CHICAGO
Electric® Power Tools

PORTABLE REMOTE CONTROL WINCH 12 VOLT - 3,000 LB. CAPACITY

Model 95912

ASSEMBLY AND OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

Due to continuing improvements, actual product may differ slightly from the product described herein.

Distributed Exclusively by
HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS®

3491 Mission Oaks Blvd., Camarillo, CA 93011

Visit our website at: http://www.harborfreight.com

TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY, READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE.

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For technical questions or replacement parts, please call 1-800-444-3353.

SPECIFICATIONS

Electrical Requirements	12 VDC Power Input 1.1 HP / Permanent Magnet 6'Length Battery Wires (Qty. 2)
Maximum Line Pull Capacity	3,000 Pounds
Remote Control	Hand Held Wireless (A = "Power In" / B = "Power Out")
Gear Ratio	153.1
Cable Assembly	32 Ft. x 3/16" Diameter / High Carbon Steel, Zinc Plated
Hook Assembly	Spring Loaded Safety Latch 1" Jaw Opening 3-1/2" Long x 2-1/2" Wide x 1/2" Thick
Mounting Plate Dimensions	7.48" Long x 5.04" Wide x 2.17" High
Overall Dimensions	13-3/8" Long x 9-1/16" Wide x 6-19/64" High
Weight	18.9 Pounds

SAVE THIS MANUAL

You will need this manual for the safety warnings and precautions, assembly, operating, inspection, maintenance and cleaning procedures, parts list and assembly diagram. Keep your invoice with this manual. Write the invoice number on the inside of the front cover. Write the product's serial number in the back of the manual near the assembly diagram, or write month and year of purchase if product has no number. Keep this manual and invoice in a safe and dry place for future reference.

UNPACKING

When unpacking, check to make sure that the item is intact and undamaged. If any parts are missing or broken, please call Harbor Freight Tools at the number shown on the cover of this manual as soon as possible.

GENERAL SAFETY RULES

⚠ WARNING!

READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL INSTRUCTIONS
Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

WORK AREA

1. **Keep your work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered benches and dark areas invite accidents.

2. **Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.** Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.

3. **Keep bystanders, children, and visitors away while operating a power tool.** Distractions can cause you to lose control. Protect others in the work area from debris such as chips and sparks. Provide barriers or shields as needed.

PERSONAL SAFETY

1. **Stay alert. Watch what you are doing, and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use a power tool while tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication.** A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.

2. **Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Contain long hair. Keep your hair, clothing, and gloves away from moving parts.** Loose clothes, jewelry, or long hair can be caught in moving parts.

3. **Avoid accidental starting. Be sure the Power Switch is off before plugging in.** Carrying power tools with your finger on the Power Switch, or plugging in power tools with the Power Switch on, invites accidents.

4. **Remove adjusting keys or wrenches before turning the power tool on.** A wrench or a key that is left attached to a rotating part of the power tool may result in personal injury.

5. **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** Proper footing and balance enables better control of the power tool in unexpected situations.

6. **Use safety equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Dust mask, nonskid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection must be used for appropriate conditions. Always wear ANSI-approved safety goggles and a dust mask/respirator when using or performing maintenance on this tool.

TOOL USE AND CARE

1. **Do not force the tool. Use the correct tool for your application.** The correct tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it is designed. Do not force the tool and do not use the tool for a purpose for which it is not intended.

2. **Store idle tools out of reach of children and other untrained persons.** Tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.

3. **Maintain tools with care. Keep cutting tools clean.** Properly maintained tools are less likely to malfunction and are easier to control. Do not use a damaged tool. Tag damaged tools “Do not use” until repaired.

4. **Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, and any other condition that may affect the tool's operation. If damaged, have the tool serviced before using.** Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained tools.

5. **Use only accessories that are recommended by the manufacturer for your model.** Accessories that may be suitable for one tool may become hazardous when used on another tool.

SERVICE

1. **Tool service must be performed only by qualified repair personnel.** Service or maintenance performed by unqualified personnel could result in a risk of injury.

2. **When servicing a tool, use only identical replacement parts. Follow instructions in the** "Inspection, Maintenance, And Cleaning" **section of this manual.** Use of unauthorized parts or failure to follow maintenance instructions may create a risk of electric shock or injury.

SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES

1. **Do not exceed the maximum line pull capacity (3,000 pounds) of this Winch.** Know the weight of the load being pulled. Overloading the Winch could cause personal injury and/or property damage.

2. **Maintain labels and nameplates on the Winch.** These carry important information. If unreadable or missing, contact Harbor Freight Tools for a replacement.

3. **Prior to using the Winch, make sure to read and understand all warnings, safety precautions, and instructions as outlined in the manufacturer's instruction manual for the vehicle/trailer to which the Winch will be attached.**

4. **Make sure to read and understand all instructions and safety precautions as outlined in the manufacturer's instruction manual for the vehicle/trailer you will winch.**

5. **Industrial applications must follow OSHA guidelines.**

6. **Never leave the Winch unattended with a load.** Remove the load from the Winch before leaving.

7. Do not allow children and other unauthorized people to handle or play with the Winch.

8. **This Winch is designed for intermittent use only.** Do not use the Winch in a constant duty application. The duration of the pulling job should be kept as short as possible. If the Winch becomes very hot to the touch, stop the Winch and let it cool down for several minutes. Never pull for more than one minute at or near the rated maximum line pull capacity (3,000 pounds).

9. **Always examine the Winch for structural cracks, bends, damage, frayed Cable, and any other condition that may affect the safe operation of the tool.** Do not use the Winch even if minor damage appears.

10. **Always keep hands and fingers away from the Gears, Drum, Cable, and all other moving parts when applying or releasing a load.** Remain clear of the Cable when pulling a load. Do not stand in line with the Cable, as it can whip violently should it break. Do not cross over or under the Cable when the Winch is under a load. People and animals should be kept at a safe distance when using the Winch.

11. **Use extreme caution when applying or releasing a load.** Never allow the load to suddenly release. Slowly and carefully apply and release the load.

12. **Never winch a vehicle, trailer, boat, or other object with anyone in or on the object being pulled.** Use a "spotter" to assist you in assuring that it is safe to operate the Winch. Make sure the spotter is out of the way of the Cable and object being pulled before activating the Winch.

13. **This Winch is designed for mounting on square or rectangular surfaces only.** Do not attempt to mount the Winch on a rounded surface.

14. **This Winch is not designed to accommodate ropes or fiberglass straps.** Do not replace the original Cable with a Cable of lesser strength. Refer to the "Product Specifications" section in this manual for the proper replacement Cable.

15. **Always leave at least five turns of the Cable on the Drum to prevent pulling the Cable completely out of the Winch.**

16. **The Cable must be pulled straight in.** Keep the load in line with the Winch. Pulling at an angle (off to the side) may cause excessive stress on the Winch.

17. **This Winch is not designed for use in aircraft applications.**

18. **Never lift objects vertically with the Winch.** This Winch is designed for horizontal use only.

19. **Make sure the input voltage to the Winch is 12 volt DC.** Do not attempt to use any other electrical power source.

20. **Do not move the vehicle to assist the Winch in pulling a load.** The combination of the Winch and vehicle pulling together can overload the Winch and the Cable.

21. **When using the Winch to move a load, place the vehicle transmission in neutral, set the emergency brake, and chock all the wheels of the vehicle.** The vehicle engine should be running during the winch operation. If considerable winching is performed with the vehicle engine shut off, the vehicle battery may be too weak to assist winching and to restart the engine.

22. ⚠ **WARNING! This Winch is designed for outdoor use only.** Do not operate the Winch in a closed area or in a poorly ventilated area. **When running,** the engine of the vehicle product produces carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless, toxic gas that, when inhaled, can cause serious personal injury or death.

23. ⚠ **WARNING!** People with pacemakers should consult their physician(s) before use. Electromagnetic fields in close proximity to a heart pacemaker could cause pacemaker interference or pacemaker failure.

24. ⚠ **WARNING!** The warnings and precautions discussed in this manual cannot cover all possible conditions and situations that may occur. It must be understood by the operator that common sense and caution are factors which cannot be built into this product, but must be supplied by the operator.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. **NOTE:** Depending on your level of knowledge regarding mechanical assembly and electrical wiring, you may wish to have the assembly and mounting performed by a qualified service technician.

2. Select a mounting site on the vehicle's front bumper or other suitable location.

   ⚠ **CAUTION!** This Winch can generate **3,000 pounds** of pulling force. Make sure the location selected can withstand this much force. It may be necessary to use steel reinforcement plates (not included) and/or to weld on additional bracing (not included), depending on the desired mounting location.

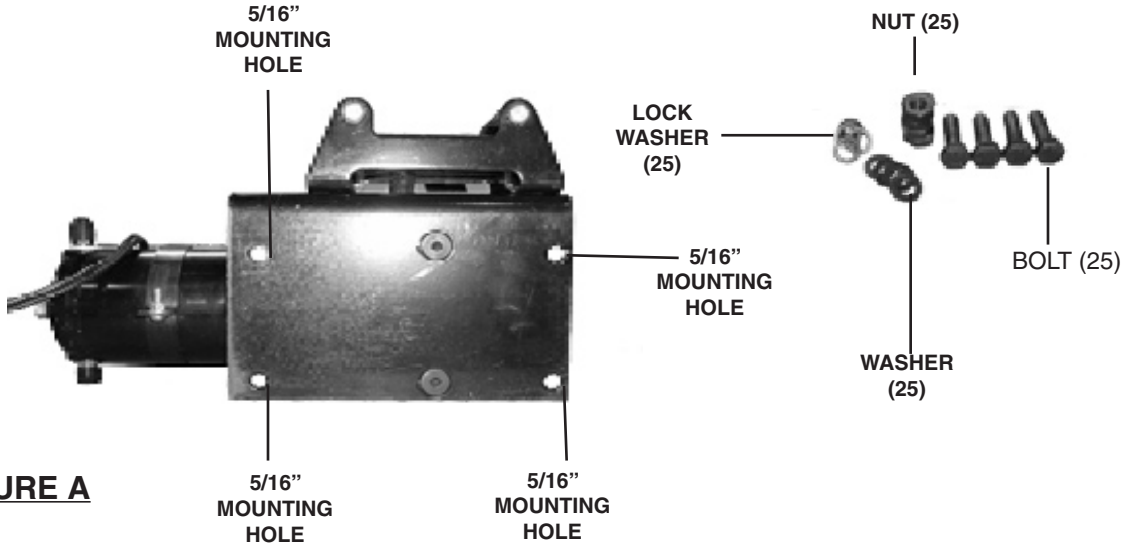


FIGURE A

3. Place the Mounting Base (3) of the Winch on the desired mounting location. Using the four 5/16" diameter mounting holes in the Mounting Base as a template, mark and drill four 5/16" mounting holes in the mounting location. **(See Figure A.)**

4. Use the four Mounting Bolts (25), Washers (25), Lock Washers (25), and Nuts (25) to securely attach the Winch to the desired mounting location. **(See Figure A.)**

5. Plan a route for the Winch's Power Cables (26) to the point of where the Cables will be connected to the vehicle's 12 volt battery. The route should be secure, out of the way of moving parts, hot parts, road debris, or any or maintenance of the vehicle.

   For example, the Cables may be routed under the vehicle, attaching them to the frame using suitable fasteners (not included). Do not attach the Cables to the exhaust system, drive shaft, emergency brake, fuel line, or any other components which may create damage to the Cables through heat or motion, or create a fire hazard.

   If a hole is drilled through the bumper or any other part of the vehicle, make sure to install a rubber grommet (not included) in the hole to prevent fraying of the Cables. When drilling, make sure no wires or cables are in the drilling path.

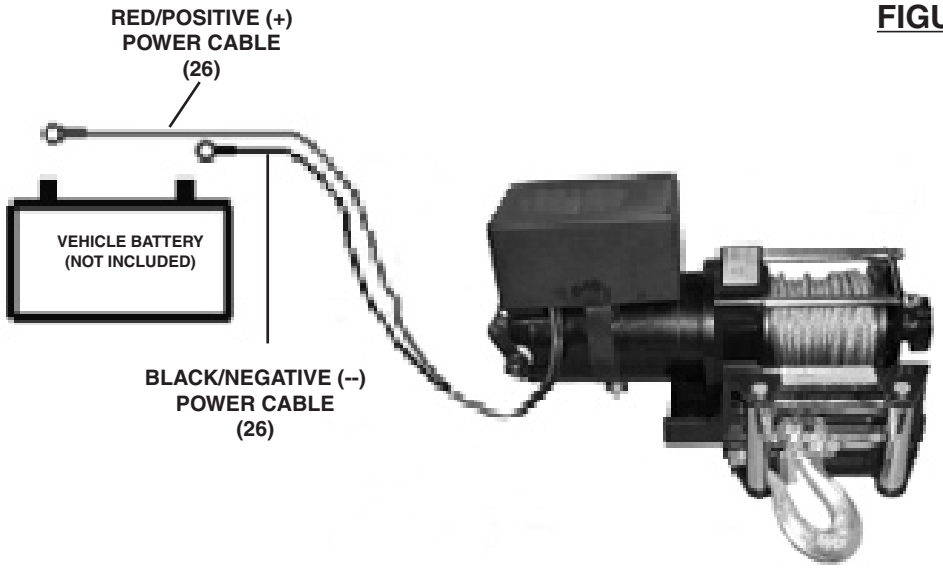
   The Winch's Power Cables (26) should not be drawn taut. Make sure to leave slack for some Cable movement.

6. Once the Power Cables (26) have been routed.

   f. Attach the **RED/POSITIVE (+)** Power Cable (26) of the Winch to the **RED/POSITIVE (+)** terminal on the vehicle's battery. **(See Figure B.)**

   g. Attach the **BLACK/NEGATIVE (--)** Power Cable (26) of the Winch to the **BLACK/NEGATIVE (--)** terminal on the vehicle's battery. **(See Figure B.)**

FIGURE B



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

⚠ **WARNING! The remote control operates by radio frequency. The receiver has a delay to avoid signal interference. When the winch is operating (either IN or OUT), it will continue to run for 1 to 2 seconds after the remote button is released.**

1. Place the vehicle's transmission in **"NEUTRAL"**. Set the emergency brake, and block the wheels from rolling, using suitable chocks (not included).

2. **When using the Winch to move a load, place the vehicle transmission in neutral, set the emergency brake, and chock all the wheels of the vehicle.** The vehicle engine should be running during the winch operation. If considerable winching is performed with the vehicle's engine shut off, the vehicle battery may be too weak to assist winching and to restart the engine.

3. ⚠ **WARNING!** This Winch is designed for outdoor use only. Do not operate the Winch in a closed area or in a poorly ventilated area. When running, the engine of the vehicle produces carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless, toxic gas that, when inhaled, can cause serious personal injury or death.

4. Disengage the Freewheel Knob (1) of the Winch by turning the Knob to the **"OUT"** position. **(See Figure C, next page.)**

5. **NOTE:** The Hook Strap (24) may be temporarily attached to the Clevis Hook (22) as an aid in pulling out the desired length of Wire Cable. **(See Figure C.)**

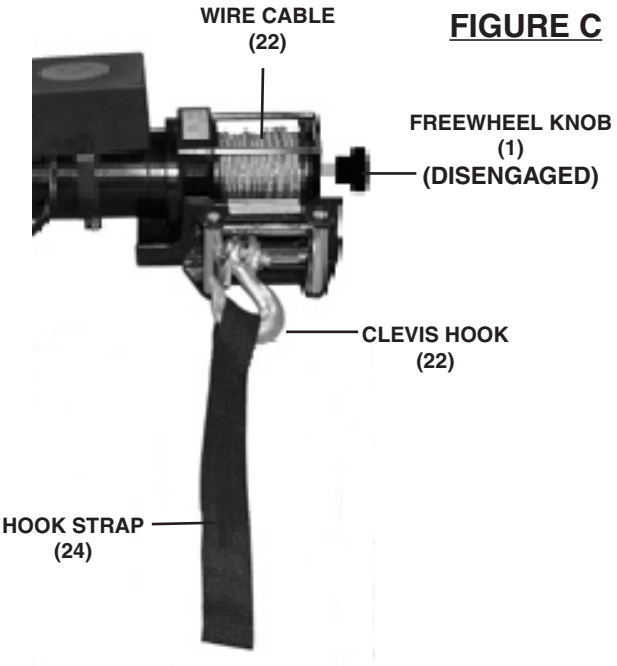


FIGURE C

FIGURE D

6. Point the Remote Transmitter (23) toward the Winch, and press the **"POWER OUT"** button on the Transmitter. Then pull out the Wire Cable to the desired length. Make sure to leave at least five turns of Wire Cable on the Drum (5) to prevent pulling the Cable completely out of the Winch. **Note:** Once the **POWER OUT** button is released, the winch will continue to release a few additional feet of cable; this is normal operation for this type of product. **(See Figure D.)**

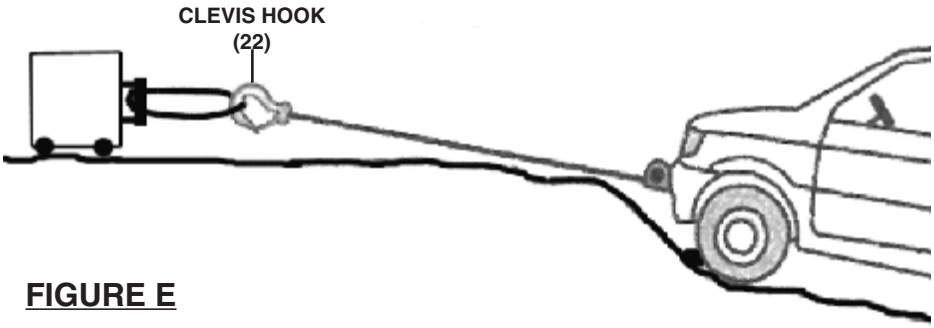


FIGURE E

7. Remove the Hook Strap (24), and hook the Clevis Hook (22) onto the object using a pulling point, tow strap, or chain (none included). Make sure the Safety Latch on the Clevis Hook is properly in place. Never wrap the Wire Cable (22) around the object or hook onto the object itself. This can cause damage to the object being pulled and/or kink or fray the Wire Cable. **(See Figure E.)**

8. Engage the Freewheel Knob (1) on the Winch by turning the Knob to the **"IN"** position. **(See Figure F.)**

9. ⚠**WARNING!** Never allow anyone to stand near the Wire Cable (22), or in line with the Cable behind the Winch while it is under power. Should the Cable slip or

break it can suddenly whip back towards the Winch, causing a hazard for anyone in the area. Always stand well to the side while winching.

FIGURE F

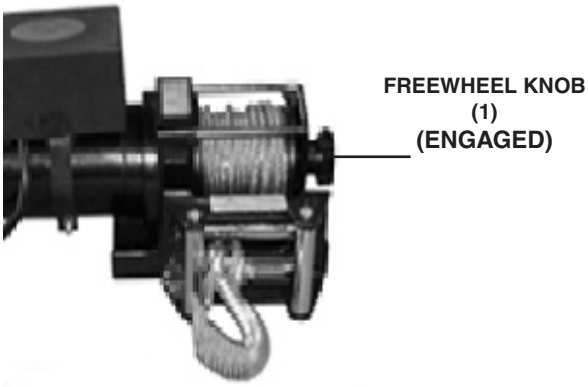


FIGURE G

10. Stand clear and, when it is safe to do so, use the **"POWER IN"** button on the Remote Transmitter (23) to retract the Wire Cable (22) and winch the object as desired. **(See Figure G.)**

INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE, AND CLEANING

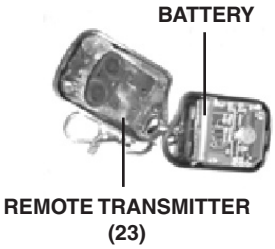
1. ⚠**WARNING!** Always release any load on the Winch, make sure the Freewheel Knob (1) is disengaged, and disconnect the Winch from its 12 volt battery before performing any inspection, maintenance, or cleaning of the unit.

2. **Before each use,** inspect the general condition of the Winch. Check for loose screws, misalignment or binding of moving parts, bent or broken parts, damaged Wire Cable (22), and any other condition that may affect the safe operation of the Winch. If abnormal noise or vibration occurs, have the problem corrected before further use. **Do not use damaged equipment.**

3. **Do not attempt to disassemble the Winch.** Disassembly will void the warranty. Repairs should be done only by a qualified service technician.

4. **After each use,** use a soft brush, vacuum, or compressed air to remove all debris from the Winch. Then use a lightweight machine oil to lubricate all external moving parts. Do not introduce water or any other liquid into the internal parts of the Winch.

FIGURE H



5. **To replace the Battery in the Remote Transmitter (23):** Unscrew and remove the Philips Head Screw located on the back of the Transmitter. Then remove the front of the Transmitter casing to expose the Battery. Remove the old Battery and replace with a new Battery, making sure to match the Battery's positive and negative poles with the positive and negative poles shown on the interior of the Transmitter. Then replace the front of the Transmitter casing and secure in place with the Philips Head Screw. **(See Figure H.)**

6. ⚠ **CAUTION!** All maintenance, service, or repairs not mentioned in this manual must only be performed by a qualified service technician.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY

THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR HAS PROVIDED THE PARTS LIST AND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM IN THIS MANUAL AS A REFERENCE TOOL ONLY. NEITHER THE MANUFACTURER OR DISTRIBUTOR MAKES ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND TO THE BUYER THAT HE OR SHE IS QUALIFIED TO REPLACE ANY PARTS OF THE PRODUCT. IN FACT, THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR EXPRESSLY STATES THAT ALL REPAIRS AND PARTS REPLACEMENTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY CERTIFIED AND LICENSED TECHNICIANS, AND NOT BY THE BUYER. THE BUYER ASSUMES ALL RISKS AND LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER REPAIRS TO THE ORIGINAL PRODUCT OR REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO, OR ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO. ASSUMES ALL RISKS AND LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER REPAIRS TO THE ORIGINAL PRODUCT OR REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO, OR ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO.

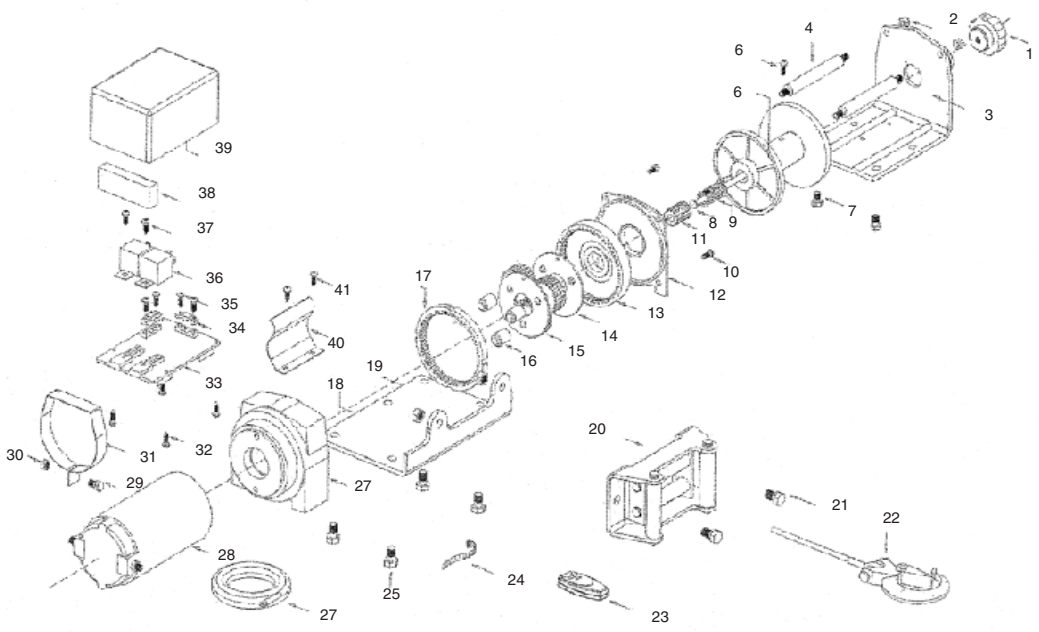
TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Possible Solution
Motor will not operate, or runs in one direction only.	1. Power switch defective. 2. Broken wires or bad connections. 3. Damaged motor.	1. Have a qualified service technician replace switch. 2. Check for broken wires or bad connections. 3. Have a qualified service technician replace motor.
Motor runs extremely hot.	1. Too long a period of operation. 2. Damaged motor.	1. Discontinue use, and allow motor to cool. 2. Have a qualified service technician replace motor.
Motor runs, but with insufficient power or line speed.	1. Weak vehicle battery. 2. Vehicle battery to Winch wire too long. 3. Poor vehicle battery connection. 4. Poor ground. 5. Damaged motor.	1. Recharge or replace battery. Check charging system. 2. Keep Winch within distance allowed by lead wires. 3. Check battery terminals for corrosion. Clean if necessary. 4. Check and clean connections. 5. Have a qualified service technician replace motor.
Motor runs, but drum doesn't turn.	Clutch not engaged.	Engage clutch (Freewheel Knob).
Winch runs backwards.	Motor wires reversed.	Recheck wiring.
Winch coasts.	Excessive load.	Reduce load or double line.

PARTS LIST & ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

Part	Description	Q'ty
1	Freewheel Knob Assy.	1
2	Nut (M6)	2
3	Mounting Base	1
4	Tie Rod	2
5	Drum Assy.	1
6	Set Screw (M5 x 6)	1
7	Screw (M6 x 16)	2
8	Core Rod	1
9	Spring	1
10	Screw (STPH M4 x 12)	2
11	Splined Shaft	1
12	Drum Support Plate	1
13	Drive Gear	1
14	Gear Plate	2
15	Planetary Gear	3
16	Gear Rod	3
17	Drive Gear Ring	1
18	Mounting Plate	AR
19	Hex Nut (M8)	2
20	Roller Fairlead	AR
21	Bolt (M8 x 25)	2
22	Wire Cable w/Clevis Hook Assy.	1

Part	Description	Q'ty
23	Remote Transmitter	1
24	Hook Strap	AR
25	Mounting Bolt (M8 x 25), Washer, Lock Washer, Nut	4 Sets
26	Power Cables	2
27	Gear Housing Assy.	1
28	Motor Assy.	1
29	Bolt (M5 x 16)	1
30	Hex Nut (M5)	1
31	Clamp	1
32	Screw (STPH M3 x 16)	4
33	Solenoid Plate	1
34	Cable Clamp	2
35	Screw (M4 x 16)	4
36	Relay	2
37	Screw (M4 x 10)	2
38	Remote Receiver	1
39	Control Pack Cover	1
40	Tension Plate	1
41	Set Screw (M5 x 12)	2
NOTE: AR = As Required		



Record Product's Serial Number Here:_____

Note: If product has no serial number, record month and year of purchase instead.

Note: Some parts are listed and shown for illustration purposes only, and are not available individually as replacement parts.

LIMITED 1 YEAR / 90 DAY WARRANTY

Harbor Freight Tools Co. makes every effort to assure that its products meet high quality and durability standards, and warrants to the original purchaser that for a period of ninety days from date of purchase that the engine/motor, the belts (if so equipped), and the blades (if so equipped) are free of defects in materials and workmanship. Harbor Freight Tools also warrants to the original purchaser, for a period of one year from date of purchase, that all other parts and components of the product are free from defects in materials and workmanship. This warranty does not apply to damage due directly or indirectly, to misuse, abuse, negligence or accidents, repairs or alterations outside our facilities, normal wear and tear, or to lack of maintenance. We shall in no event be liable for death, injuries to persons or property, or for incidental, contingent, special or consequential damages arising from the use of our product. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation of exclusion may not apply to you. THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS.

To take advantage of this warranty, the product or part must be returned to us with transportation charges prepaid. Proof of purchase date and an explanation of the complaint must accompany the merchandise. If our inspection verifies the defect, we will either repair or replace the product at our election or we may elect to refund the purchase price if we cannot readily and quickly provide you with a replacement. We will return repaired products at our expense, but if we determine there is no defect, or that the defect resulted from causes not within the scope of our warranty, then you must bear the cost of returning the product.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

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