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› Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller User Manual

DEXTER AXLE 058-008-00

Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller User Manual

Brand: DEXTER AXLE | Model: 058-008-00

INTRODUCTION

The Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller is designed to provide reliable and precise control over your trailer's electric brakes. This unit features a large digital LED display for clear voltage output readings and an easy-to-use gain wheel for precise braking adjustments. It includes an independent manual slide for immediate full braking power and incorporates short circuit protection to safeguard the controller. The versatile mounting options and standard 4-wire hookup ensure compatibility with a wide range of 12-volt, negative ground tow vehicles.



Image: The Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller, a compact black unit with a red digital LED display showing "5.0" and a side-mounted gain wheel. This image illustrates the physical appearance of the brake controller, highlighting its digital interface and control knob.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the safe and effective operation of your Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller. This unit is compatible with virtually all 12-volt, negative ground tow vehicles and utilizes a standard 4-wire hookup.

Mounting Considerations

- The controller offers a versatile mounting range of -35 to 90 degrees, allowing for flexible placement within the vehicle's

interior.

- Choose a location that is easily accessible to the driver for manual operation and visibility of the digital display.
- Ensure the mounting surface is stable and secure to prevent movement during vehicle operation.

Wiring Instructions (Standard 4-Wire Hookup)

The Dexter Predator DX2 uses a standard 4-wire connection. Consult your vehicle's wiring diagram for specific connection points. Typically, the wires connect as follows:

1. **Black Wire (Battery/Power):** Connect to the vehicle's positive battery terminal (12V) via a 30A or 40A auto-resetting circuit breaker, located as close to the battery as possible.
2. **White Wire (Ground):** Connect to a clean, solid chassis ground point on the vehicle.
3. **Blue Wire (Brake Output):** Connect to the trailer brake wire, which typically runs to the trailer connector at the rear of the vehicle.
4. **Red Wire (Stoplight Switch):** Connect to the cold side of the vehicle's stoplight switch. This wire should only have power when the brake pedal is pressed.

After wiring, ensure all connections are secure and properly insulated. Test the system before towing.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Dexter Predator DX2 is designed for intuitive operation, providing precise control over your trailer's braking system.

Initial Setup and Gain Adjustment

- **Gain Wheel:** The easy-to-use gain wheel allows you to set the initial braking power. A numeric visual setting is provided for precise and repeatable adjustments. Start with a lower setting and gradually increase it until optimal braking is achieved.
- **Digital LED Display:** The large digital LED display shows the voltage output to the trailer brakes. This display assists in leveling and fine-tuning the braking power.
- **Testing:** With the trailer connected, drive the tow vehicle and trailer on a level, dry surface at approximately 25 mph. Apply the vehicle brakes moderately. Adjust the gain wheel until the trailer brakes are firm but do not lock up. The goal is smooth, synchronized braking between the tow vehicle and the trailer.

Manual Override

- **Independent Manual Slide:** The manual slide allows you to override the current gain setting and apply full braking power to the trailer independently of the tow vehicle's brakes. This feature is useful for reducing trailer sway or for emergency braking situations.
- **Trailer Brake Lights:** When the manual slide is used, the trailer brake lights will illuminate, exceeding NHTSA regulations for safety.

MAINTENANCE

The Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller is designed for durability and requires minimal maintenance. Regular checks can help ensure its continued reliable performance.

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the controller and its wiring for any signs of damage, wear, or loose connections.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the controller free from dust, dirt, and moisture. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Connection Integrity:** Ensure all electrical connections remain tight and free from corrosion.
- **Functionality Check:** Before each towing trip, perform a quick check of the brake controller's functionality, including the digital display, gain wheel, and manual slide.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power to Controller:**

- Check the vehicle's battery connection and the inline circuit breaker for the black power wire.
- Ensure the ground wire (white) has a solid connection to the chassis.

- **No Trailer Brakes or Weak Braking:**

- Verify the blue brake output wire is securely connected to the trailer's brake wire.
- Check the trailer's wiring and brake magnets for proper function.
- Ensure the red stoplight switch wire is correctly connected and receiving power when the brake pedal is pressed.
- Adjust the gain wheel to a higher setting.

- **Trailer Brakes Lock Up:**

- Reduce the gain setting using the gain wheel.
- Ensure the trailer brakes are not over-adjusted.

- **Short Circuit Protection Activated:**

- The controller features short circuit protection to prevent damage. If this activates, inspect the trailer's brake wiring for any shorts or faults.
- Correct any wiring issues before attempting to use the controller again.

- **Inconsistent Braking:**

- Check all wiring connections for looseness or corrosion.
- Ensure the controller is mounted securely and not moving during operation.

If problems persist after performing these checks, contact DEXTER AXLE customer support for further assistance.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model	058-008-00
Brand	DEXTER AXLE
Input Voltage	12-volt DC (Negative Ground)
Wiring	Standard 4-wire hookup
Display	Large Digital LED (Voltage Output)
Control	Easy-to-use Gain Wheel, Independent Manual Slide
Mounting Angle	-35 to 90 degrees
Safety Features	Short Circuit Protection, Trailer Brake Light Illumination (with manual slide)

WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Dexter Predator DX2 Electric Brake Controller is backed by a **Seven Year Limited Warranty**. For specific terms, conditions, and claim procedures, please refer to the official warranty documentation provided with your product or contact DEXTER AXLE

customer support.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond the scope of this manual, or warranty inquiries, please contact DEXTER AXLE customer support. Have your product model number (058-008-00) and purchase information ready when contacting support. You may find contact information on the official DEXTER AXLE website or within the packaging materials included with your product.

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