



Installation Instructions for H₂O Threadless Road Stems

Note to Dealers: If you install this product for the consumer, please provide him/her with this owner's manual after installation.

Thank you for purchasing a Profile Design H₂O Threadless Style ROAD Handlebar Stem. Please read these instructions thoroughly before attempting to install this stem. Proper installation is required for compliance with Profile Design's warranty policy. If you are not familiar with the installation of threadless style stems, forks, and headsets please seek the assistance of your Local Profile Design dealer by logging on to www.Profile-Design.com and using "dealer search" or by calling Profile Design's customer service number.

Tools and materials required: 5mm Allen wrench, Torque wrench (in-lb), Light File / Sandpaper, Grease.

1. Threaded areas have been pre-lubricated by Profile Design during production with special torque grease. This special grease can be detected by its "sticky" feel. If you cannot detect the torque grease or if you have cleaned it off through normal maintenance, grease all threads before assembly.
2. **This stem is intended for use with road style handlebars that have a clamping diameter of 26.0mm (or 31.8mm for the OS models). Do not use mountain bike handlebars with a diameter of 25.4mm as they will NOT fit properly in this stem.**
3. **The H₂O stem uses serrations in the bar clamping area for extra grip on aluminum handlebars and is not designed to be installed with carbon fiber and many ultra light aluminum handlebars. Please see the bar manufacturers requirements for stem clamping compatibility.**
4. This stem is made to accept 1-1/8" steering tubes (28.6mm) and includes an aluminum shim to adapt to 1" steering tubes (25.4mm).
5. Take special care when using this stem with forks that have a carbon fiber steering tube. Follow the fork manufacturer's instructions and warnings regarding carbon fiber steering tubes.
6. For installation with a new headset and/or fork, please follow the manufacturers instructions for the installation of those products.
7. Prior to stem installation please check the fork steerer tube, the rear stem clamp, and the front stem clamp for any sharp edges or burrs. Remove these with the file or sandpaper (as needed).
8. This stem can be flipped to achieve an alternate height position.
9. **▲ WARNING** Do not grease the handlebar clamping area as this may cause the handlebar to slip while riding resulting in a loss of control.
10. Once headset and fork are installed, slide the stem onto the steerer tube. (For new forks you may wish to vary the height of the stem with spacers and for existing forks you may need to remove or add spacers as the rear clamp height of the stem may differ from your former stem. Always install spacers per your fork manufacturers instructions.)
11. Tighten the headset compression cap (or star-fangled nut) per the headset manufacturer's instructions. **▲ WARNING** A 1-1/8" style headset top cap MUST be used to insure proper headset compression. Profile Design recommends the use of our Universal Gap Cap. Failure to use this part may result in improper adjustment causing excessive wear, possible breakage and loss of control.
12. Using the 5mm Allen wrench install the two rear clamp M6 socket cap bolts through the M6 flat washers and into the threading into the rear clamp. Tighten to a torque of 80in-lbs (9.04 Nm) for each bolt.
13. Install the handlebar using the removable front stem cap. Using the 5mm Allen wrench install the front clamp M6 socket cap bolts through the M6 flat washers, the front stem cap, and into the threading on the front clamp. First tighten these bolts evenly to a torque of 60 in-lbs (6.77 Nm) for each bolt Then re-tighten these same bolts to a final torque of 80in-lbs (9.04Nm).
14. Re-check rear clamp and front clamp bolt tightness after first usage (especially after riding on rough terrain) to insure secure attachment.

▲ WARNING

- Any failure to follow these warnings can result in breakage and or slippage of this Profile Design stem causing a loss of control of the bicycle with serious injuries. [AP1100-1-1]
- A creaking component can be a sign of potential problems. Make sure all contact surfaces between components are clean, all bolt threads are greased or are treated with proper thread lock and tightened to Profile Design's (or the bike manufacturer's) specifications and that all components are properly sized to fit together. If you continue to experience creaking stop using this Profile Design component and call Profile Design customer service. [AP1100-2-1]
- Under tightening a bolt can result in a part coming loose while riding and an over tightened bolt can break unexpectedly while riding also resulting in a loss of control. All bolts must be tightened to Profile Design's (or the bike manufacturer's) specifications. [AP1100-3-1]
- Periodically, closely examine all surfaces of this Profile Design component (after cleaning) in bright sunlight to check for any small hairline cracks or fatigue at "stress points" (such as welds, seams, holes, points of contact with other parts etc.). If you see any cracks, no matter how small, stop using the part immediately and call Profile Design customer service. [AP0302-4-2]
- Whenever you install any new component on your bike make sure you thoroughly try it out close to home (with your helmet) where there are no obstacles or traffic. Make sure everything is working properly before going off on a ride or to a race. [AP1100-5-1]
- Racing (road, mountain or multi-sport) places extreme stress on bicycles and their components (like it does riders) and significantly shortens their usable life. If you participate in these types of events, the lifetime of the product may be significantly shortened depending upon the level and amount of racing. The "normal wear" of a component may differ greatly between competitive and non-competitive uses, which is why professional level riders often use new bikes and components each season as well as having their bikes service by professional mechanics. Particular care should be placed in the regular examination of your bicycle and it's components to insure your safety. [AP1100-6-1]
- A number of factors can reduce the life of this component. Rider size and/or strength, high mileage, rough terrain, abuse, improper installation, adverse weather conditions and crashes or accidents can all contribute to the shortening of the life of this component. The more factors that are met, the more the life of the component is reduced. [AP0801-7-2]
- If you ever crash and EITHER the handlebar OR stem is damaged in any way, (slight bends or scrapes) ALL ADJOINING PARTS should be replaced as there may be undetectable damage to either part. Call Profile Design customer service and ask about our "Crash Replacement Policy". [B1100-3-1]
- Carbon fiber handlebars require special attention and maintenance. Refer to handlebar manufacturer's instructions prior to installation. [ST1100-1-1]
- Make sure you periodically recheck rear & front clamp stem bolt tightness (especially after riding on rough terrain) to insure a good attachment. [ST1100-2-1]
- Forks with carbon fiber steering tubes require special attention and maintenance. Refer to fork manufacturer's instructions. [ST1100-5-1]
- Make sure that you use a properly sized threadless stem. Scoring of the fork steering column due to installation may be a sign of an improperly sized stem or metal burrs in the rear clamp of the stem. This will localize the stress and will weaken and/or break a carbon fiber steering column causing loss of control of the bicycle. [F1100-6-1]



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Profile Design LLC Limited Warranty

- Profile Design, LLC warrants to the original retail purchaser ("you") in the United States or Canada that the Profile Design product for which they received this warranty is free from defects in material and workmanship for the periods and products set forth below from the date of original retail purchase. Profile Design's sole obligation under this warranty is to repair or replace the product, at Profile Design's option.
- All Road Stems, Handlebars (including aero bars) and seatposts: 3 years;
- All Off Road Stems, Handlebars (including bar ends) and seatposts: 2 years;
- All forks and cranks: 1 year;
- Everything else: 1 year.

Limitations of Implied Warranties

The duration of any implied warranty or condition, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise, on this product shall be limited to the duration of the express warranty set forth above. In no event shall Profile Design be liable for any loss, inconvenience or damage, whether direct, incidental, consequential or otherwise, resulting from breach of any express or implied warranty or condition, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise with respect to this product, except as set forth herein. Some states do not allow limitation on how long an implied warranty lasts and some states do not allow the exclusions or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which may vary, from location to location. This warranty will be interpreted pursuant to the laws of the United States. For products purchased in countries other than the United States or Canada please contact Profile's authorized distributor or agent in that respective country.

Warranty Service Options to obtain service under this warranty you must either:

1. Bring or send your Profile Design product, together with this warranty, the retail seller's original receipt or other satisfactory proof of the date of purchase to the retailer where you purchased the item, or
2. Send your Profile Design product (with the return authorization number on the outside of the shipping container and affixed to the product), together with the retail seller's original receipt or other satisfactory proof of the date of purchase to **Profile Design LLC, 2677 El Presidio St. Carson, CA 90810. You must obtain a return authorization number by calling Profile Design at (888) 800-5999 ext. 161 (or send an email to warranty@profile-design.com) for a prior to returning the product to Profile.** Any postage, insurance or shipping costs incurred in sending your Profile Design product for service under either option above is your responsibility. Profile Design will not be responsible for products lost or damaged in shipping. For products purchased in countries other than the United States or Canada please contact Profile Design's authorized distributor or agent in that respective country. They can be found on our website at www.Profile-Design.com

Crash Replacement Policy

Profile Design understands that crashes can happen. As a result Profile Design will attempt to ease the pain by offering you a replacement product for 30% below Profile Design's current suggested retail price. All other provisions of this warranty apply and the procedures outlined for warranty service apply also to the crash replacement policy. The Profile Design warranty department will make the final decision on whether the part will be covered under the crash replacement policy.

Warranty Exclusions Retailers and sellers of Profile Design products are not authorized to modify this warranty in any way. It is your responsibility to regularly examine the product to determine the need for normal service or replacement. This warranty does **not** cover the following:

1. Products that have been modified, neglected or poorly maintained, used for commercial purposes, misused or abused or involved in accidents.
2. Damage occurring during shipment of the products (such claims must be presented directly to the shipper).
3. Damage to products resulting from improper assembly or repair or the use or the installation of parts or accessories not compatible with the original intended use of the product.
4. Damage or deterioration to the surface finish, aesthetics or appearance of the product.
5. The labor required to remove and/or re-fit and re-adjust the item covered by this warranty.
6. Normal wear to the product.
7. Any products for which the consumer does not follow the warranty procedures outlined above.

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