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**Yakima 8002617**

# Yakima Little Joe 3-Bike Trunk Mount Rack User Manual

Model: 8002617

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective use of your Yakima Little Joe 3-Bike Trunk Mount Rack. Please read all instructions carefully before installation and operation to ensure proper use and prevent damage to your vehicle or bicycles.

The Yakima Little Joe is designed for transporting up to three bicycles on the trunk of compatible vehicles. It features durable steel construction and a secure strap system.

## VEHICLE COMPATIBILITY

The Little Joe rack is designed to fit a wide range of vehicles, including many sedans, minivans, and hatchbacks. **It is crucial to verify compatibility with your specific vehicle make, model, and year before installation.** Refer to the official Yakima website or contact Yakima customer support for the most up-to-date vehicle fit list. Incorrect fitment can lead to instability and potential damage.

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Follow these steps for proper installation of the Yakima Little Joe 3-Bike Trunk Mount Rack:

- 1. Unpack and Inspect:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Inspect the rack for any signs of damage or missing parts.
- 2. Prepare Vehicle Surface:** Ensure the vehicle's trunk or hatch surface where the rack will make contact is clean and dry. Consider applying protective film or padding to prevent potential paint wear from the metal clips, especially during prolonged use.
- 3. Position the Rack:** Place the rack on the vehicle's trunk or hatch. The main support arms should rest securely on the vehicle.
- 4. Attach Straps:** The rack utilizes a 6-strap system for secure attachment.
  - Top Straps:** Attach the two top hooks to the upper edge of the trunk lid or hatch.
  - Side Straps:** Attach the two side hooks to the side edges of the trunk lid or hatch.
  - Bottom Straps:** Attach the two bottom hooks to the lower edge of the trunk lid or hatch. For vehicles with glass trunks or gates, utilize the provided glass hatch hooks as instructed in the detailed fit guide.
- 5. Tighten Straps:** Systematically tighten all six straps, ensuring the rack is centered and firmly secured to the vehicle. Alternate tightening each strap to distribute tension evenly. The rack should not move or shift when pulled.

6. **Final Check:** Double-check all strap connections and the rack's stability before loading bicycles.



Image: The Yakima Little Joe 3-Bike Trunk Mount Rack shown installed on the rear of a vehicle, with one bicycle mounted. The rack's support arms extend outwards, holding the bicycle frame, while the base rests against the vehicle's trunk. The image illustrates the general setup of the rack and a bike.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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Once the rack is securely installed, follow these guidelines for loading and transporting bicycles:

- 1. Load Bicycles:** The Little Joe rack has a 3-bike capacity. Lift each bicycle and place its top tube onto the vinyl-coated support arms. The vinyl coating is designed to protect your bike's paint finish. The support arms are designed to accommodate almost any bike size and type.
- 2. Secure Bicycles:** **It is essential to independently secure each bicycle to the rack using additional straps, bungee cords, or bike locks (not included).** This prevents bikes from swaying, rubbing against each other, or potentially falling off during transit. Ensure bikes are secured to both the rack arms and, if possible, to each other to minimize movement.
- 3. Check Clearance:** Before driving, ensure that the loaded bicycles do not obstruct your vehicle's taillights, license plate, or rear visibility. Adjust bike positions if necessary.
- 4. Drive Responsibly:** Drive cautiously, especially over bumps or during turns, as the added weight and height of the bikes can affect vehicle handling. Periodically check the rack and bike security during long trips.

## MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your bike rack:

- Clean Regularly:** Clean the rack with mild soap and water, especially after exposure to dirt, salt, or harsh weather conditions. Dry thoroughly to prevent rust.
- Inspect Straps and Hooks:** Before each use, inspect all straps for fraying, cuts, or wear. Check hooks for bending or damage. Replace any damaged components immediately.
- Check Pivots and Joints:** Ensure all pivot points and joints are functioning smoothly and are free of excessive play.
- Protect Vehicle Paint:** Be aware that metal clips, over time, may cause wear to your vehicle's paint. Consider using paint protection film or other protective measures where the clips contact the vehicle.

- Storage:** When not in use, store the rack in a dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

- Rack Instability:** If the rack feels unstable after installation, re-check all six straps. Ensure they are evenly tightened and that the rack is properly seated on the vehicle. Verify vehicle compatibility.
- Bikes Swaying/Rubbing:** This indicates insufficient securing of the bicycles. Always use additional straps or bungee cords to firmly attach bikes to the rack and to each other.
- Difficulty with Installation:** If you encounter difficulties, refer to the detailed fit guide on the Yakima website for specific vehicle instructions. If your vehicle is not listed, contact Yakima customer support for assistance.
- Paint Scratches:** Ensure vehicle contact points are clean before installation. Consider using paint protection film or soft cloths under the metal hooks to minimize potential paint wear.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Yakima
Model Number	8002617
Mounting Type	Trunk Mount
Capacity	3 Bicycles
Material	Alloy Steel
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	14.4 x 7.1 x 31.1 inches
Item Weight	0.01 Ounces (Note: Package weight is 13.05 lbs)
Foldable	No
Vehicle Service Type	Car, Hatchback, Minivan
UPC	736745026172

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Yakima Little Joe 3-Bike Trunk Mount Rack carries a **limited lifetime warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship for the original purchaser. For full details regarding warranty coverage, claims, and limitations, please refer to the official Yakima warranty policy available on their website or contact customer support.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries regarding vehicle compatibility and parts, please contact Yakima customer support. Visit the official Yakima website for contact information, FAQs, and detailed product resources.

**Yakima Website:** [www.yakima.com](http://www.yakima.com)

