

TEKTRO CR720

Tektro CR720 Cantilever Brake User Manual

Model: CR720 | Brand: TEKTRO

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Tektro CR720 Cantilever Brakes. Designed for bicycles, these brakes offer reliable stopping power through their linear spring design and forged aluminum construction. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use to ensure proper function and safety.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always ensure all components are securely fastened before riding. Loose parts can lead to loss of control.
- Brake performance can be affected by weather conditions, road surfaces, and brake pad wear. Adjust riding style accordingly.
- Regularly inspect brake pads for wear and replace them when necessary. Worn pads reduce braking efficiency.
- If you are unsure about any installation or adjustment procedures, consult a qualified bicycle mechanic.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts during brake operation.

COMPONENTS LIST



Image: Tektro CR720 Cantilever Brake components. This image displays the two brake arms, including the adjustable cartridge pads and mounting bolts.

Each Tektro CR720 brake set (for one wheel) typically includes the following components:

- Two (2) Forged Aluminum Brake Arms (one left, one right)
- Adjustable Cartridge Brake Pads (pre-installed or separate)
- Mounting Bolts and Washers
- Straddle Cable and Hanger (often included, but may vary)

Please verify all components are present before beginning installation.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the safe and effective operation of your Tektro CR720 brakes. If you are not confident in your mechanical abilities, it is recommended to have a professional bicycle mechanic perform the installation.

Tools Required:

- Hex Wrenches (various sizes, typically 5mm and 6mm)
- Cable Cutters
- Pliers

Installation Steps:

1. **Mount Brake Arms:** Attach each brake arm to the cantilever bosses on your bicycle frame or fork using the provided mounting bolts. Ensure the arms pivot freely.
2. **Install Brake Pads:** Position the adjustable cartridge brake pads so they align with the rim's braking surface. The pads should contact the rim squarely and simultaneously when the brake is applied. Adjust the toe-in (slight angle of the pad relative to the rim) as needed to prevent squealing.
3. **Attach Straddle Cable:** Connect the straddle cable to both brake arms. The length of the straddle cable affects mechanical advantage; a shorter cable provides more power but less modulation, while a longer cable offers more modulation but less power.
4. **Connect Main Brake Cable:** Route the main brake cable from your brake lever through the cable hanger (if applicable) and secure it to one of the brake arms. Ensure there is no excessive slack in the cable.
5. **Adjust Cable Tension:** Use the barrel adjuster on your brake lever or the brake arm itself to fine-tune the cable tension. The brake pads should be close to the rim but not touching when the brake is disengaged.
6. **Test Functionality:** Squeeze the brake lever firmly several times to seat the cable and check for proper operation. Ensure both brake arms move equally and the pads make full contact with the rim.

After initial installation, re-check all bolts and adjustments after your first few rides as cables can stretch and components can settle.

OPERATING YOUR BRAKES

The Tektro CR720 cantilever brakes are operated by squeezing the corresponding brake lever on your handlebars. The amount of force applied to the lever directly correlates to the braking power. For optimal control and safety, apply both front and rear brakes simultaneously, with slightly more emphasis on the front brake for maximum stopping power, while being mindful of not locking up the front wheel.

- **Front Brake (Left Lever):** Provides significant stopping power. Use with caution, especially on loose surfaces, to avoid skidding or loss of control.
- **Rear Brake (Right Lever):** Primarily used for speed control and stability. Less effective for rapid stopping compared to the front brake.

Practice braking in a safe, open area to become familiar with the feel and response of your new brakes.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will extend the life of your Tektro CR720 brakes and ensure consistent performance.

- **Brake Pad Inspection:** Check brake pads regularly for wear. Replace pads when the wear indicators are no longer visible or when the pad material is thin. Ensure pads are free of embedded debris (e.g., small stones) that can damage rims.
- **Cable Inspection:** Inspect brake cables and housing for fraying, kinks, or corrosion. Replace damaged cables and housing to maintain smooth brake operation.
- **Cleaning:** Keep brake arms, pads, and rims clean. Dirt and grime can reduce braking effectiveness and accelerate wear. Use a clean cloth and mild detergent if necessary.
- **Pivot Points:** Ensure the brake arms pivot smoothly on their bosses. Apply a small amount of light grease to the pivot points if they become stiff.
- **Bolt Tightness:** Periodically check all mounting bolts and adjustment screws for tightness. Do not overtighten.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Brakes Squeal Loudly	Improper pad toe-in, dirty rims/pads, worn pads.	Adjust pad toe-in, clean rims and pads, replace worn pads.
Poor Braking Power	Loose cable tension, worn pads, contaminated pads/rims, incorrect pad alignment.	Increase cable tension, replace pads, clean pads/rims, adjust pad alignment.
Brake Lever Feels Spongy	Excessive cable slack, stretched cable, worn housing.	Adjust cable tension, replace cable and/or housing.
Brake Arms Uneven	Uneven spring tension, sticky pivot points, misaligned cable.	Adjust spring tension screws (if present), lubricate pivots, re-align cable.

SPECIFICATIONS

- Brand:** TEKTRÖ
- Model:** CR720
- Material:** Forged Aluminum Arms
- Color:** Black
- Brake Type:** Cantilever (Linear Spring Design)
- Brake Pads:** Adjustable Cartridge Pads
- Weight:** Approximately 0.28 Pounds (per brake set for one wheel)
- Included Components:** Pads, Mounting Bolts (Straddle cable and hanger typically included)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Tektro CR720 Cantilever Brakes come with a **2-Year Warranty** against manufacturer defects. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use.

For warranty claims, technical support, or further assistance, please contact TEKTRÖ customer service through their official website or authorized distributors. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty validation.

Note: This warranty does not cover damage resulting from improper installation, misuse, neglect, accidents, or normal wear and tear.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question