Wheel, Rim and Tire Instructions

Hi there. Thanks for spending your hard-earned cash on this Surly product. Surly stuff is designed to be useful and durable. We’re confident it will serve you well for years to come.

⚠️ WARNING: Cycling can be dangerous. Bicycle products should be installed and serviced by a professional mechanic. Never modify your bicycle or accessories. Read and follow all product instructions and warnings including information on the manufacturer’s website. Inspect your bicycle before every ride. Always wear a helmet.

⚠️ WARNING: Tires are a part of your bike that will wear out with use. Tires may pick up foreign objects such as glass or road debris that will puncture the tire and inner tube, causing a loss of air pressure and reduced ability to control or stop the bike, which could lead to a crash resulting in serious injury. Before each ride check to ensure that your tires are in good condition, properly seated on the rim, and properly inflated. Spin each wheel slowly and look for cuts in the tread or sidewall, or excessive wear. Replace damaged or worn tires before riding the bike.

- Surly products are designed and manufactured for durability and dependability. Surly products’ useful life may be shortened when used in competitive racing and/or beyond their intended use. In those circumstances warranty claims are at the sole discretion of Surly.

For additional safety information about all Surly products visit: Surlybikes.com/safety

Wheel Compatibility

Ensure that the wheels are compatible with your bicycle (built-in dimensions of the frame and fork) as well as with all other parts such as type of brake, cassette, tire, inner tube, valve and rim tape.

⚠️ WARNING: Proper tire selection and clearance is important for your safety. Using the wrong tire size can result in a tire hitting the fork or frame when riding. A moving wheel can be stopped because the tire touches the fork or frame. If this happens, you can lose control of your bike or be thrown off, resulting in serious injury.

- Do not mount tires that are too big and rub or hit the fork or frame when riding or when the suspension is fully compressed.
- Take care that the tires you select are compatible with your bike’s fork or frame design. Be sure to follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for your front fork and rear shock.
- When choosing tires consider that the actual measured size of a tire when installed and inflated may be different than its sidewall marking.
- Each time you mount a new tire or inspect your bike, look for the actual clearance between the rotating tire and all parts of the frame. Only use a tire that provides enough clearance—when considering lateral rim flex, frame flex and a wheel or rim that may be out-of-true.

⚠️ WARNING: Surly rims are for disc brake only. Do not use rim brakes with Surly rims.

⚠️ WARNING: Not all Surly wheels, rims, and tires are designed for tubeless applications. Please check packaging for Tubeless Ready designation. Using Surly wheels, rims or tires that are not designated as Tubeless Ready in a tubeless application will void the warranty and may result in component failure, wheel damage, or a crash resulting in serious injury.

Rim Compatibility with Surly Tires

- Narrow Touring/Gravel (41mm)—Designed for use with rims 23–30mm wide
- Wide Touring/Gravel (2.3–2.7”)—Designed for use with rims 25–50mm wide
- Plus tires (2.7–3.0”)—Designed for use with rims 35–65mm wide
- Black Floyd 26 x 3.8”—Designed for use with rims 50–65mm wide
- Fat tires (3.7–4.3”)—Designed for use with rims 50–100mm wide
- Fatter tires (4.5–4.8”)—Designed for use with rims 65–100mm wide

NOTE: All widths are listed as approximate outside width measurements.

NOTE: Due to different manufacturer designs, some rims will not seat a Surly tire as well as a Surly rim will. Conversely, some tires will not seat as well on a Surly rim as a Surly tire will. For the safest and most reliable fit, Surly recommends that Surly tires and Surly rims be used together.

⚠️ WARNING: Before every ride check the condition and trueness of the both wheels to ensure that there is adequate clearance between the frame, fork, wheel, tire, and rim. Surly recommends no less than 4mm tire clearance for pavement bikes and no less than 6mm for bikes designated as off-road and above.

⚠️ WARNING: Rims that are too narrow with respect to the tire width could adversely affect the tire’s stability and possibly cause a tire to roll off the rim, leading to a crash resulting in serious injury. Overly wide rims will change the shape of the tire and ultimately its handling. In addition, wide rims will allow the casing of the tire to stretch beyond the footprint of the tire tread, which exposes the casing to damage.

Tire Pressure

NOTE: Surly recommends inflating tires to the lowest listed pressure of Surly’s or other tire manufacturer’s suggested pressure range. This applies when using Surly tires with Surly rims, other manufacturer’s tires with Surly rims, and Surly tires with other manufacturer’s rims. Each tire has MAX PRESSURE indicated on the sidewall. In general, the max pressure should only be used while trying to seat the tire during installation. The recommended operating pressures for Surly tires are as follows:

- 15–30 PSI
  - Fat tires (3.7–4.8”)
  - Plus tires (2.7–3.0”)
- 30–60 PSI
  - Wide Touring/Gravel (2.3–2.7”)
- 50–70 PSI
  - Narrow Touring/Gravel (41mm)

⚠️ WARNING: Do not inflate tire over the MAX PRESSURE noted on the tire sidewall as it may lead to injury or wheel damage.
Installing a Tire — Tube Setup

1. Inspect the rim and rim tape, make sure there is no debris on the inner tire surface of the rim, and that all spoke holes and nipples are covered. If the rim or the rim tape appear to be damaged, replace them before tire install.
   
   NOTE: For rims with cutouts between the spokes, ensure that the cutouts are fully covered by a rimstrip with a width designated for the rim.

2. Install one side of the tire onto the rim. (Figure 1)

3. Inflate the tube slightly so that it is round but smaller than the tire.

4. Insert the inner tube valve into the valve hole on the rim. (Figure 2)
   
   You may install the lock nut onto the valve at this time, but leave it loose against the rim. Push the remainder of the inner tube into the partially installed tire. Ensure that the tube is not twisted and that the valve is perpendicular to the rim.

5. Starting opposite from the valve carefully push the loose tire sidewall over the rim lip. (Figure 3) Take care to make sure that the inner tube is not pinched between the rim and the tire. Work your way around the tire until the tire is fully installed into the rim.

   NOTE: For rims with cutouts between the spokes, do not fully inflate the tube without checking to make sure the rimstrip has stayed in place throughout the installation, and that all cutouts are fully covered by the rimstrip and prevent the tube from coming through.

6. Once the tire is installed, visually inspect the space between the tire sidewall and both sides of the rim by squeezing the tire, and ensure that the inner tube is not pinched between the rim and tire. (Figure 4)

7. Inflate the tire so that it is pressing against the tire in all locations and then repeat Step 6.

8. While inflating the tire further, inspect it on both sides to monitor the progression of the bead toward the outside edges of the rim. If the tire is migrating off the rim, stop, deflate the tire, and try again. Keep inflating the tire until the tire bead has fully seated on the rim. You can determine when the tire is fully seated by inspecting the distance between the rim and a fine line on the tire. When the tire is fully seated, the distance between the rim and the fine line will be equal all the way around the tire on both sides.

9. Adjust tire pressure to desired level.

10. Close air valve, finger tighten lock nut, and install valve cap.

11. Inspect the tire for any bulges, de-lamination or obvious defects.

We recommend using the Surly Tubeless Kit, instructions available here: http://surlybikes.com/parts/small_parts/Tubeless_Kit.

Removing a Tire

1. Remove valve cap, open air valve, deflate tire, and remove lock nut.

2. Push the tire sidewall inwards away from the rim to unseat the tire from the rim all the way around.

3. Using a proper bicycle tire lever, carefully pry one edge of the tire up and over the rim. Depending on the tire one may need to use two levers to achieve this, or none.

4. Use the tire lever to work around the tire, fully removing one side of the tire from the rim.

5. Remove the tube from the rim and tire.

6. Remove the remaining side of the tire from the rim.
Ongoing Maintenance

Keep your tires properly inflated. Check for tread wear, dried out rubber, and cuts or tears in the material. After long term use, replace tires that show excessive wear. The tire is no longer usable when it no longer holds air or when inflation causes the tire to bulge or deform. The more wear your tire has, the greater chance you have of getting a flat. **NOTE:** Over exposure to direct sunlight could reduce the life of your tire.

Check the wheels regularly for proper setup and damage. At a minimum, make sure there are no loose spokes, the rim is true, there is no play in the hub axle, and the wheel bearings rotate smoothly. Additionally, check for any dents, cracks, or other damage to any component. If something is out of adjustment or damaged, do not ride the bike and immediately contact your local Surly dealer for inspection, repair or replacement.

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**WARNING:** Deflation or failure of your tire due to under inflation or over inflation, excessive wear, damage, improper installation, use, or maintenance or failure to heed these warnings could result in a crash leading to serious injury.

Limited Warranty

This Surly product is warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for one year from the date of retail purchase of the product, subject to the limitations detailed below. Save your dated receipt for proof of purchase.

This warranty does NOT cover the following:

- Damage due to improper assembly or follow-up maintenance or lack of skill, competence or experience of the user or assembler
- Products that have been modified, neglected, used in competition or for commercial purposes, misused or abused, involved in accidents or anything other than normal use
- Installation of components, parts or accessories not originally intended for or compatible with Surly product as sold
- Damage or deterioration to the paint, surface finish, aesthetics or appearance of the product
- Normal wear and tear
- Labor required to remove and/or retit and re-adjust the product within the bicycle assembly

This limited warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective product, at the option of Surly, and is the sole remedy of the warranty. This limited warranty applies only to products purchased through an authorized dealer or distributor. In no event shall Surly be liable for any loss, inconvenience or damage, whether direct, incidental, consequential, or otherwise resulting from breach of any express or implied warranty or condition, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise with respect to our products except as set forth herein.

This limited warranty gives the consumer specific legal rights, and those rights and other rights may vary from place to place. This limited warranty does not affect your statutory rights.

TO THE EXTENT NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW, THESE WARRANTIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND THERE ARE NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS INCLUDING WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

OTHER PRODUCTS:

Give us a call for a free catalog or visit our website to check out all our stuff—you won’t be disappointed.

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