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# **CUSTOM FIT SADDLEBAG INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

# WARNING: A

### READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE STARTING!

Use of this product in a manner other than it's intended purpose could cause loss of motorcycle control and damage including personal injury or death. Follow the instructions below.

- You must mount saddlebags properly and securely before riding motorcycle. Failure to do so could result in damage to the saddlebag and motorcycle.
- Additional, bolt-on saddlebag supports are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to keep saddlebags from moving, contacting or interfering with shocks, swingarm, brakes and wheel.
- Saddlebags must be tied down and secured to a solid part of the motorcycle to prevent any movement during operation.
- •Do not exceed maximum weight of 10 lbs per saddlebag.
- •DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE THESE SADDLEBAGS IF....
- ...you do not understand these instructions;...you do not understand any part of the mounting system;
- ...you have any doubts as to the security of the mounting system.
- If you have any doubts or questions, SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP at your qualified motorcycle dealer or call Saddlemen at 310-638-1222.



Motorcycling is an inherently dangerous activity. Installation of any accessory, including saddlebags, can add to the danger if they are not installed safely. If saddlebag supports are not available for your motorcycle, and you wish to install saddlebags, you must install them in a manner in which they will not contact any part of the drivetrain, suspension or steering, or interfere with any operation of the motorcycle. If you do not know how to do this, or have any doubts as to your ability, please have a qualified motorcycle mechanic install them.

### **PARTS LIST**

- 2- Saddlebags 4- 5/16 X 1-1/2 Fender Washers
- 2- Keys for locking buckles (Drifter, Desperado models)
- 4- 3/8 X 1-1/2 Fender Washers
- 2- Locks w/keys (Cruis'n models)

1- Instructions

#### OVERVIEW

- -These universal Custom Fit saddlebags have smooth backs to enable the customer to design and fabricate a mounting system (hardware, brackets, spacers, etc.) for custom mounting applications.
- -These saddlebags can be mounted to a motorcycle in a wide variety of ways, limited only by the imagination and capabilities of the installer. If you have any questions regarding how to proceed with this installation or in your ability to finalize the installation, please use the services of a professional to do the installation. Your local mechanic or motorcycle dealership should be able to assist you.
- -If the bags obstruct the motorcycle's side marker reflectors, contact Saddlemen to purchase self-adhesive reflectors.
- -If the Custom Fit Saddlebags can not be mounted securely and free of interference as noted below, or if over-the-fender yoke mounting is desired, these bags can be mounted "throw-over" or "pony express" style using Saddlemen part number 549 Universal Yoke Kit.

# **RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL HARDWARE**

Saddlemen's S4 Quick-Disconnect Saddlebag Mounting Kits are the perfect way to install these saddlebags on your bike. Available for most popular metric cruiser and Harley-Davidson models, our kits feature hard-mount installation with the ability to remove the bags in seconds to carry them with you or to wash your bike. Saddlemen has everything you need, including saddlebag support brackets, turn signal relocators for getting larger bags onto some bikes, and quick-disconnect mounting kits. For more information, see your dealer or contact Saddlemen directly at 800-397-7709.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. It is anticipated that the smooth back side of the bags will be drilled to facilitate mounting, and that you will fabricate mounting brackets, spacers or supports. Mounting bolts with then pass thru the bags and, using the supplied fender washers, be secured to either your fabricated brackets, fender or fender struts. Most installations utilize the fender struts and their fender mounting locations for connecting the saddlebags to the motorcycle. Other locations can also include turn signal or top shock mounting points. Mount points should be as far apart as possible and use the fender washers supplied to provide a stable mount base and spread the mounting load and stress over the largest area possible. The bags can also be mounted utilizing aftermarket saddlebag support brackets and securely attaching the saddlebags to these brackets.
- 2. The saddlebags must be securely mounted to the motorcycle so that they can support any load that you intend to carry (less than 10 pounds per side) and so the bags clear all moving or suspension components thru the full suspension travel, even when the bags are fully loaded. Be expecially careful that the cantilevered bottom inside edge of the bag, and all other surfaces, clear all components such as shocks, swingarm, brake calipers, brake rods and lines, chain guard, etc. after installation.
- 3. Inspect the bags immediately after first use to determine that the bags are not interfereing with moving components. Inspect weekly thereafter to be certain that the bags are not contacting moving parts and that the bags are not developing cracks as a result of inadequate mounting support.
- 4. If the installed bags obstruct the original factory supplied side reflectors, please contact Saddlemen to purchase self-adhesive reflectors, which must be installed where they are clearly visible from the side of the motorcycle.

LOCKABLE BUCKLES FEATURE Drifter and Desperado models feature leather straps with hidden lockable buckles. Once locked, bags cannot be opened. Cruis'n models feature lockable twistlocks, with small padlocks included.

## CARE AND CLEANING

LEATHER HIDES MAY CONTAIN NATURAL BLEMISHES WHICH ARE NOT CONSIDERED TO BE FLAWS. Your Saddlemen Express Saddlebags require almost no maintenance, but to keep them looking good, here's what we recommend:

- 1. For leather straps (Drifter and Desperado models) we highly recommend a good leather conditioner, like mink oil, to keep the leather soft and pliable.
- Your saddlebags require almost no maintenance, but to keep them looking their best, here's what we recommend:
- 2. You can simply wipe down the bag with a clean, damp cloth, but to really make them shine use Saddlemen Seat and Saddlebag Wash, part number 3101, and Saddlemen Seat and Saddlebag Conditioner, part number 3102, both available through your local dealer.
- 3. Keep the saddlebags away from extreme heat sources like your bike's exhaust pipes.

### SADDLEMEN'S ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

We guarantee our products for a period of one year after retail purchase, against defects in materials and workmanship. Damage caused by improper use or incorrect mounting is not warranteed. Our warranty has other provisions and conditions; please contact Saddlemen for full details. If your Saddlemen product is not performing to your expectations, please call us directly and our customer service staff will be happy to help. You can count on Saddlemen's quality, innovation, service and style.

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