

# RIGID SADDLEBAG



17801 S. Susana Rd.  
Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221  
(310) 638-1222 Fax (310) 761-1234  
www.saddlemen.com

## RIGID SADDLEBAG INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### WARNING:

#### READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE STARTING!

You are responsible for the correct installation and safe use of this bag. Seek qualified instruction if you are uncertain about its capabilities and limitations or if you need help with installation. Use of the bag in a manner other than its intended purpose or contradictory to the warnings and instruction provided could cause loss of control of your motorcycle, possibly resulting in personal injury or death.

⚡ You must mount saddlebags properly and securely before riding motorcycle. Failure to do so could result in damage to the saddlebag and motorcycle.

⚡ Do not use these bags if the mounting system has deteriorated, loosened or is beginning to fail  
⚡ 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. You must install them in a manner in which they will not contact any part of the drive train, 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 2-Saddle Bag Supports 2- Studs5/16x2 1/2 2- Studs3/8x3 2- 5/16 Docking Posts 2- 5/16 Lock Nuts 2-3/8 Docking posts 2-3/8 Lock Nuts 2 Chrome Spacers 2-Turn Signal Brackets 2-Black Wires 2-Green Wires 8- Butt Connectors 2- Hex Nuts 5/16-18 2- Socket cap screws 1/16-18x3" 4-1/4 Turn Bag Locks 2- Pad Locks with Keys 2 Keys for Q.R. Buckles 1 - Instructions

#### INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**WARNING:** To avoid injury, install while engine is cold. Disconnect the battery.

We recommend relocating one side at a time, completing one side before starting on the other side. This will help maintain fender alignment, and give you a reference for wire routing Etc.

- 1) Remove tail light lens.
- 2) Trace wires from turn signal lights and unplug from tail light terminal.
- 3) Push wires back through the fender holes, and free them from clips, etc, to the turn signal lights. Be careful to note the routing of the wires so you can re-route them in the same way when you reassemble the light.
- 4) Remove the bolt holding the turn signal light and carefully remove the wire thru the hole.
- 5) Cut the wires 1½ inch from where they exit from the turn signal support.
- 6) Strip 3/8inch insulation from the ends of the turn signal wires, and both ends of all the extension wires supplied.
- 7) Using a crimping tool, and the butt connectors, add an extension wire to the end of each turn signal wire only, black to plain wire and the green to the striped wire (you will splice the connector ends after routing the wires through the turn signal brackets).
- 8) The Turn Signal brackets are disassembled. Each is made up of a thick plate, a black center part, and a thin outer plate. Remove the paper from one side of the black center part, align and press to the thick inner part with the tang away from the black center part.
- 9) Rout the wires from the turn signal through the oval hole at the small end of the thin center part, polished side toward the turn signal, then and out the last hole in the opposite side (with the tang).
- 10) Neatly arrange the wires in the center groove, remove the protective paper from the center part align and press together.
- 11) Loosely install the turn signal with the 5/16- 18x3" bolt supplied to hold the turn signal in place on the bracket.



- 12) Using two more butt connectors connect the wires with the connectors (the original cut off wires) to the wires coming out of the turn signal bracket, black to plain wire, green to striped wire. At this point you should have a turn signal bracket with a turn signal mounted, and wires ready to install back on the motorcycle.
- 13) Remove the bolt from the front of the rail.
- 14) On one of the 3/8x3 studs screw on a lock nut, and a docking post, for about 1/4 inch, and tighten together snugly, add a spacer. Screw this assembly into the front hole in the fender strut until you can feel the bolt coming through on the inside of the fender. The correct amount should be adjusted to 1 to 1 1/2 turns past the inside face of the nut plate toward the tire.
- 15) Loosen the lock nut from the docking post and run it down tight against the fender strut being careful not to move (turn) the stud.
- 16) Remove the docking post.
- 17) Repeat steps 14-16 with the 5/16x2 1/2 stud and use the turn signal as the spacer, run the wires through the original hole in the fender- strut. Use a pencil or similar object to separate the wires on each side of the holes so the bolt does not damage the insulation on the wires.
- 18) Torque the lock nuts to 23 N.m (16.5 lb-ft ).
- 19) Install the saddlebag support. The stud should be protruding past the saddlebag support by 3/8 to 1/2 inches (10-12mm) or just less than the hex portion of the docking post. NOTE: The saddlebag Support is to be installed with the bottom rail slightly further away from the motorcycle than the top portion. This is to hold the bag away from the wheel, brakes, and drive parts. If it is not this way you should try with the other support.
- 20) Install and tighten the docking posts to hold the saddlebag supports in place.
- 21) Re-rout and secure the wires back to the tail light and connect.
- 22) Perform steps 2-21 on the other side.
- 23) Connect the battery and check to see if all the lights work correctly.
- 24) Replace the tail light lens.
- 25) Install your saddlebags by pushing them over the docking posts. Make sure that the clip at the bottom of the bag is over the support.
- 26) Secure the saddlebags in place by installing inside the saddlebag a 1/4 turn lock on each docking post.

**FEATURES:** Cruiser and Desperado models feature leather straps with lockable buckles, and lockable quick release buckles. Once locked, bags cannot be opened without using the key. If you wish to ride your motorcycle for an extended time without the saddlebags and supports, remove the saddlebags and supports, replacing the docking posts on the ends of the studs.

#### **CARE AND CLEANING**

Your Saddlemen saddlebags require almost no maintenance, but to keep them looking their best, we recommend Saddlemen's Saddlebag Cleaner #3101, and Saddlebag Conditioner #3103. For everyday cleaning, you can simply wipe down the bag with a clean, damp cloth. Make sure to keep the saddlebags away from extreme heat sources like your bike's exhaust pipes.

#### **SADDELMEN'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 warranted. 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. 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.