

HFT 2000 Lb. Utility Trailer Winch

Instruction Manual

HFT Badlands 2000 Lb. Utility Trailer Winch with Steel Rope

1. SAFETY INFORMATION

Read and understand all safety warnings and instructions before operating this winch. Failure to follow the warnings and instructions may result in serious injury or property damage. Keep this manual for future reference.

General Safety Warnings

- Always wear ANSI-approved safety goggles and heavy-duty work gloves during setup and operation.
- Do not operate the winch if you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication.
- Keep children and bystanders away from the work area.
- Ensure the work area is well-lit.
- Do not exceed the winch's rated capacity (2000 lbs / 907.19 kg).
- Inspect the winch, cable, and all accessories before each use. Do not use if damaged.
- Never use the winch for lifting people or for overhead lifting.
- Keep hands and clothing away from moving parts, especially the cable and fairlead.
- Do not operate the winch with a kinked, frayed, or damaged cable.
- Always ensure the vehicle or object being winched is properly secured and chocked.
- Disconnect power before performing any maintenance or adjustments.

Electrical Safety

- Ensure all electrical connections are clean, tight, and properly insulated.
- Do not immerse the winch in water.
- Protect electrical wiring from sharp edges, heat, and moving parts.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The HFT Badlands 2000 Lb. Utility Trailer Winch is designed for quickly and easily loading ATVs, UTVs, mowers, watercraft, and other equipment onto trailers. It features a compact, lightweight design for easy mounting and a permanent magnet motor for efficient line pulling.



Figure 2.1: Overview of the HFT Badlands 2000 Lb. Utility Trailer Winch, showing the main winch unit, wired remote control, and power cables.

Components

- Winch Unit with Motor and Drum
- Steel Rope (5/32 in. Cable, 50 ft.)
- Wired Remote Control (6 ft. lead from battery to remote, 4 ft. from winch to remote)
- Hook Strap
- Mounting Hardware (bolts, washers, nuts)
- Power Cables with Ring Terminals

3. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
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Rated Line Pull	2000 Lb. (907.19 kg)
Motor	Permanent Magnet Motor
Gear Train	All-steel single-stage planetary gear train
Cable Type	Aircraft grade zinc plated steel rope
Cable Dimensions	5/32 in. diameter, 50 ft. length
Remote Lead Length	6 ft. (battery to remote), 4 ft. (winch to remote)
Item Weight	6.41 kg (14.13 lbs)
Parcel Dimensions	33.91 x 23.8 x 15.9 cm

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This winch is designed for easy installation in most trailers. Ensure the mounting surface is strong enough to support the winch and the maximum pulling force.

Mounting the Winch

1. Select a secure, flat mounting location on your trailer that can withstand the winch's pulling force.
2. Use the provided mounting hardware (bolts, washers, nuts) to securely fasten the winch to the chosen location. Ensure all fasteners are tightened properly.



Figure 4.1: Winch components including the main unit, wired remote, cable, and mounting hardware, ready for installation.

Electrical Connection

The winch operates on a 12V DC power source (e.g., vehicle battery). Ensure the battery is fully charged before use.

1. Connect the red positive (+) power cable from the winch to the positive terminal of your 12V battery.
2. Connect the black negative (-) power cable from the winch to the negative terminal of your 12V battery or a suitable chassis ground point.
3. Ensure all connections are clean, secure, and free from corrosion.
4. Connect the wired remote control cable to the designated port on the winch unit.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Familiarize yourself with the wired remote control and the free spooling clutch before operating the winch.

Free Spooling Clutch

The free spooling clutch allows for fast rope payout without using motor power. This is useful for quickly extending the cable to the load.



Figure 5.1: Close-up view of the winch showing the free spooling clutch mechanism. To engage, pull out and turn the red knob.

1. To engage free spool, pull out the red knob on the side of the winch drum and turn it to the 'Free Spool' position.
2. Manually pull the cable out to the desired length.
3. To re-engage the clutch for winching, turn the red knob back to the 'Engaged' position and ensure it is fully seated.

Winching Operation

1. Ensure the winch is securely mounted and electrically connected.
2. Extend the cable to the load, ensuring the cable is not kinked or twisted.
3. Attach the hook securely to the load. Use the hook strap for easier handling.
4. Ensure the free spooling clutch is fully engaged.
5. Stand clear of the cable and the load. Use the wired remote control to operate the winch.
6. Press the 'IN' button on the remote to retract the cable and pull the load.
7. Press the 'OUT' button on the remote to extend the cable (if needed, though free spool is preferred for payout).
8. Monitor the load and cable during operation. Stop immediately if any unusual sounds or movements occur.
9. Do not allow the cable to pile up on one side of the drum. Guide it evenly if necessary, but never with bare hands.
10. Once the load is in position, secure it independently before releasing tension on the winch cable.
11. Retract the cable fully onto the drum, ensuring it is neatly spooled.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will ensure the longevity and safe operation of your winch.

- **Cable Inspection:** Regularly inspect the steel rope for signs of wear, fraying, kinks, or damage. Replace the cable immediately if any damage is found.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the winch unit clean and free of dirt, mud, and debris. Use a damp cloth to wipe down the exterior. Do not use harsh chemicals.
- **Electrical Connections:** Periodically check all electrical connections for tightness and corrosion. Clean terminals as needed.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the winch in a dry, protected area to prevent rust and damage.
- **Lubrication:** The internal gears are factory lubricated and generally do not require user maintenance. If the winch is disassembled for service, consult a qualified technician.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your winch, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Winch does not operate	No power to winch Loose electrical connections Dead battery Faulty remote control	Check battery connections and ensure they are tight. Verify battery is charged. Test remote control functionality.
Winch operates slowly or with reduced power	Low battery voltage Overload Corroded electrical connections	Recharge or replace battery. Reduce load to within rated capacity. Clean all electrical connections.
Cable tangles or spools unevenly	Improper cable winding Damaged fairlead	Rewind cable under light tension, ensuring even layers. Inspect fairlead for damage and replace if necessary.
Winch motor gets hot	Prolonged use Overload	Allow motor to cool down between operations. Ensure load is within rated capacity.

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support, please refer to the original purchase documentation or contact HFT customer service. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Manufacturer: HFT Badland

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