

## Dorman HW2101

# Dorman HW2101 Drum Brake Self-Adjuster Cable Instruction Manual

Model: HW2101



## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Dorman HW2101 Drum Brake Self-Adjuster Cable is a direct replacement component designed to restore the proper function of your vehicle's drum brake system. This cable ensures the self-adjusting mechanism operates correctly, maintaining optimal brake shoe-to-drum clearance for consistent braking performance.

This part is engineered to match the fit and function of the original equipment cable on specified vehicles, offering reliable performance and a long service life. It is crucial for maintaining the effectiveness of drum brakes.

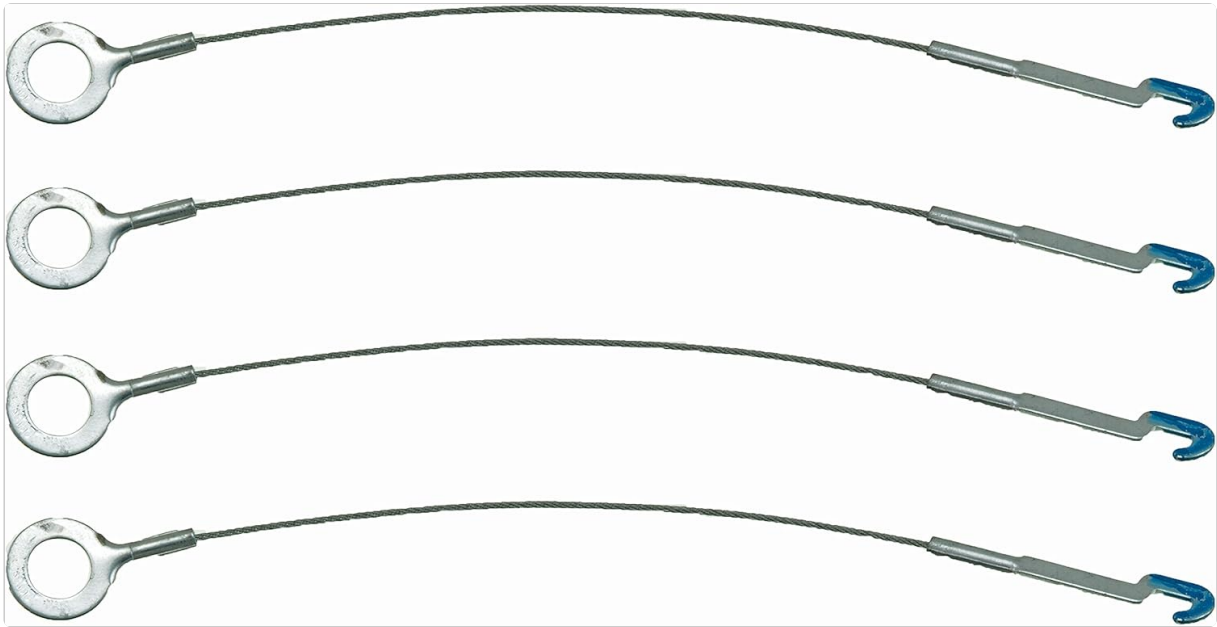


Image 1.1: Four Dorman HW2101 Drum Brake Self-Adjuster Cables. Each cable features a metal eyelet on one end and a hooked metal tab on the other, connected by a flexible steel wire.

## 2. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model Number:** HW2101
- **Part Type:** Drum Brake Self-Adjuster Cable
- **Brand:** Dorman
- **Item Weight:** Approximately 0.01 ounces (per cable)
- **Item Length:** 12 Inches
- **Manufacturer Part Number:** HW2101
- **OEM Part Numbers:** 2101; 2101K; F44478S; H2101; H2101-2; H44478S (Cross-reference for compatibility)
- **UPC:** 082702384985

## 3. INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Installation of drum brake components requires specific tools and knowledge of automotive braking systems. It is recommended that installation be performed by a qualified automotive technician. If you choose to perform the installation yourself, consult your vehicle's service manual for detailed, vehicle-specific instructions and safety precautions.

### 3.1 Safety Precautions

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands on a level surface. Never rely solely on a jack.
- Allow brake components to cool completely before handling.
- Keep brake fluid away from painted surfaces, as it can damage paint.
- Do not contaminate brake components with grease or oil.

### 3.2 General Installation Steps (Consult Vehicle Service Manual for Specifics)

1. **Prepare the Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and block the

- wheels. Loosen lug nuts, then raise the vehicle and secure it with jack stands. Remove the wheel.
2. **Remove Drum:** Carefully remove the brake drum. If the drum is stuck, it may be necessary to retract the brake shoes by accessing the self-adjuster mechanism through an access hole.
  3. **Inspect Existing Components:** Before removing the old cable, observe its routing and connection points. Take photos if necessary. Inspect other brake components (shoes, springs, wheel cylinder, hardware) for wear or damage and replace as needed.
  4. **Remove Old Cable:** Disconnect the old self-adjuster cable from the self-adjuster lever and the anchor pin. Note the orientation of all components.
  5. **Install New Cable:** Install the Dorman HW2101 cable in the reverse order of removal. Ensure the cable is correctly routed and securely attached to the self-adjuster lever and anchor pin. The cable should be taut but not overly stretched.
  6. **Reassemble and Adjust:** Reassemble the brake shoes, springs, and other hardware according to your vehicle's service manual. Ensure the self-adjuster mechanism is properly engaged. Install the brake drum.
  7. **Final Checks:** After reassembly, pump the brake pedal several times to allow the self-adjusters to engage and set the brake shoe clearance. Check for proper brake pedal feel. Test drive the vehicle in a safe area at low speed to confirm proper brake operation before normal use.

## 4. OPERATING PRINCIPLE

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The drum brake self-adjuster cable is an integral part of the drum brake system's automatic adjustment mechanism. As brake shoes wear down, the distance between the shoes and the drum increases. The self-adjuster mechanism, actuated by the parking brake or service brake application, uses this cable to pull a lever that rotates a star wheel. This star wheel then expands the brake shoes, maintaining the correct clearance between the shoes and the drum.

A properly functioning self-adjuster cable ensures that the brake shoes are always positioned optimally, providing consistent braking force, reducing pedal travel, and extending the life of other brake components by preventing excessive wear due to improper adjustment.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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Regular inspection of your vehicle's drum brake system is essential for safety and longevity. While the self-adjuster cable itself typically requires no specific maintenance beyond proper installation, it should be inspected during routine brake service.

- **Visual Inspection:** During brake inspections, check the cable for signs of fraying, corrosion, stretching, or damage. Ensure it is securely attached at both ends and moves freely without binding.
- **Functionality Check:** Verify that the self-adjuster mechanism is operating correctly. This can often be done by applying the parking brake several times or by observing the star wheel adjustment during brake pedal application (if visible).
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the brake assembly clean and free of excessive brake dust, dirt, and debris, which can impede the movement of the cable and other components.

Replace the cable immediately if any damage or malfunction is observed to ensure proper brake operation.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you experience issues with your drum brakes, the self-adjuster cable could be a contributing factor. Here are common symptoms and potential causes related to the self-adjuster cable:

Symptom	Possible Cause (Cable Related)	Solution
Excessive Brake Pedal Travel	Stretched, broken, or improperly installed self-adjuster cable; seized self-adjuster mechanism.	Inspect and replace cable if damaged. Lubricate or replace self-adjuster mechanism.
Weak or Inconsistent Braking	Self-adjuster not functioning due to cable issue, leading to improper shoe-to-drum clearance.	Verify cable installation and condition. Ensure self-adjuster operates freely.
Parking Brake Not Holding Effectively	While primarily a parking brake cable issue, a non-adjusting service brake can contribute.	Ensure service brakes are properly adjusted by the self-adjuster mechanism.
Grinding or Squealing Noises	Unlikely direct cable cause, but could be related to severe maladjustment causing shoe contact issues.	Inspect entire brake assembly for wear, damage, and proper adjustment.

If troubleshooting does not resolve the issue, or if you are unsure about any repair, seek assistance from a certified automotive technician.

## 7. SUPPORT AND WARRANTY INFORMATION

Dorman products are backed by a team of product experts in the United States and more than a century of automotive experience, ensuring trustworthy quality.

For technical assistance, product inquiries, or warranty information, please visit the official Dorman website or contact their customer support directly. Always provide your product model number (HW2101) and vehicle information when seeking support.

**Dorman Website:** [www.dormanproducts.com](http://www.dormanproducts.com)

Please retain your purchase receipt for any warranty claims.