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1942-54 Chevy Trucks Emergency Brake Cable Installation Instructions

General Installation Notes:
Please read these instructions completely before beginning the installation. If you have any questions please call.
Before beginning the installation, disconnect the negative battery cable and use wheel chocks to block the vehicle’s wheels.
Make sure the engine, transmission, body and frame are properly grounded. We recommend applying anti-seize lubricant to all aluminum threads before final assembly.

These Emergency Brake Cables are designed to be used with the vehicle’s original emergency brake cross shaft and cable mounting brackets.

Some brake systems also require a special clevis (sold separately) in order to connect to the brake caliper:
- 1984-up Corvette
- Jag rear end with Wilwood brakes
- Wilwood stand-alone E-brake caliper
- Baer Brakes
- SSBC with Integrated E-brake
- SSBC with Stand-Alone E-brake caliper

Please see the Lokar catalog or website, or call Lokar for more information.

Refer to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 for the component names.

Step 1: Remove the inner wires, brake cable springs (if applicable), and the 7/16”-20 thin nylock nuts from the backing plate fittings on the new Lokar cable housings.

Step 2: Insert the backing plate fittings into the backing plate brackets, and secure each one with a 7/16”-20 thin nylock nut. The backing plate brackets are part of the braking system and are not supplied by Lokar. Fig. 4

Step 3: Install the brake cable adjusters into the original cable mounting brackets at the emergency brake cross shaft, using the adjuster nuts and flat washers. Position the brake cable adjusters so that they are roughly centered in the original brackets. Fig. 5
Step 4: Route the cable housings up to the brake cable adjusters you installed in Step 3. Be sure to keep the cable housings a safe distance away from the exhaust and from any moving parts. Cable housings that are damaged or melted will not be covered under warranty. Support the cable housings securely.

Step 5: It will be necessary to shorten the cable housings. Make sure that the inner wires are removed from the cable housings! Mark the cable housings where they line up with the tapered part of the cable adjuster fitting, between the hex end and the threads. Fig. 6

If the cable housings are braided stainless steel, slide the ferrules back towards the rear end, away from the ends that are being cut. Fig. 7 DO NOT remove the ferrules from the braided stainless steel housings! Wrap tape around the area to be cut and use a cutoff wheel or fine-toothed hacksaw to cut the cable housings at your mark.

If the cable housings are black universal, remove the ferrules. Cut the cable housings at your mark using heavy duty 8" diagonal cutting pliers or a hacksaw. Lokar recommends Klein brand Diagonal Cutting Pliers # D2000-28, available at The Home Depot or through Grainger Industrial Supply, part # 4A838.

After cutting the cable housings, put the ferrules back in place at the end of the cable housings. The ferrules do not need to be crimped or otherwise attached in place.

Step 6: Insert the cable housings and ferrules into the brake cable adjusters on the cable adjuster bracket. Fig. 8

Step 7: If you have:

Rear Disc Brakes WITH a return spring on the caliper lever: You do not need the brake cable springs. Skip to Step 8.

Rear Disc Brakes WITHOUT a return spring on the caliper lever: Install the brake cable springs onto the inner wires.

Rear Brakes that use a Ford Explorer or other type of clevis: Install the clevises onto the inner wires by sliding the end of the inner wire without the ball end on it through the 1/8" hole from inside the U-shaped part of the clevis. Pull the inner wire through the clevis until the brake cable ball on the end of the inner wire stops inside the clevis. You do not need brake cable springs. Fig. 9

Rear Drum Brakes: Install the brake cable springs onto the inner wires.

Step 8: Install the inner wires into the cable housings, starting from the backing plate fittings.

Step 9: Hook the clevises or the brake cable balls into the parking brake levers on your rear brakes. Fig. 10

Step 10: Make sure the Emergency Brake is in the fully off position. Install the single wire union assemblies onto the original cross shaft levers using the front clevises, clevis pins, flat washers and cotter pins. Fig. 11

Step 11: Bring the inner wires up next to the single wire union assemblies, and mark the inner wires where they line up with the tapered end of the single wire union assemblies. Fig. 11
**Step 12:** Measure 1-3/8” further towards the front end of the inner wires and make a second mark. Cut the inner wires at the second mark, so that approximately 1-3/8” of the inner wires can be inserted into the single wire union assemblies. Fig. 11

**Step 13:** Loosen the set screws in the single wire union assemblies using a 1/8” Allen wrench. Insert the ends of the inner wires fully into the single wire union assemblies, and tighten the set screws.

**Step 14:** The Cables should be adjusted evenly. Adjust the cable tension at the tension adjusters so that there is no slack, but making sure that the brakes are not applied when the emergency brake is released. Use the cable adjusters to fine tune the individual Cable adjustment.

See Figs. 12 and 13 for completed installations.
Fig. 13

Original cross shaft lever

Original Cable
Mounting Bracket

Rear

Side View of Right Side With Ford Explorer or Wilwood Disc with Internal Drum

Front