

# TRAIL RIDE

## Winch & Recovery

Knowing how to safely recover your vehicle or someone else's is an important skill to have. Be confident in your ability to recover a vehicle with this overview.

### What Recovery Equipment you need:

- Tow Strap
- Tree Saver Strap
- Snatch Block
- D-Ring or Soft Shackle
- Winch Gloves
- Line Damper or towel

We recommend getting a full recovery gear kit. Warn has a great Recovery Gear Kit with Bag you can buy.



### Using Your Winch In A Recovery Overview:

When talking about recovery there are many different scenarios as well as ways to use your Recovery Equipment. We are going to focus on the most common practice/used way to use your winch in a recovery.

### A Couple Things To Keep In Mind

- You are ultimately responsible for how you decide to do your recovery for your vehicle! If it is your winch and equipment you are using to get yourself out or someone else to you....you have the final ultimate say in how your Jeep is hooked up. Remember that even if you are in a high stress situation you need to feel comfortable and always check your own equipment/attachments.
- Make sure your vehicle is in park or turned off in gear and that your emergency break is on. Chalk a tire to keep your Jeep from moving for added safety if you need to. You want to be safe as you do your recovery.

### Straight Line Recovery:

This first recovery is going to be used with a Tree as your anchor in a straight line recovery. So you will be attaching your winch cable from your jeep and have a straight shot to a tree.



Hook Up your winch remote. You will either plug the cable directly into the winch or activate your wireless remote.

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Spool out your winch cable. You can free spool your winch and pull the cable while you walk, or you can use the remote and let out while someone walks the cable to your tree.



Put your tree saver around the trunk low of the tree.

Open your D-ring or Soft Shackle.



Run your D-ring or soft shackle through both straps of your tree saver. Depending on what type of hook you have on the front of your winch will determine which way you run this last step. We highly recommend upgrading your winch hook to a Factor 55 hook for added safety.

The photo on the left shows how you will turn the D-ring to allow the hook to attach to the front of the D-ring. The photo on the right shows the pin going through the Factor 55 hook to attach the winch.



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Put your vehicle in Neutral and allow the winch to do the work if possible. Slowly spool in your cable to move yourself and get you unstuck. This is not a race, there is no hurry think slow and steady.



Winch line in keeping tension on the rope or cable (use your gloves) and think about keeping a tight and uniform spool as you bring the cable or rope back in.

Also always slow down and go very slow at the end and keep your fingers away from the hook and Fairlead so you don't get a finger or your hand.



### Doing a straight line recovery to another Vehicle as anchor instead of tree.



Your Steps are very similar to what we discussed for your overview. The change will be that you will not need a tree saver strap. You will run your winch hook directly to the front or back of the vehicle that is the anchor and to the D-ring directly attached to them.

#### Safety Notes:

- \* Do not hook to a factory/plastic bumper when winching.
- \* Do not use a ball of a trailer hitch. You can use the receiver with a pin for the D-Ring or your winch hook but do not wrap around a ball on a hitch.
- \* You do not want to have to pull in reverse if possible. You want a forward gear if you need to get more resistance and traction. Or add another anchor Jeep to the Jeep Anchor so they do not have to pull in reverse and have traction.

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### Using A Snatch Block

This is where Physics comes into play. By adding a Snatch Block you are adding a ratio of weight distribution with a pulley system to require less weight of pull or force from the pulling object. Every time you add a snatch block you are changing the ratio of pull and force. We recommend for all recoveries, even a straight recovery that you always use a snatch block. This is going to put less strain on your winch and it can do a harder job with a snatch block. You can add and use snatch blocks together if you have a very stuck vehicle, say in mud or a heavy vehicle to ensure success.



Winch out or spool line out.

You are going to follow the same steps as we covered and add a snatch block in.



Once your D-ring is through your strap you will now feed your winch cable through the snatch block. Open the snatch block by twisting it the side and run you cable through the pulley side.

Close your snatch block by twisting back and run the open end of the snatch block through the pin of the D-ring to secure it to the tree strap and anchor.



Pull your cable and hook back to your vehicle and secure to the front D-ring hook of your Jeep.



Continue recovery as outlined in straight line recovery. Once you are out then do all these steps backwards to unhook your winch and snatch block.

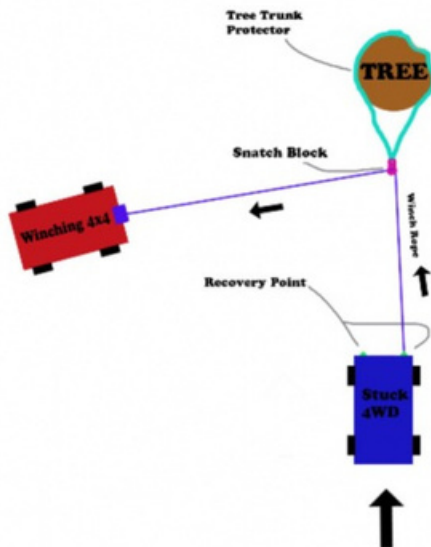
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### Recovery Options

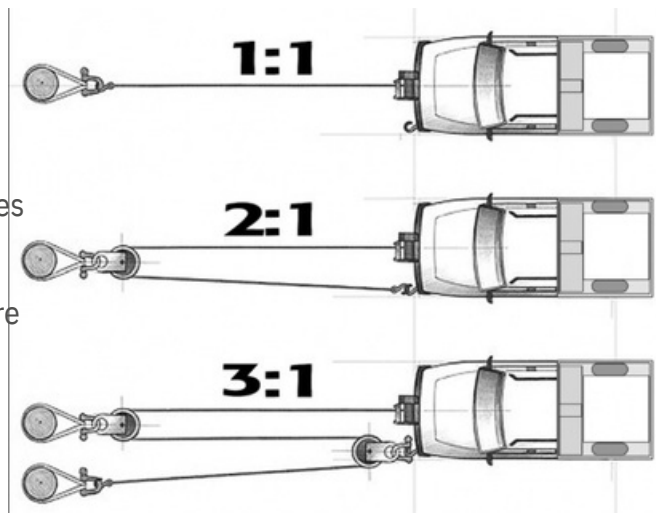
If you need to do a recovery and there is not a straight line you need to use the snatch block to create the angle for your recovery.

#### Directional Pull: Recovering another 4x4



NOTE: You can use another Vehicle or a Tree for the anchor point on the recovery. So you would run the Winch Hook to the D-ring on the front or back of another vehicle or to another tree saver strap with a D-ring on your anchor tree.

The ratios of using multiple snatch blocks as outlined on the previous page. You can replace trees with another vehicle as well and use multiple positions if you have a heavy vehicle or are very stuck to ease the load on the winch or take pressure off the anchor vehicle as well.



One of the most important things to remember is that there is NO RUSH or PRESSURE when you are doing a recovery!!

Take your time and make sure you are comfortable with the way you are doing the recovery.