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ATERA 022684

ATERA Strada Sport M 2 Bicycle Tow Bar Rack User Manual

Model: 022684

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the safe and efficient use of your ATERA Strada Sport M 2 Bicycle Tow Bar Rack. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and operation to ensure proper use and to prevent damage or injury.

The ATERA Strada Sport M 2 is a compact and reliable all-round carrier designed for convenient and safe transport of bicycles on a tow bar. It features a quick-release fastener for easy attachment and removal, integrated indicators for correct mounting, and advanced protection systems for bicycle frames and wheels.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Always ensure the carrier is securely mounted to the tow bar before loading bicycles.
- Verify that all bicycles are properly secured to the carrier using the frame gripping arms and wheel straps.
- Do not exceed the maximum payload of 60 kg for the carrier or 30 kg per wheel rail.
- Regularly check all fasteners and straps for tightness, especially during long journeys.
- Be aware of the increased length and width of your vehicle when the carrier is installed.
- Ensure proper lighting and license plate visibility as required by local regulations. The carrier features a 13-pin plug connection for lighting.
- The integrated locks secure both the bike rack itself and each individual bike on the gripper arm, providing double theft protection.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The ATERA Strada Sport M 2 is designed for quick and convenient assembly and disassembly on the trailer coupling using its quick-release fastener.

1. Attaching the Carrier to the Tow Bar

Position the carrier onto the tow bar. The quick-release mechanism allows for rapid attachment. An integrated indicator will confirm correct mounting, ensuring a secure connection.



Image: The ATERA Strada Sport M 2 rack securely mounted on a tow bar, showing its rear lights and license plate holder.

2. Securing Bicycles

The carrier accommodates a variety of bikes with frame diameters from 25 – 80 mm. The ATERA "Frame Protection Gripping Arms" are reinforced in the core and softly rubberized on the outside, with ratchets equipped with an overvoltage protection system to protect sensitive frames.



Image: Detail of the frame gripping arm, designed to protect bicycle frames during transport.

The ATERA "Wheel Protection Wheel Shells" eliminate lateral, pulling, and pushing forces during transport, preventing wheel deformation. These wheel shells can be easily moved on the wheel rails to position bicycles according to their individual size. Fixation in the wheel arches increases loading comfort, as the bike cannot roll away while the gripper arm is fixed to the frame.



Image: Detail of the wheel protection system, showing how the wheel is secured in the shell.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Accessing the Trunk (Folding Mechanism)

The carrier features a practical folding mechanism for quick access to the trunk, even with mounted bicycles. This extra secured mechanism is operated by a foot release.



Image: The rack tilted down, demonstrating the trunk access feature.

Important Note on Trunk Access: While generally suitable for most vehicles (sedans, wagons, SUVs, mini-vans), the folding mechanism's effectiveness can be limited on vehicles with large tailgates, such as VW Transporter T4, T5, T6, Mercedes V-Class, and Vito, especially if the tow hitch was retrofitted. This limitation is more common with 2-bike carriers. For these specific vehicle models, a 3-bike carrier from ATERA is often recommended as it features a more favorable folding angle, allowing full tailgate opening without restrictions. However, with some VW T6 models, even a 3-bike carrier might not guarantee tailgate opening depending on the hitch version. Opening of rear wing doors, common on transporter models, may also remain restricted.

Theft Protection

The ATERA Strada Sport M 2 includes double theft protection. Integrated locks secure both the bicycle carrier itself to the tow bar and each individual bicycle on its gripping arm.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Clean the carrier regularly with mild soap and water. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents that could damage the finish or plastic components.

- **Lubrication:** Periodically lubricate moving parts, such as the folding mechanism hinges and lock cylinders, with a suitable lubricant to ensure smooth operation.
- **Inspection:** Before each use, inspect the carrier for any signs of wear, damage, or loose components. Pay close attention to the tow bar connection, frame gripping arms, wheel straps, and lighting connections.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the carrier in a dry, protected area to prevent corrosion and damage. The compact design allows for easier storage.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Carrier not securely attaching to tow bar.	Incorrect positioning; quick-release not fully engaged; tow bar not compatible.	Ensure carrier is correctly seated. Fully engage quick-release until indicator shows correct mounting. Consult vehicle manual for tow bar compatibility.
Bicycles not stable on carrier.	Frame gripping arms or wheel straps not tightened sufficiently; incorrect bicycle positioning.	Tighten all securing mechanisms. Adjust wheel shells and frame arms for optimal fit. Ensure bikes are positioned to minimize contact.
Tailgate access restricted.	Vehicle type (e.g., large tailgate vans) or tow hitch position.	This is a known limitation for certain vehicle models with large tailgates. Consider a 3-bike ATERA carrier if available for your vehicle, as it may offer a better folding angle.
Lights not working.	13-pin plug not fully connected; vehicle's electrical system issue; damaged wiring on carrier.	Check the 13-pin plug connection. Inspect vehicle's trailer light fuse. If problem persists, consult a qualified technician.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model: ATERA Strada Sport M 2 (022684)

Number of Bicycles: 2

E-Bike Suitability: Yes

Carrier Weight: 14.9 kg (approx. 32.8 pounds)

Maximum Payload: Up to 60 kg

Distance between Wheel Rails: 18 cm

Frame Diameter Compatibility: 25 – 80 mm

Payload per Wheel Rail: Up to 30 kg

Expandable: Yes, with accessory extension rail for a 3rd bicycle (Total payload with extension rail: 67.9 kg)

Anti-theft Protection: Yes, for carrier and each bicycle

Plug Connection: 13-pin

Dimensions (W / H / D, with folded handle): 100 cm / 65 cm / 59 cm (approx. 39.37 x 25.59 x 23.23 inches)

Color: Silver

Mounting Type: Wheel Mount

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

As a manufacturer of premium carrier systems, ATERA offers an extensive range of high-quality bike racks. For warranty information and support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official ATERA website. Typically, ATERA products come with a manufacturer's warranty covering defects in materials and workmanship.

For technical assistance, spare parts, or further inquiries, please contact ATERA customer service or your authorized dealer. Ensure you have your model number (022684) and purchase details available when seeking support.

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