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› Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle for Big Shots Exhausts 21301 User Manual

Vance & Hines 21301

Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle for Big Shots Exhausts

Model: 21301

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle (Model 21301) is designed to replace the stock baffles in Vance & Hines Big Shots exhaust systems. This component aims to modify the exhaust sound profile and can contribute to improved engine performance by optimizing back pressure. It is part of a system that utilizes the Vance & Hines Power Chamber, a unique crossover system that provides performance benefits while maintaining the aesthetic of drag pipes.

This baffle is specifically engineered for Big Shots exhausts, which feature massive 2.5-inch full-coverage heat shields designed to resist bluing. The baffle is removable, allowing for customization and maintenance.



Image 1: Side view of the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle, showing the perforated section and the fiberglass wrapping.

2. KEY FEATURES

- **Performance Enhancement:** Designed to contribute to increased horsepower and torque by optimizing exhaust flow and back pressure.
- **Sound Modification:** Intended to provide a deeper, richer exhaust note compared to standard baffles, while still maintaining a significant sound level.
- **Durable Construction:** Compatible with Big Shots exhausts featuring 2.5-inch full-coverage heat shields, which are designed for durability and resistance to discoloration.
- **Removable Design:** Allows for easy installation, removal, and potential customization.
- **Compatibility:** Specifically designed for Vance & Hines Big Shots exhaust systems. Note that dual pipe systems require two baffles.



Image 2: Angled view of the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle, highlighting its construction and fiberglass insulation.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle requires careful attention and some mechanical aptitude. It is recommended to perform this installation with the exhaust mufflers removed from the motorcycle for easier access. If you are not comfortable with mechanical work, please consult a professional.

Required Tools and Materials:

- Basic hand tools (wrenches, screwdrivers)
- Dremel tool (potentially for rusted screws)
- Rust penetrant spray (e.g., WD-40, PB Blaster)
- Wire hanger or similar sturdy wire
- 2x4 piece of wood and hammer (for stubborn baffles)
- Medium width flat-bladed screwdriver
- Blue Loctite (242 recommended)
- Replacement screws (if original baffle screws are damaged or missing)
- Safety glasses and gloves (especially when handling fiberglass)

Installation Steps:

1. **Remove Mufflers:** If your mufflers are already installed on the motorcycle, carefully remove them by reversing the original installation instructions. This provides better access for baffle replacement.
2. **Remove Old Baffles:**

- Locate and remove the retaining screw for the old baffle. Set aside the screw if it's in good condition, as new baffles may not include them.
 - If the screws are rusted, you may need to use a Dremel to cut them partially to bend the head and use pliers to turn them out.
 - Apply a liberal amount of rust penetrant around the old baffles and let it soak for several hours or overnight if they are particularly stubborn.
 - Insert a 1/4-20 x 3/4" screw into the retaining nut welded inside the old baffle from the inside. Ensure there is clearance between the screw end and the muffler's inner wall.
 - Use a dent puller with a hook, or a sturdy wire hanger looped around the screw and a 2x4/hammer setup, to carefully pull or bang out the old baffles. They may be tight, but excessive force is not usually required.
3. **Prepare New Baffles:** The new baffles come wrapped in fiberglass, secured by tape. Leave this tape in place until the fiberglass edge is just under the muffler's edge during insertion.
4. **Insert New Baffles:**
- Slowly insert the new baffle into the muffler. As you insert it, use a medium-width flat-bladed screwdriver to gently push the fiberglass in, preventing it from bunching up.
 - Twist the baffle as you insert it to help the fiberglass settle properly and avoid bunching. Do not simply punch it straight in.
 - Crucially, ensure the retaining nut on the baffle aligns with the screw hole in the muffler before the baffle is fully seated. Adjust as needed; it's difficult to rotate once fully inserted.
5. **Secure Baffles:** Once the baffle is in place and aligned, apply a small amount of blue Loctite (242) to the threads of the retaining screw (either the original or a new one). Insert the screw and tighten it hand-tight to secure the baffle.
6. **Reinstall Mufflers:** Reinstall the mufflers onto your motorcycle according to the manufacturer's instructions.
7. **Test:** Start your motorcycle and listen to the new exhaust note.

Note: Dual exhaust systems require two baffles. Ensure you have purchased the correct quantity.

4. OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS

Once installed, the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle will alter the sound and performance characteristics of your exhaust system. While marketed as "Quiet," users should anticipate a deeper, richer exhaust note that is still notably loud, rather than a significant reduction in overall volume. The design, featuring a capped end that forces air to push up and around, creates increased back pressure. This can lead to improved low-end torque and better acceleration, providing a noticeable "pep" off the line and during riding.

It is important to manage expectations regarding the term "quiet." This baffle is designed to refine the sound quality and optimize performance, not to silence the exhaust system entirely.

5. MAINTENANCE

The Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle (Model 21301) is designed for durability and requires minimal maintenance after proper installation. The fiberglass wrapping is intended to withstand exhaust temperatures and will burn off slightly during initial use, which is normal. Regular inspection of the baffle retaining screw for tightness during routine motorcycle maintenance is recommended to ensure it remains securely in place.

No specific cleaning or replacement schedule is typically required for the baffle itself under normal operating conditions.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Common Issues and Solutions:

- **Excessive Loudness:** While named "Quiet Baffle," this product is designed to modify sound quality and back pressure, not to significantly reduce overall volume to a "quiet" level. If the sound is still too loud for your preference or local noise ordinances, consider alternative exhaust modifications or consult a professional.
- **Deceleration Popping:** If you experience popping or backfiring on deceleration after baffle installation, this may indicate a need for carburetor adjustment or fuel management system tuning. The increased back pressure from the baffle can sometimes highlight or exacerbate existing fueling imbalances. Consult a qualified mechanic for tuning adjustments.
- **Baffle Loosening:** If the baffle feels loose or rattles, re-check the retaining screw. Ensure it is properly aligned with the baffle's internal nut and tightened with blue Loctite as per installation instructions.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	Vance & Hines
Model Number	21301
Item Weight	13.6 ounces
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	16 x 4 x 5 inches
UPC	737452471910
Manufacturer	Vance & Hines

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Specific warranty details for the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle (Model 21301) are not provided in this manual. For comprehensive warranty information, including coverage, duration, and claims procedures, please refer to the official Vance & Hines website or contact their customer service directly. It is advisable to retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

9. SUPPORT AND CONTACT

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries regarding the Vance & Hines Quiet Baffle, please contact Vance & Hines directly through their official channels. Their website typically provides contact information, FAQs, and additional resources.

Official Website: www.vanceandhines.com (Please verify the current official website for the most up-to-date information.)

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