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SHIMANO RD-RX800

SHIMANO Ultegra RD-RX800 Rear Derailleur User Manual

Model: RD-RX800

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the SHIMANO Ultegra RD-RX800 Rear Derailleur. This component is engineered for all-road and cyclocross cycling, providing enhanced chain stability and precise shifting performance on varied terrains. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your RD-RX800 rear derailleur. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure safe and optimal performance.



Figure 1: Front view of the SHIMANO Ultegra RD-RX800 Rear Derailleur. This image shows the main body, pulley cage, and the Ultegra RX branding.

2. Safety Information

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

- **Professional Installation Recommended:** If you are unsure about any installation or adjustment procedures, it is highly recommended to have the derailleur installed and adjusted by a qualified bicycle mechanic.
- **Read All Instructions:** Before attempting any work, read this manual and any other relevant SHIMANO component manuals completely.
- **Use Correct Tools:** Always use the appropriate tools for installation and adjustment.
- **Wear Safety Gear:** Wear safety glasses and gloves when performing installation or maintenance.
- **Check Fasteners:** Ensure all bolts and fasteners are tightened to the manufacturer's specified torque values.

Overtightening or undertightening can cause damage or failure.

- **Regular Inspections:** Periodically inspect your derailleur and drivetrain for wear, damage, or loose components.

3. Package Contents

Carefully unpack the product and verify that all items are present and undamaged.

- SHIMANO Ultegra RD-RX800 Rear Derailleur
- Instruction Manual (this document, or a printed version)
- Cable Guide (if included separately)



Figure 2: The SHIMANO Ultegra RX product packaging. The box indicates the model and series.



Figure 3: Example of a derailleur cable, often included or required for installation. Ensure you have a compatible cable.

4. Setup and Installation

Proper installation is crucial for optimal shifting performance and durability.

4.1 Mounting the Rear Derailleur

1. Ensure your derailleur hanger is straight and undamaged.
2. Apply a small amount of grease to the derailleur mounting bolt threads.
3. Thread the derailleur into the hanger by hand, ensuring it is properly aligned.
4. Tighten the mounting bolt to the manufacturer's specified torque (typically 8-10 Nm).

4.2 Cable Installation and Routing

1. Route the shift cable through the frame and outer casing to the rear derailleur.

2. Ensure the cable housing ends are properly seated in the frame stops and derailleur barrel adjuster.
3. Pass the inner cable through the derailleur's cable guide and secure it with the cable fixing bolt. Do not overtighten initially.

4.3 Limit Screw Adjustment

Limit screws prevent the derailleur from shifting the chain off the smallest or largest cog.

- **High Limit (H) Screw:** Shift the chain to the smallest cog. Adjust the H-screw so that the upper guide pulley is directly in line with the center of the smallest cog.
- **Low Limit (L) Screw:** Shift the chain to the largest cog. Adjust the L-screw so that the upper guide pulley is directly in line with the center of the largest cog.

4.4 B-Tension Adjustment

The B-tension screw adjusts the distance between the upper guide pulley and the cassette cogs.

1. Shift the chain to the largest cog on the cassette and the smallest chainring (if using a double).
2. Adjust the B-tension screw so that there is a small, consistent gap (approx. 5-6mm) between the upper guide pulley and the largest cog.

4.5 Clutch Mechanism (SHIMANO SHADOW RD+)

The RD-RX800 features a clutch mechanism to stabilize the chain and reduce chain slap on rough terrain.



Figure 4: Side view of the derailleur showing the clutch engagement lever. The lever allows you to turn the clutch mechanism on or off.

- **Engage (ON):** Flip the lever to the "ON" position. This increases chain tension, reducing chain slap and improving chain retention over rough surfaces. This is the recommended setting for riding.
- **Disengage (OFF):** Flip the lever to the "OFF" position. This reduces chain tension, making wheel removal and installation easier.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Shifting Gears

The RD-RX800 is designed for smooth and precise gear changes when paired with compatible SHIMANO 11-speed road shifters.

- Shift gears only when pedaling forward with light to moderate pressure. Avoid shifting under heavy load.
- Use the right shifter to control the rear derailleur. One lever action typically shifts one cog.
- Anticipate terrain changes and shift proactively to maintain a comfortable cadence.

5.2 Using the Clutch

Keep the clutch engaged (ON) during riding for optimal chain retention and reduced noise. Disengage (OFF) the clutch only when removing or installing the rear wheel.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance will prolong the life of your derailleur and ensure consistent performance.

- **Cleaning:** After each ride, especially in wet or dirty conditions, clean the derailleur, pulleys, and chain with a suitable bicycle cleaner.
- **Lubrication:** Lubricate the chain regularly with a high-quality bicycle chain lubricant. Ensure the pulley wheel bearings are free of grit.
- **Cable Inspection:** Periodically check the shift cable and housing for fraying, kinks, or corrosion. Replace as needed.
- **Pulley Wheels:** Inspect pulley wheels for wear. Worn pulleys can lead to poor shifting. Replace them if the teeth appear sharp or worn down.
- **Clutch Adjustment:** The clutch tension is factory-set. If you experience issues, consult a professional mechanic. Do not attempt to disassemble the clutch mechanism unless you are a qualified technician.
- **Fastener Check:** Periodically check all bolts (mounting bolt, cable fixing bolt, limit screws) for proper tightness.

7. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor or slow shifting	Incorrect cable tension Bent derailleur hanger Worn cable/housing Dirty drivetrain Incorrect limit screw adjustment	Adjust barrel adjuster for proper tension Check and straighten/replace hanger Replace cable and housing Clean and lubricate drivetrain Re-adjust H/L screws
Chain rubbing or noise	Incorrect B-tension Bent derailleur cage Worn chain/cassette	Adjust B-tension screw Inspect and replace if bent Replace worn components
Chain drops off cogs	Incorrect limit screw adjustment Insufficient chain tension (clutch OFF) Worn chain/cassette	Re-adjust H/L screws Ensure clutch is ON Replace worn components

If you are unable to resolve an issue, please consult a qualified bicycle mechanic.

8. Specifications

Model Number	RD-RX800 (Manufacturer Part No: IRDRX800GS)
Series	Ultegra RX
Speed	11-speed
Compatible Cassette Range	11-34T (Max low sprocket: 34T, Min low sprocket: 30T, Max high sprocket: 11T, Min high sprocket: 11T)

Total Capacity	39T (This refers to the maximum difference between largest and smallest chainring + largest and smallest cog. For 1x, it's just cog range. For 2x, it's (Large Chainring - Small Chainring) + (Large Cog - Small Cog).)
Front Chainring Compatibility	Single (1x) or Double (2x)
Material	Alloy
Weight (Approx.)	248g (0.55 lbs)
Mount Type	Direct Mount
Features	SHIMANO SHADOW RD+ (Clutch Mechanism)
UPC	689228871106

9. Warranty and Support

SHIMANO products are covered by a limited warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary by region and product. Please refer to the official SHIMANO website or contact your local SHIMANO distributor for detailed warranty information.
For technical support, service, or warranty claims, please contact your authorized SHIMANO dealer or visit the official SHIMANO website: bike.shimano.com.

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