SHIMANO CNM8100126Q

Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain with Quick Link, 12-Speed, 126L Instruction Manual

Introduction

This manual provides essential instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain. Please read this manual thoroughly before use to ensure proper function and longevity of your product.

Safety Information

- Always wear appropriate safety gear, including gloves and eye protection, when handling bicycle components.
- Ensure your bicycle is stable and secured before performing any installation or maintenance.
- Keep small parts away from children.
- If you are unsure about any step, consult a professional bicycle mechanic.

Package Contents

Your package should contain the following items:

- 1x Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain (12-Speed, 126L)
- 1x Quick Link



Image: Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain with Quick Link, 12-Speed, 126L, shown in its retail packaging. The chain is silver and the packaging is blue and grey, indicating 12-speed compatibility and including a quick link.

Installation

Follow these steps to properly install your new Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain. A chain tool is required for this process.

1. **Remove Old Chain:** Use a chain tool to disconnect and remove your old bicycle chain. If your old chain uses a quick link, use quick link pliers to open it.
2. **Determine New Chain Length:** Lay your new chain next to the old chain on a flat surface to determine the correct length. Ensure the new chain matches the length of the old one, or adjust according to your bicycle's specific requirements (e.g., for different cassette/chainring sizes).
3. **Shorten New Chain (if necessary):** If the new chain is too long, use a chain tool to carefully remove the excess links. Ensure you remove links from the correct end to allow for proper quick link installation.
4. **Route the New Chain:** Thread the new chain through your bicycle's front and rear derailleurs, ensuring it passes correctly over all guide pulleys and chainrings.
5. **Install Quick Link:** Bring the two ends of the chain together. Attach one half of the quick link to each end of the chain. Align the quick link plates and push them together.
6. **Secure Quick Link:** Apply slight tension to the chain by pulling the quick link ends apart. You may need to apply pressure to the pedals or rear wheel to fully seat the quick link. Use quick link pliers to ensure the quick link is securely closed.

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Video: This video provides an important guide to replacing a Shimano Quick-Link Chain, demonstrating the steps for removal of the old chain, sizing the new chain, and installing the quick link.

Operating the Chain

The Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain is designed for smooth and reliable shifting performance on 12-speed bicycle drivetrains. Ensure your shifting components (derailleurs, shifters, cassette, chainrings) are compatible with a 12-speed chain for optimal operation.

- Shift gears smoothly and avoid excessive force.
- Avoid cross-chaining (e.g., largest chainring with largest cog, or smallest chainring with smallest cog)

as this can increase wear and reduce efficiency.

Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for extending the life of your chain and ensuring optimal performance.

- **Cleaning:** Wipe off dirt and old lubricant from the chain after every ride, especially in wet or dirty conditions. Use a degreaser specifically designed for bicycle chains if necessary, followed by a thorough rinse and drying.
- **Lubrication:** Apply a suitable bicycle chain lubricant regularly. Apply a small drop to each roller, then pedal backward for a few rotations to distribute the lube. Wipe off any excess lubricant to prevent attracting dirt.
- **Chain Wear Check:** Periodically check your chain for wear (stretch) using a chain wear indicator tool. A worn chain can accelerate wear on your cassette and chainrings. Replace the chain when it reaches 0.5% wear.
- **Quick Link Reusability:** Shimano recommends against re-using 12-speed quick links. It is advisable to use a new quick link each time the chain is removed or replaced to ensure secure connection. However, some users may choose to re-use them in emergency situations.



Image: A close-up view of the Shimano Deore XT CN-M8100 XT Chain links, highlighting the precision engineering for 12-speed drivetrains. Regular cleaning and lubrication of these links are essential for smooth operation.

Troubleshooting

- **Poor Shifting Performance:**
  - Check for chain wear; a stretched chain can cause poor shifting.
  - Ensure the chain is clean and properly lubricated.
  - Verify derailleur alignment and cable tension.
- **Chain Noise:**
  - Clean and lubricate the chain.
  - Check for bent or damaged links.
  - Ensure the quick link is fully engaged.
- **Chain Breaking:**
  - Inspect for manufacturing defects or damage from impacts.
  - Ensure the quick link was installed correctly and is fully closed.
  - Avoid excessive force or improper shifting techniques.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	SHIMANO
Model Number	CNM8100126Q
Speed	12-Speed
Length	126 Links (126 Decimeters)
Includes	Quick Link
Material	Steel (other)
Item Weight	3.53 ounces
Load Capacity	10 Kilogramm
Item Pitch	12.7 Millimeters
Recommended Uses	Bicycle
Specification Met	ISO 606

Warranty and Support

For warranty information or technical support, please refer to the official Shimano website or contact your authorized Shimano dealer. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.
Official Shimano Website: bike.shimano.com