



The Basic Guide to Winching Techniques

Every winching situation has the potential for personal injury. In order to minimize that risk, it is important to read this guide carefully. Please familiarize yourself with the operation of your winch before using it and be constantly safety oriented.

SAVE THIS MANUAL and other product literature found in this kit for future reference and review frequently for continuing safe operation. Instruct all users of this product to review this manual before operating this product.

NOTE: Some images shown in this manual may not necessarily represent your actual product. It is the customers responsibility to review the specific product operator's manual and other literature specific to your product for complete operation details.

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WARN INDUSTRIES • THE BASIC GUIDE TO WINCHING TECHNIQUES

SYMBOL INDEX




SYMBOL	EXPLANATION	SYMBOL	EXPLANATION
	Read All Product Literature *Literature available online at www.warn.com.		Always Wear Leather Gloves
	Always Wear Hearing and Eye Protection		Do Not Move People
	Never Use Winch as a Hoist		Always Use Supplied Hook Strap
	Properly Seat Load in Throat of Hook		Never Apply Load to Hook Tip or Latch
	Wind Winch Rope on Bottom of Drum		Never Wind Winch Rope Over Top of Drum
	Finger/Fairlead Crushing Hazard		Fairlead Pinch Point
	Hand Piercing/Cutting Hazard		Hot Surface Hazard
	Explosion/Bursting Hazard		Fire and Burn Hazard
	Never Route Electrical Cables across Sharp Edges Hazard		Never Route Electrical Cables through or near Moving Parts Hazard
	Avoid Installing Electrical Cables around Pinch and Wear/Abrasion Points		Exposed Wiring Hazard, Insulate Exposed Wiring and Terminals
			Never Hook Back on Winch rope

Warnings and Cautions














As you read these Instructions, you will see WARNINGS, CAUTIONS, NOTICES and NOTES. Each message has a specific purpose. WARNINGS are safety messages that indicate a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided could result in serious injury or death. CAUTIONS are safety messages that indicate a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury. A CAUTION may also be used to alert against unsafe practice. CAUTIONS and WARNINGS identify the hazard, indicate how to avoid the hazard, and advise of the probable consequence of not avoiding the hazard. NOTICES are messages to avoid property damage. NOTES are additional information to help you complete a procedure. **PLEASE WORK SAFELY!**

 WARNING		
		
MOVING PARTS ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always ensure hook latch is closed and not supporting load. • Never apply load to hook tip or latch. Apply load only to the center of hook. • Never use a hook whose throat opening has increased, or whose tip is bent or twisted. • Always use a hook with a latch. • Always ensure the operator and bystanders are aware of the stability of the vehicle and/or load. • Always keep wired remote control lead and power cord clear of the drum, rope, and rigging. Inspect for cracks, pinches, frayed wires or loose connections. Damaged components must be replaced before operation. • Always pass remote lead thru window when used in vehicle. • Never hook back on rope. 		




 WARNING	
	
MOVING PARTS ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. General Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always Know Your Winch. Take time to fully read the Instructions and/or Operations Guide, and/or Basic Guide to Winching Techniques, in order to understand your winch and its operations. • Never exceed winch or winch rope rated capacity. Double line using a snatch block to reduce winch load. • Always wear heavy leather gloves when handling winch rope. • Never use winch or winch rope for towing. Shock loads can damage, overload and break rope. • Never use a winch to secure a load. • Never operate this winch when under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication. • Never operate this winch if you are under 16 years of age. Installation Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always choose a mounting location that is sufficiently strong to withstand the maximum pulling capacity of your winch. • Always use class 8.8 metric (grade 5) or better hardware. • Never weld mounting bolts. • Always use factory approved mounting hardware, components, and accessories. • Never use bolts that are too long. • Always confirm required bolt length to ensure proper thread engagement. • Always complete the winch installation and hook attachment before installing the wiring. • Always keep hands clear of winch rope, hook loop, hook and fairlead opening during installation, operation, and when spooling in or out. • Always position fairlead with warning readily visible on top. • Always prestretch rope and respool under load before use. Tightly wound rope reduces chances of "binding", which can damage the rope. 	

GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

 WARNING	
	
MOVING PARTS ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. Winching Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always inspect winch rope, hook, and slings before operating winch. Frayed, kinked or damaged winch rope must be replaced immediately. Damaged components must be replaced before operation. Protect parts from damage. • Always remove any element or obstacle that may interfere with safe operation of the winch. • Always be certain the anchor you select will withstand the load and the strap or chain will not slip. • Always use supplied hook strap whenever spooling winch rope in or out, during installation and during operation. • Always require operators and bystanders to be aware of vehicle and/or load. • Always be aware of stability of vehicle and load during winching, keep others away. Alert all bystanders of an unstable condition. • Always unspool as much winch rope as possible when rigging. Double line or pick distant anchor point. • Always take time to use appropriate rigging techniques for a winch pull. • Never touch winch rope or hook while someone else is at the control switch or during winching operation. • Never engage or disengage clutch if winch is under load, winch rope is in tension or drum is moving. • Never touch winch rope or hook while under tension or under load. • Always stand clear of winch rope and load and keep others away while winching. • Never use vehicle to pull load on winch rope. Combined load or shock load can damage, overload and break rope. • Never wrap winch rope back onto itself. Use a choker chain or tree trunk protector on the anchor. 	

 WARNING	
	
	
FALLING OR CRUSHING HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always stand clear, keep hands clear, keep others away. Complete installation and hook attachment before wiring. • Never operate winch with less than 5 wraps of winch rope or 10 wraps of synthetic rope around the drum. Rope could come loose from the drum, as the rope attachment to the drum is not designed to hold a load. • Never use winch as a hoist or to suspend a load. • Always be certain anchor will withstand load, use appropriate rigging and take time to rig correctly. • Never use winch to lift or move persons. • Never use excessive effort to freespool winch rope. • Always use proper posture/lifting technique or get lifting assistance while handling and installing product. • Always wind the winch rope on bottom (mountside) of drum. • Never wind rope over top of drum. • Always spool the winch rope onto the drum in the direction specified by the drum rotation labels on the winch and/or in the documentation. This is required for the automatic brake (if so equipped) to function properly. 	
 WARNING	
	
CUT AND BURN HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. To avoid injury to hands and fingers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always wear heavy leather gloves when handling winch rope. • Always be aware of possible hot surfaces at winch motor, drum or rope during or after winch use. 	

GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

 WARNING		
		
		
CHEMICAL AND FIRE HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to serious injury or death. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always remove jewelry and wear eye protection. • Never route electrical cables across sharp edges. • Never route electrical cables near parts that get hot. • Never route electrical cables through or near moving parts. • Always place the supplied terminal boots on wires and terminals as directed by the installation instructions. • Never lean over battery while making connections. • Never route electrical cables over battery terminals. • Never short battery terminals with metal objects. • Always verify area is clear of fuel lines, fuel tank, brake lines, electrical wires, etc., when drilling. • Always consult operator's manual for proper wiring details. • Always insulate and protect all exposed wiring and electrical terminals. 		

 CAUTION	
	
CUT AND BURN HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to minor or moderate injury. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never let winch rope slip through your hands. 	

 CAUTION	
	
MOVING PARTS ENTANGLEMENT HAZARD Failure to observe these instructions could lead to minor or moderate injury. To avoid injury to hands or fingers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never leave remote control where it can be activated during free spooling, rigging, or when the winch is not being used. • Never leave the winch remote control plugged in when installing, freespooling, rigging, servicing or when the winch is not being used. 	

NOTICE
AVOID WINCH AND EQUIPMENT DAMAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always avoid side pulls which can pile up winch rope at one end of the drum. This can damage winch rope or winch. • Always ensure the clutch is fully engaged or disengaged. • Always use care to not damage the vehicle frame when anchoring to a vehicle during a winching operation. • Never submerge winch in water. • Always store the remote control in a protected, clean, dry area.

WINCH BASICS

WARNING Always take time to fully understand your winch and the winching operation by reviewing this guide and the Operator's Guide included with your winch.

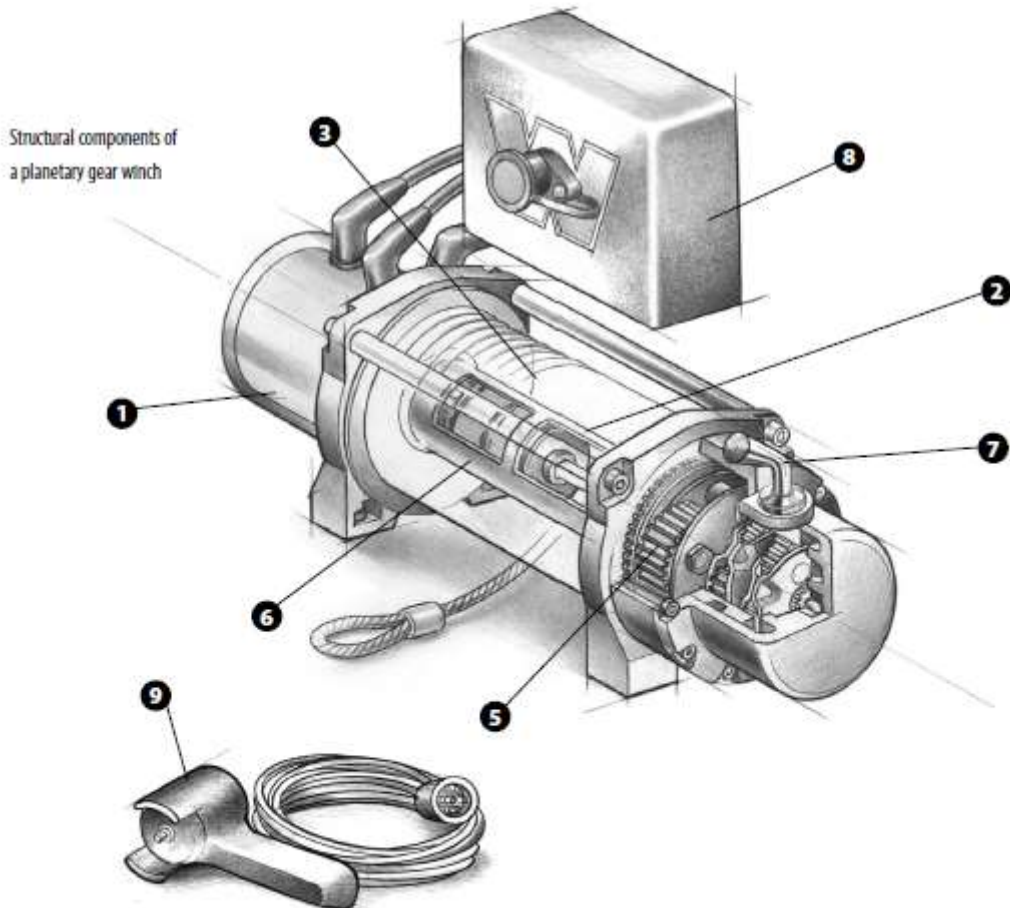
So, you have your WARN winch and you're ready to get out on the trails: climb a few boulders, splash a little mud, traverse the occasional stream. Basically, you're ready to explore the back country and otherwise have a great time.

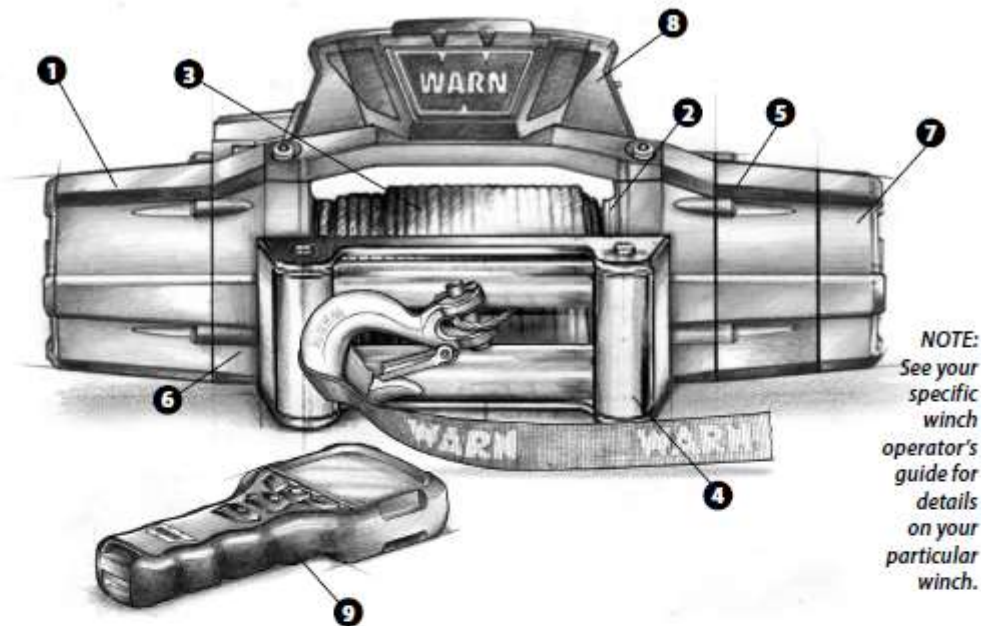
Well, if you're smart enough to go prepared with the best, you're probably smart enough to know that to keep having a great time, you need to fully understand your winch and the winching operation.

That's exactly what this guide intends to do: provide you with a basic understanding of your winch and teach you the basics of proper winching techniques. But before we get started, we must

emphasize that the information in this guide is general in nature. Because no two situations are alike, it would be nearly impossible to review them all. We can, however, provide you with the general principles and techniques. Then it is up to you to take the time to analyze the situation and apply the proper technique.

Along with a little common sense, the guidelines laid out in this book can help you keep off-roading fun. Just remember to think through each situation before you act and **TREAD LIGHTLY!**





To start, you should familiarize yourself with your WARN winch and each of its components: Practice using your winch before using it on the trail.

1 Motor Typically the winch motor is powered by the vehicle's battery. The motor provides power to the gear mechanism, which turns the winch drum and winds the winch rope.

2 Winch Drum The winch drum is the cylinder onto which the winch rope feeds. The drum is driven by the motor and drive train. Its direction can be changed using the remote control.

3 Winch Rope The winch rope's diameter and length are determined by the winch's load capacity and design. Wrapped around the winch drum and fed through the fairlead, the winch rope is looped at the end to accept the hook's clevis pin.

4 Fairlead When using the winch at an angle, the fairlead (or wire lead) acts to guide the winch rope onto the spooling drum. It minimizes damage to the winch rope while it goes through the winch mount or bumper.

5 Gear Train The reduction gear converts the winch motor power into a large pulling force. The gear train design makes it possible for the winch to be lighter and more compact.

6 Braking System The brake is automatically applied to the winch drum when the winch motor is stopped and there is load on the winch rope. The brake prevents the winch from paying out line, which in turn holds the vehicle in place.

7 Clutch The clutch allows the operator to disengage the drum from the gear train, enabling the drum to rotate freely (known as "freespooling"). Engaging the clutch "locks" the winch drum back onto the gear train.

NOTE: WARN® offers multiple clutch control configurations. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular clutch operation.

⚠ WARNING Never engage or disengage clutch if winch is under load, winch rope is in tension or drum is moving.

8 Control Pack Using electrical power from the vehicle's battery, the control box solenoids switch power to the motor, enabling the operator to change the direction of the winch drum rotation.

9 Remote Control The remote control allows the operator to control the winch direction, as well as stand clear of the winch rope while operating the winch.

NOTE: WARN® offers a variety of remote control options. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular remote control operation.

HOW THE WINCH WORKS

Winch Mechanics

Now that you've familiarized yourself with your WARN winch and its components, we can begin reviewing how it works. The major advantage of an electric-powered winch is that it can provide reliable service for intermittent utility and recreational use even while the vehicle's engine is stalled — assuming, of course, that sufficient battery current is available. Your winch can operate at high current loads, and, for this reason, the control box uses a high current control system to safely handle the current flow.



It is important to understand that the longer the pull, the more heat that is created, just like a hot plate. Prolonged winching without cooling the winch motor will damage the motor. Also, if the engine is idling during winching, the battery may drain faster than it is charging. So pay close attention to your voltage gauge to make sure you aren't draining your battery too low to start your vehicle.



Control Of Your Winch

The winch is controlled by the hand held remote control* to allow the operator to stand clear while controlling the winching process. The remote control provides control of the forward or reverse rotation of the spooling drum.

NOTE: WARN® offers a variety of remote control options. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular remote control operation.

How the Winch Reacts to Load

WARN winches are rated by pulling capacity. The maximum pulling capacity occurs on the first layer of winch rope on the drum. As the layers increase, the pulling power decreases. It's the mathematics of winching. Exceeding the winch capacity could cause the winch to fail or the winch rope to break. Thinking through how you intend to use your winch now, could save you a big headache later.

In addition, you'll also want to make sure that your winch's mounting system and your vehicle's frame can accommodate the rated load of your winch.

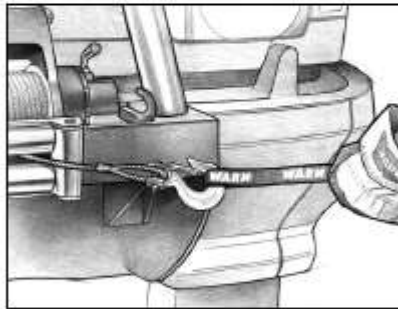
So analyze your situation. Use your judgement to calculate how much weight you intend to pull. Calculate the gross weight and multiply by 1.5 and then do not exceed the rating of your winch or winch rope.

WINCH ACCESSORIES YOU'LL WANT TO HAVE WITH YOU

Alone, the winch is not much more than a simple tool. But when used with certain accessories and enhancements, your WARN winch can become a versatile and productive tool. In this section, we'll review several of these items. Some are vital to the safe operation of your winch, while others offer added versatility and convenience.



Gloves Winch rope, through use, will develop "barbs" which can slice skin. It is extremely important to wear protective gloves while operating the winch or handling the winch rope. Avoid loose fitting clothes or anything that could become entangled in the winch rope and other moving parts.



Hook Strap Use to hold the hook and keep fingers away from the fairlead as the winch rope is being spooled in. Winches develop tremendous pulling forces and can easily remove fingers and limbs that are placed in pinch points. Put the hook into the loop and hold the strap between the thumb and forefingers.



WARNING Always use supplied hook strap whenever spooling winch rope in or out, during installation and during operation.



Snatch Block Used properly, the multi-purpose snatch block allows you to:

(1) increase your winch's pulling power; and (2) change your pulling direction without damaging the winch rope. Proper use of the snatch block is covered in "Before You Pull".



Clevis/D-Shackles The D-Shackle is a safe means for connecting the looped ends of cables, straps and snatch blocks. The shackle's pin is threaded to allow easy removal.



Tow Hooks Secured properly to your vehicle's frame, tow hooks provide an attachment point for wire hooks, straps, and chains.

WINCH ACCESSORIES YOU'LL WANT TO HAVE WITH YOU



Tree Trunk Protector Typically made of tough, high-quality nylon, it provides the operator an attachment point for the winch rope to a wide variety of anchor points and objects, as well as protect living trees.

CAUTION Never use a strap for winching.

CAUTION Never use a strap for towing. The strap can be easily cut or abraded.

CAUTION Never use "bungee" straps that develop tremendous and potentially dangerous amounts of force when stretched.



Recovery Strap Never use a recovery strap in a winching operation. Because it is designed to stretch, it stores energy and could react like a rubber band should your rigging fail. Use the recovery strap to "snatch" out a stuck vehicle.



The **WARN Winch Damper** helps to prevent rope recoil in the event of a rope failure, which is a pretty rare occurrence. However, if it were to happen, this damper will help the rope fall to the ground if such an event were to occur. Place it on the winch rope midway between the winch and the anchor point. Do this before the winch rope is put under tension. Do not approach or move the damper once tension is applied. Do not allow it to get pulled into the fairlead.

Shovels & Hand Tools Quite often during winching activities, you'll find yourself in need of some additional help. You may want to stow equipment such as a shovel, an axe and a Hi-Lift jack for additional assistance when needed.

Backup Parts Important backup parts to carry for back country travel should include an extra screw-pin shackle, snatch block and remote control. For severe and continued winch use, consider including an extra winch rope and winch hook.

Toolbox Items to bring along include hand wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers, and tools to change winch rope.

Booster Cables Many roadside emergencies stem from a dead battery. To prevent exhausting your electrical source, you can install a dual battery system and a battery isolator kit. Also, it's wise to include battery booster cables and the WARN quick-connect cable system.

Battery Recommendations A fully charged conventional automotive battery with a minimum rating of 650 cold cranking amps is recommended to obtain peak performance from your winch. Make sure all electrical connections are clean and tight.

For more information on these or other WARN accessories available, visit www.warn.com, or call WARN Customer Service at 1.800.543.9276.

BEFORE YOU PULL

During its first use, a new winch rope must be spooled onto its drum under a load of at least 1000 lbs. (454 kgs).

Use the following instructions to properly stretch the winch rope onto the winch drum.

1. Choose a **FLAT AND LEVEL** location that is large enough to run out almost the entire length of winch rope.
2. Disengage clutch. **NOTE: See your product's specific operation manual for detailed clutch operation.**

⚠ WARNING Always keep hands clear of winch rope, hook loop, hook and fairlead opening during installation, operation, and when spooling in or out.

3. Grasp hook strap and spool out the winch rope to the last 5 wraps on the drum (10 wraps if synthetic rope).
4. Once the winch rope is spooled out, engage clutch. **NOTE: See your product's specific operation manual for detailed clutch operation instructions.**
5. Attach the hook end of the rope to a suitable anchor point.

⚠ WARNING Always be certain the anchor you select will withstand the load and the strap or chain will not slip.

6. Return to your vehicle.
7. Back the vehicle away from the anchor point until there is very little slack in the winch rope.
8. Set the parking brake, place the vehicle in gear or park and turn the vehicle off.

⚠ WARNING Always stand clear of winch rope and load and keep others away while winching.

9. Exit vehicle. **WARNING! Never exit the vehicle with a load on the winch rope.** While standing approximately 8 ft. (2.44 m) away from the winch, power-in the winch until all of the slack is wound onto the winch drum.

⚠ WARNING Never touch winch rope or hook while someone else is at the control switch or during winching operation.

⚠ WARNING Never touch winch rope or hook while under tension or under load.

10. With gloves on, hold tension on the winch rope with one hand; carefully push the winch rope to the side of the drum the winch rope is attached to so there are no gaps between each coil on the drum.

⚠ WARNING Always wind the winch rope on bottom (mountside) of drum.

11. Be sure to check that the winch rope is winding off of the bottom of the drum or the automatic load holding brake will not function properly.

NOTE: If the winch rope is winding off the top of the drum, you have powered the winch "out" instead of "in" on the remote control. Be sure you are powering in.

12. The following steps should be done using two people for proper safety. If you attempt to tension your winch rope alone be sure to always set the parking brake, place the transmission in gear or park and turn the vehicle off every time you exit the vehicle to inspect the winch rope.

NOTICE Use care to evenly wrap each layer to prevent damage to the rope.

⚠ WARNING Never use remote when vehicle is not in line of sight of operator.

13. The driver of the vehicle should operate the winch.
14. Instruct your assistant to stand to the side of the vehicle and away from the winch rope. **NOTE: Your assistant should signal you if the winch rope is winding correctly or incorrectly by watching it move across the fairlead as the winch rope is powered in.**
15. Start the vehicle and place the transmission in neutral. Then release the parking brake while applying moderate brake pedal pressure.
16. Power-in the winch rope to start winching in.
17. After winching in for approximately 6 ft. (2m), stop winching.
18. Slowly let up off of the brake pedal and then apply the parking brake. This will ensure that there is no load on the winch rope.
19. Place the transmission in park or in gear and turn the vehicle off.
20. Exit the vehicle and inspect the winch to make sure that the winch rope is being evenly wound onto the winch drum and not sinking into the lower layer. If the winch rope is sinking, power-out the winch rope by pushing the power-out button on the remote control and repeat this step from the beginning with more brake pedal pressure.
21. When you are convinced the winch rope is winding onto the winch drum properly, repeat steps until the vehicle is within 6 ft. (2 m) of the winch anchor. Once within 6 ft. (2 m), slowly let up off of the brake pedal and then apply the parking brake. This will ensure that there is no load on the winch rope. Then place the transmission in park or in gear and turn the vehicle off.

BEFORE YOU PULL

22. Exit the vehicle. Disconnect the hook from the anchor.
23. While holding onto the supplied hook strap, hold tension on the winch rope and slowly power-in the winch by "pulsing" the power-in button on your remote control until the hook is within 3 ft. (1 m) of the fairlead.
24. Stop winching in and attach the hook to a suitable anchor point on the vehicle.
25. Once the hook is suitably attached to the vehicle, power-in the remaining slack in the winch rope by "pulsing" the power-in button on your remote control until there is minimal slack in the winch rope. **NOTICE** *Do not power the hook into the fairlead. This could cause damage to the fairlead.*

BEFORE YOU PULL

Whether you're recovering another vehicle or pulling a stump from the ground, knowing the proper winching techniques can help keep you and others around you safe. And perhaps the most important part of the winching process, regardless of the situation, is what you do before you pull.

In this section, we'll show you the basic fundamentals for effective winching. However, it is up to you to analyze the situation and make the decisions necessary for the proper use of your winch. Apply your knowledge of your winch and the basic fundamentals you've practiced and adjust your techniques to your unique situation. Some keys to remember when using your WARN winch:

1. **Always take your time to assess your situation and plan your pull carefully.**
2. **Always take your time when using a winch.**
3. **Use the right equipment for your situation.**
4. **Always wear leather gloves and do not allow the winch rope to slide through your hands.**
5. **You and only you should handle the winch rope and operate the remote control switch.**
6. **Think safety at all times.**
7. **Practice. Practice and practice the steps.**



Rigging for the Pull

The following steps describe how to recover your vehicle with rigging a single line pull. Double or multiple line rigging techniques follow the same basic steps, but use a snatch block to assist the process.

WARNING Always keep hands clear of winch rope, hook loop, hook and fairlead opening during installation, operation, and when spooling in or out.

WARNING Always wear heavy leather gloves when handling winch rope.

Step 1: PUT ON GLOVES.

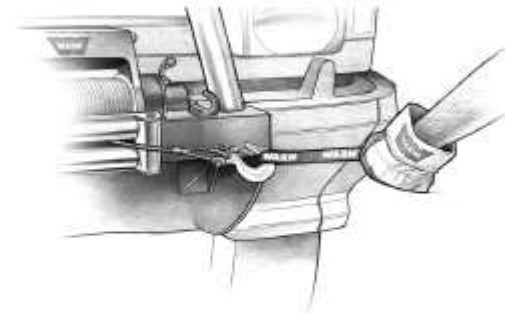
WARNING Never engage or disengage clutch if winch is under load, winch rope is in tension or drum is moving.



Step 2: DISENGAGE CLUTCH. To allow free spooling of the winch drum. Freespooling conserves battery power.

**NOTE: WARN® offers multiple clutch control configurations. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular clutch operation.*

WARNING Always use supplied hook strap whenever spooling winch rope in or out, during installation or operation to avoid injury to hands and fingers.



Step 3: FREE THE WINCH HOOK AND ATTACH HOOK STRAP. Free the winch hook from its anchor point. Attach hook strap to the hook (if not attached).

BEFORE YOU PULL



Step 4: PULL WINCH ROPE TO ANCHOR POINT. Pull out enough winch rope to reach your anchor point. Be sure to keep a certain amount of tension in the wire. It can become twisted and overwrap when slackened, leading to winch rope damage. To prevent losing the end, hold the winch hook in the hook strap while you work.



Step 5: SECURE TO THE ANCHOR POINT. Once you've established your anchor point, secure the tree trunk protector or choker chain around the object.

WARNING Never wrap winch rope back onto itself. Use a choker chain or tree trunk protector on the anchor.

Step 6: ATTACH THE CLEVIS/D-SHACKLE AND HOOK STRAP. Attach the shackle to the two ends of the strap or chain and through the hook loop, being careful not to over tighten (tighten and back-off 1/2 turn).



How to choose an anchor point:

A secure anchor is critical to winching operations. An anchor must be strong enough to hold while winching. Natural anchors include trees, stumps, and rocks. Hook the cable as low as possible. If no natural anchors are available, when recovering another vehicle, your vehicle becomes the anchor point. In this case, be sure to put the transmission in neutral, apply the hand brake and block its wheels to prevent your vehicle from moving.

Ideally, you'll want an anchor point that will enable you to pull straight in the direction the vehicle will move. This allows the winch rope to wind tightly and evenly onto the spooling drum. An anchor point as far away as possible will provide the winch with its greatest pulling power.



Stakes or axles, driven in at an angle and tied together.

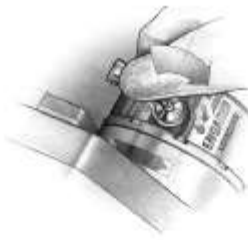


Spare tire and rim buried deep and the chain secured through the rim.



Buried log with chain secured around the log.

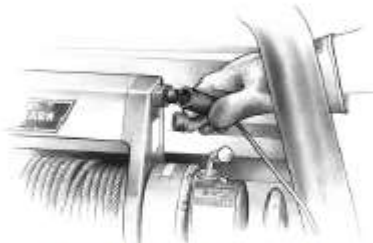
BEFORE YOU PULL



WARNING Never engage or disengage clutch if winch is under load, winch rope is in tension or drum is moving.

Step 7: LOCK THE CLUTCH. Lock the winch drum by rotating the *clutch lever on the winch to Engage.

***NOTE:** WARN® offers multiple clutch control configurations. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular clutch operation.



Step 8: *CONNECT THE REMOTE CONTROL. Be careful not to let the remote control cord dangle in front of the winch. If you choose to control the winch from inside your vehicle, always pass the remote through a window to avoid pinching the cord in the door. **Always disconnect the remote control when not in use.**

WARNING Never leave remote control where it can be activated during free spooling, rigging, or when the winch is not being used.

NOTE: WARN® offers a variety of remote control options. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular remote control operation.



Step 9: PUT WINCH ROPE UNDER TENSION. Using the winch switch, slowly wind the winch rope until no slack remains. Once the winch rope is under tension, stand well clear, and never step over it.

Step 10: CHECK YOUR ANCHOR. Make sure all connections are secured and free of debris before continuing with the winching procedure.

PULLING

WARNING Never use winch as a hoist or to suspend a load.

WARNING Never use winch or winch rope for towing. Shock loads can damage, overload and break rope.

WARNING Never operate winch with less than 5 wraps of winch rope or 10 wraps of synthetic rope around the drum. Rope could come loose from the drum, as the rope attachment to the drum is not designed to hold a load.

As you probably have already noticed, there are many things to do and consider before you actually begin pulling. Think through what you're doing and you can keep yourself and those around you out of harm's way.

Operating your winch properly is so important, in fact, you should practice these techniques before having to face the distractions and stresses of a real winching situation.



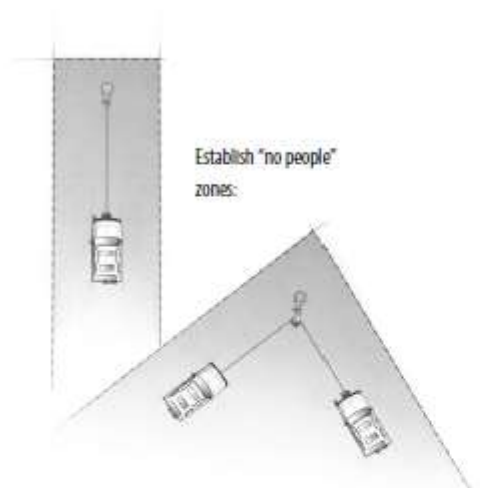
Step 11: CHECK WINCH ROPE. The winch rope should be neatly wound around the spooling drum. Improper winding can cause damage to the winch rope.

Step 12: LAY SOMETHING OVER THE WINCH ROPE, if you decide it is necessary, midway between the winch and the anchor point to absorb energy should the winch rope snap loose. Tree limbs, heavy jackets, chain, back pack and the like may be used for this purpose.



WARN INDUSTRIES • THE BASIC GUIDE TO WINCHING TECHNIQUES

PULLING



Step 13: MAKE YOUR INTENTIONS CLEAR. Be sure that everyone in the immediate vicinity surrounding the winching operation is completely aware of your intentions before you pull.

Declare where the spectators should not stand — never behind or in front of the vehicle and never near the winch rope or snatch block. Your situation may have other "no people" zones.



Step 14: BEGIN WINCHING. With the winching vehicle's engine on and light tension already on the winch rope, begin winching slowly and steadily. Be sure that the winch rope is winding evenly and tightly around the spooling drum. For additional assistance, the winched vehicle can be slowly driven while being pulled by the winch.

NOTICE Always avoid continuous side pulls which can pile up winch rope at one end of the drum. This pile up of wire can damage winch rope or winch.

Step 15: FOR VEHICLE RECOVERY, continue pulling until the vehicle is on stable ground. If you are able to drive the vehicle, the winching operation is complete.

Step 16: SECURE VEHICLE. Once recovery of the vehicle is complete, be sure to secure the vehicle's brakes and put the Transmission in "park" (automatic) or "low" gear for (manual) transmissions. Release tension in the winch rope.

NOTICE Avoid overheating the winch motor. For extended winching, stop at reasonable intervals to allow the winch motor to cool down.

What to look for under load

The winch rope must always spool onto the drum as indicated by the drum rotation decal on the winch.

As you power in, make sure the winch rope winds evenly and tightly on the drum. This prevents the outer wire wraps from drawing into the inner wraps, binding and damaging the winch rope.

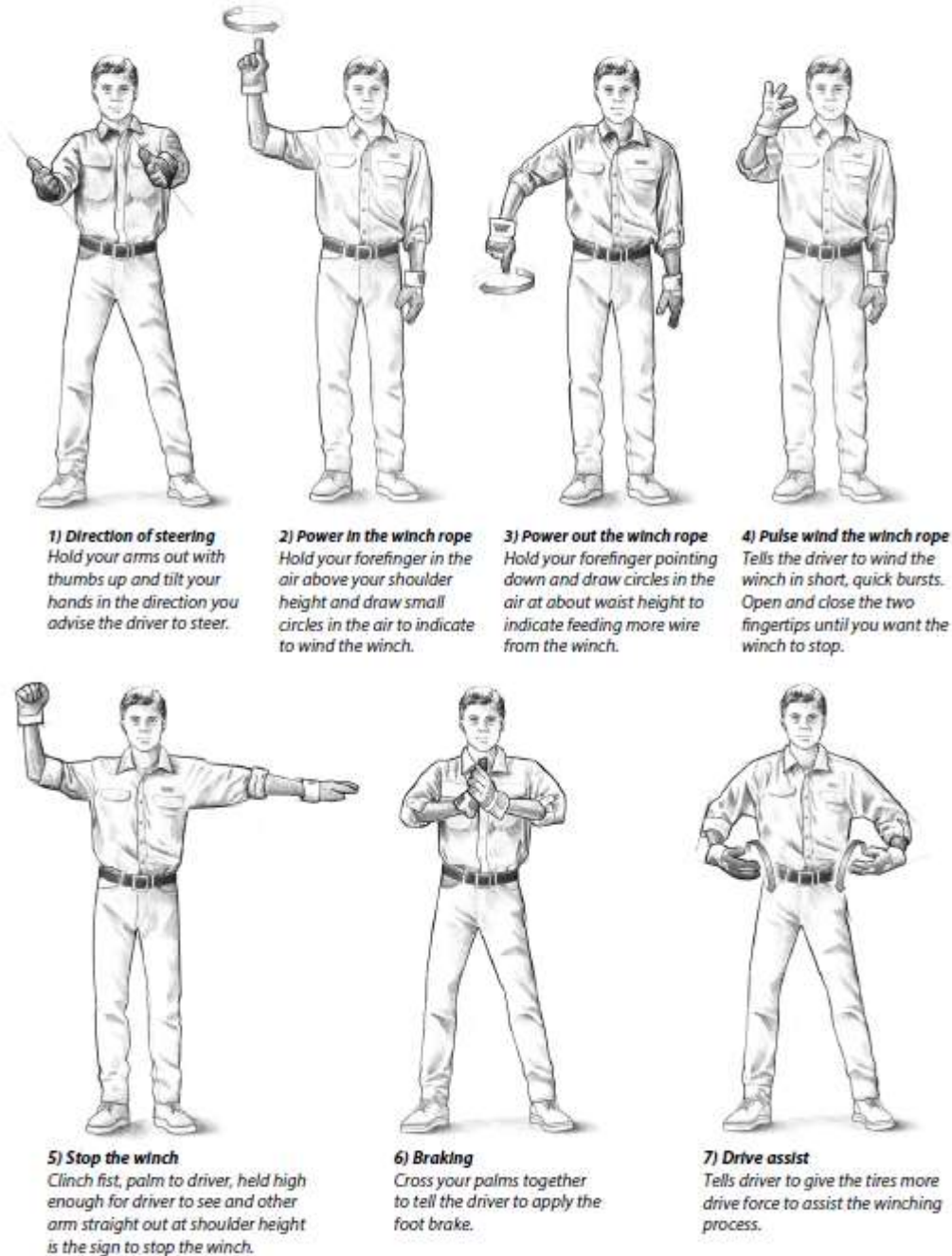
Avoid shock loads by using the control switch intermittently to take up winch rope slack. Shock loads can momentarily far exceed the winch and winch rope ratings.

During side pulls the winch rope tends to stack up at one end of the drum. This stack can become large enough to cause serious damage to the winch. So, line up pulls as straight ahead as possible and stop winching if the winch rope comes close to the tie rods or mounting plate. To fix an uneven stack, spool out that section of the rope and reposition it to the opposite end of the drum which will free up space for continued winching.

Winching hand signals

In some situations, recovery could involve two people. One drives and controls the winch, while the other provides navigation instructions and ensures the winch rope is winding properly. You and your helper must establish clear and precise hand signals and review so everyone clearly understands. It should also be understood that if the driver controlling the winch cannot see both hands of the assistant, the winch should not be activated.

Suggested signals:



PULLING



How to spool under no load

Arrange the remote control lead so it can not be caught in the winch. Arrange the winch rope so it will not kink or tangle when spooled. Be sure any winch rope already on the spooling drum is wound tightly and evenly layered. Tighten and straighten the layer if necessary. Keep the winch rope under light tension and spool the winch rope back onto the winch drum in even layers. Stop frequently to tighten and straighten the layers as necessary. Repeat this process until the winch hook is the same distance as the full length of the remote control from the winch. Pinch the hook between your thumb and forefinger and attach the hook strap. Hold the hook strap between the thumb and forefinger to keep tension on the winch rope. Walk the winch rope towards the fairlead, carefully spooling in the remaining winch rope by pulsing the remote control switch. Store the hook at the fairlead or tensioned to a suitable location to the side.

If you do not have the hook strap, use a length of cord or something similar. To prevent serious injury, NEVER put your fingers inside the hook area as you are powering in.

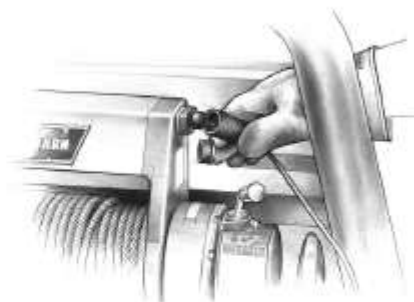


Step 17: DISCONNECT WINCH ROPE. Disconnect from the anchor.



Step 18: REWIND WINCH ROPE. The person handling the winch rope should walk the rope in and not let it slide through the hand and control the winch at all times.

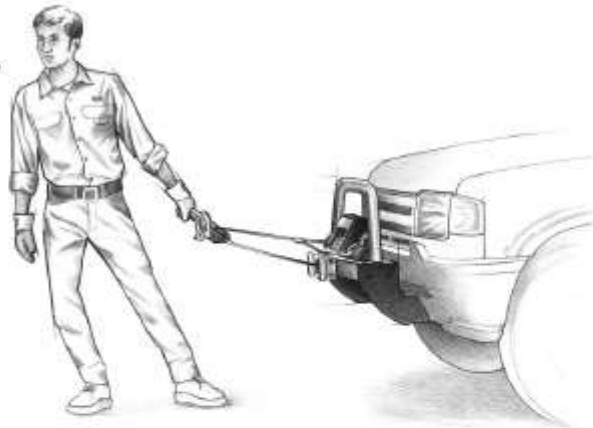
WARNING Always keep hands clear of winch rope, hook loop, hook and fairlead opening during installation, operation, and when spooling in or out.



Step 19: *DISCONNECT REMOTE CONTROL. Disconnect the remote control cord from the control box and store in a clean and dry place. Winching operations are now complete. Put the cap on the solenoid plug in.

***NOTE: WARN® offers multiple remote control options. See your specific winch operator's guide for details on your particular remote control operation.**

Various winching situations will require application of other winching techniques. These could range from too little distance to achieve maximum pull using straight line rigging, simply increasing pulling power, or maintaining a straight-line pulling situation. You will have to assess what technique is correct for your situation. Think "safety" at all times.



How to change the pulling direction

All winching operations should have a straight line from the winch to the object being pulled. This minimizes the winch rope collecting on one side of the drum affecting pulling efficiency and damaging winch rope. A snatch block, secured to a point directly in front of the vehicle, will enable you to change your pulling direction while still allowing the winch rope to be at 90° to wind properly onto the spooling drum.



Increasing pulling power

In some cases, you may find yourself needing more pulling power. The use of snatch blocks increases mechanical advantage and that increases your pulling power:

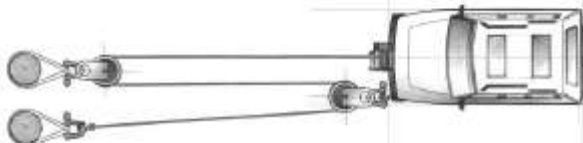
Single line



Double line



Triple line



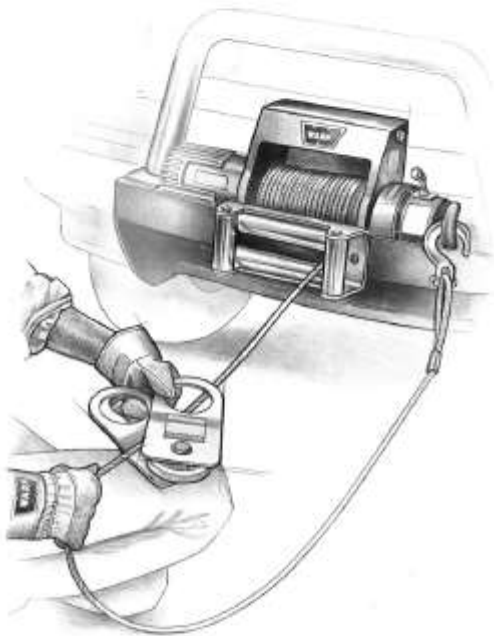
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RIGGING TECHNIQUES

Double line

Because pulling power decreases with the number of layers of winch rope on the winch drum, you can use a snatch block to double line out more winch rope. This decreases the number of layers of winch rope on the drum, and increases pulling power.

Start by feeding out enough winch rope to free the winch hook. Attach the hook to your vehicle's frame/tow hook and run the winch rope through a snatch block.



Disengage the clutch and, using the snatch block, pull out enough wire to reach your anchor point. Do not attach hook to mounting kit.

Secure to the anchor point with a tree trunk protector or choker chain. Attach the clevis/shackle. Attach the shackle to the two ends of the strap/chain, being careful not to over tighten (tighten and back-off 1/2 turn).

Triple Line

Use the same techniques as the Double Line. Select a robust mounting location on your vehicle for the snatch block and the screw-pin shackle. Keep a 90° angle between the winch and run the winch rope to the first anchor-point and through the snatch block. Secure rope back to the vehicle. Put the winch rope through the snatch block and secure with the screw-pin shackle on the vehicle as close to the winch as practical. Now run the winch rope to the final anchor point.



Secure to the anchor point with a tree trunk protector or choker chain. Attach the clevis/shackle. Attach the shackle to the two ends of the strap/chain, being careful not to over tighten (tighten and back-off 1/2 turn).

Secure the winch hook. While keeping the line near the ground, insert the winch hook through the screw-pin shackle. Check your anchor. Make sure all connections are secured and free of debris before continuing with the winching procedure.

FINAL ANALYSIS AND MAINTENANCE

The basic guide to winching techniques cannot cover all the possible situations in which you may need to use a winch. In the final analysis, the decisions you make will determine the final outcome. So think through each situation and each step of use. Always be mindful of your own safety and the safety of others. Pay attention and you'll have fun.

This checklist summarizes simple preventive checks to perform as part of a regular maintenance schedule to keep your winch operating properly.

Check	Before first operation	After each use	Every 90 days
Take time to fully read the Instructions and/or Operations Guide, and/or Basic Guide to Winching Techniques, in order to understand your winch and its operations	X		
Check fasteners and make sure they are tight and to proper torque. Replace damaged fasteners.	X		X
Verify wiring to all components is correct and be certain that all connections are tight.	X		X
Verify there is no exposed/bare wiring, terminals or cable insulation damage (chafing/cutting). Cover any exposures with terminal boots. Repair or replace damaged electrical cable.	X		X
Inspect rope for damage. Replace rope immediately if damaged.	X	X	X
Keep winch, rope and switch control free from contaminants. Use a clean rag or towel to remove any dirt and debris.		X	
Check battery cables according to manufacturer guidelines.		X	
Inspect remote control for damage. Store remote in a protected, clean dry area. Replace if damaged.	X	X	
Lubrication (No lubrication is required for the life of the winch)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Excessive use of your winch, especially in dusty, muddy and wet conditions can play havoc on the winch's performance. We suggest you contact a WARN Authorized Service Center to perform normal and expected wear service work as well as resolve any warranty issues.

For further information or any questions contact:

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 12900 S.E. Capps Road, Clackamas
 OR USA 97015-8903, 1-503-722-1200,
 Customer Service: 1-800-543-9276
 Dealer Locator Service: 1-800-910-1122
 or visit www.warn.com.

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