

## Curt Mfg. Trailer Hitch and Hoppy Wiring Kit Installation Instructions

The Curt trailer hitch replaces the stock rear cross member in the Touareg. It attaches with 8 bolts just like the factory VW hitch. The Hoppy wiring kit taps into your factory taillight wiring.

1. Open your rear hatch and open your spare tire cover. Remove cargo cubby hole covers on the left and right of the cargo area.
2. Remove 5 Torx T20 screws in the rear of each rear wheel well. I found it easiest to use a small ratchet and Torx T20 bit.
3. Remove 4 Torx T25 screws underneath the rear bumper. I found it easier to use a small flathead screwdriver for all T25 screws in this project.



4. Using a small flathead screwdriver, pop out the 2 screw covers on the inside edge of each taillight housing.



5. Remove the 2 T25 screws under the screw covers on each taillight.



6. Wiggle the taillights out as much as possible using the inside edge mounting bracket. Get the tips of your fingers in the seams above and below the taillight housing and pull straight backwards, popping the outside edge of the taillights out of their ball mounts.



7. Use a small flathead screwdriver to pry the wiring harness off each taillight. Set the taillights aside.

8. Remove 2 T25 screws in each vacant taillight area.



9. Carefully remove the rear bumper by pulling rearward from each wheel well area and supporting the bottom of the bumper as you pull.



10. Set the bumper aside.

11. Remove small Styrofoam supports to the left and right of the exposed steel cross member by pulling them straight rearward.



12. Using a 3/4 socket, remove the 8 bolts holding the cross member to the frame.



13. Remove the cross member and set it aside.



14. Using a long flat screwdriver, pry the large Styrofoam insert off the top of the cross member. The adhesive was sticky in my case, and the piece removed easily. Others have reported the adhesive being harder.
15. Install the new hitch using the same bolts that held the original cross member. I did not use any of the washers that came with the hitch as my bolts had washers on them already. Use threadlock on the threads of the bolts.
16. Torque the bolts to 135 ft. lbs. with a torque wrench. (This is my best guess based on previous experiences. No formal spec is given.)
17. Insert the large Styrofoam piece above the new hitch. You may have to bend the thin metal piece above it up a bit. The sticky adhesive helped keep the Styrofoam in place, but you may need to use some silicone adhesive if yours was harder. The piece has a definite position and will not move when in the correct spot.



**The hitch is now installed. If you aren't installing the trailer light wiring, you can skip the next section.**



19. Cut away the fabric part of the wire loom between the rubber grommet and the clip that you just pulled off the vehicle body. This will expose the wiring for us to tap into.



20. Open the Hoppy wiring kit and read the instructions to familiarize yourself with its operation. Set the 4 pin – 4 pin extension aside. We will be wiring in the converter box.
21. I ran the wires for the converter box through the middle hole in the white plastic harness near the bottom of the cubby hole. I thought this would keep it all a bit more secure, and it does, but the wires from the converter to the taps are a little taut. Using the top hole would be just about right.



22. Ground the white wire to the grounding point in the bottom of the cubby hole. There are already several wires grounded there. The white wire was too long, so I cut it and crimped on a new ring end.

23. Use the provided blue taps to attach the converter wires to the exposed taillight wires as shown below. Use the provided Hoppy instructions for how the taps are installed.
- Red (Brake) – Grey w/ Brown Stripe
  - Green (Right Turn) – Black w/ Green Stripe (trim length)
  - Yellow (Left Turn) – See Below
  - Brown (Taillights) – Grey

Use the provided circuit tester, grounded to the grounding point in step 22, to test the wires before you make the connections.

24. For the left turn signal, you will need to extend the Yellow wire to reach across the cargo area. I used the cut sections of the white ground wire and green wire to extend the wire and had just the right amount. Use crimp or solder connections.
25. Run the new wire under the bottom of the cubby hole and into the spare tire area, then through the same hole in the driver side and into the cubby hole on the driver side. The wire will be behind the plastic liner. Tuck the wire in the spare tire area down and into a safe location.



26. Connecting the left turn signal is a bit tricky. The liner in the cubby hole prevents easy access to the wiring. I removed the upper rear trim piece and the D pillar trim piece. These attach with plastic pressure fittings and can be easily removed by pulling them firmly away from the vehicle body. If any of the fittings remain in the body, simply use the claw end of a hammer to remove them and reinsert them in the trim pieces before reinstalling the trim by lining up the fittings with their holes and firmly pressing them into place.
27. Once the trim pieces are removed, remove the Philips screw from the location where the cargo cover latches into place. Gently pull the driver side cargo wall away from the body at the threshold to the tailgate.
28. You should be able to see the wire by looking down behind the cargo wall to the bottom of the driver side cubby hole. I used a long spring loaded grabber tool to

retrieve the wire and pull it up and then I fed it through the hole in the body where the taillight wiring passes into vacant taillight location (after pulling the grommet in that hole to the outside of the vehicle).

29. Cut the fabric loom on the vehicle side of the rubber grommet and use the last tap to connect the wire to the Black with Grey Stripe wire from the taillight wiring.



30. All your wiring should be done now. Before replacing everything, check the operation of your lights by grounding the circuit tester and testing all lighting functions at the converter box. If something isn't working, check your tap and the vehicle wire to make sure you tapped correctly.
31. Replace the rubber grommets in their holes in the taillight cavities. Button up the driver side by reseating the cargo wall, D pillar trim and upper rear trim. Close the spare tire cover.
32. Remove the rubber grommet below the passenger side taillight. Cut it halfway with a knife and run the 4 – 4 extension through it. Replace the grommet in the body.



33. Connect the 4 – 4 extension to the converter box.
34. Test the lighting functions again at the end of the 4 – 4 extension.
35. Replace the cubby hole panels.
36. Replace the small Styrofoam pieces to the left and right of the tow hitch.
37. Run the 4 – 4 extension behind and under the passenger side Styrofoam piece and under the hitch.



38. Zip tie the extension end to the main hitch bar right next to the receiver section of the hitch. This will allow you to access it from the hole in the bumper.



**The wiring is now complete. The rest of the instructions detail replacement of the bumper.**

I found that in test fitting the bumper, the hitch kept the 2 middle underside holes on the bumper from lining up with the holes on the body. I use a Dremel tool to cut away about ¼” of the material in front of the receiver plate and it then fit great. This did not effect the cosmetics or function of the bumper in any way.



**Before**



**After**

39. Place the bumper back on the vehicle, sliding the two fittings on each side (just behind the rear wheels) into their brackets.
40. Screw in the 2 screws in each taillight cavity, 5 screws in each wheel well, and 4 screws under the bumper.
41. Replace the taillights by connecting the electrical harness, pushing the ball fitting into place, screwing the 2 screws into each taillight, and popping the screw covers back into place.
42. Tuck the trailer wire harness up into the bumper after installing the weatherproofing cover.

