

absoluteBLACK HOLLOWcage® for SRAM

Installation manual



This manual will guide you through a step-by-step process to correctly install the **absoluteBLACK HOLLOWcage®** on **SRAM RED AXS** or **SRAM FORCE AXS** rear derailleur.

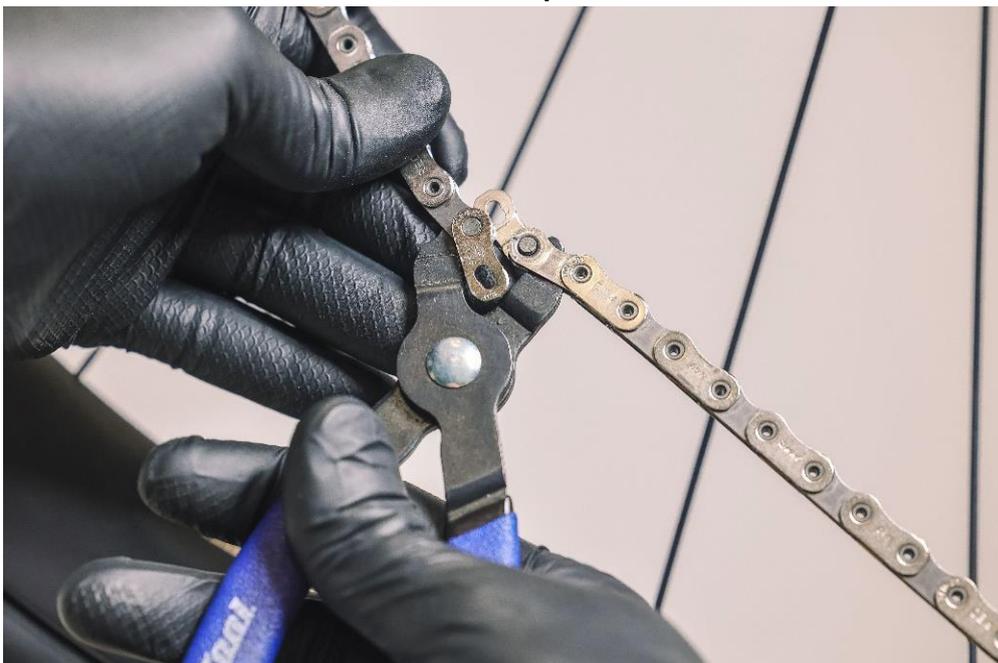
1. Prepare the tools



Prepare the following tools:

- Chain pliers (to dismount the quick-link)
- Torx key in size T30
- Allen key in size 5 mm and size 2.5 mm
- Lockring tool (delivered with cage)
- Locking nut tool (delivered with cage)
- Torque wrench

2. Remove the chain and set the derailleur position



Using chain pliers, remove the quick link. **IMPORTANT:** Shift the derailleur into the highest position on the cassette (TOWARDS THE LARGEST COG OF THE CASSETTE)

3. Remove the derailleur from the derailleur hanger



Using a 5 mm Allen key, unscrew the main mounting bolt and remove the derailleur

4. Remove the upper pulley from the original cage



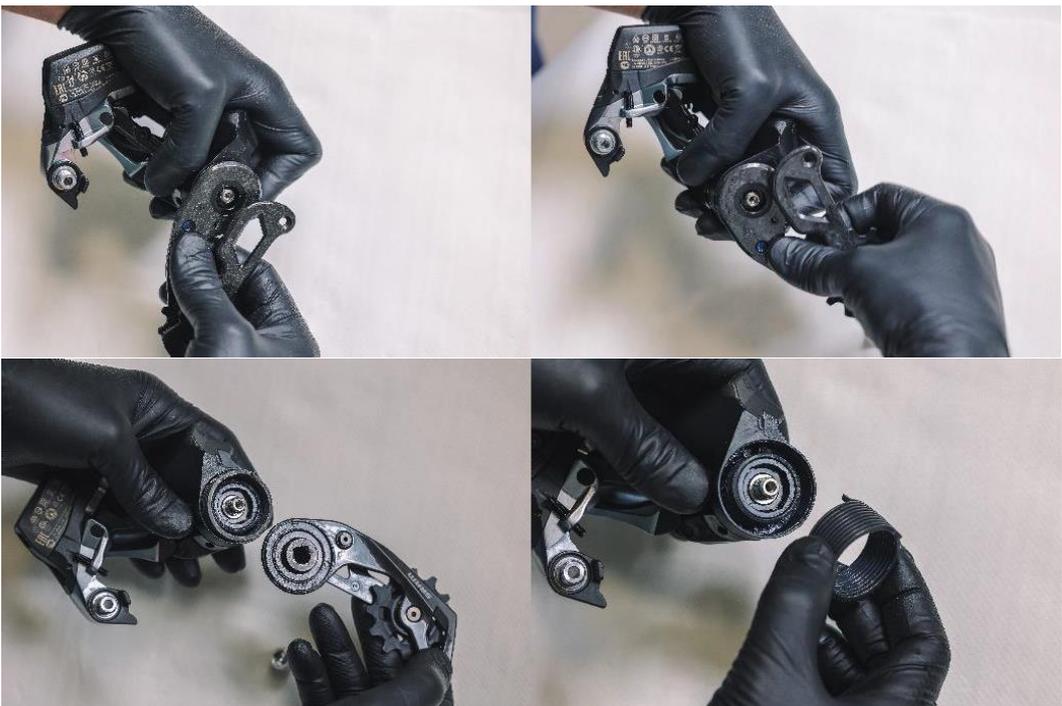
Using a 2.5 mm allen key to unscrew the bolt holding the upper pulley wheel. This will allow you to rotate the cage plate and gain access to the special locking nut holding the cage to the derailleur.

5. Remove original cage using provided aluminium tool



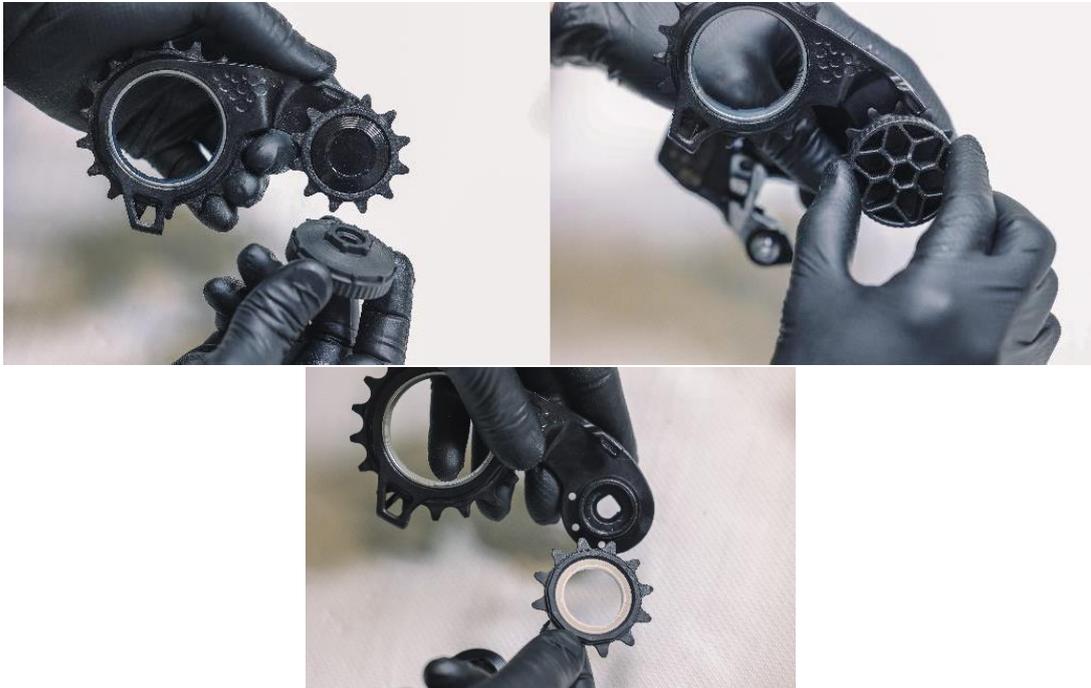
While holding the cage firmly, pressing it against the derailleur body, use provided tool and Torx T30 key to open and remove the locking nut holding the cage to the derailleur.

6. Remove the cage and the spring.



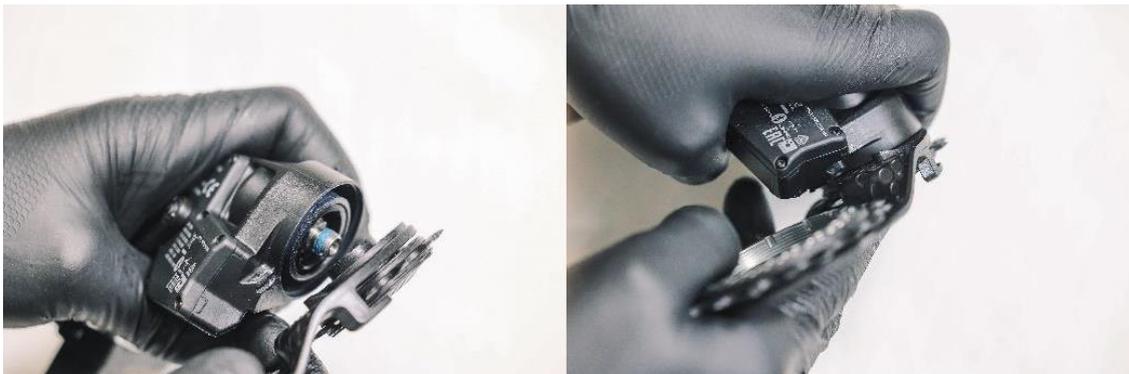
Release the spring tension by slowly rotating the cage. Remove the cage and the spring.

7. Remove the upper pulley wheel from the HOLLOWcage®



Use provided locking tool to open the locking holding upper pulley wheel.

8. Adjust the clutch position



Without mounting the spring, match the D-shape of the clutch with the D-shape of the HOLLOWcage® then rotate the cage to the point where the cage's stopper is past the recess (stopper) on the derailleur. Memorise cage position and then remove it.



IMPORTANT: It is crucial to remember the position of the cage's stopper (yellow) in relation to the stopper on the derailleur body (marked with blue arrow).

9. Insert the spring back into the derailleur



Insert one end of the spring into the recess that is slightly deeper than the rest. The spring is symmetric so it is not important which end of the spring you insert.

10. Mount the HOLLOWcage®

For this step it is best to watch our video:

<https://vimeo.com/675532840>



Insert the spring into the hole in the HOLLOWcage®. Press the cage firmly towards the derailleur and tighten the locking nut until it gently bottoms out, at that point, unwind it by half a turn. Next, insert a 1.5mm allen wrench deep into the spring tension hole which is free. The allen key will help to stabilise the return spring inside the RD's body, while it will be tensioned. Rotate the HOLLOWcage against the spring tension (clockwise when facing the back of the derailleur) until you reach the memorised position of the cage from point 8. At this position the D-shape of the cage should be lined up with the D-shape of the clutch mechanism - if it isn't, rotate the cage a little to find that spot as you cannot proceed any further until the cage sits correctly. Tighten the cage locking nut with supplied locking nut tool and a T30 Torx key to 4-5 Nm. Remove the 1.5mm allen wrench.

Install the cage locking nut and tighten it with a T30 Torx key to 4-5 Nm.

IMPORTANT: Insert the end of the return spring into the correct spring tension hole in the HOLLOWcage®. The correct spring tension hole is marked with an arrow in the picture below.

Red & Force AXS



Rival AXS



11. Mount the upper pulley wheel



Mount the upper pulley wheel and tighten the lockring with the lockring tool to about 3-4Nm. To do that insert 8mm allen key to the lockring tool for final adjustment.

12. Check the cage motion



Before you mount the derailleur back to the bike, make sure the movement of the cage is smooth. Note that SRAM AXS derailleurs have a hydraulic clutch therefore you will notice its resistance.

13. Enjoy the quietest SRAM AXS experience

Mount the derailleur back to the bike. In most cases you don't have to adjust the chain length. However, to make sure it is the correct length please follow these instructions:

Wrap the chain around the biggest sprocket of the cassette and the biggest front chainring, omitting completely the derailleur cage. Holding the chain under tension, pull the ends together so they touch. This is the base length.

Depending on the drivetrain you need to add the following to the base length:

- Extra two links for 10-33T cassette in 2X scenario
- Extra two links for 10-36T cassette in 2X scenario
- Extra four links for 10-33 or 10-36T cassette in 1X scenario
- Extra four links in 2X scenario only if you are upgrading from 10-33 to 10-36T cassette (ie. when your bike came with 10-33T but you upgrade to 10-36T).

Check on the bike stand if re-adjustment of the derailleur is needed for correct shifting. Enjoy the smoothest and quietest SRAM AXS experience.