



How To: Fit a Towbar & Electrics

Courtesy of **alanm73**

Thought I would post this up as a reference for anyone else that wants to fit a Towbar to their 1 series.

First of all contact Towbars Direct <http://www.towbarsdirect.co.uk> 01925 730 005 and order yourself a Westfalia detachable tow-bar and a bypass relay and 12N Socket suitable for a BMW.

You will need to order Part No 51 127 118 162 from your local BMW dealer, it is a piece for under the bumper with a hole for the tow-bar & electrics

Then check the How To document on removing the rear bumper

You then need to remove the rear support beam and fit the new one and make sure you have the correct size sockets before you start. I didn't have the correct size one to remove the old bar so i used an adjustable wrench which took ages to do, the Westfalia nuts were 16mm.

Now you need to do the electrics, first of all you need to remove the Parcel shelf, boot floor, and the covers on both sides of the boot. You then need to get the 7 core cable inside the car and I cut a very small hole in the rubber grommet where the number plate light wires go into the car and fed it through and sealed this up with silicone.

Now here is the tricky part, you now need to make your self up a wiring loom to power the bypass relay, and to connect it to the rear lights.

First things first, REMOVE THE NEGATIVE CONNECTION FROM THE BATTERY

My power loom is 27 amp Cable from halfords with a 15 A fuse in near the start, and I connected it to one of the Positive terminals near the battery.

I then mounted the bypass relay behind the rear rhs speaker as this meant I only needed to lengthen the wires going to the LHS of the car.

You can either use Red Scotchlocks from Halfords or dismantle the rear light connectors one wire at a time and connect by soldering the bypass relay wire on to the spade connector.

The wiring colours are as follows

Left Hand Side of the Car

- Pin 1 – Blue/Green = Indicator
- Pin 2 – Green/Yellow = Fog Light
- Pin 3 – BROWN EARTH WIRE
- Pin 4 – Yellow/Black = Rear Light
- Pin 5 – Black/Violet = Reverse
- Pin 6 – Purple/Violet = Brake Light

Right Hand Side of the Car

Pin 1 – Blue/Brown = Indicator
Pin 2 – Red/Green = Fog Light
Pin 3 – BROWN EARTH WIRE
Pin 4 – Yellow/Violet = Rear Light
Pin 5 – Black/Blue = Reverse
Pin 6 – Grey/Yellow = Brake Light

You now need to triple check everything you have done and only reconnect the battery when you are 100% happy with your work and remember if you are not experienced with car electrics or are unsure of anything please go to an Auto Electrician or a Tow-bar fitter.

Also make sure you have a Multi meter to check things are ok before powering the car back up cause if you mess it up the bill wont be cheap.