



[Manuals.plus](#) /

> [SHIMANO](#) /

> Shimano Acera SL-M310 Left Rapid Fire Shifter Instruction Manual

SHIMANO SL-M310

Shimano Acera SL-M310 Left Rapid Fire Shifter Instruction Manual

Model: SL-M310 | Brand: Shimano

[Information](#) [Setup](#) [Operation](#) [Maintenance](#) [Introduction](#) [Safety](#) [Troubleshooting](#) [Specifications](#) [Warranty & Support](#)

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Shimano Acera SL-M310 Left Rapid Fire Shifter. This 3-speed shifter is designed for reliable and precise gear changes on the front derailleur of compatible bicycles. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure correct installation and safe operation.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- Always wear appropriate safety gear, including a helmet, when riding a bicycle.
- Ensure all components are securely fastened and correctly adjusted before each ride. Loose components can lead to loss of control.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the shifter beyond the instructions provided in this manual. Unauthorized modifications can compromise safety and product performance.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts, especially the chain and gears, during shifting.
- Regularly inspect cables for fraying or damage. Replace damaged cables immediately.
- If you are unsure about any installation or adjustment procedure, consult a professional bicycle mechanic.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for optimal performance and safety. This section outlines the steps for

mounting the shifter and connecting the cable.

3.1 Unboxing and Component Identification

Upon opening the package, verify that all components are present and undamaged. The package typically includes the left shifter unit, an inner shift cable, and outer cable housing.



Figure 1: Shimano Acera SL-M310 Rapid Fire Shifter in its retail packaging. The box indicates "RAPIDFIRE PLUS SHIFTER" and "SL-M310".



Figure 2: Close-up of the Shimano Acera SL-M310 Left Rapid Fire Shifter, showing the trigger levers and optical gear display.

3.2 Mounting the Shifter

1. **Positioning:** Slide the shifter onto the left side of the handlebar, next to the brake lever. Ensure it is positioned comfortably for your thumb and index finger to operate the shift levers.
2. **Orientation:** The shifter is designed to be mounted under the handlebar. Adjust its angle for optimal ergonomics and visibility of the optical gear display.
3. **Securing:** Use a 5mm hex key to tighten the clamp bolt on the shifter. Do not overtighten; refer to your bicycle's component torque specifications if available. The shifter should be firm but allow for minor adjustments if needed.

3.3 Cable Installation and Routing

1. **Insert Inner Cable:** Locate the cable entry port on the shifter. Insert the inner shift cable, ensuring the cable head seats correctly within the shifter mechanism.
2. **Route Outer Housing:** Route the outer cable housing from the shifter to the front derailleur. Ensure the housing length is appropriate, allowing for smooth handlebar movement without kinking or excessive slack. Use cable stops on the frame if present.
3. **Connect to Derailleur:** Pass the inner cable through the outer housing and connect it to the front derailleur's cable anchor bolt. Pull the cable taut and secure it with the anchor bolt. Do not overtighten.

3.4 Initial Adjustment

After installation, perform an initial adjustment to ensure proper shifting.

- Shift the front derailleur to the smallest chainring (lowest gear).
- Check the cable tension. If the chain does not move smoothly to the next gear, adjust the barrel adjuster on the shifter or derailleur (if present) in small increments. Turning the barrel adjuster counter-clockwise increases cable tension, making the derailleur move further inward.
- Shift through all three front gears, ensuring smooth and precise transitions. Adjust the high (H) and

low (L) limit screws on the front derailleur as needed to prevent the chain from overshifting off the chainrings.

4. OPERATION

The Shimano Acera SL-M310 Rapid Fire Shifter provides intuitive control over your bicycle's front gears.

4.1 Shifting Up (Larger Chainring)

To shift to a larger chainring (higher gear), press the main lever (the larger lever) with your index finger. Each click will move the chain one gear up. The optical gear display will indicate the current gear position.

4.2 Shifting Down (Smaller Chainring)

To shift to a smaller chainring (lower gear), press the release lever (the smaller lever) with your thumb. Each click will move the chain one gear down. The optical gear display will update accordingly.

4.3 Optical Gear Display

The integrated optical gear display provides a visual indication of the currently selected front gear (1, 2, or 3). This allows for quick reference without looking down at the chainrings.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your shifter.

5.1 Cleaning

- Wipe down the shifter body with a clean, damp cloth to remove dirt and grime.
- Avoid using harsh chemicals or solvents, as these can damage the plastic components or finish.

5.2 Cable Inspection and Lubrication

- Periodically inspect the inner shift cable for signs of fraying, corrosion, or kinks. Replace the cable if any damage is observed.
- Apply a small amount of bicycle-specific cable lubricant to the inner cable where it enters the housing and at the derailleur anchor point. This reduces friction and improves shifting smoothness.

5.3 General Check-ups

- Ensure the shifter clamp bolt remains tight.
- Check for any play in the shift levers. Excessive play may indicate internal wear.
- Verify that the optical gear display is functioning correctly and clearly visible.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your shifter.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
---------	----------------	----------

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Difficulty Shifting Up (to larger chainring)	Insufficient cable tension, stiff cable/housing, dirty derailleur.	Increase cable tension using the barrel adjuster (turn counter-clockwise). Lubricate or replace cable/housing. Clean and lubricate front derailleur.
Difficulty Shifting Down (to smaller chainring)	Excessive cable tension, friction in cable/housing, dirty derailleur.	Decrease cable tension using the barrel adjuster (turn clockwise). Lubricate or replace cable/housing. Clean and lubricate front derailleur.
Chain Rubs on Derailleur Cage	Derailleur limit screws incorrectly set, cable tension incorrect.	Adjust front derailleur limit screws (H and L). Fine-tune cable tension.
Optical Gear Display Not Working	Internal mechanism issue, impact damage.	Ensure shifter is securely mounted. If display remains non-functional after verifying shifting, the unit may require replacement or professional inspection.

If problems persist after attempting these solutions, it is recommended to consult a qualified bicycle mechanic.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	SL-M310
Brand	SHIMANO
Shifter Type	Rapid Fire Plus
Speed Compatibility	3-Speed (Front)
Hand Orientation	Left
Material	Metal, Aluminum (Handle)
Color	Black
Features	Optical Gear Display, Easy to Install
Approximate Weight	0.05 Pounds (23 grams)
UPC	689228429192

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Shimano products are manufactured to high standards and are typically covered by a limited warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty information included with your product packaging or visit the official Shimano website. For technical support, replacement parts, or service inquiries, please contact your local authorized Shimano dealer or visit the Shimano global website for contact information in your region.

