

First of all, congratulations on your STÆRK tandem. We hope you will enjoy your tandem for many years from now. For years of trouble-free use, proper operation and maintenance is essential. Hence this manual. Please read the manual and ask your bicycle dealer for advice. He is the right person for questions about maintenance and repairs.

General data:

Every STÆRK tandem has a frame number. Note this below along with any lock and battery number. This can be useful in case of theft or request for warranty or parts for repair.

Frame number: _____

Lock number: _____ lock brand: _____

Key number: _____

Battery number: _____ (if any) Version: _____

Purchase date: _____

Dealer name/stamp: _____ Location: _____

What to do in case of theft? If your bicycle is stolen you should report it to the police. Please bring this information with you. The police will note your frame and lock number on the report and enter your stolen bicycle in the national stolen bicycle database. This database allows the police, when your bicycle is found, to ensure that it is returned to you quickly.

STÆRK tandems is a product of: JP Trading&gineering, Havenstraat 59, 7005AG Doetinchem.

General maintenance:

All technical products need maintenance. Therefore, we recommend that you regularly take your STÆRK tandem to your dealer for service. He will make sure your STÆRK stays in top condition.

Important things he looks for during a service is:

- Removal of backlash in places where it should not be.
- Lubricate and adjust gears and cables.
- Adjusting brakes, possibly replacing brake pads.
- Tensioning the spokes.

We recommend having the first service done after 500 kilometers. This is because with a new bicycle all parts "settle", causing bolts and spokes to loosen. If they are not tightened in time, this can cause breakage or premature wear.

After this first service, you should of course go to your dealer if you notice that something is not right. Even if everything is still running smoothly, we recommend an inspection at least once a year or every 1,000 kilometers.

Good posture on the bicycle is of utmost importance. Correct posture prevents complaints and makes you less likely to tire. Of course you will always have to get used to a new bike. Adjusting to your own height will probably be done by your dealer. If adjustments are needed later, please note the following instructions.

ALWAYS MAKE SURE ALL NUTS AND BOLTS ARE TIGHTENED AGAIN AFTER ADJUSTING.

Saddle: The saddles of your STÆRK Tandem can be raised and lowered, forward and backward, and tilted (nose up or down), this is done with the screws indicated in the picture: **Note:** When raising your seat post, always observe the **maximum position** indicated on the pin. A seat post set too high can break or damage the frame.

The additional bar between seat post and frame makes the adjustability even greater, again please be careful not to exceed the **maximum position**. This is indicated on the bar.



Seat post suspension: Your seat post may have adjustable suspension. Have your dealer adjust it to size (weight). If you want to adjust this yourself: Remove the seatpost from the bike, use an Allen wrench to screw the bolt at the bottom of the pin in (clockwise) to increase the spring tension. And out (counterclockwise) to make the seat post spring lighter. It is normal for the seat post to already spring in slightly when you sit down.



Handlebar: Your handlebar/steering stem, both front and rear, can be raised and lowered, forward and backward and it can tilt, this is done with the screws indicated in the picture. If using a different handlebar stem, please see the separately attached instructions.

Note: When raising your stem, always observe the **maximum position** indicated. A stem set too high can break or damage the front fork or frame.

The extra rod between the rear stem and the frame makes the adjustability even greater, again please be careful not to exceed the **maximum position**. This is indicated on the bar.



Brakes: Your STÆRK tandem is equipped with hydraulic (disc) brakes. They provide maximum braking power and are easy to apply. However, it is necessary to have them checked from time to time. The degree of wear, especially on the brake pads, can vary greatly. With normal use on flat roads, a set of brake pads will last 1500 km. However, in extreme conditions: wet, lots of dirt (mud or marl), and long descents, it is possible that a set of brake pads will be worn away in just a few hundred kilometers.

TIP: It is recommended to take a set of extra brake pads on vacations or multi-day trips. Please check the description of the brakes to see how they should be fitted.



Folding the frame: Your STÆRK tandem is equipped with a folding mechanism. To fold your tandem:

- * Tilt both Quick Releases (QR) outward to the rear, taking the tension off the hinge.
- * Lift both QR and push the front of the tandem to the right.
- * The front can be completely folded down making the tandem narrower than 2 normal bikes.

Unfolding your Tandem again:

- * Straighten the front until the QR meets the back.
- * Lift both QR to allow the front frame to rotate a little further.
- * First push down 1^e QR and flip over and push closed, then idem at 2^e QR.

Make sure the QR clamps well, if not tighten the lock nuts slightly.

The system is extremely secure. Even if the QR were not secure or became loose during a ride, there is still sufficient securing through the latch pin and the 2^e QR.



Front suspension: If your STÆRK tandem is equipped with a suspension fork, it is adjustable. The setting can be adjusted by turning the knobs on top of the fork clockwise (heavier) or counterclockwise (lighter).



Grips: If your STÆRK tandem is equipped with loose grips, they can be rotated around the handlebars. This allows you to set the ideal position. Loosen the bolts and tighten them again after adjustment. It is advisable to check these bolts again later as they can become loose due to temperature differences and vibrations.



Gear System: Your STÆRK tandem may be equipped with different gear systems. Please read the separate operating instructions for your bike. If anything is unclear, ask your dealer. He is also responsible for maintenance. Do not attempt to adjust the gears yourself if you do not know what you are doing. This is specialist work.

Lubrication: For lubrication of chain etc., it is best to use Teflon containing oil. For general protection, it is best to use silicone spray and for bright and chromed metal parts, Vaseline.

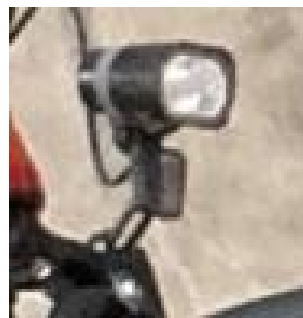
Electric assistance: If your STÆRK tandem is equipped with electric assistance, please read the operating instructions that accompany it carefully. Also have your dealer explain it to you. He is also the best person for maintenance. He has the training and tools for this. Do absolutely NOT tamper with your E system yourself. Improper repair will void any warranty.

For batteries, the following always applies:

- * Charge them regularly, even when not in use.
- * Take the battery indoors as much as possible. Your battery can withstand a rain shower but being outside day and night with varying temperatures and moisture can be detrimental to its life.
- * Use only the original charger. In case of damage to charger or cords replace them immediately.
- * During charging, the battery and charger can get warm, so make sure that charging takes place in a ventilated area and that air can move freely around the charger and battery.
- * If in doubt about the operation of your E bike, always contact your dealer.

Lighting: Depending on the version, there are different lighting systems. Check the separately supplied descriptions on how they work and should be turned on and off.

The lights on your STÆRK tandem may also be connected to the E-system. If so, please refer to your E-system's instruction manual on how to turn them on.



TIPS:

Riding a tandem is different from riding a normal bicycle. Take some time to get used to your STÆRK and preferably practice in a quiet environment before taking your STÆRK into the busy "city" traffic. Your bike is a bit longer, the turns have to be taken a bit wider, the total weight is a bit higher and you may have to get used to a moving fellow passenger.

*Practice getting on and off a few times, too.

* Practice shifting and braking a few times so you know how to shift gears to pedal lighter or heavier. Pedaling too heavy isn't nice but pedaling too light isn't always either. Then it's good to know what to do to adjust it.

* Indicate to each other when you start pedaling. Sometimes it is helpful to put both pedals up on the same side when riding off (this can in fact differ on tandems with independent pedal control).

* Agree with your "co-cyclist/stoker" that he/she should go with the movement in the turns. If he or she starts to lean against it will make steering more difficult.

* Tandem riding is like dancing: Only one can be in charge, but when you are in tune with each other, the fun is for 2.

We wish you much cycling pleasure with your STÆRK.

Warranty STÆRK Tandems:

Your STÆRK tandem is made with materials of the best value for money.

This guarantees years of cycling fun. Nevertheless, a bicycle is an article of use and is subject to wear and tear. This requires normal maintenance. This is best done at your local STÆRK dealer, who has the latest technology and tools.

Warranty is provided exclusively through the STÆRK dealer. He can assess this for you and contact STÆRK if necessary.

Warranty is given only on the product. Transportation or assembly costs are not covered by the warranty.

Your STÆRK folding frame comes with a 10-year warranty.

You have a 2-year manufacturer's warranty on the entire bike, except for wear and tear parts.

Wear parts are: Tires, brake pads, chain and sprockets, saddle, suspension parts such as seat posts and front forks etc. These items are guaranteed only in case of factory defects. A battery is also a wearing part. You will receive a 2 year warranty, where after 2 years the capacity is at least 80% of the new value. With normal use and without the battery in depth discharge is a life expectancy of 5 years. A battery can lose about 10% of its capacity per year.

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