



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS: *Electric Bear Deterrent Systems*

## Introduction

Congratulations on purchasing the best electric bear deterrent system money can buy! Your family, your neighbors, and the bears thank you for making such a wise investment. This document is designed to provide an overview of our systems and teach you how to operate them safely and effectively.

Each system is custom-built based on the construction of your home and your individual needs. Accordingly, it's very important that you read the safety information below and familiarize yourself with each component before operating your system. We've included a Troubleshooting section at the end of this document to address the most common issues we run into. Contact us if you'd like special instructions made for your family, friends, or renters.

Please visit our website at [www.tahoebearbusters.com](http://www.tahoebearbusters.com) for FAQs, detailed product descriptions, contact information, and more. Thank you for choosing Bear Busters.

## Important Information



READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT BEFORE OPERATING YOUR SYSTEM FOR THE FIRST TIME.



AVOID TOUCHING BUNGEEES OR WIRES WHILE YOUR SYSTEM IS ARMED.



AVOID STEPPING ON DOORMATS WHILE YOUR SYSTEM IS ARMED.



KEEP CHILDREN AND PETS SAFE AND SECURE WHILE YOUR SYSTEM IS ARMED.



DO NOT REMOVE ANY YELLOW WARNING SIGNS.



DO NOT CROSS BUNGEEES OR WIRES. THEY SHOULD ALWAYS BE PARALLEL TO EACH OTHER.



KEEP CONDUCTIVE/METAL OBJECTS AWAY FROM BUNGEEES, WIRES, AND DOORMATS.



TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF A BEAR BREAK-IN, ALWAYS ARM YOUR SYSTEM WHILE YOU'RE AWAY.



STORE UNUSED BUNGEEES & WIRES NEARBY SO YOU DON'T MISPLACE THEM.



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## Getting to Know Your System



### Controller

All of our systems come with a controller. It's small device about the size of a cracker box. They're typically installed on the exterior of your home, near your front door and visible to emergency personnel. Slide the switch left to turn your system OFF and right to turn it ON. A blinking green light indicates your system is armed and functioning properly.



### Red Light Switch

Red light switches override the controller, making it possible to arm/disarm your system from multiple locations with the flip of a switch. They're typically installed on your home's interior, exterior, or both. If the red light is illuminated, your system is ON. Flip the switch in the opposite direction to turn your system OFF. This shuts off power to the outlet the controller is plugged into.



### Cut-Out Switch

Cut-out switches override the controller, making it possible to isolate power to one or all sections of your home. Flip the lever to the OFF (vertical) position to disarm your system. Flip the lever to the ON (horizontal) position to arm your system. Both the controller and cut-out switch need to be ON for the system to be armed.



### Bungee Cords

Bungees are used to protect doors, decks, crawl spaces, and any other area that requires frequent access. The metal hooks on the ends of each bungee are designed to latch onto the metal loops surrounding your door. Removing the bungees is as simple as detaching the hooks from the loops. Bungees should always be parallel. Do not cross the bungees.



### Window Wires

Removable wires with springs are used for windows with shutters or that swing out. Removing them is as simple as detaching the hooks from the metal loops surrounding your window. Wires should always be parallel. Do not cross the wires. If your window swings out, never open the window more than 6 inches while the wires are attached.



### Bear Mats

Bear Mats are installed as a discrete alternative to bungees. While your system is disarmed, we recommend covering the equipment with a household mat to prevent damage. While the system is armed, you can walk on your Bear Mat as long as you're wearing rubber-soled shoes. To disconnect the Bear Mat, loosen the two screws at the corner of the mat and pull the black wires out. Always remove your household mat before turning the system ON.



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## Disarming Your System - OFF

**IMPORTANT:** Keep children and pets safe and secure until your system is completely disarmed.

1. Disarm your system. This step varies a little depending on the power switches we installed.
  - a. If you have a controller only, slide the controller to the OFF (left) position to disarm the system. The blinking green light should disappear.
  - b. If you have a controller + red light switches, flip any red light switch to the OFF (dark) position to disarm the system.
  - c. If you have a controller + cut-out switch, flip the cut-out switch to the OFF (vertical) position to disarm the system, or slide the controller to the OFF (left) position to disarm the rest of the system.
2. Once your system is completely disarmed, unhook the bungees at each door.
3. If you have a Bear Mat, cover it with a household mat to prevent damage to the equipment.
4. If you have removable window wires and plan on opening your windows more than 6 inches, unhook them. The springs won't allow the wire to stretch more than that.

## Arming Your System - ON

**IMPORTANT:** Always check to ensure your system is disarmed before handling and components.

1. If you have removable window wires, reattach them, making sure they're horizontal to the ground and parallel to each other. Do not cross the wires.
2. If you have a Bear Mat, remove the household mat and make sure the Bear Mat is free of debris.
3. Reattach the bungees at each door, making sure they're horizontal to the ground and parallel to each other. Do not cross the bungees.
4. Arm your system. This step varies a little depending on the power switches we installed.
  - a. If you have a controller only, slide the controller to the ON (right) position to arm the system. Several blinking lights should appear and transition to a single blinking green light after a few seconds.
  - b. If you have a controller + red light switches, flip any red light switch to the ON (illuminated) position to arm the system.
  - c. If you have a controller + cut-out switch, slide the controller to the ON (right) position or flip the cut-out switch to the ON (horizontal) position to arm the rest of the system. Both switches need to be in the ON position for the system to be armed.



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## Troubleshooting

### **I touched my system while it was on and didn't feel a shock.**

Our systems use alternating “hot” and “ground” conductive elements. You probably only made contact with one of them. In order to receive the full electrical shock, bears, or any living thing for that matter, must make contact with a hot and a ground element at the *same* time. We do not recommend touching an armed system to test that it's working properly.

### **I hear a snapping sound coming from my system.**

That sound you're hearing is caused by electricity “jumping” or “arcing” out of your system. Most likely something conductive (e.g., metal, rock) is too close to the system. With the system armed, follow the sound until you determine what is making contact with the system. Disarm the system, try and resolve the issue, and arm the system again to see if it worked. Repeat until the sound goes away.

Crossed bungees/wires are another common cause of the snapping sound. Make sure none of the bungees/wires are crossed over each other.

### **My controller is displaying a red blinking light (or will not show a single green blinking light).**

The controller is warning you that something is interrupting the flow of electricity through your system. Disarm the system and check all the bungees and wires to ensure everything is attached correctly (no crossed or detached wires) and nothing conductive is making contact with your system like a window screen.

### **My controller isn't displaying any lights at all.**

Most likely the controller isn't receiving power. First, follow the power cord from the base of the controller to the electrical outlet and make sure it's plugged in. Next confirm that the GFCI hasn't been tripped. If it has, press the RESET button. If not, check your breaker panel to see if a breaker has been tripped.

If you have red light switches installed, it's possible that one of the switches is flipped to the OFF (dark) position. Make sure that all red light switches are ON and illuminated.

### **I touched my system while it was off but I felt a shock.**

Most likely the system is still partially armed. Check the power switch on the controller and make sure it's pushed all the way to the OFF (left) position.

Static electricity can also be the cause, as it is often mistaken for a full electrical shock from our systems.

*If you're still having trouble, contact us and we'll send a technician over to investigate as soon as possible.*