

Instructions for Adjusting Your Knott Braking System



Setting Up Your Braking System

Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack the trailer up on level ground and check that it is completely stable. Release the handbrake ensuring that the drawtube is fully extended out of the coupling.
General Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always begin the setting up operation with the brakes. During set up, only rotate the wheels in the forward direction. Check that the brake cable is not under tension. The brake rod and cable must not be under tension – if necessary slacken off at the cable balance bar. IMPORTANT: Never adjust the brakes at the brake rod or with the turnbuckles that may be on the brake rod. These are only for adjusting the length of the brake rod.

Setting Up Instructions

1. Brake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tighten the adjusting bolt in a clockwise direction until the wheel will not turn. NB: only rotate wheels in the forward direction. Slacken off the adjusting bolt in an anti-clockwise direction (about ½ of a revolution) until the wheels turns freely in the forward direction. Slight grinding noises which do not impede the motion of the wheel are normal. This adjustment procedure is to be repeated on each brake.
2. Brake Cable Balance Bar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The brake cable balance bar and the main compensator on a tandem axle trailer are to be positioned perpendicular to the direction of travel. If at any point the wheels are rotated in the reverse direction, there is a danger of the auto-reverse mechanism being activated. In this event slacken the adjuster, rotate the wheel in the forward direction and readjust the brake following detail under sequence number 1.
3. Brake Rod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The length of the brake rod is to be adjusted so there is neither play nor tension on it. Firstly adjust the brake rod on the brake cable balance bar. Secondly, adjust the turnbuckles (if there are any) on the brake rod.
4. Handbrake Lever	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firmly activate the handbrake repeatedly in order to re-seat the braking components. Check the positioning of the cable balance bar (perpendicular to the direction of travel). Check the operation of the handbrake lever. Overcentre lever – resistance begins at about 10-15mm above the overcentre point. Ratchet lever – resistance begins at approx. the third tooth.
5. Final Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check the security of the other components on the towing equipment and replace as required. Under normal braking a maximum of two thirds of the overall drawtube travel should be used.
6. Road Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If necessary test the brakes on a short journey. Re-check the adjustment on the brake rod.

FOR MORE DETAILED MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS PLEASE REFER TO THE “BRAKE SYSTEM TENSIONING” FORM (KF049)