or between the ball mount and the road.

Use quick links for easy attachment and removal of the safety cables.

See page one for detailed connection information.

Falcon™ and Falcon 2™
(For ease of illustration we have shown straight safety cables; connect Flexo-Coil cables to the same attachment points.)

Wind the safety cables around the tow bar arms to adjust for any excess slack. The last pass must be to the inside, to allow the towed vehicle to track in line behind the motorhome.

Cross the safety cables under the hitch receiver and stinger. (Attach the ends of one cable to the driver’s side of the tow bar and the passenger side of the motorhome, and vice versa.) This helps prevent the tow bar from hitting the road and “pole vaulting” if the tow bar separates from the hitch receiver.

Use quick links for easy attachment and removal of the safety cables.

Option 2
BlackHawk™, BlackHawk All-Terrain™ and BlackHawk 2 All-Terrain tow bars

(For ease of illustration we have shown straight safety cables; connect Flexo-Coil cables to the same attachment points.)

Option 2

Use the built-in cable guides to help prevent damage to the safety cables and electrical cord and for a clean, uncluttered appearance.

Cross the safety cables under the hitch receiver and stinger (Attach the ends of one cable to the driver’s side of the tow bar and the passenger side of the motorhome, and vice versa.). This helps prevent the tow bar from hitting the road and “pole vaulting” if the tow bar separates from the hitch receiver.

See page one for detailed connection information.

Nighthawk™ and Falcon All-Terrain tow bars

Plug in the power cord to the towed vehicle

Use the built-in cable guides to help prevent damage to the safety cables and electrical cord, and for a clean, uncluttered appearance.

Connect one set of snap hooks to the steel loops on the hitch receiver or the frame of the motorhome

Plug in the power cord to the motorhome

Cross the safety cables under the hitch receiver and stinger (Attach the ends of one cable to the driver’s side of the tow bar and the passenger side of the motorhome, and vice versa.). This helps prevent the tow bar from hitting the road and “pole vaulting” if the tow bar separates from the hitch receiver.

See page one for detailed connection information.
To attach the EZ Hook™ safety cables...
At the tow bar, connect each long safety cable to a cable anchor bracket by inserting the ball through the top of the slot and dragging it down. Attach the quick link for the short safety cable through the pre-drilled hole in the anchor bracket.
Note: EZ Hook safety cables cannot be used with ROADMASTER MX, MS or EZ5 tow bar brackets.

Connect the snap hooks to the steel loops on the hitch receiver or the frame of the motorhome.

Cross the safety cables under the hitch receiver and stinger (Attach the ends of one cable to the driver’s side of the tow bar and the passenger side of the motorhome, and vice versa.). This helps prevent the tow bar from hitting the road and “pole vaulting” if the tow bar separates from the hitch receiver.

Use the built-in cable guides to help prevent damage to the safety cables and electrical cord, and for a clean, uncluttered appearance.

Use quick links for easy attachment and removal of the safety cables.

See page one for detailed connection information.

The Sterling and Sterling All-Terrain come with straight, single-hook safety cables.