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› Standard Motor Products TC490 Trailer Connector User Manual

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Model: TC490

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Standard Motor Products TC490 Trailer Connector. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and retain it for future reference.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Standard Motor Products TC490 is a trailer connector wiring harness designed to provide reliable electrical connection between a towing vehicle and a trailer. It facilitates the transmission of essential lighting signals, ensuring safe towing operations. This product features robust design and high-grade materials for dependable performance.

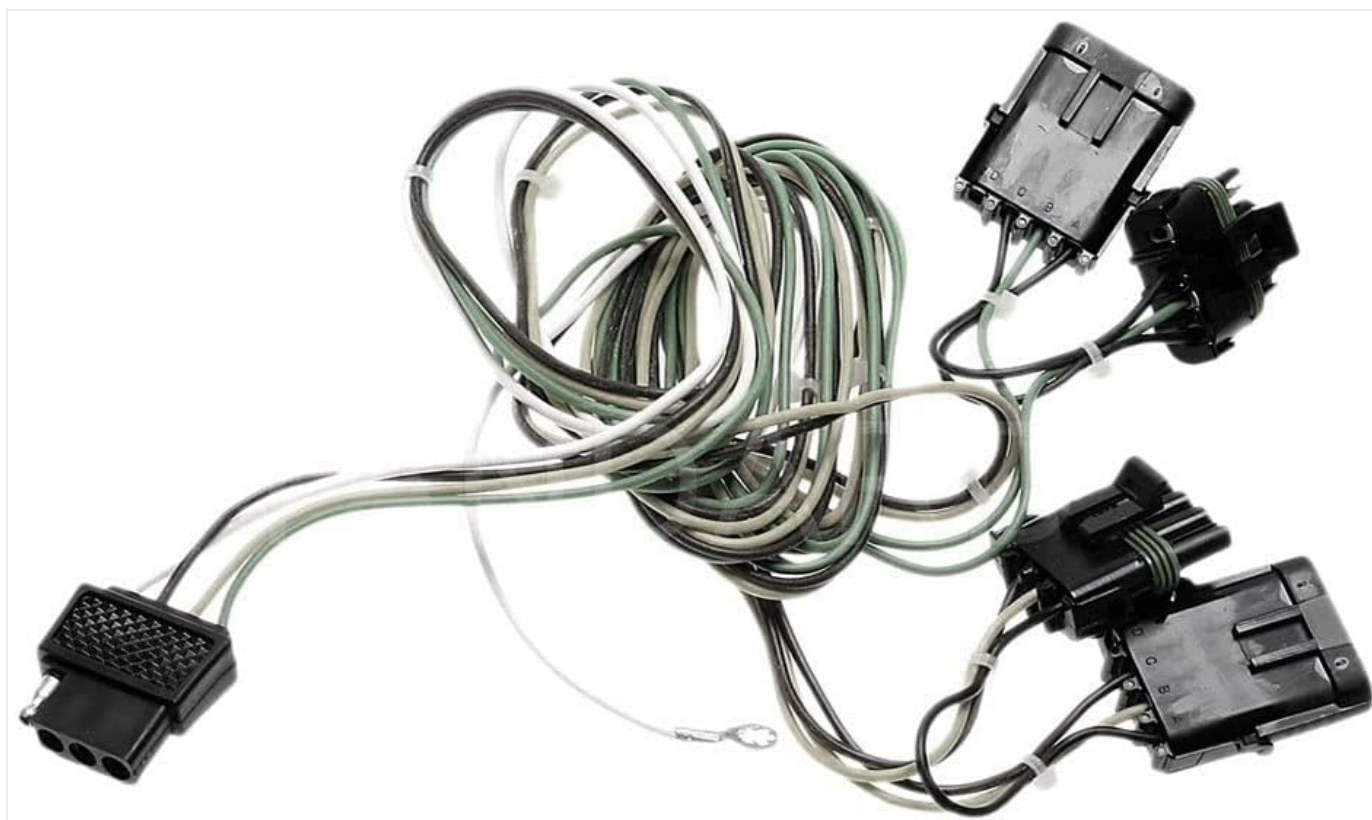


Figure 1: The complete Standard Motor Products TC490 Trailer Connector harness, showing the various connectors and wiring.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always disconnect the vehicle's battery before performing any electrical work to prevent electrical shock or damage to the vehicle's electrical system.
- Ensure all connections are secure and properly insulated to prevent short circuits and corrosion.
- Refer to your vehicle's owner's manual and trailer's manual for specific wiring diagrams and towing requirements.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as safety glasses and gloves, during installation.
- Do not exceed the maximum towing capacity or electrical load specified by your vehicle or trailer manufacturer.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

The Standard Motor Products TC490 Trailer Connector package typically includes:

- One (1) TC490 Trailer Connector Wiring Harness
- Installation instructions (refer to this manual)

Note: Additional fasteners or tools required for installation are not included and must be sourced separately.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the safe and effective operation of your trailer connector. The TC490 is designed for specific vehicle applications; ensure compatibility before proceeding.

1. **Prepare Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface and engage the parking brake. Disconnect the negative terminal of the vehicle's battery.
2. **Locate Connection Points:** Identify the vehicle's tail light wiring harness or designated trailer wiring connection points. These are typically located behind the tail lights or underneath the vehicle near the rear bumper. Consult your vehicle's service manual for exact locations.
3. **Connect Vehicle-Side Harness:** The TC490 harness includes connectors designed to plug directly into the vehicle's existing wiring. Carefully align and firmly push these connectors into their corresponding vehicle receptacles until they click into place.



Figure 2: Close-up view of the vehicle-side connectors, showing the male and female ends designed for direct plug-in.

4. **Route Wiring:** Carefully route the wiring harness along the vehicle frame, away from hot exhaust components, moving parts, and sharp edges. Use zip ties or cable clamps (not included) to secure the wiring at regular intervals.
5. **Position Trailer Connector:** Route the 4-pin flat trailer connector to a convenient location near the trailer hitch. Ensure it is accessible for connection to the trailer and protected from road debris.



Figure 3: Detailed view of the 4-pin flat connector, which connects to the trailer's wiring.

6. **Reconnect Battery:** Once all connections are secure and wiring is routed, reconnect the negative terminal of the vehicle's battery.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Connect Trailer:** Align the 4-pin flat connector from the vehicle with the corresponding connector on your trailer. Push firmly until fully seated.
2. **Test Lights:** Before driving, perform a thorough test of all trailer lights.
 - Turn on vehicle headlights: Trailer tail lights should illuminate.
 - Activate left turn signal: Trailer left turn signal should flash.
 - Activate right turn signal: Trailer right turn signal should flash.
 - Apply vehicle brakes: Trailer brake lights should illuminate.
3. **Disconnect Trailer:** When finished towing, carefully disconnect the 4-pin flat connector. Store the vehicle-side connector in a protected location to prevent damage and corrosion.

MAINTENANCE

- Regularly inspect the trailer connector and wiring for signs of wear, damage, or corrosion.
- Keep the connector pins clean and free of dirt and moisture. Dielectric grease can be applied to the pins to prevent

corrosion.

- Ensure all wiring is securely fastened and not chafing against vehicle components.
- If any part of the harness is damaged, replace the entire unit to ensure safe and reliable operation. Do not attempt to repair damaged wiring.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No trailer lights	Loose or corroded connection Blown vehicle fuse Damaged wiring harness Faulty trailer bulbs	Check all connections for tightness and corrosion. Clean if necessary. Inspect vehicle's fuse box for blown fuses related to trailer lights. Replace if needed. Inspect the TC490 harness for visible damage. Replace if damaged. Check and replace trailer bulbs.
Intermittent trailer lights	Loose connection Corrosion on pins Damaged wiring	Ensure connections are fully seated and secure. Clean connector pins and apply dielectric grease. Inspect wiring for cuts or pinches.
Incorrect light function (e.g., brake light acts as turn signal)	Incorrect wiring connection Grounding issue	Double-check all harness connections against vehicle and trailer wiring diagrams. Ensure the trailer has a good ground connection to the vehicle.

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** TC490
- **Brand:** Standard Motor Products
- **Product Dimensions:** 1.3 x 6.35 x 22.23 cm (0.5 x 2.5 x 8.75 inches)
- **Item Weight:** 231 g (0.51 lbs)
- **Connector Type:** Vehicle-specific plug-and-play to 4-pin flat trailer connector
- **Manufacturer Part Number:** TC490

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support regarding your Standard Motor Products TC490 Trailer Connector, please contact Standard Motor Products directly through their official website or customer service channels. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Standard Motor Products is committed to providing high-quality automotive parts and support.

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