



WARNING!

Failure to comply with these warnings and instructions may cause **SERIOUS INJURY, DEATH, or DAMAGE TO YOUR PRODUCT.**

Be sure to read this manual carefully before using your DVO suspension. Throughout this manual, reference is made that “an accident” could occur. Any accident may cause damage to the product, **SERIOUS INJURY, OR DEATH.**

These instructions contain important information about the correct installation, guidelines for set-up, service and maintenance of your suspension. Nevertheless, please be informed that special knowledge and tools are essential to install, service and to maintain DVO Suspension. Common mechanical knowledge may not be sufficient to repair, service or maintain your suspension. Therefore we strongly recommend getting your suspension installed, serviced and/or maintained by a trained and qualified bicycle mechanic. Improper installation, service or maintenance can result in an accident.

Forks and rear shocks contain fluids and air under extreme pressure. **DO NOT** attempt to disassemble any portion of a DVO Suspension product unless instructed to do so by a DVO Suspension authorized technician.

Only use genuine DVO Suspension replacement parts. Modification, improper service, or the use of aftermarket replacement or spare parts may result in an accident and **VOIDS** the warranty of your product.

DVO Suspension forks and rear shocks are designed for the usage by a single rider only.

DO NOT use DVO Suspension products on any powered vehicle that is not a pedal-assist Class-1 or Class-3 e Bike.

Always be equipped with proper safety gear. This includes a properly fitted and fastened helmet. According to your riding style you should use additional safety protection. Make sure your equipment is in flawless condition.

Make sure you select the correct fork and rear shock according to your frame manufacturer specification. Installing suspension that does not match the geometry of your frame could result in a failure of the suspension itself and void the suspension warranty. Installing a fork or rear shock not designed for your frame will change the geometry and handling of your bike. Learn how to ride and train your skills. Know your limits and never ride beyond those.

Study all other manuals provided with your bicycle and make yourself familiar with all components mounted to your bike.

PRE-RIDE SAFETY CHECK

1. **DO NOT** ride your bicycle if any one of the following test criteria is not passed! Riding your bike without eliminating any defect or carrying out the necessary adjustments can result in an accident, **SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**
2. Do you notice any cracks, dents, bent, or tarnished parts of your suspension fork or shock, or any other part of your bicycle? If so, please contact a trained and qualified bicycle mechanic to check your fork, shock, seat post, saddle, and complete bike.
3. Do you notice any oil leaking from your fork and/or shock? If so, please consult a trained and qualified bicycle mechanic to check your suspension and bike before riding.
4. Make sure your wheel is attached and centered properly in order to avoid any contact with the suspension fork or brake system.
5. Make sure your axle system is secure. There should be no play between the hub and fork lower.
6. Make sure your brakes are properly installed, adjusted, and work properly. This also applies to every other part of your bike like handlebars, pedals, cranks arms, seat post, saddle, etc.
7. Check the cable length and routing of your braking components. Make sure they do not interfere with your steering actions or full compression and extension of your suspension.
8. Check your shock hardware and ensure there is no play between the shock and mounting surfaces. Ensure your shock hardware is tightened to the bike manufacturer's recommend torque before riding.

Things to look for.

Alignment

When installing your shock, it should slide in smoothly. If you have to force, bend, or twist the shock into position, something is off. If you run into this problem, double check you have the correct size shock and mounting hardware for your frame. If everything is correct, there could be an alignment issue with your frame. Consult your bike manufacturer for further help.

Correct Stroke Length

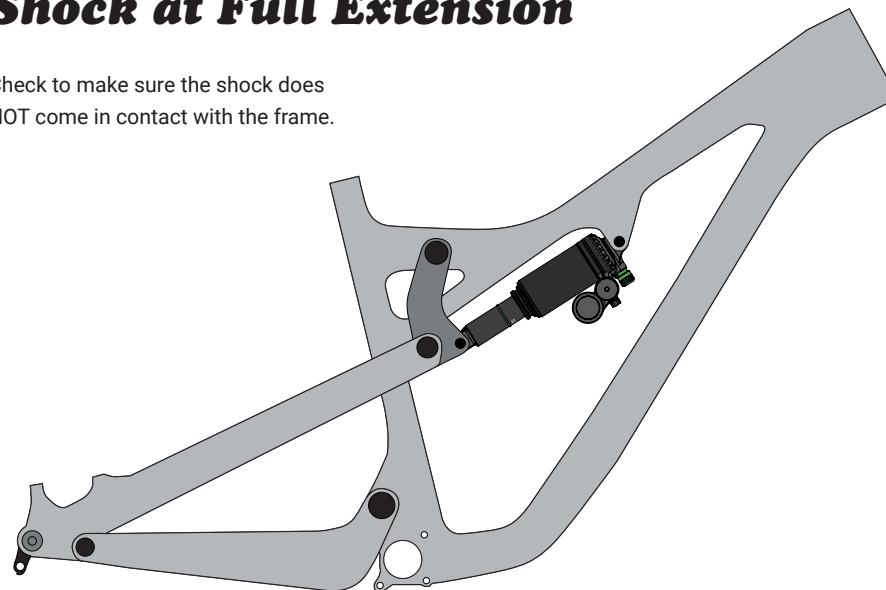
This is a big one! It's important to make sure the stroke of the shock matches the stroke required of the bicycle. After installation of the shock, release the main chamber air pressure (NOT the bladder) and cycle the shock. There should be NO frame contact points at any spot in the cycle. If at any point in the travel the shock hits the frame, tire hits the seat-tube, or any other contact happens, DO NOT ride the bicycle. Make sure you have the correct specs and contact your bicycle manufacturer.

Smooth Movin'

With the shock mounted in the frame and the air released, make sure the linkage and shock cycle smoothly throughout the travel. If it feels notchy and inconsistent, double check torque specs and fitment specs. You may be required to contact your frame manufacturer if the problem persists.

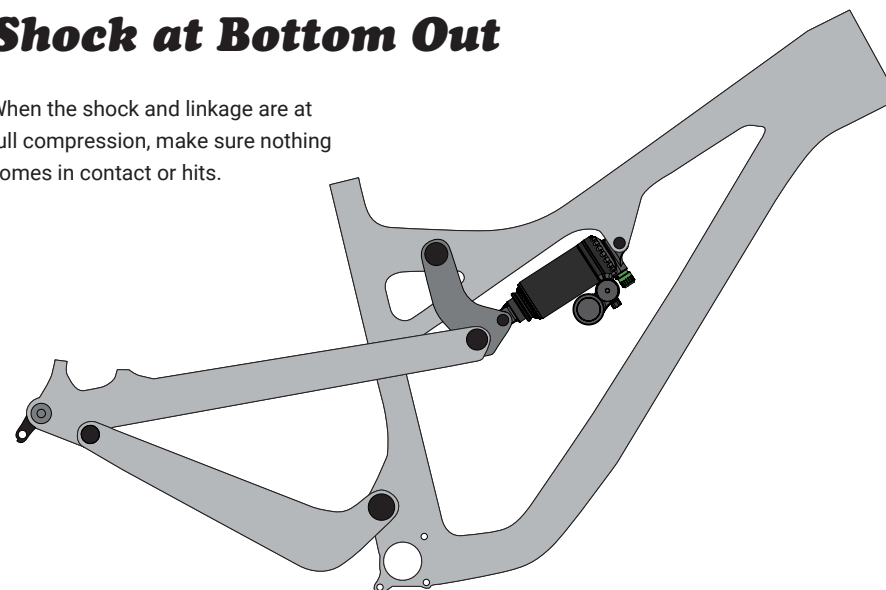
Shock at Full Extension

Check to make sure the shock does NOT come in contact with the frame.



Shock at Bottom Out

When the shock and linkage are at full compression, make sure nothing comes in contact or hits.



Tools Needed For Setup

1. Shock Pump
2. Tape Measure or Calipers
3. Protective eyewear

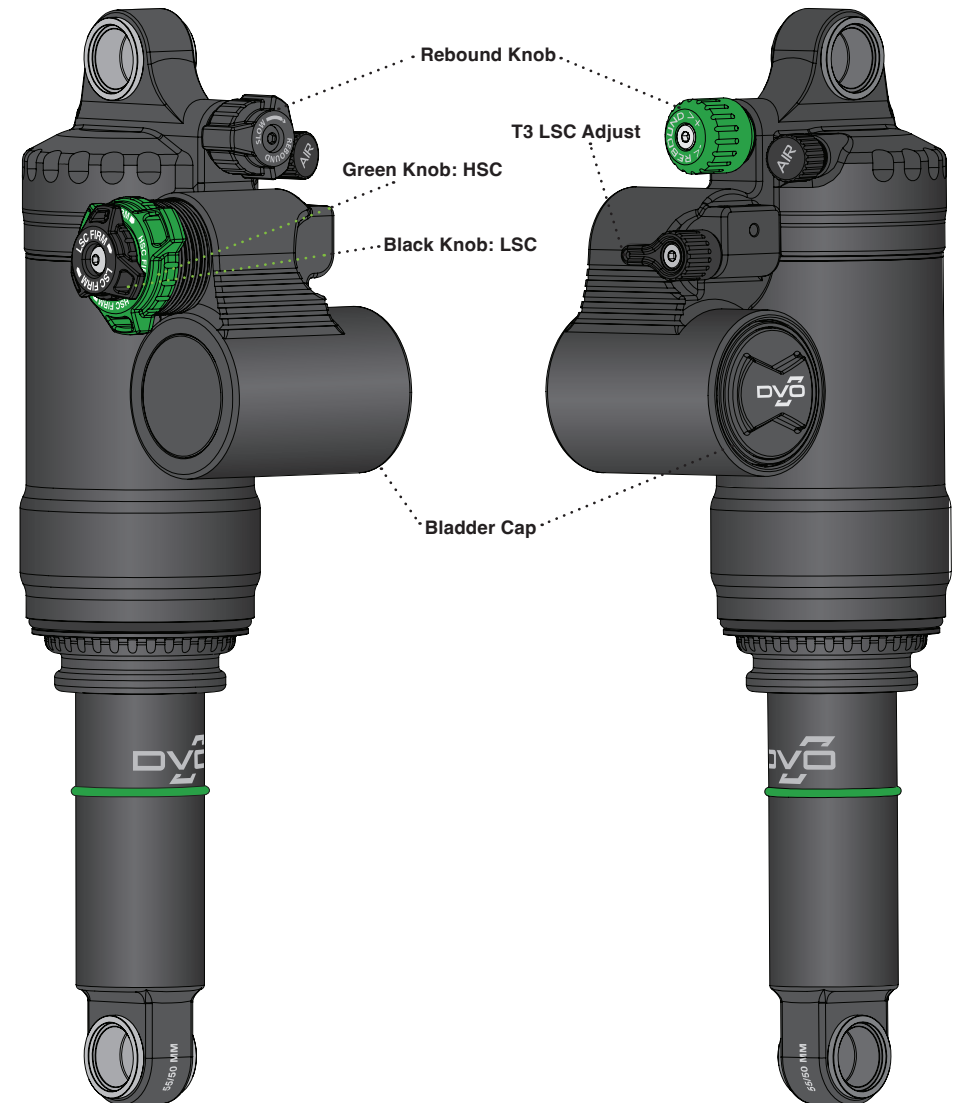
SOME HELPFUL TIPS

1. All of these settings are just starting points to get you close. Don't be afraid to use your adjusters or change up your settings to make it perfect for you.
2. Write down your settings! Modern suspension products have a ton of adjustment which is awesome, but you can get lost. When you find a good spot, write it down so you can always go back to it.
3. Dedicate time to setting your bike up for the trail, not the parking lot. It's a good idea to get out on the trail and find a section you can repeat. Try different settings to truly feel what the adjusters are doing. Once you truly understand what they do and feel like, you'll know when to use them in any situation.
4. Balance is key! This is a big one. Try your best to get your fork and shock feeling equal. If the rebound in the rear shock is way faster than the fork, the bike won't have a very predictable ride. Feel to make sure the rebound, spring rate, and compression are having similar feelings front and back. This will provide a predictable and confidence inspiring ride.
5. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask. Give us a call, shoot us an email, we'll get you dialed in!




Topaz Prime

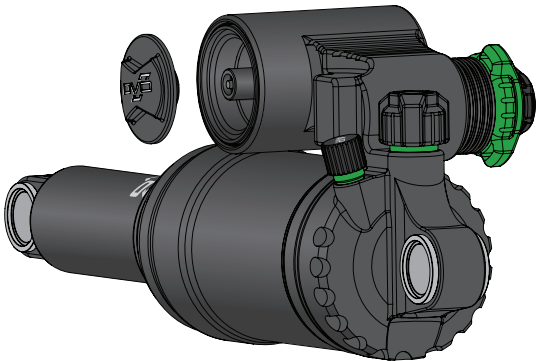
Topaz T3



Bladder Adjust

The bladder is a tuning feature to tailor the feel of the shock to the rider. Try a higher or a lower pressure to find what suits you. The chart below is a starting point, feel free to try the full pressure range!

 **BLADDER PRESSURE
RANGE 140-180PSI
DO NOT EXCEED 180PSI**



Bladder Pressure Base Setting Chart						
Rider Weight		Air Pressure (psi)				
lbs	kg	140	150	160	170	180
120-139	54-63	PLUSH	FIRM			
140-159	64-72	PLUSH	FIRM			
160-179	73-81		PLUSH FIRM			
180-199	82-90		PLUSH FIRM			
200-219	91-100			PLUSH FIRM		
220-239	101-108			PLUSH FIRM		
240+	109+				PLUSH FIRM	

What are bladders in shocks and how do they work?

Bladders are located in the reservoir of the rear shock and take the place of a traditional IFP (internal floating piston). They both have the same purpose but completely different ways of executing it. That purpose is to separate the air from the oil. A bladder is basically a balloon which is filled with air and seated to the end cap. The bladder is charged with a high PSI to push back against the oil which creates pressure in the system. As the shock is compressed, oil flows through the system and starts to compress the bladder.

Setting SAG

What is SAG?

SAG is the amount the shock compresses under your own body weight. Make sure you check your SAG with all your riding gear on (riding shoes, hydration pack, etc).

The recommended SAG is 20% - 30%. Setting proper SAG is the only way to find the right air pressure for your shock/body weight. Refer to the chart below to find the proper SAG.

Stroke (mm)	20% SAG SUPPORTIVE	30% SAG PLUSH
40	8mm	12mm
42.5	8.5mm	12.75mm
45	9mm	13.5mm
50	10mm	15mm
52.5	10.5mm	15.75mm
55	11mm	16.5mm
57.5	11.5mm	17.25mm
60	12mm	18mm
62.5	12.5mm	18.75mm
65	13mm	19.5mm

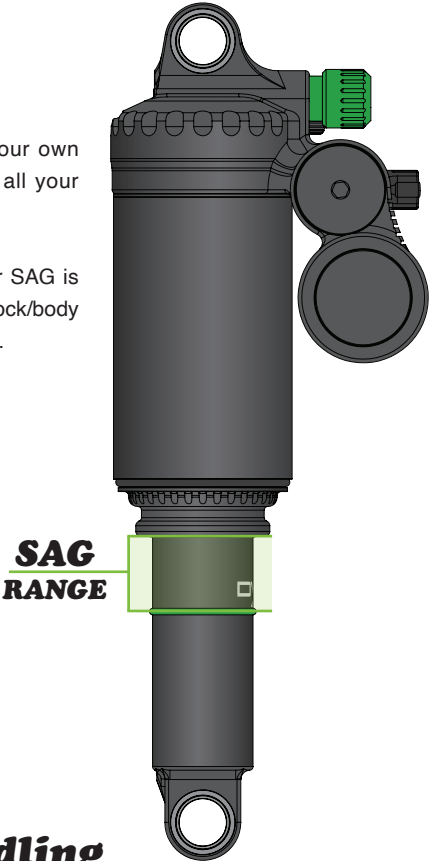
Can SAG effect the handling of my bike?

It is very beneficial to experiment with different SAG settings for various riding styles and suspension kinematics.

Less SAG equates to a firmer, more supportive ride, which sits higher up in the travel, but loses some small bump sensitivity and traction.

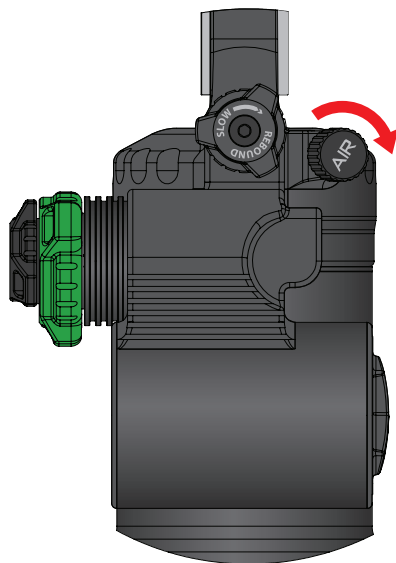
More SAG offers a plusher ride with less support and sits slightly deeper into the travel, but may bottom out easier.

Experiment to find the best setting that delivers a balanced ride that allows your suspension to do what it's intended to do; provide increased traction, control, and comfort!



Air Pressure

Adjust the air pressure to attain your proper sag setting by removing the air cap and inflating the shock with a suspension pump. Refer to the chart below for your recommended starting pressure based on your rider weight.



DO NOT EXCEED MAXIMUM AIR PRESSURE! 300PSI

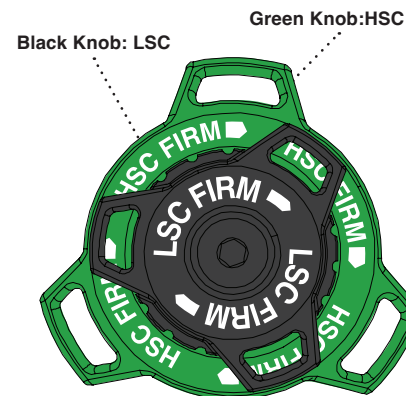
Air Pressure Base Setting Chart

Rider Weight		Air Pressure (psi)														
lbs	kg	140	145	150	160	165	170	175	180	190	200	210	220	230	240	250+
120-139	54-63	PLUSH		FIRM												
140-159	64-72			PLUSH		FIRM										
160-179	73-81					PLUSH		FIRM								
180-199	82-90								PLUSH		FIRM					
200-219	91-100									PLUSH		FIRM				
220-239	101-108										PLUSH		FIRM			
240+	109+											PLUSH		FIRM		

Tech Tip!

Don't be afraid to try things! The chart above is just a starting point to get you in the ballpark. You will have to modify this to fit your own personal preference and bike. The leverage ratio of your bike will drastically change the amount of air pressure you need.

Adjusting Compression: Prime



High speed compression

Prime level products come with a full range high speed compression adjustment. This is the green knob located behind the black low speed knob. HSC controls the damping force under faster suspension movements. Use this to control the amount of support on bigger impacts such as g-outs, landings, drops, etc.

HSC

Open	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Closed
Less Support (Counter-Clockwise)											More Support (Clockwise)

Low speed compression

Prime level products feature an adjustable low speed compression. Rotate the black LSC knob counter-clockwise until it stops; this is fully open. Rotating the LSC knob clockwise provides a firmer level of support.

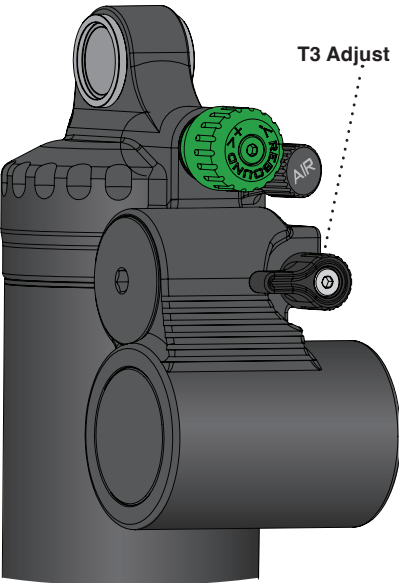
Too much LSC will cause the suspension to sit too high in its travel, creating harshness and reducing traction. Experiment to find the right level of support for your riding style and trail conditions.

LSC

Open	1	2	3	4	5	Closed
Less Support (Counter-Clockwise)						More Support (Clockwise)

Adjusting Compression: T3

Three settings to conquer any terrain? Damn right. We went through countless tunes to land on the most versatile “on the fly” compression adjustment ever. The “Open” setting provides incredible trophy truck like performance, a middle position or our “support” setting for unmatched stability to counter rider input, and a firm position for those steep climbs!




Compression Base Setting Chart			
Trail Style	T3 Compression Setting		
	OPEN	MID	FIRM
Rough Descent	PLUSH		
Smooth Descent		SUPPORTIVE	
Technical Climb		SUPPORTIVE	FIRM
Smooth Climb			FIRM
Sandy Descent	PLUSH	SUPPORTIVE	
Sandy Climb		SUPPORTIVE	FIRM
Mud Descent	PLUSH	SUPPORTIVE	
Mud Climb		SUPPORTIVE	FIRM

Rebound Adjust

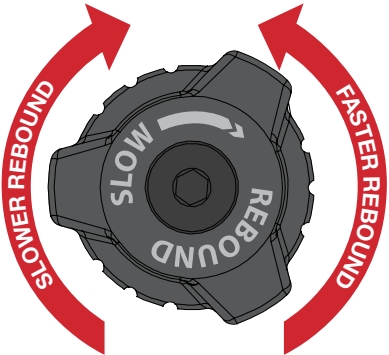


Rebound controls the speed at which the shock extends after compression. Rebound damping control is relative to the coil spring weight. Higher pressures require more rebound damping. Lower pressures require less rebound damping so please adjust accordingly.




CLOCKWISE = **SLOW**

COUNTER-CLOCKWISE = **FAST**



Rebound Base Setting Chart (for all Topaz models)									
Air Pressure	Rebound Clicks from Closed (Fully Clockwise)								
	PSI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
120-139									
140-159									
160-179									
180-199									
200-219									
220-239									
240+									



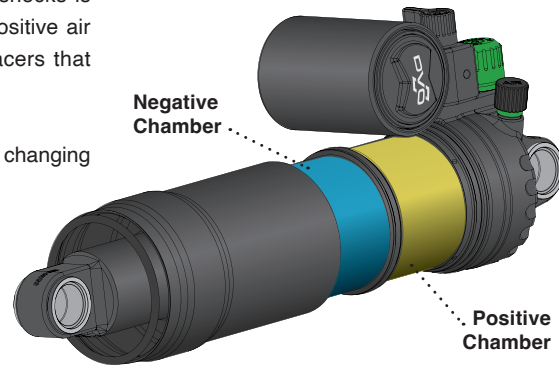
Tech Tip!

Rebound settings will vary greatly on bike design, trail conditions, and rider preference. It's best to start with the rebound adjuster in the closed setting (full clockwise) and adjust out in two-click increments.

Volume Spacers

A cool feature with the Topaz series shocks is the ability to tune the negative and positive air spring. This is done with volume spacers that come with your shock.

IMPORTANT! Watch this video before changing volume spacers!



[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Symptom	Solution	
	Add Positive Spacers	Add Negative Spacers
Bottoms out Too Easily	Add 1-2 positive spacers	
Lacking Support for Pedalling		Add 1-2 negative spacers
Not Enough Sag	Add 1 positive spacer. Then lower your air pressure	
Too Much Sag		Add 1-2 negative spacers. You may need to add air pressure
Looking for More Mid-Stroke Support	Add 1-2 positive spacers	Add 1-2 negative spacers
Can't Get Full Travel		Add 1-2 negative spacers and decrease air pressure



Tech Tip!

Keep it clean! Be careful of contamination when removing the air sleeve. Getting dirt inside the air chamber can cause leaks or failures. Always keep your shock squeaky-clean when doing this procedure.

Tuning Notes

[illegible]