

# Carbon Road Disc

## Quick Start Guide



Applies to: Topstone Carbon,  
Synapse Carbon, Super X

**cannondale**

## Welcome to the Cannondale family.

First up, thank you for buying a new Cannondale bike – we’re excited to have you on board and to get you out riding as soon as possible. Our new assembly process is easy-to-follow – using methods outlined in this guide to assemble your new Cannondale at home, plus it’s even easier to do so with a friend. Our guide will take you through the simple steps from start to finish – you can also follow along with a how-to video, as you build your bike, just visit: **ridersupport@cannondale.com**

If you still have any questions, then our Cannondale rider support staff are ready to help you. Feel free to give us a call at **1-800-245-3872 (BIKE USA)**.

Also, when your new bike is all assembled and ready to ride, we’d love to check it out – please don’t forget to tag #ridecannondale in your social media. Enjoy the ride!



## WARNING

This is a Quick Start Guide, not an Owner’s manual.

Bicycling is an active sport with inherent risk. A wide range of injuries are possible. Due to the nature of bicycle riding, the situations you encounter while riding, you will be exposed to the risk of serious injury, paralysis or death. This risk cannot be eliminated. You can minimize the risk in many ways. Begin by reading the complete Cannondale Bicycle Owner’s manual accompanying this bike and available online at [www.cannondale.com](http://www.cannondale.com), particularly section “IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION”.

## The 4 major steps to setting up our ride.



**1.**  
Install your  
handlebars

**2.**  
Install your  
seat post

**3.**  
Install your  
front wheel

**4.**  
Install your  
pedals

## Getting your bike ready for assembly.

This video applies to one Cannondale Platform:

- Topstone Carbon, Synapse Carbon, Super X

## Let's get your bike out of the box.

- A.** First, locate the staples on the top of the box and carefully remove them with a screwdriver. Use caution: the staples are sharp.

Inside the box, you'll find a smaller box of parts, necessary tools, documentation and manuals. Once the bike is assembled, but before you ride, please read the owner's manual.

- B.** Push the hand flaps from the inside to the outside of the box. This will make removing the bike easier.
- C.** Carefully lift the bike out of the box and set it onto the top of the box.
- D.** Remove the front wheel from the bike by carefully removing the zip ties or Velcro. Then, remove all packaging from the wheel and set it aside.
- E.** Remove all additional packaging from the bike, letting the handlebar gently hang from the frame.

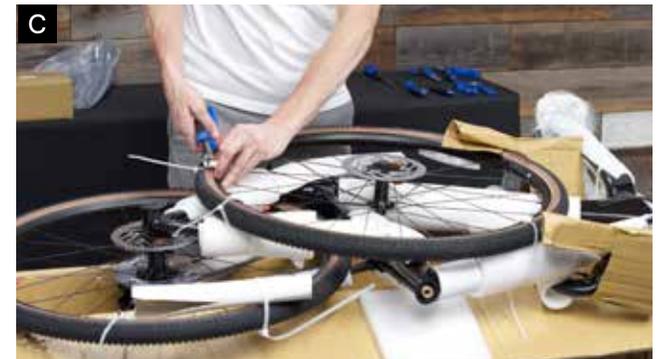


### Tools Needed:

- Flat-Head Screwdriver
- Phillips-Head Screwdriver
- Box Cutter
- Scissors

### Tools Included:

- Torque Wrench
- Allen Keys
- Pedal Wrench



Gently lift your bike out of the box and set it on top of the box. Make sure the attached wheel is facing upwards

## Let's get your bike out of the box.

- F. Carefully lift and rotate the bike, lowering it gently back into the box with the fork overhanging the box side. The stem should be pointing forward and the disc brake caliper should be on the left (non-drivetrain) side of the bike.

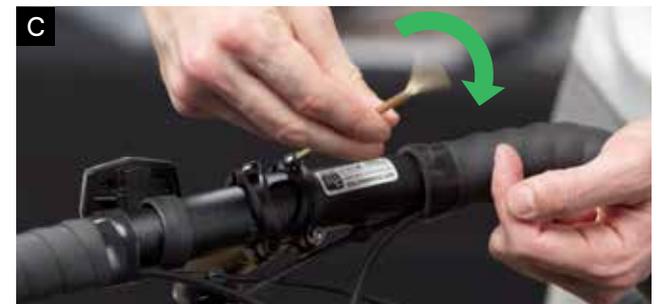


Lift the entire bike up off the box and set the rear end into the standing box.

The front fork should rest over the edge of the box.

## Step 1. Install your handlebars.

- A.** Using an Allen wrench, loosen and remove the four bolts and faceplate from the stem. The stem connects the handlebar to the fork. Set the bolts and faceplate aside together, so you don't lose anything.
- B.** Insert the handlebar into the stem and verify the brake hoses and shift cables wrap around the frame cleanly, without kinks to any of the lines.
- C.** Loosely reattach the faceplate to the stem. Take care to not tighten one bolt more than another. Your goal is a consistent gap between the stem and faceplate.
- D.** Center the handlebar in the stem using the markings on the bar, then roll it back into a comfortable position. Lightly hand-tighten the stem bolts using the Allen key, ensuring there's an even gap between the stem and faceplate. We'll fully tighten these later.



## Step 2. Install your seat post.

- A.** Locate the seatpost wedge in the parts bag. Identify the rounded face on the wedge assembly and cover it with the provided grease. Do NOT use carbon paste on this surface.
- B.** Use an Allen wrench to help guide the wedge into position in the frame. Firmly push the seatpost wedge into the frame.
- C.** Apply carbon paste to the back of the seatpost wedge assembly and the inside of the seat tube.
- D.** Locate the minimum insertion line on the seatpost.
- E.** Insert the seatpost into the frame beyond the minimum insertion line, then hand tighten the seatpost wedge using the Allen key, enough so the seatpost can't be pulled from the frame. It will be fully tightened later.
- F.** Carefully lift the bike from the box and gently place the fork ends on the ground.



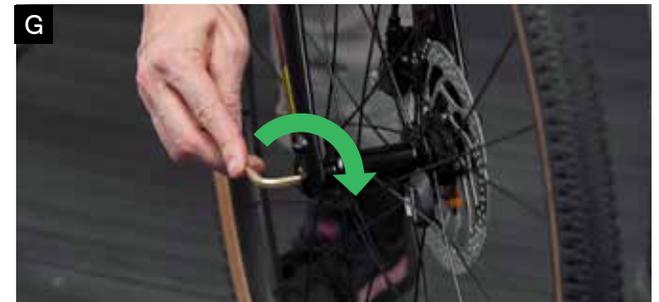
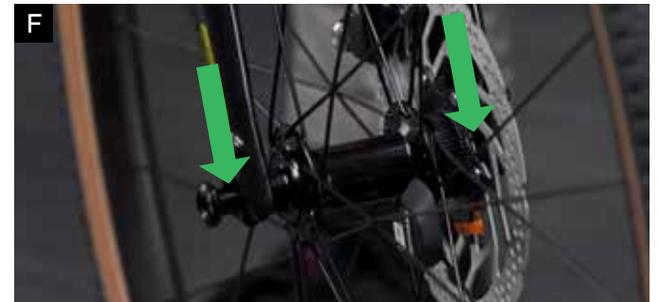
## Step 3. Install your front wheel.

- A.** Unthread and remove the thru-axle from the fork and place it on a clean surface.
- B.** The speed-release is basically a thru-axle bolt with a groove machined into the shaft to ease wheel removal and installation.
- C.** Install the speed-release thru-axle into the hub on the non-disc brake side. Be sure to line up the groove in the speed-release thru-axle with the outside of the hub.
- D.** Remove the pad spacer in the disc brake caliper.



## Step 3. Install your front wheel.

- E.** Identify the disc brake rotor side of the front wheel. Orient the wheel so the rotor is on the left side – the same side as the front brake pads. Gently lift the front of the bike and roll the front wheel back into the fork.
- F.** Carefully guide the right-side fork dropout onto the groove in the speed-release thru-axle.
- G.** Use a hex wrench to firmly tighten the speed-release thru-axle. When properly tightened, the wrench should leave a mark on your hand.
- H.** At this point you can remove any additional packaging from the bike.



## Step 4. Install your pedals.

- A.** Install your chosen pedals by turning the pedal spindle in the direction of the front wheel. Insert the right pedal (marked with R on the spindle) into the crank and tighten with your fingers. Repeat with the left pedal (with an L on it).
- B.** Tighten both pedals down very firmly with the appropriate Allen or 15mm pedal wrench.



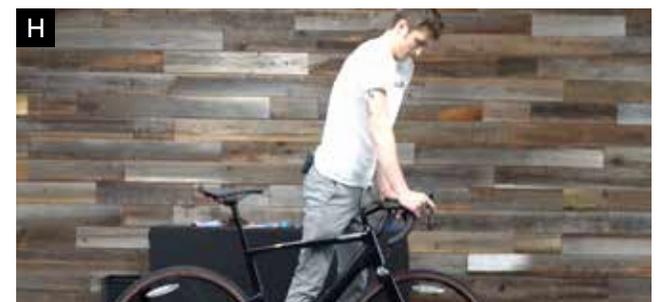
## Some final pre-ride checks.

- A. Torque Bolts.** Select the correct bit for the stem faceplate bolts and install it into the torque wrench.
- B.** Look for torque specification markings on the front and back of the stem, as well as the head of the seatpost. If these markings are absent, torque all stem and seatpost bolts to 7 Nm.
- C.** Tighten the stem bolts in an “X” pattern, ensuring the gap between the faceplate and stem remains even.
- D. Seat Height.** Adjust seat height by loosening the seatpost wedge. Position the saddle so it's the same height as your hip. Align the saddle with the frame and tighten the seatpost wedge. When riding, you should have a slight bend in your knee when the pedal is at the bottom of its rotation.



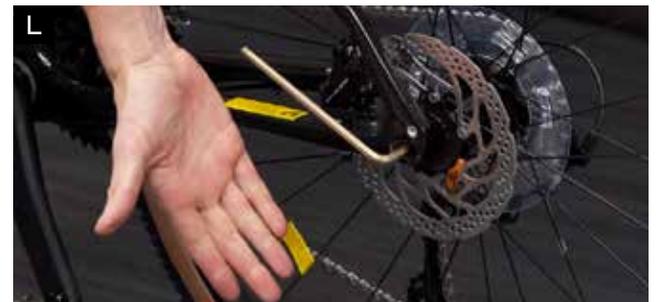
## Some final pre-ride checks.

- E.** Tighten the seatpost collar to the torque value indicated on the collar – typically 7 Nm.
- F. Reflectors.** Make sure your reflectors are tight and in the correct position. Your front reflector should point straight ahead, perpendicular to the ground. The rear reflector should point straight back. Gently pull the wheel reflectors toward the rim to ensure they are snug.
- G. Twist Checks.** 4. Grab the front and back of the saddle and attempt to tilt it on the seatpost head. It should not move.
- H.** Attempt to rotate the handlebar forward and backward in the stem. If it moves, the stem faceplate bolts are not tight enough. Use the torque wrench and correct bit to torque the faceplate bolts to specification, using the same “X” pattern as before.



## Some final pre-ride checks.

- I. Secure the front wheel between your legs and turn the handlebar. If the handlebar and wheel move independently, the stem bolts are not tight enough. Use the torque wrench and correct bit to properly torque the bolts.
- J. **Brake Check.** Confirm the front and rear brakes engage when the levers are squeezed. The brake lever and handlebar should not come into contact with the brakes fully engaged.
- K. **Tire Pressure.** Inflate the tires to the manufacturer's recommended tire pressure, which is marked on the tire sidewall.
- L. **Wheel Engagement.** Verify both speed-release thru-axles are tightened securely. The wrench should leave a mark in your hand.



**Welcome to the family.**



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