

At Salsa, we believe that a sense of adventure makes life better. The bicycle can be so much more than just a bike; it's a path to new places, new people, and amazing experiences.

Thank you for your purchase. We hope it makes a good riding experience even better!

Salsa. Adventure by bike®.

**⚠ 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 ON THE MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE. INSPECT YOUR BICYCLE BEFORE EVERY RIDE. ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET.**

We recommend that you have this product installed and maintained by a professional bicycle mechanic. Please read all instructions thoroughly before installing and using your new handlebar.

## Compatibility

All Salsa handlebars are designed to be compatible with aerobars up to 400 mm in length.

### ⚠ WARNING:

- Salsa handlebars are not compatible with bar-ends.
- Make certain your stem clamp is compatible with the handlebar before proceeding.

## Intended Use

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	SALSA MODELS
	This is a set of conditions for the operation of a bicycle on a regular paved surface where the tires are intended to maintain ground contact.	
	This is a set of conditions for the operation of a bicycle that includes Condition 1 as well as unpaved and gravel roads and trails with moderate grades. In this set of conditions, contact with irregular terrain and loss of tire contact with the ground may occur. Drops are intended to be limited to 15 cm (6") or less.	Cowbell Handlebars
	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 cm (24").	Bend Handlebars Cowchipper Handlebars Woodchipper Handlebars
	This is a set of conditions for operation of a bicycle that includes Conditions 1, 2, and 3, or downhill grades on rough trails at speeds less than 40 km/h (25 mph), or both. Jumps are intended to be less than 122 cm (48").	Rustler Handlebars Salt Flat Handlebars
	This is a set of conditions for operation of a bicycle that includes Conditions 1, 2, 3, and 4; extreme jumping; or downhill grades on rough trails at speeds in excess of 40 km/h (25 mph); or a combination thereof.	Salsa handlebars are NOT intended for category 5 intended use.

## Tools:

Allen wrenches: 4, 5, or 6 mm

Torque wrench that measures in Newton Meters (Nm)

## Installation

1. Remove the bolts from the stem faceplate.
2. Center the handlebar on the stem and replace the faceplate.
3. Tighten the faceplate bolts according to the stem manufacturer's specifications. If no torque ratings are given, tighten 4–5 Nm.
4. Reinstall shifters and brake levers according to manufacturer specifications and following instructions.

## Flat Bar 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, up to a maximum of 5 Nm.

### Drop Bar Shifter and Brake Lever Positioning

1. With the shift and brake levers loose, position the hoods to create a flat surface across the top of the handlebar. Angle the levers so they are approximately parallel to the angle of the drops.
2. Tighten lever clamp bolts according to manufacturer specifications, or up to a maximum of 5 Nm whichever is less.

### 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 handlebars, use a carbon-specific blade. For aluminum handlebars, use a metal-specific blade.
5. Remove any burrs or sharp edges. For aluminum handlebars, use a metal file. For carbon handlebars, use a fine-grit sandpaper.

**⚠ WARNING:** Unprotected handlebar ends may cause serious injury. Install an appropriate handlebar plug or grip.

### Carbon Handlebars

**⚠ WARNING:** 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:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 damage your handlebar. Tighten the stem bolts to the recommended torque spec for the stem or 5 Nm, whichever is less. Tighten shifter and brake levers to recommended torque spec of 5 Nm, whichever is less.

### Ongoing Maintenance

**⚠ WARNING:** Improper installation of mounted component bolts may lead to product failure, causing serious injury. Do not exceed specified torque values. Periodically inspect bolts and retighten if required.

- 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

**⚠ WARNING:** Any crack or damage to a handlebar is serious. Do not ride any bicycle if the handlebar has a crack of any size or is damaged. A cracked or damaged handlebar may fail suddenly, leading to a crash and serious injury.



## HANDLEBAR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### Salsa Cycles Limited Warranty

Salsa Cycles warrants this new Salsa product against defects in materials and workmanship for three (3) years from the original date of retail purchase by the consumer. This limited warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of the original product, at the option of Salsa Cycles, and is the sole remedy of the warranty. This limited warranty applies only to the original purchaser of the Salsa product and is not transferable. In no event shall Salsa Cycles be liable for any loss, inconvenience or damage, whether direct, incidental or consequential or otherwise resulting from breach of any express or implied warranty or condition, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise with respect to this product except as set forth herein.

This warranty does not cover the following:

- Damage due to improper assembly or follow-up maintenance or lack of skill, competence or experience of the end user
- Products that have been modified, neglected, used in competition or for commercial purposes, misused or abused, involved in accidents or anything other than normal use
- Damage or deterioration to the surface finish, aesthetics or appearance of the product
- Damage to carbon fiber caused by any carbon assembly paste
- Normal wear and tear
- Labor required to remove and/or refit and re-adjust the product within the bicycle assembly

TO THE EXTENT NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW, THESE WARRANTIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND THERE ARE NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS INCLUDING WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Proof of purchase is required before a warranty claim is processed. Salsa Cycles therefore strongly encourages warranty registration at [salsacycles.com](https://salsacycles.com). 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 Salsa Cycles product was purchased.

If you have any questions contact [warranty@salsacycles.com](mailto:warranty@salsacycles.com)