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**SRAM 11.7018.043.004**

# SRAM Apex 1 Replacement Hydraulic Shift/Brake Lever

Model: 11.7018.043.004

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your SRAM Apex 1 Replacement Hydraulic Shift/Brake Lever. This component is designed for the right-hand side (rear brake and shifter) of a bicycle and features a hydraulic braking system. Please read this manual thoroughly before attempting any installation or use.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

Always prioritize safety when working with bicycle components. Improper installation or maintenance can lead to serious injury or product failure.

- **Professional Installation Recommended:** Due to the complexity of hydraulic brake systems, professional installation by a qualified bicycle mechanic is strongly recommended.
- **Wear Safety Gear:** Always wear appropriate safety glasses and gloves when handling tools and bicycle components.
- **Brake Fluid:** Hydraulic systems use specific brake fluid. Refer to SRAM's official documentation for the correct type and handling procedures. Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- **Torque Specifications:** Always adhere to specified torque values for all fasteners. Overtightening or undertightening can cause damage or failure.
- **Regular Inspection:** Periodically inspect the lever, hose, and caliper for any signs of wear, damage, or fluid leaks. Do not ride with damaged components.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The SRAM Apex 1 Replacement Hydraulic Shift/Brake Lever is a high-performance component designed for precise shifting and reliable hydraulic braking. This unit is specifically for the right-hand side of the handlebar, controlling the rear derailleur and rear hydraulic brake.



An image showing the SRAM Apex 1 Replacement Hydraulic Shift/Brake Lever, a coiled hydraulic hose, a shift cable, and small components like ferrules and a cable end cap.

The package includes the hydraulic lever, a 2000mm hydraulic hose, and a shift cable with a hydro cable head. Please note that this product is a replacement lever only and does not include the rubber hood or the brake caliper.

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of a hydraulic shift/brake lever requires specific tools and knowledge. If you are not confident in your abilities, seek assistance from a professional bicycle mechanic.

### Required Tools (Not Included):

- Torque wrench
- Hex keys (Allen wrenches)
- Hydraulic brake bleed kit (specific to SRAM)
- Hose cutting tool
- Barb and olive insertion tool
- Cable cutters

### Installation Steps (Overview):

1. **Mount the Lever:** Securely mount the lever to the right side of your handlebar using the appropriate hex key and torque wrench. Ensure the lever is positioned ergonomically for comfortable reach and braking.
2. **Route Hydraulic Hose:** Carefully route the 2000mm hydraulic hose from the lever to the rear brake caliper. Ensure the hose is not kinked or excessively bent. Cut the hose to the appropriate length, if necessary, using a dedicated hose cutting tool.
3. **Connect Hose to Caliper:** Install the barb and olive onto the cut end of the hydraulic hose and connect it to the rear brake caliper.

caliper. Tighten to the manufacturer's specified torque.

- Bleed the Hydraulic System:** Perform a full bleed of the hydraulic brake system according to SRAM's official hydraulic brake bleeding instructions. This is crucial for proper brake performance and feel.
- Install Shift Cable:** Route the shift cable from the lever through the frame and connect it to the rear derailleur. Adjust cable tension for smooth and precise shifting.
- Final Checks:** Before riding, thoroughly check all connections, ensure proper brake function (firm lever feel, no drag), and verify smooth shifting across all gears.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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The SRAM Apex 1 lever combines both braking and shifting functions into a single unit.

### Braking:

- To engage the rear brake, pull the main lever blade towards the handlebar.
- The hydraulic system provides consistent and powerful braking with minimal effort.
- Familiarize yourself with the brake's modulation and stopping power in a safe environment before riding in traffic.

### Shifting:

- The shift paddle, located behind the main brake lever, controls the rear derailleur.
- Pushing the paddle inwards (towards the handlebar) will shift the chain to a larger cog (easier gear).
- A single push typically shifts one gear.
- Ensure you are pedaling lightly when shifting to prevent drivetrain stress and ensure smooth transitions.

## MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your SRAM Apex 1 lever.

- Cleaning:** Keep the lever body clean using a damp cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or solvents that could damage the finish or rubber components.
- Hydraulic System Check:** Periodically check the hydraulic hose for any signs of wear, kinks, or leaks. Ensure all connections are secure.
- Brake Bleed:** The hydraulic brake system should be bled periodically, or if the lever feel becomes spongy or inconsistent. Refer to SRAM's official bleeding instructions.
- Cable Inspection:** Inspect the shift cable for fraying or corrosion. Replace the cable if any damage is observed to ensure smooth shifting.
- Lever Pivot Points:** Keep the lever pivot points clean and free of debris. Avoid lubricating these points unless specifically instructed by SRAM.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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Here are some common issues and potential solutions for your SRAM Apex 1 lever.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Spongy Brake Lever	Air in hydraulic system, low fluid level	Bleed the hydraulic brake system. Check for leaks.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor Shifting Performance	Incorrect cable tension, worn cable/housing, bent derailleur hanger	Adjust shift cable tension. Inspect and replace cable/housing if necessary. Check derailleur hanger alignment.
Brake Lever Not Returning Fully	Contamination in lever pivot, internal seal issue	Clean lever pivot. If issue persists, professional service may be required.
Fluid Leak at Lever or Hose	Loose connection, damaged hose/seal	Tighten connections to specified torque. Inspect hose and seals for damage; replace if necessary. Seek professional help for internal leaks.

If you encounter issues not listed here or if the suggested solutions do not resolve the problem, please contact SRAM customer support or a certified bicycle mechanic.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Brand	SRAM
Model Number	11.7018.043.004
Brake Lever Use	Right
Brake Lever Actuation	Hydraulic
Cable Head	Hydro
Included Hose Length	2000mm
Color	Black
Material	Unisex Adults compound (Lever Body), Rubber (Exterior Finish, Handle)
Specific Uses For Product	Bicycle Brakes
Special Feature	Easy to Install (with proper tools/knowledge)
Included Components	Screw (for mounting)
Item Weight	10.24 ounces (approx. 0.29 kg)
Item Package Dimensions	7.87 x 5.91 x 5.91 inches
Package Weight	0.4 Kilograms
UPC	710845802096
Model Year	2022

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding product warranty, technical support, or service, please refer to the official SRAM website or contact SRAM customer service directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

**SRAM Official Website:** [www.sram.com](http://www.sram.com)

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