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Reese 94980

Reese 94980 Goose Box 5th Wheel Pin Box Instruction Manual

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1. Product Overview

The Reese 94980 Goose Box is a replacement pin box designed for fifth-wheel trailers, enabling connection to a gooseneck ball in a truck bed. This system provides a clean truck bed when not towing, offering more space for storage or hauling. It incorporates air ride technology, including an airbag, dual shocks, and rubber springs, to enhance towing comfort by absorbing road shocks and bumps.



Figure 1: The Reese 94980 Goose Box 5th Wheel Pin Box. This image shows the complete pin box assembly, ready for installation on a fifth-wheel trailer.

The Goose Box is engineered for strength, with a maximum capacity of 22,500 lbs, suitable for heavy-duty towing applications. Its design ensures a secure connection with a premium lockable coupler and features an easy-to-fill airbag with an automatic relief valve to prevent overfilling.

2. Safety Information

WARNING: Read and understand all instructions and safety warnings before installing or operating this product. Failure to follow these instructions could result in serious injury, death, or property damage.

- Always ensure the Goose Box is correctly installed and secured according to the instructions provided.
- Verify that the gooseneck ball and coupler are properly engaged and locked before towing.
- Do not exceed the maximum towing capacity of 22,500 lbs for the Goose Box or the lowest rated component of your towing system.
- Regularly inspect the Goose Box, airbag, shocks, and all fasteners for wear, damage, or loose connections.
- Maintain proper airbag pressure as specified in the operating instructions.
- Ensure adequate clearance between the trailer and truck bed, especially during turns and over uneven terrain.
- Always use safety chains or cables as required by local regulations.

3. Package Contents

Verify that all components are present before beginning installation.

- 1 x Reese 94980 Goose Box 5th Wheel Pin Box Assembly

Note: Additional hardware for mounting to your specific trailer may be required and is not included. Refer to your trailer manufacturer's instructions for specific mounting hardware requirements.

4. Setup and Installation

4.1 Compatibility

The Reese Goose Box is compatible with a wide range of trailers, including those with Lippert 1621, 1716, 0719, and Fabex PB 600 Series bolt hole patterns. It also fits Lippert Rhino bolt hole patterns, though capacity is limited to 20,000 lbs in this specific configuration. The design offers increased vertical flexibility for height adjustment with taller truck beds.

4.2 Installation Steps

Installation of the Goose Box typically involves replacing the existing fifth-wheel pin box on your trailer. It is recommended that installation be performed by a qualified technician or an individual with experience in trailer maintenance and towing equipment.

1. **Prepare the Trailer:** Park the trailer on a level surface and secure it to prevent movement. Support the trailer frame adequately before removing the existing pin box.
2. **Remove Existing Pin Box:** Carefully unbolt and remove the current pin box from the trailer's frame. Retain any reusable hardware if applicable, though new hardware is often recommended.
3. **Mount the Goose Box:** Align the Reese 94980 Goose Box with the bolt holes on your trailer's frame. Secure it using appropriate grade 8 hardware (not included) as specified by your trailer manufacturer. Ensure all bolts are torqued to the manufacturer's specifications.
4. **Adjust Height:** The Goose Box offers multiple bolt hole positions for height adjustment. Select the appropriate height to ensure a level towing experience and adequate clearance between the truck bed rails and the trailer.
5. **Final Inspection:** Double-check all bolted connections for tightness. Ensure there are no obstructions or interference with other trailer components.



Figure 2: Side view of the Reese Goose Box, illustrating its robust construction and mounting points. This view helps in understanding the attachment mechanism to the trailer frame.

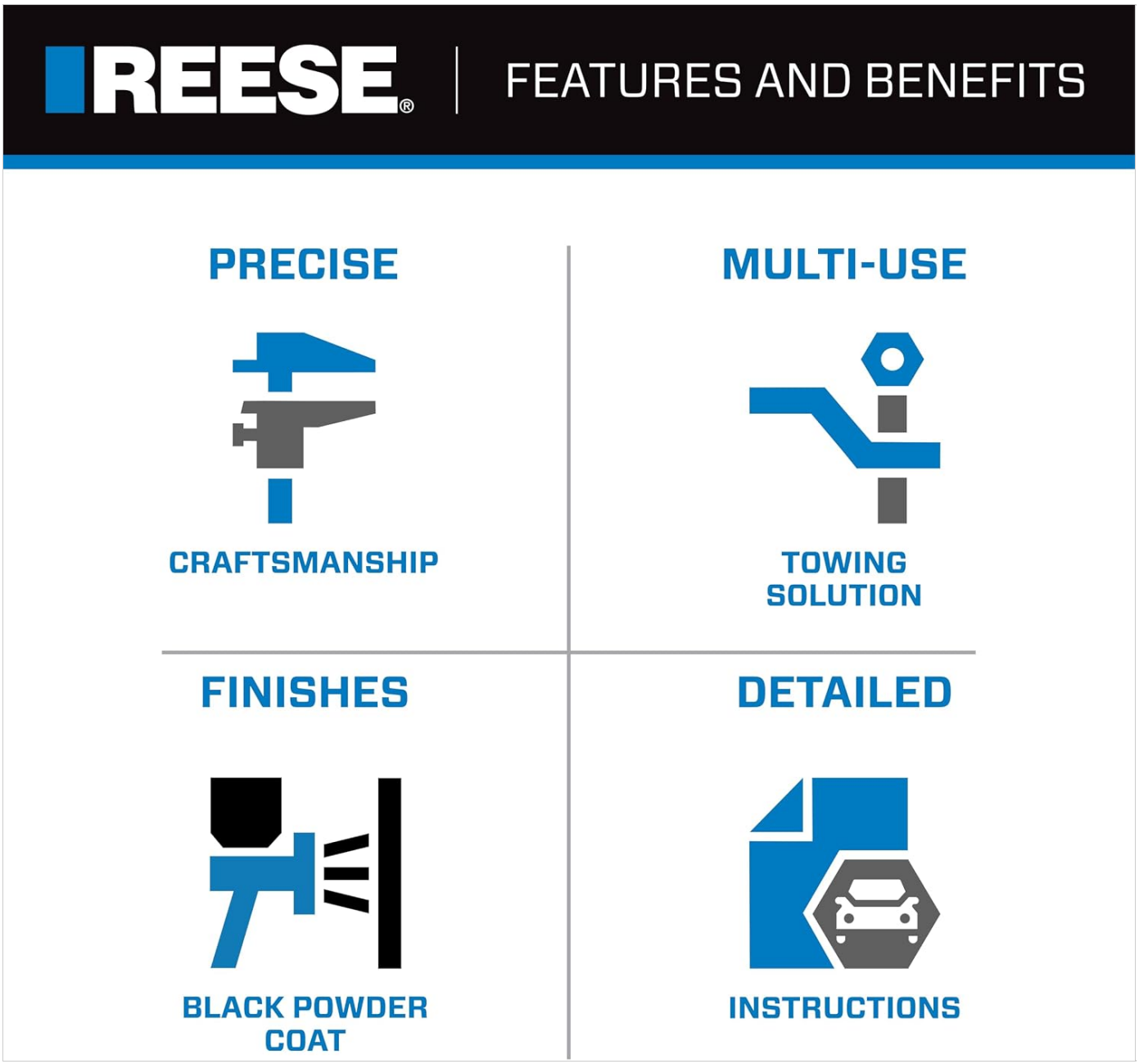


Figure 3: Approximate dimensions of the Reese Goose Box for fitment reference. This diagram provides key measurements for ensuring compatibility with your trailer's existing pin box mounting pattern.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Airbag Inflation

The Goose Box features an internal airbag system for a smoother ride. Proper inflation is crucial for optimal performance.

1. **Locate Air Manifold:** The air manifold (fill spot) is located on the top of the Goose Box.
2. **Inflate Airbag:** Use an air compressor to inflate the airbag. Refer to the pressure decal on the Goose Box for the recommended operating pressure range, which varies based on trailer weight. Do not overinflate. The automatic relief valve will prevent excessive pressure.
3. **Check Pressure:** Periodically check the airbag pressure, especially before each trip, to ensure it is within the recommended range.

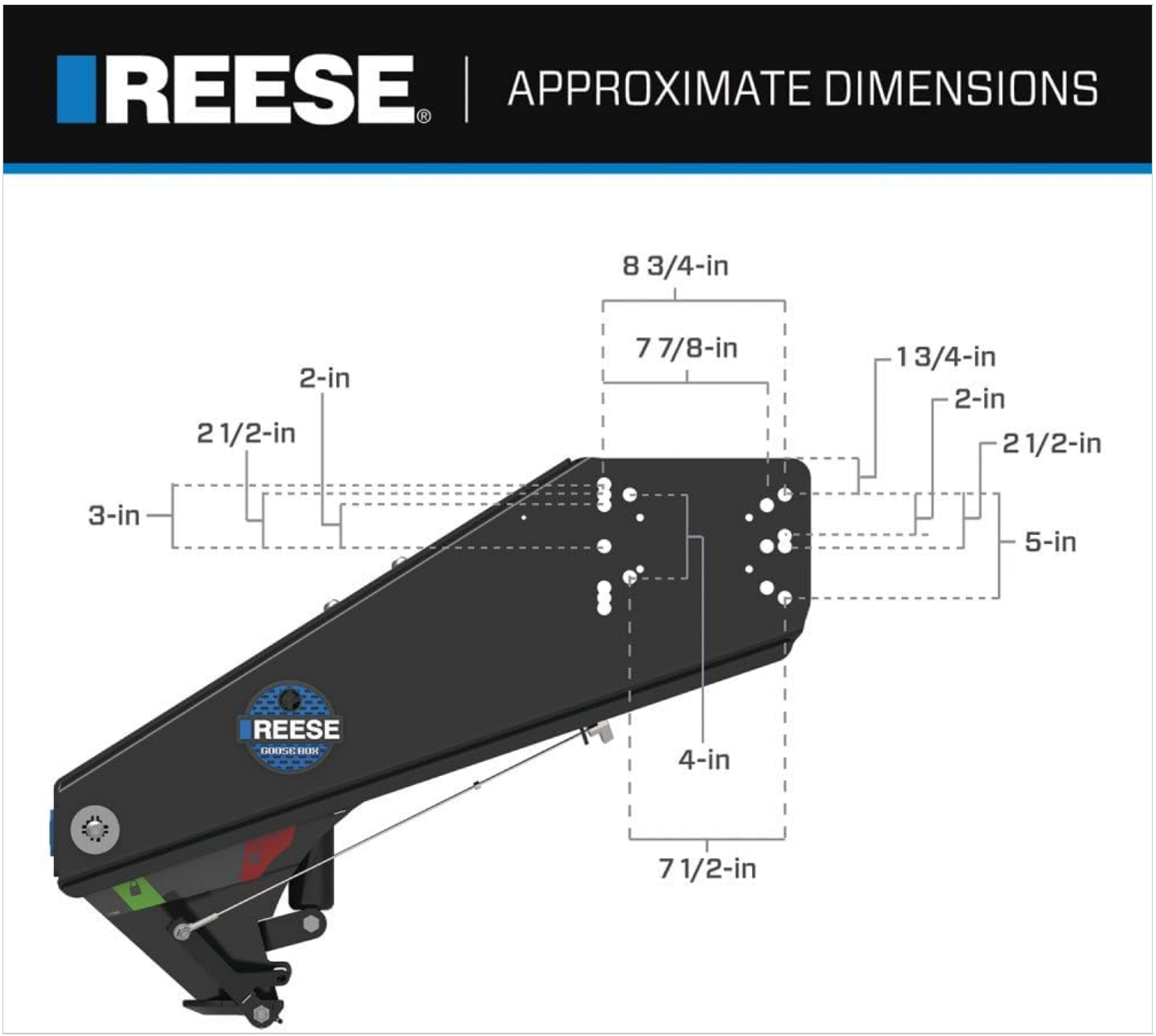


Figure 4: Cutaway view showing the internal airbag, dual shocks, and rubber springs of the Reese Goose Box. This illustration highlights the components responsible for the air ride technology.

5.2 Connecting to Gooseneck Ball

1. **Position Trailer:** Back your tow vehicle until the gooseneck ball is directly beneath the Goose Box coupler.
2. **Lower Trailer:** Slowly lower the trailer until the Goose Box coupler fully engages the gooseneck ball.
3. **Secure Coupler:** Engage the locking mechanism on the coupler. Ensure it is fully locked and secure. A visual indicator or audible click may confirm proper engagement.
4. **Perform Tug Test:** With the trailer brakes engaged, gently pull forward with the tow vehicle to confirm a secure connection.
5. **Connect Safety Chains:** Attach safety chains or cables from the trailer to the tow vehicle.
6. **Connect Electrical and Breakaway Cables:** Plug in the trailer's electrical connector and attach the breakaway cable.

5.3 Disconnecting from Gooseneck Ball

1. **Park Safely:** Park the tow vehicle and trailer on a level surface. Engage the parking brake on the tow vehicle and block the trailer wheels.
2. **Disconnect Cables:** Disconnect the electrical and breakaway cables. Remove safety chains.
3. **Unlock Coupler:** Disengage the locking mechanism on the Goose Box coupler.
4. **Raise Trailer:** Use the trailer's landing gear to slowly raise the trailer until the Goose Box coupler clears the gooseneck ball.
5. **Drive Away:** Once clear, slowly drive the tow vehicle away from the trailer.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Reese Goose Box.

- **Pre-Trip Inspection:** Before each trip, inspect the Goose Box for any signs of damage, cracks, or excessive wear. Check all bolts and fasteners for tightness.
- **Airbag Pressure:** Verify the airbag pressure is within the recommended range.
- **Coupler Lubrication:** Keep the coupler mechanism clean and lightly lubricated to ensure smooth operation.
- **Cleanliness:** Keep the Goose Box free from dirt, debris, and corrosive materials. Clean with mild soap and water as needed.
- **Annual Inspection:** Have the Goose Box inspected annually by a qualified technician for internal component wear, such as shocks and rubber springs.

7. Troubleshooting

7.1 Rough Ride / Excessive Bouncing

- **Check Airbag Pressure:** Ensure the airbag is inflated to the correct pressure for your trailer's loaded weight. Low pressure can lead to a rough ride.
- **Inspect Shocks:** Check for damaged or leaking shocks. Replace if necessary.

7.2 Difficulty Connecting/Disconnecting

- **Lubricate Coupler:** Apply a light lubricant to the coupler mechanism.
- **Check for Obstructions:** Ensure no debris is preventing proper engagement of the coupler with the gooseneck ball.
- **Verify Ball Condition:** Inspect the gooseneck ball for damage or excessive wear.

7.3 Air Leak from Airbag System

- **Check Valve Stem:** Ensure the valve stem cap is tight and the valve core is not leaking.
- **Inspect Air Lines and Fittings:** Look for visible damage or loose connections in the air lines.
- **Professional Inspection:** If a leak persists, have the system inspected by a qualified technician.

8. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Model Number	94980
Brand	Reese
Maximum Capacity	22,500 lbs (20,000 lbs for Lippert Rhino pattern)
Item Weight	220 Pounds
Material	Alloy Steel
Vehicle Service Type	Truck
Compatible Pin Box Patterns	Lippert (1621, 1716, 0719, Rhino), Fabex PB 600 Series



Figure 5: Detailed dimensions of the Reese Goose Box. This diagram provides critical measurements for installation planning and ensuring proper fitment with your trailer and tow vehicle.

9. Warranty and Support

9.1 Manufacturer's Warranty

The Reese 94980 Goose Box is backed by a Limited Lifetime Warranty from Reese. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service. For specific terms, conditions, and limitations of the warranty, please refer to the official warranty documentation provided with your product or visit the Reese website.

9.2 Customer Support

For technical assistance, warranty claims, or questions regarding the installation and operation of your Reese Goose Box, please contact Reese Customer Support. Contact information can typically be found on the Reese official website or in the packaging materials.
When contacting support, please have your product model number (94980) and purchase information readily available.

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