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> Eaz-Lift Elite-S Weight Distribution Hitch Kit (Model 48194) - 1200 lb. Capacity User Manual

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Model: 48194 | Brand: Eaz-Lift

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Eaz-Lift Elite-S 1200 lb. Weight Distribution Hitch Kit is designed to provide stable and controlled towing for trailers with a maximum tongue weight of 1,400 lb. and a maximum gross trailer weight of 14,000 lb. This system features a chain-free design with integrated sway control, enhancing towing safety and ease of use.



Figure 1: Eaz-Lift Elite-S Weight Distribution Hitch Kit components.

Key Features:

- **Permanent, Built-In Sway Control:** Utilizes a chain-free design with two points of steel-on-steel bracket friction to effectively manage and correct trailer sway.
- **Flexible Installation:** Hookup brackets are designed for versatility, allowing installation around common obstructions such as battery boxes or gas tanks on the trailer frame.

- **High Capacity:** Supports a maximum tongue weight of 1,400 lb. and a maximum gross trailer weight of 14,000 lb.
- **Heavy-Duty Hitch Ball:** Includes a 2-5/16 inch hitch ball with a 14,000 lb. rating.
- **Simplified Setup:** Installs on both top-mount and bottom-mount coupler-style trailers. Features an adjustment washer for modifying the ball mount angle to fine-tune spring bar pre-load.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when installing, operating, and maintaining your weight distribution hitch. Failure to follow these guidelines could result in serious injury or property damage.

- **Read the Manual:** Thoroughly read and understand all instructions before installation and use.
- **Weight Limits:** Never exceed the maximum tongue weight (1,400 lb.) or gross trailer weight (14,000 lb.) ratings of this hitch or your tow vehicle's and trailer's ratings, whichever is lower.
- **Proper Installation:** Ensure all components are correctly installed and securely fastened according to the instructions. Incorrect installation can lead to instability and failure.
- **Regular Inspection:** Before each tow, inspect all hitch components, including bolts, pins, and spring bars, for wear, damage, or looseness.
- **Sway Control:** While this hitch provides built-in sway control, always drive cautiously and adjust speed according to road and weather conditions.
- **Level Towing:** Proper weight distribution aims for a level tow vehicle and trailer. Adjust as necessary to achieve this.
- **Maintenance:** Keep all moving parts clean and lubricated as recommended.
- **Professional Assistance:** If you are unsure about any part of the installation or operation, consult a qualified professional.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present and undamaged before beginning installation.

- Eaz-Lift Elite-S Weight Distribution Hitch Head Assembly
- Two (2) Spring Bars
- Two (2) Hookup Brackets (Sway Control Brackets)
- 2-5/16 inch Hitch Ball (pre-installed or separate)
- All necessary mounting hardware (bolts, nuts, washers, pins)
- Adjustment Washer

Note: The receiver hitch on your tow vehicle is sold separately and is required for use.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general steps for installing your Eaz-Lift Elite-S Weight Distribution Hitch. Specific measurements and adjustments will vary based on your tow vehicle and trailer. Always refer to the detailed instructions provided in the physical product manual for precise steps and torque specifications.

4.1 Preparing the Tow Vehicle and Trailer

1. Park the tow vehicle and trailer on a level, hard surface.

2. Ensure the trailer is loaded as it would be for travel.
3. Measure and record the height of the front and rear bumper of the tow vehicle from the ground.
4. Couple the trailer to the tow vehicle without the weight distribution bars engaged. Measure and record the bumper heights again. Note the sag.

4.2 Installing the Hitch Head and Ball

1. Insert the shank into your tow vehicle's receiver hitch and secure it with a hitch pin and clip.
2. Attach the hitch head to the shank. The Elite-S features an adjustment washer to set the initial ball mount angle. Adjust this washer to achieve the desired tilt for the hitch ball. A slight downward tilt of the ball is typically required.
3. Ensure the 2-5/16 inch hitch ball is securely tightened to the hitch head.

4.3 Attaching Spring Bars

1. Insert the spring bars into the hitch head. Secure them with the provided pins.
2. Position the hookup brackets (sway control brackets) on the trailer frame. These brackets offer flexibility to install around obstructions. Ensure they are equidistant from the coupler and allow the spring bars to be parallel to the trailer frame.
3. Raise the trailer tongue jack to lift both the trailer and the rear of the tow vehicle. This reduces tension on the spring bars, making it easier to connect them.
4. Lift the end of each spring bar and engage it with the hookup bracket. Lower the trailer jack.

4.4 Adjusting Weight Distribution

The goal is to return the tow vehicle's front bumper to its original uncoupled height, or as close as possible, without raising the rear bumper higher than its original uncoupled height.

1. After connecting the spring bars and lowering the jack, re-measure the front and rear bumper heights of the tow vehicle.
2. If further adjustment is needed, raise the trailer jack again to relieve tension. Adjust the angle of the hitch head using the adjustment washer. Increasing the tilt (more downward angle) will apply more tension to the spring bars, distributing more weight. Decreasing the tilt will reduce tension.
3. Repeat the process of connecting spring bars, lowering the jack, and measuring bumper heights until optimal weight distribution is achieved.
4. Ensure all bolts and fasteners are tightened to the manufacturer's specified torque values.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once the Eaz-Lift Elite-S hitch is properly installed and adjusted, follow these guidelines for safe operation.

- **Pre-Trip Inspection:** Before each trip, visually inspect all hitch components. Check for loose bolts, worn parts, or any signs of damage. Ensure spring bars are properly seated and secured in the hookup brackets.
- **Connecting the Trailer:**
 - a. Couple the trailer to the hitch ball and secure the coupler latch.
 - b. Raise the trailer tongue jack to lift the trailer and the rear of the tow vehicle.
 - c. Attach the spring bars to the hookup brackets.
 - d. Lower the trailer tongue jack completely.
 - e. Connect safety chains and trailer wiring.

- **Disconnecting the Trailer:**
 - a. Park on a level surface and apply parking brakes.
 - b. Disconnect safety chains and trailer wiring.
 - c. Raise the trailer tongue jack to lift the trailer and the rear of the tow vehicle, relieving tension on the spring bars.
 - d. Remove the spring bars from the hookup brackets.
 - e. Lower the trailer tongue jack until the coupler is clear of the hitch ball.
 - f. Move the tow vehicle away from the trailer.
- **Driving:** Drive at appropriate speeds for towing. The built-in sway control helps, but it does not eliminate the need for careful driving, especially in windy conditions or when passing large vehicles.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Eaz-Lift Elite-S Weight Distribution Hitch.

- **Lubrication:**
 - Apply a thin layer of heavy-duty grease to the hitch ball before each use.
 - Lubricate the pivot points of the spring bars where they connect to the hitch head.
 - Apply grease to the friction surfaces within the sway control brackets as needed, ensuring smooth operation.
- **Inspection:**
 - Periodically check all bolts and nuts for proper tightness. Re-torque to specifications if necessary.
 - Inspect spring bars, hitch head, and brackets for cracks, bends, or excessive wear. Replace any damaged components immediately.
 - Ensure safety pins and clips are present and functional.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the hitch components clean from dirt, rust, and road grime. A clean hitch allows for easier inspection and proper function.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your weight distribution hitch.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Trailer Sway	Improper weight distribution; excessive speed; strong crosswinds; incorrect tire pressure.	Verify proper weight distribution and adjust hitch head angle. Ensure trailer is loaded correctly (heavier items forward). Check tire pressures on both tow vehicle and trailer. Reduce speed.
Tow Vehicle Sagging	Insufficient weight distribution; hitch not properly adjusted.	Increase the downward tilt of the hitch head using the adjustment washer to apply more tension to the spring bars. Ensure spring bars are correctly engaged.
Difficulty Engaging/Disengaging Spring Bars	Too much tension on spring bars; trailer jack not raised high enough.	Ensure the trailer tongue jack is raised sufficiently to lift both the trailer and the rear of the tow vehicle, relieving tension.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Excessive Noise (Creaking/Groaning)	Lack of lubrication on friction points; normal operation.	Lubricate the hitch ball and spring bar pivot points. Some noise from friction sway control is normal, but excessive noise may indicate a need for lubrication or inspection.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	48194
Brand	Eaz-Lift
Maximum Tongue Weight	1,400 lb.
Maximum Gross Trailer Weight	14,000 lb.
Hitch Ball Size	2-5/16 inch
Hitch Ball Rating	14,000 lb.
Sway Control	Permanent, Built-In (Steel-on-steel friction)
Material	Alloy Steel
Finish Type	Powder Coated
Item Weight	95 Pounds
Product Dimensions	39 x 9 x 8 inches
Vehicle Service Type	Trailer
Automotive Fit Type	Universal Fit

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Eaz-Lift website. If you require technical assistance, have questions about installation, or need to report a missing or damaged part, please contact Eaz-Lift customer support directly.

Contact information can typically be found on the product packaging or the manufacturer's official website.

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