

Welcome to the Esker Family! We're excited for you to get out and ride and we want to get you and your new bike on the trails as swiftly and painlessly as possible. Here are a few helpful steps to get you rolling.

Tools needed:

1. Allen Wrench Set
2. Tire Lever / Valve Core Remover
3. Shock Pump
4. Tire Pump

1. Inspection

We've packaged your bike extra carefully to make sure it arrives in perfect condition. Please take note of and photograph any significant shipping damage immediately should you notice anything.

2. Remove Items

Carefully remove the front wheel first from the box. In the process of packing and shipping, the front wheel is removed from your bike, and you will need to put it back onto your bike in the process of assembling it. Carefully remove the rest of the bike, making sure to hold onto the handlebars with one hand as it is still attached to the bike via the cables. If the stem and fork are facing backwards, turn them 180 degrees making sure not to kink the cable lines so that the fork and stem are facing forward again. Remove the box of small parts (warranty info, BB tool (FS), rear brake pad spacer, tire sealant).

3. Install Handlebars

Re-install the handlebars by removing the faceplate of the stem and reassembling it with the handlebar in place. There are two different types of stems in use with Esker bikes, and you should make sure to consult the stem manufacturers recommended spec for your particular stem to ensure that it is installed correctly. If it's a "top-lock" type of stem make sure to tighten both of the top bolts all the way and then finish tightening by alternating between the two bottom bolts until both are firmly tightened and properly torqued to manufacturer's specifications. If it's a non-"top-lock" type stem, you should tighten all four bolts evenly by alternating in a repeating cross pattern and spreading out the tension evenly as you tighten all four bolts to the proper torque.

4. Install Dropper Lever

Some bikes may have the dropper-post lever removed for shipping. If so, replace the clamp onto the left-side of the handlebar in a position that feels natural and mirrors the angle of your shifter lever on the other side and tighten it onto the handlebar.

5. Install Front Wheel

Remove the spacer from the front brake caliper and then install the front wheel (any adjustment to the QR/axle clamp has been done prior to leaving the factory). Tighten the thru axle by threading it into the fork to the point where it provides a firm amount of resistance when closing the lever in the upward position, but it should not be forced or very difficult to close.

6. Install Sealant

Install sealant into the front and rear tire by using a sealant valve stem injector or by removing one side of the tire bead from the wheel, best done with the wheel removed from the bike, add the included tubeless tire sealant, ½ bottle per wheel. If you broke the bead of the tire off the rim to pour the sealant in you will likely need a compressor to reseal the tire. If you used the injector through the valve stem method just pump them up slightly beyond normal tire pressure to allow for pressure loss while the tire seals. This process works best if you go and ride the bike shortly after installation so that the fluid gets spread evenly and seals the tire from the inside. If you are unsure of either of these methods a quick google search will yield many examples of how to do this.

7. Install Pedals

As with most new mountain bikes, Esker bikes do not come with pedals, and you will need to install your preferred pedals. If you have not done so already, now would be a good time to put those on.

8. Adjust Seat Height

Adjust your seat height with the dropper post fully extended. At the correct seat height, your legs should be at almost full extension but without locking your knee while at the deepest part of the pedal stroke.

9. Setup Your Suspension

Using a shock pump, set up your suspension to the correct pressure for your total riding body weight including gear. For a quick guide on rear suspension setup, and to find other fork setup and spec information visit our website here: <https://eskercycles.com/pages/documentation>

- For the front fork, use the manufacturer's setting recommendations, which you can typically find on the back of the fork leg or on the manufacturer's website linked at our website. This includes recommended settings for rebound and compression dampening in addition to pressure.
- For the rear shock, Esker full suspension bikes are designed around setting the shock pressure so that when seated on the bike you achieve a 30% sag, this is 18mm for Elkat and 16.5mm for the Rowl. A good starting pressure is 120% of rider weight. Please refer to the manufacturers settings for rebound and compression dampening which can be found in the rear shocks owners manual or linked in our website.

10. Go ride your new Esker!

Pro Tip #1 - During your "shakedown ride" around the neighborhood, squirt some (clean) water onto your brake rotors and then ride while squeezing the brakes. This will "burn your brakes in" and burn off any residue on the brake pads. You will immediately feel that the brakes have more bite. Repeat this a few times on both brakes. Having a gentle hill to ride down helps with the process and using a water bottle to squirt onto the rotors works well.

Pro Tip #2 - Before AND after (or during) your shakedown ride, inspect all critical bolts for proper torque. This should always include both of your wheel axles, stem and handlebar bolts, and brake caliper bolts at the very least. Going forward, it is a good practice to make sure everything is tight BEFORE EVERY RIDE. A quick inspection can save you a lot of hassle down the trail.

Pro Tip #3 - Your derailleur cable and your dropper cable will stretch out after the first few rides as the housing and fitments get their first use. You can adjust the barrel adjusters slightly by backing the barrel out from the shifter body or dropper lever until the tension alleviates the issue you are experiencing. Micro adjustments can be made at any time. Enjoy the ride!!!