

USER GUIDE & INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

DESCRIPTION: Teardrop Universal Fit Saddlebags **PART NUMBER:** 3501-0455, -0456, -0457, -0458

FITMENT: Universal

OVERVIEW:

QUICK RELEASE YOKE ATTACHMENT Saddlebags are attached to the yoke with a heavyduty zipper, so the bags are easily removed. A top handle is included for ease of carrying.

REMOVABLE YOKE FOR HARD MOUNT OPTIONS If you like the look of rigid-mounted saddlebags, you can completely remove the yokes on these bags by taking off the small nuts and bolts that secure yoke to bag (Fig. C).

LOCKABLE YOKE ZIPPER The zipper on the mounting yoke is lockable. For safety and security, we recommend that the yoke zippers be locked at all times, when the saddlebags are on the motorcycle. Place the pad lock thru both the zipper pull and D-Ring (see figure L). Once locked, saddlebags cannot be removed by unzipping.

LOCKABLE BAG BUCKLES The black Quick-Release buckles on some styles come with their own key. Tape a spare key to a business card and keep in your wallet.

FLIP-FORWARD DESIGN The saddlebag lids flip forward for opening, making it easier to load and unload your gear.

FULLY RIGID CONSTRUCTION Strong, durable construction means that these bags won't deform when loaded, and will look good either empty or full.

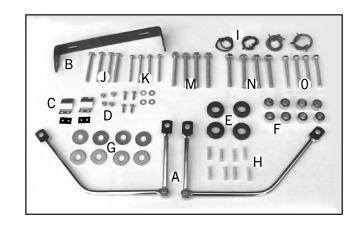
INTERNAL MESH POUCHES Keep your small things organized in these handy mesh pockets.



CONTENTS / PARTS INCLUDED:

Qty Item

- 2 Saddlebags
- 1 Yoke (zipper halves attached to bags)
- 2 (A) Saddlebag supports, left- and right-side
- 1 (B) Universal turn signal relocator bracket
- 2 (C) Metal support clips & backup plates
- 4 (D) #10 screws, washer and acorn nuts for support clips
- 4 (E) Rubber Grommets
- 8 (F) Spacers, chrome 3/4" x 1/2" x 10mm hole
- 8 (G) Fender Washers
- 8 (H) Electrical Butt connecters for wire
- 4 (I) #14 or #16 electric wire by 12" long
- 4 (J) Bolts, 5/16"-18 x 3"
- 4 (K) Bolts, 3/8" 16 x 3
- 4 (M) Bolts, M8 x 1.25 x 70
- 4 (N) Bolts, M6 x1.5x70
- 4 (0) Bolts, M10 x 1.25 x70
- 1 Instructions



IMPORTANT:

Please read these instructions completely before starting installation. All "NOTE," "CAUTION" and "WARNING" notations are serious safety issues and should be read carefully. Possible injury to riders or damage to the motorcycle and/or accessory may result if improperly installed.

NOTICE TO DEALERS:

These instructions contain important information for future reference and should be given to the customer.



A WARNING:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE INSTALLATION!

Because of the variety of motorcycle configurations, other accessories, and the features and intended use of this Saddlemen accessory, there are many different mounting options. You are responsible for the proper installation of this accessory on your motorcycle. Your attention to these installation instructions and recommendations will permit safe and proper use of this accessory. You must mount this accessory properly and securely before riding your motorcycle. If you lack the ability to safely and properly install this accessory, seek out a qualified motorcycle technician for assistance. During installation, support the motorcycle with a suitable stand or lift so it will not tip over and injure you, or damage the vehicle. Using or mounting this accessory improperly could result in a loss of control of the motorcycle which could result in damage to your motorcycle or other personal property, the property of third parties, and/or personal injury to yourself or others, up to and including death.

BE SURE TO THOROUGHLY READ AND CLOSELY FOLLOW THE MOUNTING INSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE INCLUDED WITH THIS ACCESSORY:

- The saddlebags must be installed and securely fastened onto the frame or similar foundation on the motorcycle.
- Install the saddlebags securely so they will not shift or move while riding. Make sure the mounting hardware will not contact the wheels, suspension or any other moving parts of the motorcycle.
- If you do not understand the mounting instructions DO NOT mount the saddlebags. Remove the base or any components you may have already installed on your motorcycle.
- Thoroughly inspect your motorcycle luggage before every ride. Do not use the saddlebags if the mounting system has been modified, has deteriorated, loosened or is beginning to fail.
- Before riding, secure your cargo inside the saddlebags and completely close the lids/flaps.
- Continually check the security of the saddlebags at each stop as you ride. Hardware can loosen during operation, so be sure to check it frequently.
- Do not use this accessory if you have any doubts as to whether it is properly mounted to your motorcycle.
- Do not exceed 10 pounds of total weight, combined, of the saddlebag and its contents.
- Do not transport or store flammable or potentially explosive materials in your saddlebags.
- When using this accessory, do not exceed your vehicle's Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight as listed on your motorcycle or in the manufacturer's owner's manual.
- If your saddlebags are ever damaged, do not use them until they have been inspected by your local professional motorcycle dealer. Replace the saddlebags immediately if they have damage that prevents them from being properly secured to your motorcycle or from securely holding their contents.

 DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE THIS ACCESSORY IF...
- You do not understand the installation and use of its instructions;
- You do not understand any part of the accessory mounting system;
- You have any doubts as to the security of the mounting system.

If you have any concerns or questions, seek help at your qualified motorcycle dealer or call the Saddlemen support line at (310) 638-1222.

Remember: Motorcycling can be a dangerous activity. Installation of any accessory can increase your risk if it is not installed properly. You are responsible to install this accessory so it will not contact any portion of the drive train, suspension or steering, and so it will in no way interfere with the operation of your motorcycle.

To avoid injury, install while engine is cold.

For your safety, and the protection of your motorcycle and saddlebags, it is essential that you install the saddlebag supports properly. Both supports must be installed in a way that prevents the saddlebags from interfering with any part of the motorcycle's operation, including the turn signals, tail or brake lights, exhaust system, suspension, or drive train. You (or your professional motorcycle technician) will need to determine the best mounting configuration for your motorcycle.

INSTALLATION:

TIP: It is helpful to have 2 people to install the saddlebags.

TIP: To simplify the mounting of the saddlebags, Saddlemen recommends you work on one side of your motorcycle at a time, complete the full installation, then begin working on the second side. This will help you maintain fender and saddlebag alignment and make it easier to install the fender strut bolts and other mounting hardware that is exchanged during the installation.

NOTE: The vehicle images in this instruction set may be different than your motorcycle.

This kit is designed to fit several model motorcycles, and contains oversize length studs, which if installed incorrectly could interfere with the tire. When installing a stud through the fender, check to be sure that it does not extend inside the fender further than the original fastener. If it does it must be cut off to fit, so as not to contact a wheel or tire. This can be done easily with a hacksaw.

Work slowly and carefully to avoid scratching the fender.

TIP: You can use blue painter's tape to protect painted and chromed items on your motorcycle during accessory installation.

MULTIPLE SADDLEBAG INSTALLATION OPTIONS- READ THIS FIRST

Choose which installation method works best for your bike.

There are at least three different ways to install these saddlebags on your bike. Please read all installation suggestions here, and then decide which method is right for your bike.

Installation Option #1: TRADITIONAL OVER-THE-FENDER

All hardware and yokes are included for Installation Option #1, which will put the saddlebags on your bike in a traditional pony express style, hanging the saddlebags from the included yoke which rests on your back fender or your back seat. The included saddlebag support brackets must also be used.

- 1. Install Saddlebag Support Brackets (see below).
- 2. Saddlemen saddlebags mount over the back seat or rear fender of most motorcycles, with one saddlebag on each side of the motorcycle and the mounting yoke resting on the fender or seat. Both saddlebags must be securely mounted and tied down in a manner that does not interfere with any part of the motorcycle's operation, including turnsignals, tail or brake lights, or the suspension or drivetrain.



INSTALLATION (continued)

- 3. Your saddlebags must be at least two inches clear of any exhaust pipe, while stationary and moving. You can adjust the yoke to change the height of the bag on the motorcycle by aligning the hook-n-loop fastener of the two yoke halves in the right position. Adjust the yoke shorter for higher saddlebags, and vice versa (Fig. A). It is important that you also attach the nylon web safety strap after aligning the yoke on the bike (Fig. B).
- 4. When you've placed the bag on your bike in the proper position, use the straps located on the bottom of each bag (Fig. B and H) to connect the bag to the saddlebag support. These lower straps are length-adjustable; wrap them around the support, buckle the ends together, then adjust the length so that straps are tight and they are supporting some of the saddlebags' weight. Trim any excess strap after the buckle is tightened to prevent entanglement with moving bike parts during operation. Burn or heat the strap ends, melting them to prevent unravelling.
- 5. The zippered yoke attachment to each saddlebag allows easy removal of the bag while leaving the yoke on the bike undisturbed.

WARNING: Do not operate motorcycle with bags removed and straps still attached to supports.

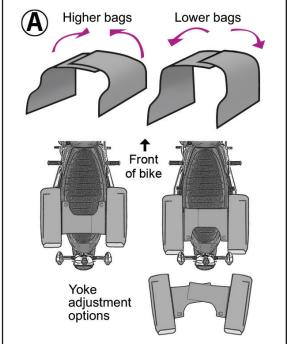
NOTE: Saddlebags must not move around; if they do, you must tie them securely to your saddlebag supports. The use of zip ties, cable ties or Saddlemen Tie Down Kit #5108 may be used to secure the bags using the two attachment points at the bottom corners of each saddlebag.

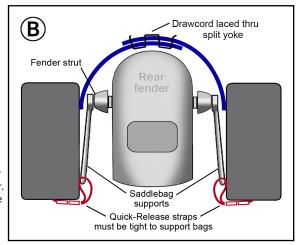
Installation Option #2: CUSTOM FIT HARD MOUNT

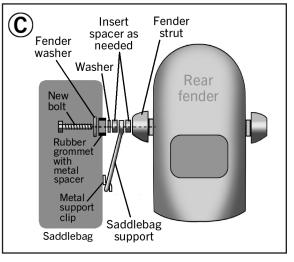
This custom mounting may require additional spacers, nuts, bolts or other hardware to get the correct fit for your bike, which will be different for every bike. Also, it's possible that not all of the hardware in this kit will be used. This universal saddlebag kit does not foresee every motorcycle configuration, but the general guidelines herein apply to most installations. Custom fit mounting is accomplished by attaching the bags directly to the included support brackets and the bike's fender struts. See Fig. C.

We recommend working on one side of the motorcycle at a time, completing a full installation on the first side before beginning the second side. This will maintain fender alignment and make it easier to install the fender strut bolts.

- 1. Remove the yokes from each saddlebag by taking off the small nuts and bolts that hold the yoke to each bag (Fig. E). The smooth back-side of the bags can be drilled to facilitate mounting directly to the fender or fender struts, or to the chrome supports that are included with these bags. When planning your installation, try to spread the mounting load and stress over the largest area possible.
- 2. Most installations will utilize the fender strut mounting locations for connecting the saddlebags and any brackets or supports to the motorcycle. Other locations can also include turn signal or top shock mounting points. Mounting points should be as far apart as possible.
- 3. Hold the saddlebag against the motorcycle in the desired position. Check to be sure that there is a minimum of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (40mm) clearance between the bag and the exhaust pipe or muffler. A short piece of wood (2x4) can be placed on top of the muffler as a temporary spacer. Check to see that the saddlebag is in the correct front to back position, not interfering with the turn signals, shock absorber or passenger footpegs.
- 4. Measure and mark on the back of the saddlebag the location for the two holes you will need to drill, which correspond directly with the two fender strut bolts on your bike.
- 5. Using a 1 inch hole saw, cut the holes in the back of each saddlebag. Protect the interior mesh pocket by placing several layers of heavy cardboard or a piece of wood inside between the back and the mesh.
- 6. See Fig. D. Using soapy water as a lubricant, install a rubber grommet in each one-inch hole. An aluminum spacer goes in the middle of each grommet.
- 7. Place the chrome saddlebag support on the back of the saddlebag, lining up the two mounting holes with the two holes you've just drilled.
- 8. Place one of the small metal support clips over the center of the lower portion of the support, with the two holes against the bag and above the bar. Mark the position of the holes.
- 9. Drill 3/16 inch diameter holes in these marked positions. Protect any pockets inside the bag from your drill.
- 10. Using the #10 screws and nuts supplied (pop rivets, not included, can also be used) attach the support clip with the back-up plate on the inside of the saddlebag. If using the screws, do not over tighten and crush the backing material.
- 11. Remove the fender strut bolts from one side of the bike.
- 12. From this kit, select bolts with the same diameter & thread as the bolts you removed from









INSTALLATION (continued)

your bike, but appropriately longer to also fit the support brackets and any spacers you might need to use. When choosing spacer location, make sure that the bag supports will clear all drive-train components (brakes/pulley/wheel/etc) thru the entire suspension travel (fully loaded bike), and use the appropriate spacers on each bolt.

13. Use a fender washer on the inside of the saddlebag, against the rubber grommet, and use spacers along the length of the bolt to ensure that the saddlebags do not contact your bike's drivetrain.

NOTE: Longer mounting bolts are included, but may require cutting to the proper length.

Make sure that the mounting bolts do not protrude inside the fender and make contact with tire or wheel.

Installation Option #3:

SADDLEMEN S4™ QUARTER TURN QUICK DISCONNECT SYSTEM (hardware sold separately)

For a truly custom installation without a yoke, which gives the ability to quickly take your bags off and put them back on in seconds, you'll need Saddlemen's S4 Quick Disconnect Mounting Post Kit for your bike. The S4 Quick Disconnect Docking Post Kit will work with the saddlebag supports that came with these saddlebags, giving you the complete quick-disconnect installation setup without a yoke. The S4 quarter turn docking posts directly replace the the spacers inside the rubber grommets used in this kit. The installation is nearly identical, using new quick-disconnect docking posts to replace the bolts supplied with this saddlebag kit.

SADDLEBAG SUPPORT INSTALLATION for most applications

You'll need to install the included chrome saddlebag support brackets onto your bike (Fig. F), to keep the saddlebags from coming in contact with the wheel, brake, swingarm, pulley, etc. When you're finished, the saddlebags and support brackets should remain clear of all other motorcycle components during full travel of the suspension (under load).

CAUTION: This kit is designed to fit several model motorcycles, and contains multiple length bolts, which if installed incorrectly could interfere with the tire. When installing a bolt through the fender, check to be sure that it does not extend inside the fender further than the original fastener. If it does it must be cut off, or exchanged for a shorter bolt in the kit.

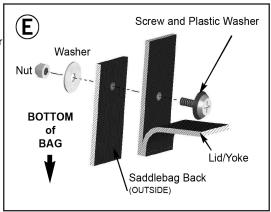
We recommend working on one side of the motorcycle at a time, and completing a full installation on the first side before beginning the second side. This will maintain fender alignment and make it easier to install the fender strut bolts.

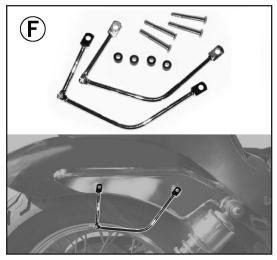
- 1) Remove the fender strut bolts from one side of the bike.
- 2) See Fig. G. From this kit, select bolts with the same diameter & thread as the bolts you removed from your bike, but appropriately longer to also fit the support brackets and any spacers you might need to use. Make sure that the bag supports will clear all drivetrain components (brakes/pulley/wheel/etc) thru the entire suspension travel (fully loaded bike), and use the appropriate spacers on each bolt. CAREFULLY CUT EACH BOLT TO THE CORRECT LENGTH.
- 3) Bolt this assembly to the strut.

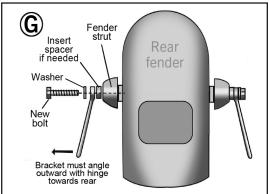
WARNING: Check to see that the bolts do not extend past the inside of the fender further than the original fastener. Fastener contact with the tire can lead to premature tire failure, which could result in death or serious injury.

- 4) Repeat the same installation process on the motorcycle's other side.
- 5) Check and adjust alignment and tighten all bolts securely.
- 6) We recommend using a thread sealant like Loctite or Vibratite on the fasteners.











INSTALLATION (continued)

Turn Signal Relocation Bracket Installation (optional)

NOTE: Turn signal relocation is only necessary when your bike's stock turn signals interfere with your chosen location of the saddlebag. Saddlebags should not contact turn signals or interfere with their use. If you do not need to relocate your turn signals, you can discard the bracket that is included in this kit (Fig. J).

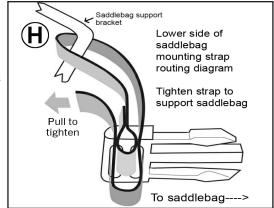
NOTE: Due to the large diversity of motorcycles, we have not tried to write a specific set of instructions for every bike. Most installations will be very similar to these instructions.

- 1. Disconnect the battery, and locate the turn signal wire connections. They might be under the tail light lens, or located under the seat.
- 2. Trace wires from turn signal lights and unplug from tail light terminal.
- 3. Push wires back through the fender holes, and free them from clips, etc, to the turn signal lights.
- 4. Remove the bolt holding the turn signal lights and carefully remove wire through hole.
- 5. Remove the license from the license plate bracket.
- 6. Remove the three screws holding the license plate bracket to the fender.
- 7. Using the ¼ inch screws and nuts, attach the supplied turn signal bracket and the license plate to the license plate bracket. The turn signal bracket should be on the forward side, and turned so the ears will be pointing toward the front of the motorcycle, placed under the license plate.
- 8. Using the $5/16 \times 2 \%$ button head screws supplied, attach the turn signal lights to the bracket. The wires will thread through the larger hole, the bolt through the other.
- 9. Most Harley-Davidson motorcycles have a fourth hole through the fender in the same pattern as the three attachment screw holes. If your motorcycle is missing this hole, you may need to drill a hole in the pattern of the three holes for the wires to pass through. WARNING: Take care not to drill into your tire, and make sure to smooth the edges of the hole.
- 10. If the wire plug will not fit through the extra hole in the fender, you can cut the wires two inches from the plugs and reattach them to the cut off part after passing them through the hole, or enlarge the hole enough to allow the plugs to pass through.
- 11. Reattach the license plate bracket to the fender using the stock screws, but install the three 1/8" spacers supplied between the bracket and fender on all three screws, routing the wires neatly between the bracket and the fender.
- 12. Finish routing the wire plugs to there original locations inside the tail light assembly. You can coil and tape the extra wire inside the tail light.
- 13. Connect the battery, and check to see that all the lights are working correctly.
- 14. Replace tail light cover.

CAUTION:

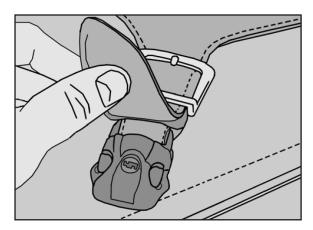
- Failure to install this accessory properly may allow portions of the saddlebags or their mounting materials to contact the vehicle's moving parts.
- It is vital that you verify that the accessory and/or any of its parts will not touch, or interfere with other components while the suspension moves through its entire range of motion. Make sure that neither saddlebag or the mounting hardware touches touch the exhaust or any other non-moving components, as they might be damaged from contact with the accessory.
- Occasionally, the configuration of this accessory with certain motorcycles may require relocation and/or adjustment of certain components on the these vehicles. Check to be sure that all lights and safety reflectors are visible once the saddlebags are in place. If the saddlebag mounting hardware blocks or interferes with the turn signals, you will need to move the turn signals to a solid mounting point that permits their proper electrical function. If the saddlebags or mounting hardware blocks any side reflectors, place reflectors on the exterior sides of the saddlebags. Reflectors with self-adhesive backing are available from motorcycle or automobile supply stores. It is your responsibility to make sure that the installation of this accessory does not create an unsafe or illegal condition.
- Make sure the spacing and clearance of the support is proper in relation to the motorcycle. Verify that each mounting bolt is the proper length. When installing a bolt into the fender strut, check to be sure that it does not extend inside the fender further than the original fasteners. If it does, the excess length of the bolt must be cut off, or exchanged for a shorter bolt you obtain from the hardware store or a motorcycle shop.
- Overloaded or overweight bags can move the supports inward. Before riding, visually check the clearance between the Supports and any moving parts that could impair normal operation of the motorcycle.
- Improper saddlebag installation may cause contact between the bags and the motorcycle's running gear, producing a safety hazard. Please check that saddlebags are not in contact with moving parts.

After 50 miles (80 kilometers), recheck all of the mounting hardware and the saddlebags to make sure they are still tight and secure. Inspect the saddlebags and related hardware before, and during, each ride. A loose saddlebag or hardware can interfere with the vehicle's operation and can cause an unsafe riding condition. After that, check fastener tightness during each regular maintenance check.



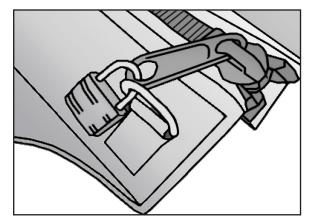


FEATURES:



QUICK-RELEASE & LOCKING BUCKLES: Saddlemen Teardrop Specific-Fit Saddlebags feature quick-release buckles under the lid strap's "conventional" buckles. This permits quick access to the inside of the bag. To aid in securing your belongings inside the bag, each quick-release buckle has a lock that can be locked using the keys included with your saddlebag set.

TIP: Keep one of your saddlebag keys in a safe place, like your motorcycle's tool kit, in case you misplace one.



LOCKABLE YOKE ZIPPER The zipper on the mounting yoke is lockable. You can place your own small padlock thru both the zipper pull and D-Ring. Once locked, saddlebags cannot be removed by unzipping.

NOTE:

CARE AND CLEANING

Your Saddlemen saddlebags require almost no maintenance, but to keep them looking good, simply wipe down the bag with a clean, damp cloth. Make sure to keep the saddlebags away from extreme heat sources like your bike's exhaust pipes.

LIMITED WARRANTY POLICY

SADDLEMEN LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY Saddlemen warrants its products for defects in materials, design or workmanship for a period of one year after retail purchase. Items that are defective will be repaired or replaced by Saddlemen at its sole discretion. Damage caused by improper use or improper installation is not a defect; therefore repair, replacement or shipping of a damaged accessory will not be covered under this warranty. This limited warranty contains other provisions and conditions, so please refer to the Warranty Policy that was provided with your saddlebags or visit www.saddlemen.com for additional information. You can count on Saddlemen's quality, innovation, service and style. If for any reason you are not satisfied with the performance of your Saddlemen luggage, please contact the Saddlemen support line at (310) 638-1222.

