

## Rhino Rack VA118B

# Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar Instruction Manual

Model: VA118B

### PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar is designed to provide a robust and aerodynamic solution for carrying gear on your vehicle's roof. Its low-profile elliptical shape minimizes wind drag and noise, while the integrated VGS rubber strips offer protection and slip resistance for your cargo. This cross bar system is built from lightweight, structural-grade anodized aluminum, ensuring durability and rust resistance for both on-road and off-road use.



Image: Close-up view of the Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar, highlighting its aerodynamic design and the Rhino-Rack branding.

### SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation of the Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar is crucial for safety and performance. Please ensure you have the correct Rhino-Rack legs and fit kits, which are sold separately, to complete your roof rack system. Refer to your vehicle's owner's manual for maximum roof load ratings and compatibility, especially if your vehicle has a sunroof.

#### Assembly Steps:

1. **Prepare the Cross Bar:** Remove the end caps and the blue locking key from the cross bar. Then, remove the measuring strips from the under channel.
2. **Install Vortex Generating Strips:** With the cross bar flat on a workbench, apply the Vortex generating strips to the top channel. Start flush on one end and work your way to the other, pressing down firmly and evenly to ensure a secure connection along the channel. Carefully trim any excess strip at the end and press down to secure.
3. **Install Measuring Strips:** After installing your leg assembly, add the Vortex cross bars. Measure the underbar channel space on either side of each leg. Trim each measuring strip to the corresponding length and insert it into the channel.
4. **Secure Cross Bar:** Ensure the cross bars overhang equally on both sides of your vehicle. Once installed on your desired Rhino-Rack mounting system, add the end caps and secure them using the blue locking key.



Video: Official Rhino-Rack Vortex Bar Assembly guide. This video demonstrates the step-by-step process of assembling and installing the Vortex cross bars, including preparing the bar, installing the VGS strips, and securing the end caps.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar is designed for versatile cargo management. Its full-length design maximizes space for various carriers and accessories.

- **Attaching Accessories:** The top channel of each bar allows for easy attachment of channel-mounted carriers and accessories. Clamp-on accessories can also be conveniently mounted around the bars.
- **Load Rating:** These Vortex bars have an on-road load rating of 165 lbs and an off-road rating of 82 lbs. Always refer to your vehicle owner's manual for specific rooftop load rating specifications, as these are set by the vehicle manufacturer.
- **Cargo Alignment:** Utilize the channel rulers on the bars to help center attachments and ensure proper load distribution on your roof.
- **Security:** The cross bars feature lockable cores with universal keys to deter theft for channel-mounted accessories and carriers. For enhanced security, all-metal locks (part #RRVA-LEC2) are available separately and are Master Key compatible.

## MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar.

- **Cleaning:** The rubberized Vortex strips in the top channel are designed to keep dirt and grime out. Clean the bars regularly with mild soap and water to maintain their appearance and functionality.
- **Tightening:** Roof racks must be periodically tightened, especially during the first week after installation, as all parts settle into position.
- **Inspection:** Regularly check your roof rack for any signs of damage, wear, or tear. Ensure all components are securely fastened before each use, particularly when carrying heavy loads or traveling long distances.
- **Automatic Car Washes:** Do not take your vehicle through an automatic car wash with the roof rack installed.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Increased Wind Noise	Improper installation of VGS strips or unsealed channels.	Ensure VGS strips are fully seated and flush along the top channel. Check for any gaps in the under-channel measuring strips. Some users have reported applying tape to the underside grooves to reduce humming noise.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Cross Bar feels loose after initial installation	Components settling into position.	Re-tighten all mounting hardware after the first week of installation. Periodically check tightness thereafter.
Missing VGS strips upon unboxing	Strips may be lodged inside the bar during transport.	Carefully remove end caps and check inside the bar. Tap the bar gently to dislodge any hidden strips. If still missing, contact Rhino-Rack customer support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

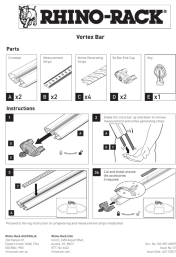
- **Model Name:** Rhino Rack Vortex Bar Black 46" Single Bar Aerodynamic Roof Rack Cross Bar VA118B
- **Part Number:** VA118B
- **Color:** Black
- **Size:** 44-Inch (This specific product variant)
- **Item Dimensions (L x W x H):** 48.82 x 3.54 x 1.57 inches
- **Load Capacity:** 165 Pounds (On-road), 82 Pounds (Off-road)
- **Mounting Type:** Roof Mount, Crossbar Mount
- **Material:** Structural-grade anodized aluminum
- **Included Components:** 46" Vortex Bars in Black, Instructions
- **Manufacturer:** Rhino-Rack USA, LLC
- **Date First Available:** May 5, 2014

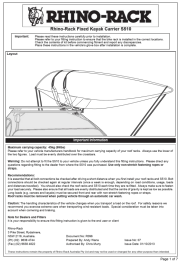
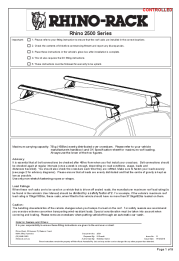

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Rhino-Rack Vortex Aero Cross Bar comes with a **5-year warranty**. For further assistance, technical support, or warranty claims, please visit the official Rhino-Rack website or contact their customer service. Keep your purchase receipt and product model information handy for faster service. You can find more information and contact details by visiting the [Rhino Rack Store on Amazon](#).

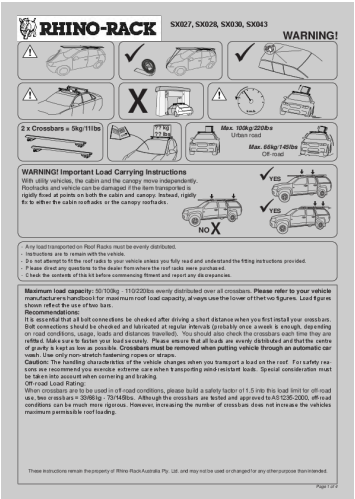
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Always read and follow the fitting instructions carefully when installing and using the product.  
Keep these instructions in your vehicle at all times and check for any updates on the manufacturer's website.

### Related Documents

	<p><a href="#">Rhino-Rack Vortex Bar Installation Guide</a></p> <p>Instructions for installing the Rhino-Rack Vortex Bar, including parts and step-by-step assembly.</p>
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	<p><a href="#">Rhino-Rack Fixed Kayak Carrier S510 Installation Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive installation instructions and fitting guide for the Rhino-Rack Fixed Kayak Carrier S510, covering important information, parts list, and step-by-step fitting for various roof rack systems.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Rhino-Rack 2500 Series Roof Rack Installation Guide</a></p> <p>Comprehensive instructions for installing the Rhino-Rack 2500 Series roof rack system, including parts list, fitting procedures, and important safety information.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Rhino-Rack 2500 Series Two Bar Heavy Duty System Installation Guide</a></p> <p>This guide provides detailed instructions for installing the Rhino-Rack 2500 Series Two Bar Heavy Duty System, covering parts, safety, load ratings, and vehicle-specific fitting data for optimal roof rack performance.</p>

Documents - Rhino Rack – VA118B



[pdf] Instructions

Rhino Rack Roof Racks Cargo Carriers Installation Instructions roof racks cargo boxes carriers luggage rack crossbars rail bars bags nets baskets ski snowboard canoe kayak CARiD ja9197 installation instructions images carid rhino items |||

SX027, SX028, SX030, SX043 WARNING X km/h 2 x Crossbars = 5kg/11lbs kg lbs ... ssbar SILVER 1800mm Vortex Crossbar BLACK Part No. SX--- 121091 R159 Part No. VA106S VA106B VA118S **VA118B** VA126S VA126B VA137S VA137B VA150S VA150B VA165S VA165B VA180S VA180B Care Instruction: Wash... lang:en score:39 filesize: 5.21 M page\_count: 4 document date: 2018-12-12



[pdf] Specifications Guide Accessories Borchure Catalog

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LEADING THE WAY 12 AWARD WINNING ... 8.7 7.1 7 12.8 5 7.2 6.8 9.2 6.92 11.2  
8.84 7.6 7.9 5.2 CROSS BARS PRODUCT VA126B VA137B VA150B **VA118B**  
VA165B VA180B VA106B VA200B RB1120B RB1250B RB1375B RB1500B  
RB1650B RB1800B RB2000B RDB126 RD...

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[Rhino-Rack 2024 Catalogue: Make Space for Adventure](#)

Explore the Rhino-Rack 2024 Catalogue, featuring innovative solutions for cargo transportation and adventure gear. Discover products for overlanding, camping, cycling, touring, water sports, and more.

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