SHIMANO R55C4

Shimano R55C4 Brake Pads Instruction Manual

Model: R55C4

Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Shimano R55C4 brake pads. These standard brake pads are designed for use with aluminum rims, offering high braking performance and excellent control for racing brake systems. Each package contains two pairs of R55C4 brake pads and four retaining bolts. Please note that brake shoes are not included and must be purchased separately or already present on your bicycle.

Product Overview



Image: Shimano R55C4 Brake Pads in original packaging, showing two pairs of pads and retaining bolts.

Power and control

Always use Shimano brake shoes to ensure top brake performance and maintain the safety of your Shimano brake system. Shimano's racing brake cartridges provide the ideal hardness for high stopping power combined with great levels of control.

Shoe characteristics

Model No.		R55C4	R55C3	R55C	R55C-1	R55C+1	M50T	R50T	R50T2	R50T4
Brake shoe shape										
Cartridge type		X	X	X	X	X	–	–	–	–
Recommended rim		Aluminum	Aluminum	Carbon	Carbon	Aluminum	Aluminum	Aluminum	Aluminum	Aluminum
Characteristics	DRY Power	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
	WET Power	★★☆☆☆	★★☆☆☆	★★★☆☆	★★★☆☆	★☆☆☆☆	★★★★☆	★☆☆☆☆	★☆☆☆☆	★★★☆☆
	Silence	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆	★★★☆☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
	Anti-fading	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★☆☆☆	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★☆☆
	Durability (On road)	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆
	Durability (Muddy condition)	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆	★★☆☆☆	★★★☆☆	★★★☆☆	★★★☆☆
	Anti-rim attack	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★☆☆☆	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★☆☆

★Characteristic ratio

Image: Close-up view of a single Shimano R55C4 brake pad, highlighting its design and material.

The Shimano R55C4 brake pads are designed as cartridge pads for racing brakes. They are specifically formulated for aluminum rims to ensure optimal friction and durability. The package includes the brake pads and the necessary retaining bolts for installation into compatible brake shoes.

Installation Instructions

Proper installation is crucial for safe and effective braking. These brake pads are designed to be inserted into existing brake shoes. Ensure your brake shoes are compatible with cartridge-type pads.

1. **Preparation:** Before beginning, ensure your bicycle is stable. You may need a hex key or appropriate tool to loosen the retaining bolts.
2. **Remove Old Pads:** Loosen the retaining bolt on your existing brake shoe. Carefully slide out the old brake pad from the brake shoe. Note the orientation of the old pad to ensure correct installation of the new one.
3. **Clean Brake Shoes:** Inspect the brake shoes for any debris or wear. Clean them thoroughly if necessary.
4. **Insert New Pads:** Slide the new Shimano R55C4 brake pad into the brake shoe. Ensure it is fully seated and oriented correctly (usually indicated by an arrow or text on the pad).
5. **Secure Pads:** Insert and tighten the retaining bolt to secure the new brake pad within the brake shoe. Do not overtighten.
6. **Adjust Brake Shoes:** Position the brake shoes so that the pads make full contact with the rim when the brake lever is applied, without touching the tire or spokes. Ensure the pads are parallel to the rim surface.
7. **Test Brakes:** After installation and adjustment, test the brakes at a slow speed in a safe area to confirm proper function and stopping power before riding at higher speeds.

Important: These R55C4 pads are specifically for **aluminum rims**. Using them on carbon rims may result in poor braking performance and damage to the rims or pads.

Operation and Performance

Shimano R55C4 brake pads are engineered for consistent and reliable braking performance on aluminum rims. The material hardness is optimized for high stopping power and excellent control.

Brake Pad Characteristics (R55C4)

The following table outlines the performance characteristics of the R55C4 brake pads compared to other Shimano models. A higher number of stars indicates better performance in that category.

Shimano Brake Shoe Characteristics Overview

Characteristic	R55C4 Rating (out of 5 stars)
Cartridge type	X (Cartridge)
Recommended rim	Aluminum
DRY Power	★★★★★
WET Power	★★★★☆
Silence	★★★★☆
Anti-fading	★★★★★
Durability (On road)	★★★★★
Durability (Muddy condition)	★★★★☆
Anti-rim attack	★★★★★

For optimal performance, ensure your brake pads are correctly aligned with the rim and that the brake system is regularly

inspected.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance extends the life of your brake pads and ensures consistent braking performance.

- **Inspect for Wear:** Periodically check the brake pads for wear. Replace them when the wear indicator lines are no longer visible or if the pad material is significantly reduced.
- **Clean Pads and Rims:** Keep brake pads and rim surfaces clean from dirt, grit, and oil. Contaminants can reduce braking effectiveness and cause premature wear or squealing. Use a clean cloth and appropriate cleaner if necessary.
- **Check Alignment:** Ensure brake pads remain properly aligned with the rim. Misalignment can lead to uneven wear and reduced braking power.
- **Retaining Bolts:** Occasionally check that the retaining bolts are securely tightened.

Troubleshooting

- **Poor Braking Performance:**
  - Check for excessive wear on the pads.
  - Ensure pads and rims are clean and free of oil or grease.
  - Verify proper alignment of pads with the rim.
  - Confirm pads are fully seated and retaining bolts are tight.
  - Ensure brake cables are properly tensioned.
- **Squealing Brakes:**
  - Clean pads and rims thoroughly.
  - Adjust pad alignment; sometimes a slight toe-in (front of the pad touching the rim slightly before the rear) can reduce squealing.
  - Check for contamination on the pads or rim.
- **Rapid Pad Wear:**
  - Ensure pads are not rubbing against the rim when brakes are disengaged.
  - Check for excessive grit or abrasive material on the rims or pads.
  - Verify that the pads are used on aluminum rims as intended.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	SHIMANO
Model Number	R55C4 (Factory Number: Y-8L298062)
Material	Aluminum (for rim compatibility)
Color	Black
Number of Pieces	4 (2 pairs of pads)
Item Weight	9.07 g

Feature	Detail
Bike Type Compatibility	Road Bike
Rim Compatibility	Aluminum Rims Only

Warranty and Support

For warranty information or technical support regarding your Shimano R55C4 brake pads, please refer to the official Shimano website or contact your authorized Shimano dealer. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.
You can find more information and contact details on the official Shimano website:www.shimano.com

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