**MOUNTAIN HANDLEBAR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS** 

Thanks for buying a Whisky Parts Co. product. Whisky makes parts that are designed to keep on delivering, ride after ride, year in and year out.

▲ WARNING: CYCLING CAN BE DANGEROUS. BICYCLE PRODUCTS SHOULD BE INSTALLED AND SERVICED BY A PROFESSIONAL MECHANIC. NEVER MODIFY YOUR BICYCLE OR ACCESSORIES. READ AND FOLLOW ALL PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS INCLUDING INFORMATION ONTHE MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE. INSPECT YOUR BICYCLE BEFORE EVERY RIDE. ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET.

Additional safety info can be found at: whiskyparts.co/safety



# Intended Use & Compatibility

This is a set of conditions for operation of a bicycle that includes Condition 1 and Condition 2 as well as rough trails, rough unpaved roads, and rough terrain and unimproved trails that require technical skills. Jumps and drops are intended to be less than 61 em [24").

# **A WARNING**

- Make certain your stem clamp is compatible with the handlebar before proceeding
- Whisky does not recommend the use of bar-ends on mountain handlebars
- Whisky carbon bars are not aero bar compatible

### **Carbon Care**

Handlebars that have been involved in a crash or show signs of damage such as cracks, chips, loose fibers, or fatigue marks should be taken out of use immediately and inspected by a qualified expert to ensure they're still safe. If evidence of damage is found, the component should be replaced or repaired.

# Tools

- Carbon paste
- Allen wrenches: 4, 5 or 6mm
- Properly calibrated Torque wrench that measures in Nm
- Hacksaw (carbon-specific blade for carbon bars)
- Cutting guide
- File

#### **Cutting Handlebars**

- 1. When cutting handlebars, determine the appropriate width.
- 2. Remember to cut BOTH ends evenly.
- 3. Always use a cutting guide.
- 4. For carbon, use a carbon-specific blade.
- 5. File the handlebar ends to remove any burrs or sharp edges.

#### **Handlebar Installation**

- 1. Remove the bolts from the stem faceplate.
- Inspect stem faceplate and body for sharp edges or burrs that could damage the handlebar.
- 3. Center the handlebar on the stem and replace the faceplate.
- Tighten the faceplate bolts according to the stem manufacturer's specifications. If no torque ratings are given, do not exceed 7Nm.

### Shifter and Brake Lever Positioning

- 1. With the shift and brake levers loose, sit on the bike.
- 2. When seated on the bike, the back of your hands should form a straight line with your forearms; adjust the levers accordingly.
- 3. Tighten the lever clamp bolts according to manufacturer specifications. If no torque ratings are given, do not exceed 4Nm.

#### **Carbon Handlebars**

### AWARNING-Regularly inspect your carbon handlebars for:

**CRACKS**—Inspect for cracks, broken or splintered areas. Any crack is serious. Do not ride any bicycle or component that has a crack of any size.

**DELAMINATION**—Composites are made from layers of fabric. Delamination means that the layers of fabric are no longer bonded together. Do not ride any bicycle or component that has any delamination.

#### These are some delamination clues:

- A cloudy or white area. This kind of area looks different from the ordinary undamaged areas. Undamaged areas will look glassy, shiny or "deep," as if one was looking into a clear liquid. Delaminated areas will look opaque and cloudy.
- Bulging or deformed shape. If delamination occurs, the surface shape may change. The surface may have a bump, a bulge, soft spot, or not be smooth and fair.
- A difference in sound when tapping the surface. If you gently tap the surface of an undamaged composite you will hear a consistent sound, usually hard and sharp. If you then tap a delaminated area, you will hear a different sound, usually duller, less sharp.

UNUSUAL NOISES—Either a crack or delamination can cause creaking noises while riding. Think about such a noise as a serious warning signal. A well-maintained bicycle will be very quiet and free of creaks and squeaks. Investigate and find the source of any noise. It may not be a crack or delamination, but whatever is causing the noise must be fixed before riding.

▲ WARNING – Over-tightening the stem or brake/shifter clamps can ruin the bar. Tighten the bar to the recommended torque spec for the stem or 7Nm, whichever is less. Tighten shifter and brake levers to recommended torque spec or 4Nm, whichever is less.

# A Word About Torque Spec

Torque spec is only a portion of the overall act of securing the handlebar. Torque is rotational effort applied to a piece of securing hardware. This value loosely corresponds to the actual tightening force being applied to the bar. Things like stem material, faceplate type, and hardware size can have a profound effect on the actual force (PSI) being applied to bar. We recommend you apply the least amount of force necessary to secure the handlebar in your stem. Excessive toque can lead to carbon fracture and immediate or eventual fracture of your bar.

### **Ongoing Maintenance**

- Clean with light soap and water. Dry with a rag
- If your rag snags on something, it could be a sign of damage. Carefully listen for uncommon sounds when riding, such as creaking, cracking, or popping, which could mean there's a problem. If you're not sure, don't take chances. Visit your bicycle shop and ask an expert to take a look
- Avoid exposing your bicycle and components to high temperatures such as leaving them inside a parked car in the sun or storing them next to heat sources or radiators. Excessive heat can deteriorate the adhesive which joins the seatpost parts

## **Limited Warranty**

Proof of purchase is required before a warranty claim is processed. Whisky Parts Co. therefore strongly encourages warranty registration at whiskyparts.co. Failure to register will not affect consumer rights under the limited warranty stated above, so long as the consumer can show in a reasonable manner proof of original ownership and the date the Whisky Parts Co. product was purchased. If you have any questions contact warranty@whiskyparts.co.

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