

Curt Hitch and Wiring on 2009 MINI COOPER S

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Thank you to others who have posted on this subject...

Special mention to eliphaz's posting of 2007 tail light wiring... '07 and '09 match.

My skill level in this area is next to nothing...

That's why it took me about an hour to figure out how the fasteners worked. The Philips head threw me off, as you simply pry the button up and then the whole fastener will come out.

Then it took me quite awhile to figure out where I was going to find the "wiring harness" not realizing that just about everything that plugs into the car (lights, radio, etc.) has a wiring harness that it plugs into.

Anywho... I took some pictures for the fun of it and some notes to go with them.

I got my MINI end of August '09. I plan on hauling my Vespa and other home supplies with a small trailer. The Hitch I ordered was #11130 from Curt Manufacturing, <http://www.curtmfg.com> I also ordered their taillight converter #56200.



Okay here's the before (please excuse the mess work bench)



Close up of bumper (I got rear ended just about two weeks ago, damage was limited to a couple of these black honey comb thingy's getting bent, but that is another story)



Okay following the instructions provided by curt mfg. I was able to remove the bumper. My only addition to their instructions would be to number 4 regarding the screw under the fender flair. You don't have unclip the clip the clip located on the arch, just carefully bend the flair itself to give you access to the screw. It is, in my opinion hard to refasten.



Here's my cooper with its pants down ☺

My brother-in-law helped me take the bumper off; it takes more then two hands to unclip the bumper from the fender flair. And lifting the tow bar and bolting in place is a definite two person job.



Here's the shot with the tow bar in place. All you can see is the small square of the hitch. Slight bending of the heat shield over the muffler is required, but it is very flexible.

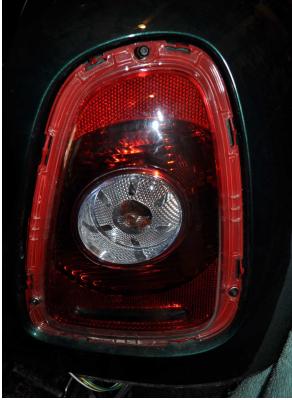
The instructions also call for the M8 Hardware to be torqued to 30 ft-lbs....



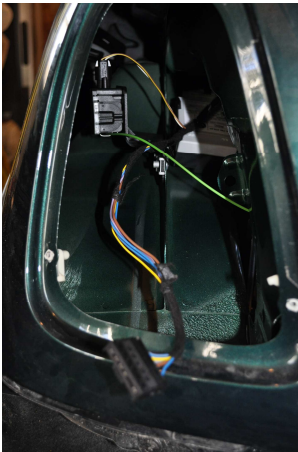
So I got out my two year old, 30 lbs nephew for the job... That's my brother-in-law, and his son who is Tanner. Tanner is my "mini" mechanic. ☺

Moving on to the wiring...

The silver plastic ring around the taillights just pop off using the advice posted, cover the flat head screwdriver with electrical tape. It makes a frightening crack sound as it is popped. (no picture)



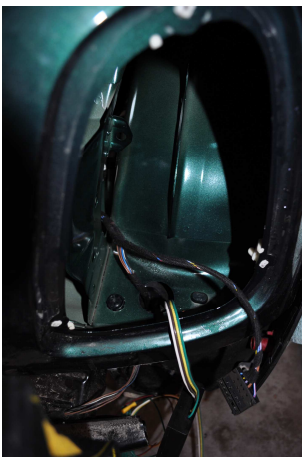
There are three screws to undo here, Center top, left and right bottoms.
The entire lens comes out with some wiggling and you can then disconnect the wiring harness.



The left rear cavity.
The bright green cord is for the gas cap.
There are other things in area as well.




The right rear cavity is empty
(you can see the converter hanging
in the bottom of the picture)



There is also a hole in the bottom to route the wires to the bumper area. I didn't cut the rubber grommet, I just bent it aside and slid the trailer converter wiring through.

I wired it according to this... begin quote:

[eliphaz](#) 

Neutral

iTrader: [0% \(0\)](#)

Join Date: Aug 2007

Location: Massachusetts

Posts: 5

[Gallery](#)

2007 tail light wiring

I just got a 2007 MC and needed to install the Hoppy trailer converter.

The tail light wiring color code and pin out is different for the 2007 than for prior years, as I guess is everything else about the car. J. Dewey's 2004 diagram was very helpful to get me started but I soon realized I would have to verify all the wires.

2007 looks like this:

MINI plug pin#	MINI wire color	Function Name	Isolator color	Trailer color
1	blue/grey	fog light-...-
2	yellow/black	brake light	sm red-
3	grey/purple	tail light	brown	brown
4	brown	ground	white	white
5 (empty)				
6 left	blue/brown	turn signal left	yellow	yellow
6 right	blue/red	turn signal right	green	green

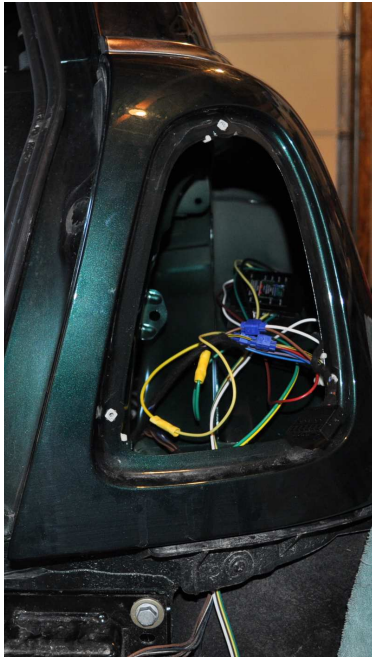
Instead of trying to snake the big red wire all the way to the battery, or bug into the fuse box, I ran across the floor under the inside of the transom to the auxiliary power plug, the left tail light wire had to go that way also. Now my trailer lights are on the cigarette lighter fuse. should be alright.

Forgotten promises turn to stars

END quote

(Note: I edited the chart above because the tabbing didn't look right here and I added a few descriptive words because I had the space in this document)

Noting what he did, mounting on the right, I did same as well.



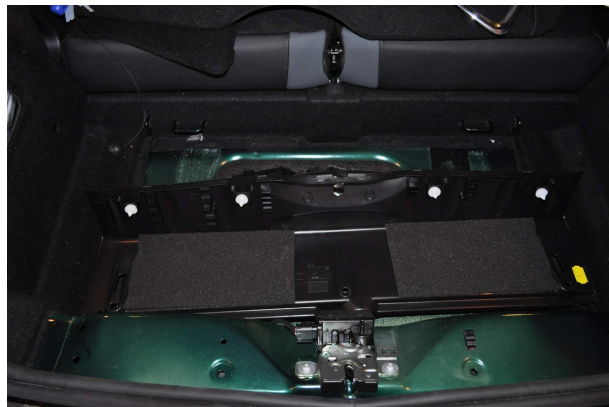
Here it is all wired up and stuck to the inside of the cavity with the double sided tape that was provided with the kit. I had to go and buy some wire to make the connections to the left side of the car.



I ended up buying the trailer wire that is four wires stuck together, it was cheaper then buying two single wires and keeps it all cleaner. (Bright green and yellow pairing are the wires that go for the power and left turn signal.) You can also see how I fed the trailer wiring by the grommet to the exterior of the car.



Interior shots showing how I routed the wires through the boot. The transom cover came off by removing three push fasteners and gently but firmly pulling up the four clips holding it down.



Shot showing the underside of the transom cover of the boot. The four white clips are clearly visible. Curious Note: there is also an unused clip to the right of the latch by one of the clip holes.

I attached to the power source for the cigarette lighter in the boot.
Assembled the taillights, interior boot, and bumper



Before hole and after hole. I used a drill, key hole saw and file to make the hole. It is just big enough to slide in the hitch post. I bought one of curt's hitch caps (no photo) which covers the hole when the hitch will not be in use.



Here is a shot under the bumper showing the hitch pin in place and the fact that I hadn't put in the last bumper fastener yet.

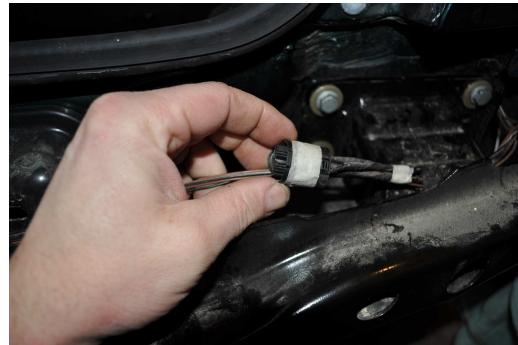


Shot of the bumper with the hitch in place and trailer lighting wire. I figured out I could use the cap cover for the trailer converter (I didn't end up using the coping saw that's seen on the floor)



Picture with the ball in place. (I hate winter!)

Picture with the Hitch post removed and the cap in place. The cap is actually in the bumper and not in the receiver of the hitch, like it would normally be. I'm looking to modify the cap a bit. Perhaps take the Curt logo off, or find one with a MINI logo on it.



Also of note is that the Rear Fog light pig tails and wiring are in place on the '09 S