

Brink 685400

Brink 685400 Towbar Installation and Usage Manual

Model: 685400 | Brand: Brink

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and correct installation, operation, and maintenance of your Brink 685400 towbar. This towbar is specifically designed for the attachment of bicycle carriers and is not intended for towing trailers or caravans. Please read this manual thoroughly before proceeding with installation or use to ensure proper function and safety.

The Brink 685400 towbar is compatible with the following vehicle models:

- VW up! 3/5 doors (121, 122, BL1, BL2, BL3, 123) (01-2019 - 11-2023)
- SKODA Citigo 3/5 doors (10-2019 - ...)
- SKODA E-CITIGO (NE1) (01-2020 - 09-2021)
- SEAT Mii (KF1) (01-2020 - ...)

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Incorrect installation or use can lead to serious injury or damage to your vehicle and the towbar.

Always follow these safety guidelines:

- Ensure the towbar is installed by a qualified professional or a person with appropriate mechanical knowledge.
- This towbar is exclusively for bicycle carriers. **DO NOT** use it for towing trailers, caravans, or any other load.
- Adhere to the maximum vertical load and D-value specified for your vehicle and the towbar.
- Regularly inspect the towbar for any signs of damage, corrosion, or loose fasteners. Do not use if damaged.
- Ensure the bicycle carrier is securely attached to the towbar before driving.
- Distribute the weight of bicycles evenly on the carrier.

- Be aware of the increased length and weight of your vehicle when a bicycle carrier is attached, especially when reversing or parking.
- Always consult your vehicle's owner's manual for additional towing or accessory guidelines.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Upon opening the package, verify that all components are present and undamaged. The package should contain:

- Brink 685400 Black Towbar assembly
- Fastening hardware (bolts, nuts, washers)
- Installation instructions (this manual)

If any parts are missing or damaged, contact your supplier immediately.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of the Brink 685400 towbar requires specific tools and technical expertise. It is highly recommended that installation be performed by a certified mechanic or a professional workshop to ensure safety and compliance with vehicle regulations.

General Installation Steps (Consult detailed vehicle-specific instructions provided with the product):

1. **Prepare the Vehicle:** Park the vehicle on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and turn off the engine. Disconnect the battery if required by vehicle-specific instructions.
2. **Access Mounting Points:** Depending on the vehicle model, it may be necessary to remove parts of the bumper, trim, or underbody panels to access the towbar mounting points on the vehicle's chassis.
3. **Position the Towbar:** Carefully lift the towbar into position, aligning it with the designated mounting holes on the vehicle's chassis.
4. **Secure the Towbar:** Insert the provided bolts, nuts, and washers. Hand-tighten all fasteners initially.
5. **Torque Fasteners:** Using a torque wrench, tighten all fasteners to the specific torque values indicated in the vehicle-specific installation guide. Ensure all bolts are securely fastened.
6. **Reassemble Vehicle Parts:** Reinstall any removed bumper, trim, or underbody panels. Ensure all connections are secure.
7. **Electrical Connection (if applicable):** If an electrical kit for the bicycle carrier is being installed, follow the separate instructions for wiring the electrical socket to the vehicle's electrical system.

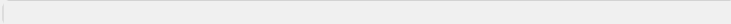


Image 1: Example of the Brink 685400 towbar correctly installed on a vehicle. Note: Specific product images were not provided in the input. This image is illustrative.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS (FOR BICYCLE CARRIERS)

The Brink 685400 towbar is designed for easy attachment of compatible bicycle carriers. Follow these steps for safe operation:

1. **Prepare the Bicycle Carrier:** Ensure your bicycle carrier is clean and free of debris. Familiarize yourself

with its attachment mechanism.

2. **Attach the Carrier:** Place the bicycle carrier onto the towball. Follow the carrier manufacturer's instructions for securing it. This typically involves a clamping mechanism that tightens around the towball.
3. **Secure the Carrier:** Ensure the carrier is firmly seated and cannot rotate or move freely on the towball. Engage any safety locks or pins provided with the carrier.
4. **Connect Electrics (if applicable):** If your bicycle carrier has lights, connect its electrical plug to the vehicle's towbar socket. Test all lights (brake, indicators, tail lights) before driving.
5. **Load Bicycles:** Load bicycles onto the carrier according to the carrier manufacturer's instructions, ensuring even weight distribution and securing them with straps or clamps. Do not exceed the maximum load capacity of the carrier or the towbar.
6. **Final Check:** Before driving, double-check all connections, straps, and lights. Ensure bicycles are stable and do not obstruct your view or vehicle lights.

Important: Always refer to the specific instructions provided with your bicycle carrier for detailed attachment and loading procedures.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Brink 685400 towbar:

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the towbar for any signs of rust, cracks, bends, or other damage. Pay close attention to welds and mounting points.
- **Fastener Check:** Check all bolts and nuts for tightness, especially after the first few uses and periodically thereafter. Re-torque to specified values if necessary.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the towball clean and free of dirt, grease, or paint. A clean towball ensures proper grip for the bicycle carrier's clamping mechanism.
- **Lubrication:** If your towbar has moving parts (e.g., a detachable system, though this model is fixed), lubricate them according to the specific instructions. For fixed towballs, ensure the surface is clean.
- **Corrosion Protection:** If the black coating is chipped or scratched, touch it up with appropriate rust-preventative paint to prevent corrosion.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your towbar:

- **Issue: Bicycle carrier feels loose on the towball.**

Solution: Ensure the towball is clean and dry. Re-tighten the bicycle carrier's clamping mechanism according to its manufacturer's instructions. If the issue persists, inspect the towball for wear or damage. Do not use if the carrier cannot be securely fastened.
- **Issue: Electrical lights on the bicycle carrier are not working.**

Solution: Check the electrical connection between the carrier and the vehicle. Ensure the plug is fully inserted and free of corrosion. Inspect the vehicle's fuse for the towbar electrics. Test the carrier's lights directly if possible. Consult an auto electrician if the problem persists.
- **Issue: Visible rust or damage on the towbar.**

Solution: Minor surface rust can be cleaned and treated with rust-preventative paint. Any structural damage, cracks, or significant corrosion requires immediate professional inspection. Do not use a damaged towbar.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Model Number	685400
Brand	Brink
Color	Black
Intended Use	Exclusively for bicycle carriers
Product Weight	21.6 Kilograms
Compliance Mark	EC

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or visit the official Brink website. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

For technical support, installation queries, or to report a defect, please contact your retailer or the Brink customer service department. Contact details can typically be found on the manufacturer's website or on your purchase invoice.

When contacting support, please have your product model number (685400) and purchase date readily available.