

Application No. 360: Hooking up a trailer

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A glance in the rearview mirror shows the trailer's position

"Trailer tentacles" to show the trailer's position

I often have to hook up the trailer to my car. Sometimes I transport my boat on it, which makes the trailer very heavy and rigid and it may damage the coachwork if I don't position the car exactly right.

I built a little helper with a few magnets - the "trailer tentacles" - which are long, flexible rods with little red flags on the top that I attached to the car and the trailer to show the relative position of the trailer to the car.

I sell these trailer tentacles. If you are interested, send me an email to my email address shown above.



Attachment of pot magnets

The bottom end of the rods is screwed into a GTN-16 pot magnet (www.supermagnete.de/eng/GTN-16). One of these "tentacles" is attached to the tow hitch of the car, the other to the draw bar of the trailer.



To be able to screw on the rods, they need an internal aluminium thread. In a former version (left), I made these threads myself with special tools. For the current version (right) I used a riveted nut with an M4 thread.



Visual help for backing up

When you glance in the rearview mirror (without turning your head), you now see the following:



Now I always know how much further I have to back up to be able to hook up the trailer. When the flags are close together, the trailer can be easily hooked up by hand.

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Nicht einverstanden

Einverstanden

Articles used

GTN-16: Neodymium pot magnet Ø 16 mm with threaded stud (www.supermagnete.de/eng/GTN-16)

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