



40285 - Vehicle Wiring Installation Instructions

Ford Explorer 2011 - 2013

1. Open tailgate and fold the third row seats forward. Remove rear scuff panel by pulling up. Remove the cargo mount covers. Remove the plastic fasteners securing the side panels. Pull on the side panels to access the vehicles taillight wiring harness and connectors. The connectors will be similar to those on the Hopkins harness.
2. Set aside all items removed being careful not to damage parts.
3. On the driver side of the vehicle, locate and disconnect the vehicles driver side wiring harness connector from the taillight assembly, being careful not to damage the connector locking tabs. Route the Hopkins® T-Connector from the converter module with the yellow wire to the matching taillight connector. Attach T-Connector's being careful not to damage the connector locking tabs.
4. Disconnect the vehicles passenger side wiring harness connector from the taillight assembly, being careful not to damage the connector locking tabs. Route the T-Connector end with the green wire to the passenger's side along the threshold. Attach T-Connector to the matching taillight assembly connector, being careful not to damage the connector locking tabs.
5. On the drivers side locate and secure the T-Connector black converter module with ny-ties (provided) to prevent damage or rattling and being careful to avoid areas the would cut or pinch the wire.
6. Locate a suitable grounding point near the converter module. Clean dirt, paint and rust proofing from area. Drill a 3/32" hole and secure white wire with ring terminal using screw (provided.) Verify what is behind any surface prior to drilling to avoid damage to the vehicle and /or personal injury. Do not drill into any exposed exterior surfaces.
7. Attach the red power feed wire provided by crimping the yellow butt splice on the converter module assembly. Route the red power feed wire out of the trunk/threshold area underneath the vehicle, and secure along underside of vehicle routing it to the vehicle battery securing it as needed with ny-ties (provided). Route the wire being careful to avoid any hot pipes, heat shields, the fuel tank or any other points that may pinch or break the wire.
8. Install the fuse assembly with the yellow butt splice onto the red 12 ga. power feed wire crimping the yellow butt splice to hold it in place.
9. Attach the fuse assembly yellow ring terminal to the positive 12VDC battery cable clamp bolt.
10. Re-install all items removed during installation securing all loose wiring behind panels on both the driver side and passenger side of vehicle. Be careful to avoid any areas that would cut or pinch the wire.
11. Route the 4-wire flat connector to near the center of the tailgate opening. The 4-way flat connector can now be laid on the flat surface to the right or left of the tailgate latching mechanism so that it will let the 4-wire flat hang out undamaged from under the tailgate door when closed for towing. Stow 4-flat connector in rear cargo area when not in use.
12. Attach the 4-way flat dust cover (provided) to the 4-way flat connector.
13. Apply a small amount of grease (provided) to the 4-way flat terminals to prevent corrosion.
14. Plug completed wire harness into the trailer 4-way flat connector.
15. Test all functions with the engine running to ensure proper operation.
16. **Caution:** Overloading circuit can cause fires. Don't exceed lower of towing manufacturer rating or :
Max. Stop/turn light: (7.5 amps each side)
Max. Tail lights: (7.5 amps)
Read vehicle's owners manual & instruction sheet for additional information.

TIPS:

Grease applied to the wiring terminals on a regular basis will help prevent corrosion.
Always unplug boat trailer connector before backing trailer into the water.

Need Help? (English Only)
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