

CURT 52011

CURT 52011 Trailer Breakaway Switch Instruction Manual

Model: 52011

1. INTRODUCTION

The CURT 52011 Trailer Breakaway Switch is a safety device designed for trailers equipped with electric brakes. In the event of an accidental trailer detachment from the tow vehicle, this switch activates the trailer's electric brakes, bringing the trailer to a stop. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your CURT 52011 Breakaway Switch.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The CURT 52011 Breakaway Switch is engineered for reliable performance and durability. It features a robust design to withstand various environmental conditions.

Key Features:

- Connects to the tow vehicle and trailer breakaway battery.
- Activates trailer brakes upon cable release during a disconnect event.
- Equipped with silver contact points for a superior electrical connection.
- Features a high-temperature metal mounting tab for secure installation.
- Nylon pull pin and case protect internal components from environmental elements.



Figure 2.1: The CURT 52011 Trailer Breakaway Switch, showing the cable, switch body, and wiring.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

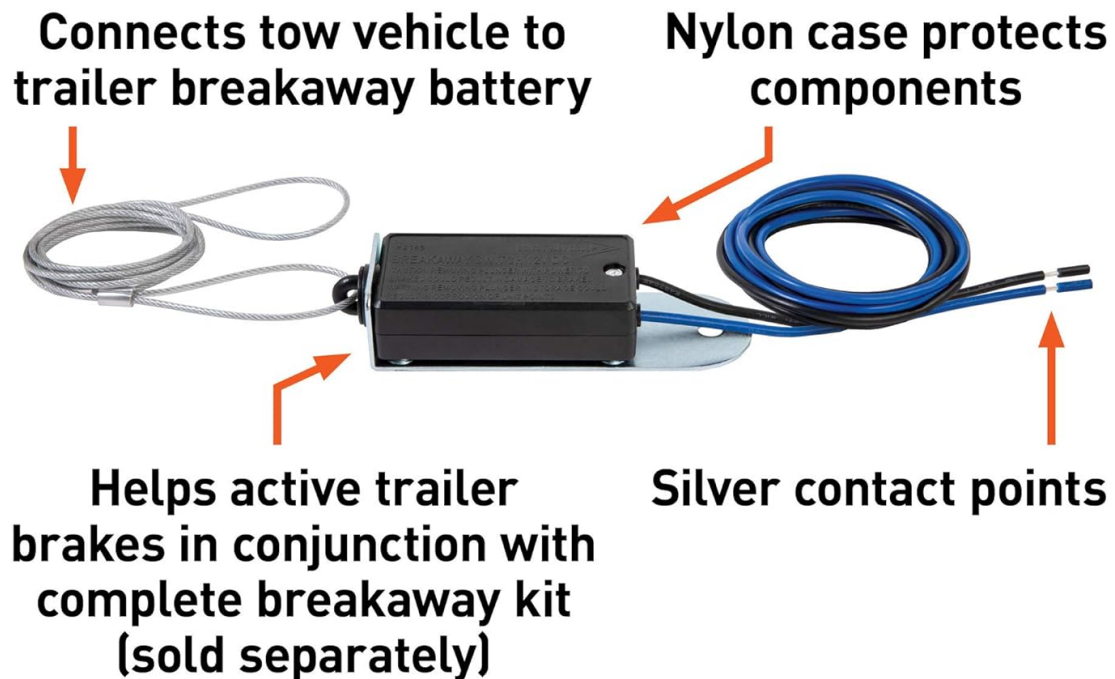


Figure 2.2: Diagram highlighting key features: connection to breakaway battery, nylon case, silver contact points, and activation of trailer brakes.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation of the CURT 52011 Breakaway Switch is crucial for its effective operation. This switch is designed for use with CURT Soft-Trac 1 and Soft-Trac 2 breakaway kits (sold separately).

Installation Steps:

- 1. Mounting the Switch:** Securely mount the breakaway switch to the trailer frame using the high-temperature weldable tab. Ensure the switch is positioned where the pull pin can be easily connected to the tow vehicle.
- 2. Wiring Connections:**
 - Connect one wire from the breakaway switch to the positive (+) terminal of the trailer's breakaway battery.
 - Connect the other wire from the breakaway switch to the trailer's electric brake circuit, typically to the blue wire leading to the trailer brakes.
- 3. Connecting the Cable:** Attach the breakaway cable to a secure, non-removable part of the tow vehicle, ensuring it is independent of the hitch. The cable should be taut enough to pull the pin if the

trailer separates, but loose enough to allow for turns without accidental activation.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

Connects tow vehicle to trailer
breakaway battery



Figure 3.1: Example of a breakaway cable connected between the tow vehicle and the trailer.

Important Safety Note: The breakaway device is not intended to be used as a parking brake. Always ensure your trailer's parking brake is engaged when parked.

4. OPERATION

The CURT 52011 Breakaway Switch operates automatically in the event of a trailer detachment.

How it Works:

1. When the trailer is connected to the tow vehicle, the nylon pull pin is inserted into the switch body, keeping the electrical circuit open.
2. If the trailer accidentally separates from the tow vehicle, the breakaway cable pulls the nylon pin from the switch.
3. Removing the pin closes the internal electrical circuit, sending power from the trailer's breakaway battery directly to the electric brakes.
4. This action applies the trailer brakes, bringing the trailer to a controlled stop.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

Activates trailer brakes when cable is released during a disconnect

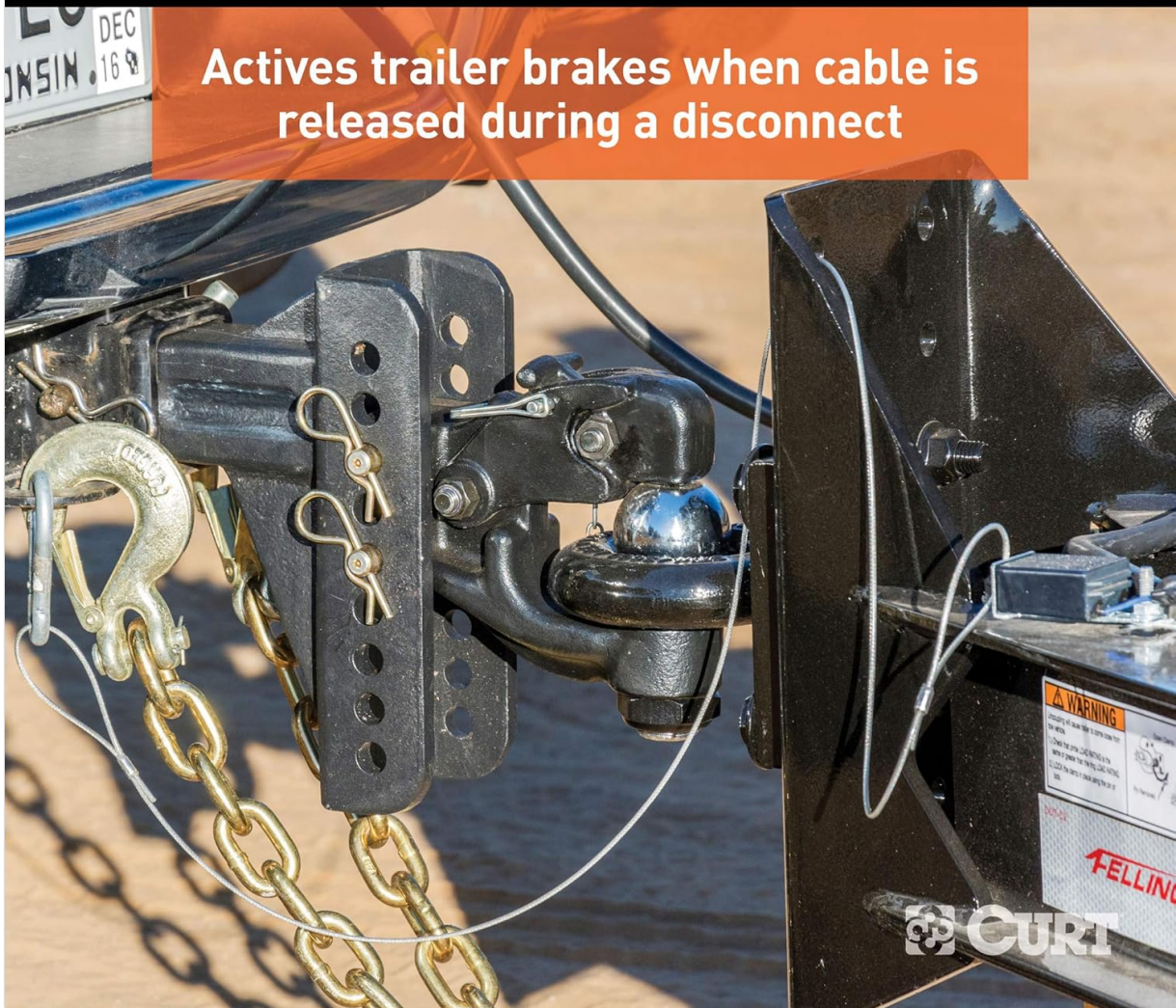


Figure 4.1: Illustration of the breakaway cable being pulled, activating the trailer brakes.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular inspection and basic maintenance will ensure the longevity and reliability of your breakaway switch.

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the switch body, cable, and wiring for any signs of wear, damage, or corrosion.
- **Cable Condition:** Ensure the breakaway cable is free of kinks, fraying, or excessive rust. Replace if damaged.
- **Pin Functionality:** Verify that the nylon pull pin can be easily inserted and removed from the switch.
- **Battery Check:** Ensure the trailer's breakaway battery is fully charged and in good working condition, as it powers the brakes through this switch.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the switch and its connections clean from dirt, debris, and moisture. The nylon case provides protection, but external cleanliness is still beneficial.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

The CURT 52011 Breakaway Switch is a simple, robust component. Most issues are related to installation or the trailer's electrical system rather than the switch itself.

- **Brakes Not Activating:**

- Check the trailer's breakaway battery charge.
- Inspect all wiring connections for corrosion or looseness.
- Ensure the pull pin is fully removed from the switch.
- Verify the trailer's electric brakes are functioning correctly independently of the breakaway system.

- **Accidental Brake Activation:**

- Ensure the breakaway cable is not too short or improperly routed, causing the pin to be pulled during turns or bumps.
- Check that the pull pin is fully inserted into the switch.

If issues persist after checking these points, consult a qualified trailer technician.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Model Number	52011
Brand	CURT
Item Weight	7 ounces
Product Dimensions	7 x 6 x 4 inches
Contact Points	Silver
Case Material	Nylon
Mounting	High-temp weldable tab

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS

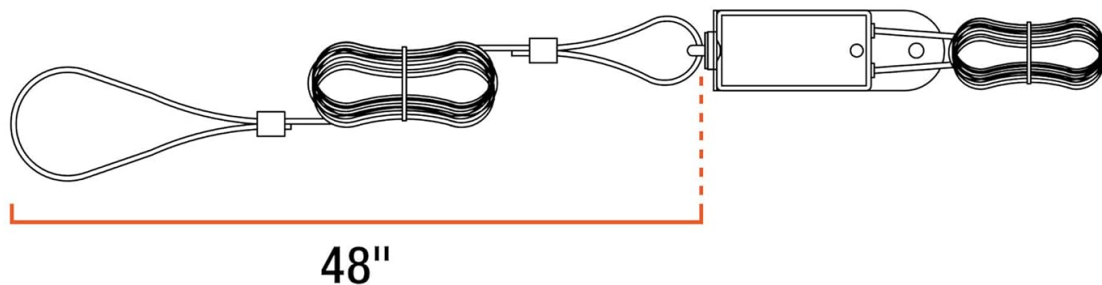


Figure 7.1: Approximate dimensions of the breakaway switch and cable (48 inches).

8. SAFETY INFORMATION

Adherence to safety guidelines is paramount when installing and using trailer components.







- Always ensure the breakaway system meets all applicable DOT requirements.
- Never use the breakaway switch as a parking brake. It is designed for emergency use only.
- Regularly test the breakaway system to ensure it is functioning correctly. This typically involves pulling the pin while the trailer is stationary and verifying the brakes engage.
- Ensure all electrical connections are secure and protected from the elements to prevent short circuits or corrosion.
- If you are unsure about any part of the installation or operation, consult a professional.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support regarding your CURT 52011 Trailer Breakaway Switch, please refer to the official CURT website or contact CURT customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt for any warranty claims.

CURT Customer Service: Visit www.curtmfg.com for contact details and support resources.

Related Documents - 52011

	<p>CURT 52040 Breakaway Kit Installation Manual</p> <p>Installation manual for the CURT 52040 Soft-Trac 1 Breakaway Kit with Charger. Includes parts list, wiring diagram, mounting instructions, and maintenance tips.</p>
	<p>Curt Trailer Hitches: Comprehensive Numerical Guide</p> <p>A detailed numerical listing of trailer hitches by Curt Manufacturing, organized by vehicle make, model, and year, including part numbers, ratings, and replacement information.</p>
	<p>CURT 13193 Trailer Hitch Installation Guide for Ford Transit</p> <p>Step-by-step installation instructions for the CURT 13193 trailer hitch designed for the Ford Transit van. Includes parts list, tools required, safety information, and towing capacity details.</p>
	<p>CURT 48011 Pintle Mount Installation Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive guide for installing the CURT 48011 Pintle Mount, detailing parts, tools, torque specifications, safety warnings, and maintenance procedures for secure towing.</p>
	<p>CURT 17352 Weight Distribution Hitch Installation Manual</p> <p>Comprehensive installation manual for the CURT 17352 Weight Distribution Hitch, covering assembly, measurements, installation steps, adjustments, and towing tips for safe and effective trailer towing.</p>
	<p>CURT 18021 Bike Rack Installation Manual</p> <p>Detailed installation guide for the CURT 18021 bike rack, including parts list, tools required, assembly steps, installation instructions, and folding features. Learn how to safely attach and use your CURT bike rack.</p>

