How to Tune Single Pivot Caliper Brakes on a Bicycle

This guide will show an in-depth walk through on how to tune single pivot caliper brakes on a bicycle .

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will give an in-depth demonstration of how to tune single pivot caliper brakes on a bicycle in addition to our project show tips and tricks with important cautions during disassembly.

🔧 TOOLS:

- 10mm Wrench (1)

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Step 1 — How to Tune Single Pivot Caliper Brakes on a Bicycle

- Set bike up on bike stand or have someone hold onto the bike, keeping it balanced.

- Pull on brake levers so that the brakes pads are touching the edge of the rim.
  - (i) If the top edge on either side of the brakes are misaligned with the top edge of the rim, your brake calipers will need to be tuned.

Step 2

- Using a 10 mm wrench, back out of the barrel adjuster on the brake calipers 2-3 turns.

- With the same 10 mm wrench, loosen the pinch bolt at the bottom of brake caliper to release the brake wire.
  - (i) Loosening the pinch bolt is optional.

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Step 3

- With the 10 mm wrench, loosen the bolt connecting the brake caliper to the frame of the bicycle.

- Adjust the brake caliper so that it is centered with the tire and rim. Tighten bolt back up when finished.

  - ⓘ You may have to repeat this step a few times to ensure the caliper is centered with the tire and rim.

Step 4

- Take the 10 mm wrench and loosen the bolt on the back side of the brake pad.

- Adjust the brake pads position on the rim by sliding it up and down along the surface of the rim until it is centered.

- When finished, tighten the bolt for the brake pad back up to hold its position.
  - (i) Adjusting the brakes may take several attempts.
  - (i) The brake pad should not touch the tire at all.

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Step 5

- Pull on the the brake lever to adjust the pad clearance from the brake line.

- Tighten the barrel adjuster at the brake caliper.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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