

Surly Stainless Steel Chainring Installation Instructions

Hey, you, thanks for buying our stuff. We mean it. Like many of our products, we made our chainrings because they are something that we wanted but didn't find on the market. We noticed a lack of durable, high-quality chainrings designed for single-speed use. So, we made 'em. Our rings are made of tough 304 stainless steel for strength and long life. All are fully compatible with 5-speed to 8-speed chains, and larger sizes (38-50t in 110mm BCD and all sizes in 130mm BCD) will work with 9-speed chains. Match up our chainring with a steel chain, a Surly steel cassette cog or track cog, or a steel BMX-style free-wheel, and the occasional dousing of lube, and you'll have an all-steel drivetrain that'll love you long time.

Please read all these instructions before attempting to install your Surly™ chainring. If you lack mechanical aptitude, don't have the right tools, or can't read or follow these instructions carefully, you're waaaay better off bringing it to that professional bicycle mechanic to do this installation for you. Our trusty legal counsel compels us to point out that if this installation isn't done properly, YOU COULD DIE riding your bike, which would make us sad.

Our chainrings are designed for single-chainring applications. They have a tall tooth profile and no shifting ramps or pins. We're not saying you can't use our ring in a multi-ring setup, but it probably won't shift very well. If you are using a single front ring with multiple cogs out back, a chain guide is recommended to prevent the chain from jumping off the chainring.

We recommend you replace your chainring, cog(s), and chain at the same time. These components wear together, and if you use old and new parts together, performance will be compromised. A worn chain will not seat properly on new cogs or rings, and a new chain will skip and wear out faster on used cogs and rings. If a chain wear indicator shows only moderate wear on your chain, it might work alright, but a new drivetrain is usually your best bet.

Accurate chainline is very important for proper drivetrain performance. Chainline is the alignment of the front chainring relative to the rear cog(s). The bottom bracket, frame, crankarms, hub, cog(s) and chainring all have an effect on chainline. In a single-speed setup, the front chainring should be in direct alignment with the rear cog. A multi-cog setup should have the front chainring aligned with the middle of the cogset. The Surly chainring can be mounted in either the middle or outer position on most cranksets. Position the ring so that the best chainline is achieved. Spacers can be used on the cog or chainring to dial in perfect chainline. Some bottom brackets are also adjustable for chainline (see bottom bracket manufacturer's instructions). Proper chainline will help ensure quiet operation, long life, and proper shifting (if applicable).

Once chainline has been established, installation of the chainring is straightforward:

Remove your old chainring(s). If you have a granny ring on your crank, you'll have to pull the crankarm off as well. Clean the crankarm and chainring bolts thoroughly. Grease the chainring bolts, and install the chainring onto the crankarm. If you are changing from a multiple-ring setup to a single ring, you'll need single-ring-specific 6mm chainring bolts. Torque chainring bolts to the manufacturer's specifications. Reinstall the crankarm onto the bottom bracket (if necessary).

On 104mm 4-bolt cranks, the shoulder for the outer ring has a smaller diameter than the middle shoulder. If you install the chainring in the outer position, there will be a gap between the ring and shoulder. The chainring needs to be centered properly on the crankarm for optimum performance and chain tension. If your chainring is not centered, proper chain tension will be difficult to attain. The chain will either have a very tight spot, a very loose spot, or both. Mount the ring so that there is an even gap between the chainring and shoulder on all four tabs. If the chainring nut extends through the tab on the crankarm, the ring should mount centered on the arm. If not, installing the chainring bolts backward will help keep the ring centered. If you don't like the look of the bolts facing the wrong way, install and tighten 3 of the bolts backwards. Install and tighten the 4th bolt normally. Then, one at a time, remove and reinstall each of the other bolts in the conventional orientation.

Limited Warranty:

Surly chainrings are guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects for one year from the original date of purchase. This means that if we screwed up something in the manufacturing process that resulted in the premature failure of the part, we'll fix or replace it at our discretion. This warranty is for the original buyer and is not transferable. It should go without saying that we won't even consider your warranty problem without a dated proof-of-purchase.

What this warranty doesn't cover is damage resulting from any sort of riding other than "normal" riding, and the inevitable wear and tear resulting from normal use. As with all Surly products, we wouldn't expect you to treat them gently, but we can't be responsible for the inherent danger to body and property you face each time you hop on your bike. While we purposely build out components with safety and durability in mind, and we completely stand behind the strength and integrity of all products, we're hip to the "just riding along" phenomenon - and frankly, we're just not having it.

Sorry, the finish isn't covered, nor is any damage that happens to you or your other parts as a result of any failure of our part. Costs incurred to you such as shop installation time and shipping are not reimbursable. Lastly, if you modify or neglect your chainring we can't be responsible for the product or what might happen to you while you're using it. We hate to spell it out, but hey, it's the 21st century.

All potential warranties should be returned to where the product was purchased or to your local bike shop. In the unlikely event this is not possible, call or write us and we will do our best to get you back in action.

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