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## Instructions for Thorn Mk 5 Lo-loading front carrier.

Thank you for buying our Thorn Mk 5 Lo-loading front carrier. The Mk 5 is the latest version of our front carriers and, we believe, the best on the market!

It is constructed from aircraft grade, heat treated, seamless, cold drawn Cro-Mo tubing.

Compared to the Mk 3 heavy-duty carriers, we have reduced the weight, whilst also increasing strength and rigidity considerably.

These carriers will fit onto all standard Thorn forks which are (or were) provided with Lo-loading bosses, with an adequately level fit. They should also fit onto any forks that have been provided with the industry standard 165mm between top and lower bosses...but there is no possibility of accounting for all other manufacturers' ideas of what constitutes adequate (or sensible) provision!

**Never use the carrier without the aluminium brace, please consider carefully that a poorly fitted carrier could put your life at risk. If you have any problems or if you are uncertain of anything please seek competent advice.**

**If the carrier is straightened after accident damage please proceed with extra caution and replace it at your earliest opportunity... we offer a crash replacement service.**

**Please be aware that a loaded (or partially loaded) bike will handle very differently from an unloaded bike; in some situations stopping distances will increase dramatically... in others they will decrease!**

**The position of the bags, as well as their contents, will change the handling/steering characteristics of your machine... it is always worth experimenting to find the ideal set-up for you!**

### How much will the carriers carry?

This will depend upon the surfaces you ride on and the speed you ride at, as well as your level of skill in avoiding impacts, the range is between 5 and 20 Kg per side! The carrier is phenomenally strong... the load bearing capacity of the fork (and its bosses) is the limiting factor... **please be aware that the fork may not support these loads, especially on rough terrain, please consult the manufacturer of the fork to determine a safe load.**

Whilst the powder coated finish is very durable, it will wear through in areas of chaffing, especially when dirty! You should either protect these areas with tape or be prepared to periodically touch the exposed metal in with paint.





## Fitting the carrier.

The first thing you should be aware of is that you will not need to use all the hardware provided!

The second thing is that there is no Left or Right handedness about any of the components.

Some of our upper bosses are 22mm wide... some are 26mm wide; you should select the appropriate 15mm dia alloy spacers to suit your fork.

Some of our recent machines (Raven Twins and Custom eXp cycles for example) have 6mm bosses... you will need to use 6mm hardware throughout in these cases. In the (more common) case of 5mm bosses there is no problem in using an M5 screw in the 6.1mm holes provided in the carrier!

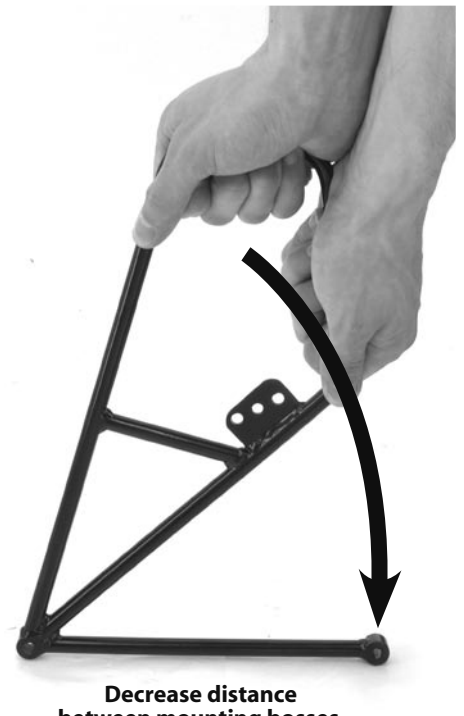
Sometimes the 3mm thick spacers will be required between the lower mount on the forks and the frame of the carrier.

You will observe that the upper mount on the carrier frame is thicker than the upper mount of the brace... you should use longer screws this side.

It is inevitable that, due to manufacturing tolerances (of either the carrier or the front fork), sometimes the bosses will not line up... it is a simple and perfectly acceptable solution, to permanently "set" (bend) the carrier, as shown, to obtain a perfect fit.



**Increase distance  
between mounting bosses.**



**Decrease distance  
between mounting bosses.**

- [1] Mount the carrier to the upper boss, do not tighten fully.
- [2] Mount the brace to the upper boss, do not tighten fully.
- [3] Select appropriate spacer and screw the carrier frame to the spacer, do not tighten fully
- [4] Screw the brace to the spacer, do not tighten fully
- [5] On a level surface, rotate the carrier and select the most appropriate mounting hole.
- [6] Determine, not only, if the 3mm spacer is required but if it is sufficient to let the carrier clear the blade... add washers if it is not.
- [7] Screw the carrier to the lower mount, do not tighten fully.
- [8] Repeat steps 1-7 on the other side.
- [9] Gradually tighten up all the screws in turn.
- [10] Check for rigidity and continued function of brakes.
- [11] Check that nothing interferes with, or is likely to interfere with, the rotation of the wheel.
- [12] Double check everything.
- [13] Adjust the mounting hooks of your bags to suit.
- [14] Try it out!
- [15] Experiment with different for and aft positions of the front bags, with their full load and with the rear bags in place... find the "sweet" spot... **happy and safe travels!**