

Tips for Seating Stubborn Tubeless Tires

<https://youtu.be/TFMxdRNimRY>

Asymmetrical or Offset Rims

Do you have them?

Are your spoke holes in center of rim or offset to one side?

The Problem

With the holes off to the side, air can leak through the holes at the edge of your rim tape

The Trick

Replace your tape if needed and seat the side closest to the holes first with this technique to lock in that side and prevent leakage.



✳ *Know what side the holes are on (front and back tires are on opposite sides)*

✳ *Seat the hole side first*

Choose your adventure

1. If you have a kinky tire try using a tube first.
2. If your tire is solid you can still use this technique and just skip the tube step.



✳ *Use tubes to help seat stubborn tires*

The Setup (03:05)

Here's what you'll need:

- Tire lever
- Sealant of your choice
- Valve core remover
- Air supply
- Rim Tape
- Tubes (*optional for stubborn or kinky/floppy tires)

Here are my product recommendations in case you're interested:

**may contain affiliate links*

- Pedro's Tire lever
- Stan's sealant
- Stan's valve core remover
- Bell Ait Attack floor pump
- *see this video if interested in air compressor*
- Stan's Rim Tape
- Tubes

STEP 1 Inspect Your Rim & Tape (04:18)

- Is your rim in good condition? no dents or dings that may be causing leaks.
- Is your rim tape worn out, or scrunched up along the edges?
 - If yes, go to step 2 to change your rim tape.
 - If no, skip to step 3



✳ *Make sure your rim tape is good*

✳ *Don't lose the valve spacer if you have one*

STEP 2 Fresh Rim Tape (05:58)

- Remove old rim tape
- Clean rim
- Install new rim tape



* You can add an extra layer of tape to smooth out spoke hole divots

* You can reinforce seam with a piece of electrical tape

* Wipe tape with a clean cloth to help adhere and smooth

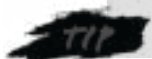
STEP 3 Install Tire with a Tube (06:33)

- Lightly fill the tube with air
- Place tube inside the tire
- Put tire with tube on your rim starting with inserting the valve
- Work your way around the edges with your hands first to position the tire bead around the rim. Then you can use a tire lever in the places where you couldn't get it with your hands.



* Place tire lever between the spokes to protect your rim tape around the spoke holes

- Pump up tire. Set the bead of the tire firmly to rim which you know is done when you hear the pop, pop.



* Let tire sit overnight with tube in it to set tape and relax any kinks

STEP 4 Go Tubeless (09:06)

- The big trick is to keep the bead on the side the holes are closest to intact, so **carefully** remove the bead on the side of the tire that is opposite the holes, keeping the other side intact.
- Release some air pressure from the tube
- Remove the tube from inside the tire by using your hands to push in the opposite side or carefully use a tire lever to release while keeping the bead on offset side
- Put your valve back in and use your hands to put most of tire bead inside the rim, leaving space to pour sealant



* Remove your valve core to maximize air flow when seating tires

* Don't over tighten your valves

- Pour sealant into tire



* You can pour a little extra sealant for good measure

* Keep your valve core in the remover tool ready to go

- Use your hands to position the rest of the tire bead back inside the rim
- Pump up the tire, and hear and watch it seat nicely!
- Keep your finger over the valve and put the valve core back in. It's ok if you lose some air.
- Check for an equal bead all around the tire
- Spin tire to distribute the sealant



* Use axle to spin tire and distribute sealant evenly