

# DISC-BRAKE MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

*The need for additional service charges for items such as rotor alignment, rotor replacement, hydraulic hose replacement, hydraulic bleeding, or milling of frame/fork mounting surfaces may be discovered during this service. Not all steps apply to all bikes. Torques are minimum recommended in absence of manufacturer specifications.*

**Check-off items done to specification. Mark items with "NA" when not applicable, or "X" when problems could not be repaired and/or are in need of further attention.**

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Brake operated and performance evaluated.
- Rotors inspected for damage or need of truing.
- Hydraulic models:** Brake inspected for soft/spongy feel indicating bleeding is needed and for sticky pistons (pads fail to retract with lever release).

## DISASSEMBLY, CLEANING, AND INSPECTION

- Wheels removed if hub is loose.
- Rotor inspected for damage or minor warping (rotor replacement or truing may result in surcharges).
- Rotor thoroughly cleaned w/ isopropyl alcohol.
- Rotor bolts torqued to manufacturer's recommendation. Loose bolts removed and treated with Loctite 242.
- Mechanical models:** Brake cable removed and inspected for rust, frays, and kinks in the inner wire and housing.  
**Hydraulic models:** Hose and hose fittings inspected for cracks, kinks, and leaking fluid.
- Brake lever inspected for damage and leaks (if hydraulic).
- Brake pads removed and checked for wear and degradation (crumbling, scoring, burning).
- Caliper cleaned with isopropyl alcohol and inspected for damage and leaks (if hydraulic).

## ASSEMBLY AND ADJUSTMENTS

- Existing pads replaced if remaining wear life is less than 25%  
**OR** remaining life is \_\_\_\_%, so old pads reinstalled.
- Brake levers set to proper alignment (unless already acceptable), then secured  
6mm-diameter clamp bolts: 35in-lbs  
5mm-diameter clamp bolts: 20in-lbs  
4mm-diameter clamp bolts 15in-lbs).
- Brake-lever pivots and cable adjusters lubricated.
- Mechanical disc brakes:** New or existing brake housings sized.  
Lever to frame piece: as short as possible to allow full normal fork rotation  
All others: as short as possible without abrupt bends at ends, or hyperextension at limits of suspension travel).

- Mechanical disc brakes:** Brake-housing ends finished with filing and end caps (wherever end caps will fit).
- Loose ball hubs only:** If hub adjustment is loose, hubs adjusted to have no free play when secured in bike, but with free play when QR is loosened 45°.
- Loose ball hubs only:** If hub adjusted, all hub locknuts secured to 120in-lbs.
- If removed, wheel mounted in proper alignment and security (thru-axle retention mechanisms secured to fork manufacturer's specification)  
**OR** Q.R. skewers set so force is required through out the last 90° of closure and base of lever ends up parallel to dropout.
- Mechanical disc brakes:** Cable lubricated and installed, and pad clearance set to minimum without rub that could be audible while riding (rub that can only be heard in non-riding conditions is may be unavoidable).  
**Hydraulic disc brakes:** Brakes operated to initiate pad-clearance self adjustment.
- Mechanical disc brakes:** Cable pinch bolt secured to minimum 70in-lbs, or to manufacturer's recommendation if higher.
- Under-torqued bracket bolts (if any) and under-torqued caliper bolts removed and treated with Loctite 242.
- Adapter-bracket bolts (if any) secured to minimum 70in-lbs, or to manufacturer's recommendation if higher.
- Caliper aligned to center rotor between pads and to align pad faces as parallel as alignment system permits (not all systems allow alignment in all axis). **NOTE:** In some cases, milling of frame/fork mounting surfaces may be required, resulting in a surcharge).
- Caliper bolts secured to minimum 70in-lbs, or to manufacturer's recommendation if higher.
- Brakes with manufacturer-original safety wire or safety clips on bracket and caliper bolts:** Wire or clips inspected for proper installation and corrected if faulty.

## TEST RIDE AND INSPECTIONS

- Brakes checked for stopping power and squeal.

MECHANIC'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_