

Dorman 21121

Dorman 21121 Parking Brake Cable Equalizer Instruction Manual

Model: 21121

Brand: Dorman

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Dorman 21121 Parking Brake Cable Equalizer is a direct replacement component designed to restore proper operation of your vehicle's parking brake system. This part ensures that tension is evenly distributed across the parking brake cables, which is crucial for effective braking.

Key Features:

- **Direct Replacement:** Engineered to match the fit, function, and performance of the original manufacturer's part.
- **Restores Performance:** Facilitates the correct operation of the parking brake by equalizing cable tension.
- **Thoroughly Tested:** Subjected to strict material and torque testing to ensure quality and longevity.
- **Reliable Quality:** Supported by a team of engineers and inspectors.



Figure 1: Dorman 21121 Parking Brake Cable Equalizer. This image displays the complete equalizer assembly, highlighting its robust construction and design.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working on vehicle brake systems. Improper installation or maintenance can lead to

serious injury or vehicle damage.

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands on a level surface before beginning any work.
- Disconnect the vehicle's battery if instructed by the vehicle service manual.
- Refer to your vehicle's specific service manual for detailed instructions and torque specifications.
- If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified automotive technician.

3. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Installation of the parking brake cable equalizer typically involves accessing the underside of the vehicle where the parking brake cables converge. Due to variations in vehicle models, specific steps may differ. Professional installation is recommended.

Pre-Installation Checklist:

- Verify that the Dorman 21121 is the correct part for your vehicle by checking compatibility.
- Gather necessary tools (wrenches, sockets, pliers, vehicle jack, jack stands).
- Ensure the vehicle is in park (automatic) or gear (manual) with the parking brake disengaged.

General Installation Steps:

1. Safely lift and support the vehicle.
2. Locate the existing parking brake cable equalizer. This is typically found where the primary parking brake cable splits into two cables leading to the rear wheels.
3. Carefully remove the old equalizer. This may involve loosening retaining clips or nuts and detaching the cables. Note the orientation of the original part.
4. Install the new Dorman 21121 equalizer in the same orientation as the removed part.
5. Connect the parking brake cables to the new equalizer, ensuring they are properly seated and secured.
6. Adjust the parking brake cable tension according to your vehicle's service manual specifications. This is critical for proper parking brake function.
7. Lower the vehicle and test the parking brake function in a safe, controlled environment.



Figure 2: Underside view of the Dorman 21121 Parking Brake Cable Equalizer. This perspective shows the internal mechanism and cable attachment points, aiding in understanding its function and installation.

4. OPERATION

The parking brake cable equalizer functions by distributing the force from the primary parking brake cable evenly to the two secondary cables that actuate the rear parking brakes. When the parking brake is engaged, the equalizer ensures that both rear brakes receive equal tension, providing balanced and effective holding power for the vehicle.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular inspection of your vehicle's parking brake system, including the equalizer, is recommended to ensure continued safe operation.

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically check the equalizer and cables for signs of corrosion, fraying, or damage.
- **Functionality Check:** Test the parking brake regularly to ensure it engages and disengages smoothly and holds the vehicle securely.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a suitable lubricant to moving parts and cable ends as recommended by your vehicle's manufacturer to prevent seizing and corrosion.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the area around the equalizer free from dirt, debris, and road salt, which can accelerate corrosion.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your parking brake after installing the equalizer, consider the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Parking brake does not hold vehicle securely.	Incorrect cable tension adjustment.	Re-adjust parking brake cable tension according to vehicle specifications.
Parking brake feels loose or spongy.	Cables stretched or damaged; improper installation.	Inspect cables for damage. Ensure equalizer is correctly installed and cables are properly seated. Adjust tension.
Excessive effort required to engage parking brake.	Cables or equalizer corroded or seized.	Inspect for corrosion. Lubricate cables and equalizer. Replace if severely corroded or seized.
Uneven parking brake engagement (one wheel holds better than the other).	Uneven cable tension; issue with individual brake mechanism.	Verify equalizer is functioning correctly. Check and adjust cable tension. Inspect individual rear brake components.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Brand	Dorman
Model Number	21121
Material	Alloy Steel
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	11.2 x 1.8 x 1.1 inches
Item Weight	2.39 ounces
Manufacturer Part Number	21121
OEM Part Number	25512384
UPC	037495211215

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Dorman products are designed and manufactured to high-quality standards. This parking brake cable equalizer is backed by Dorman's commitment to quality, supported by a team of engineers and inspectors.

For specific warranty details or technical support, please refer to the official Dorman website or contact Dorman customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt for any warranty claims.

If purchased through Amazon, standard return policies apply. Please refer to your Amazon order details for return eligibility and procedures.

For more information, you may visit the [Dorman Store on Amazon](#).

