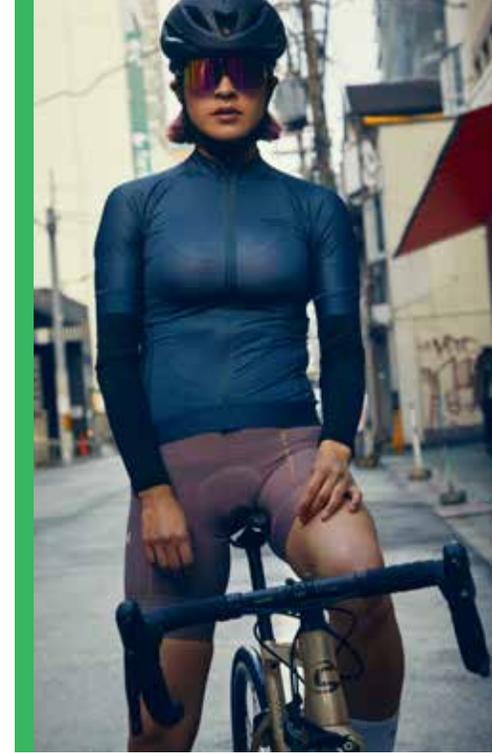


# Alloy Road Disc

Quick Start Guide



Applies to: Topstone AI,  
Synapse AI, CAAD 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](mailto: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.



## Getting your bike ready for assembly.

This video applies to one Cannondale Platform:

- Topstone AI, Synapse AI, CAAD 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. Next, remove the front wheel from the bike and set it aside. Remove all additional packaging from the bike, letting the handlebar gently hang from the frame.
- D.** Carefully lift and rotate the bike, lowering it gently back into the box with the fork overhanging the box side.



### 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

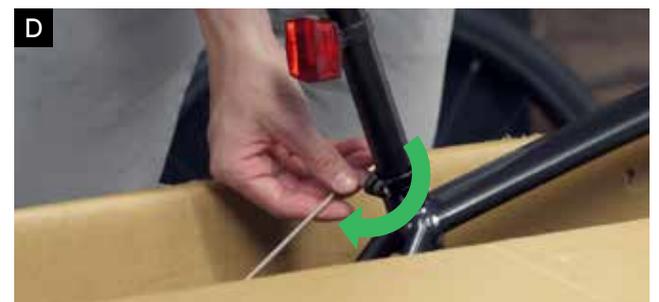
## Step 1. Install your handlebars.

- A.** Using the included Allen wrench, loosen and remove the 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. Loosen the seatpost clamp with the Allen key.
- B. On the seatpost, locate the minimum insertion line.
- C. Insert the seatpost into the frame beyond the minimum insertion line.
- D. Hand tighten the clamp using the Allen key, enough so the seatpost can't be pulled from the frame.



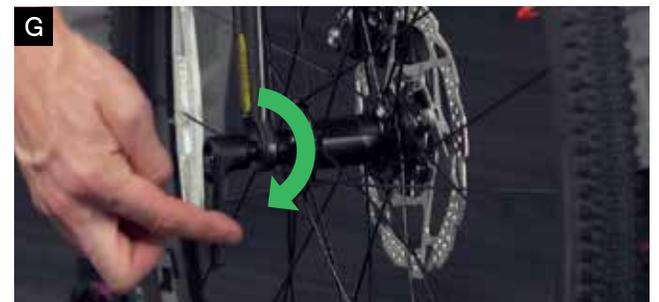
## Step 3. Install your front wheel.

- A. Unthread and remove the thru-axle from the fork and place it on a clean surface.
- B. Remove the brake pad spacer. Take care to not pull the front brake lever without either the pad spacer or disc brake rotor is not installed.
- C. Carefully lift the bike from the box and gently place the fork ends on the ground.
- D. Locate the disc brake rotor on the front wheel. Orient the wheel so the rotor is on the left side – the same side as the front brake pads.



### Step 3. Install your front wheel.

- E.** Line the brake rotor up with the disc brake pads, then lift the front of the bike and roll the wheel into the fork.
- F.** Carefully align and lower the fork onto the wheel axle. Ensure the brake pads are in-line with the disc and the wheel axle is fully seated in the fork dropouts.
- G.** Insert the thru-axle from the right (drivetrain) side of the bike and tighten. When properly tightened, the lever should leave a mark on your hand.
- H.** Ensure the thru-axle head is aligned behind the fork leg. Holding the end of the thru axle with your thumb, pull the thru-axle head out to make angle adjustments without affecting the tightness of the axle.
- I.** At this point you can remove any additional packaging from the bike.



## Step 4. Install your pedals.

Your bike may not come with pedals. Regardless, here is how to install.

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



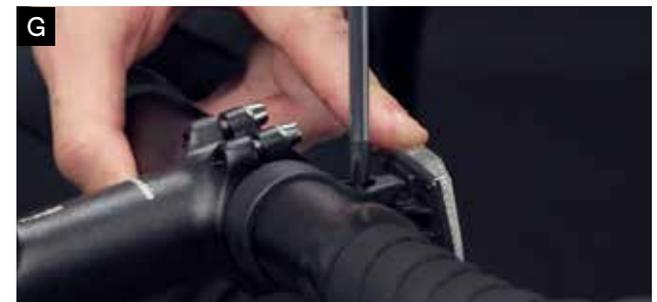
## Some final pre-ride checks.

- A.** Confirm the handlebar is centered in the stem, and at the correct height and angle. Adjust as necessary, taking care to keep the gap between the stem and faceplate even from top to bottom.
- B. Torque Bolts.** Select the correct bit for the stem faceplate bolts and install it into the torque wrench. Tighten the stem bolts in an “X” pattern, ensuring the gap between the faceplate and stem remains even.
- C.** 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.
- D. Seat Height.** Adjust seat height by loosening the seatpost collar. Standing next to the bike, position the saddle so it's the same height as your hip.



## Some final pre-ride checks.

- E.** Align the saddle with the frame and tighten the seatpost clamp. When riding, you should have a slight bend in your knee when the pedal is at the bottom of its rotation.
- F.** Tighten the seatpost collar to the torque value indicated on the collar – typically 5 Nm.
- G. Reflectors.** Ensure the rear reflector is pointing straight back, and the front reflector points straight ahead, perpendicular to the ground. Gently pull the wheel reflectors toward the rim to ensure they are snug.
- H. Twist Checks.** 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.



## Some final pre-ride checks.

- I. 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.
- 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. **Wheel Engagement.** Verify both thru-axles are tightened securely. The lever should leave a mark in your hand.
- L. **Tire Pressure.** Inflate the tires to the manufacturer’s recommended tire pressure, which is marked on the tire sidewall.

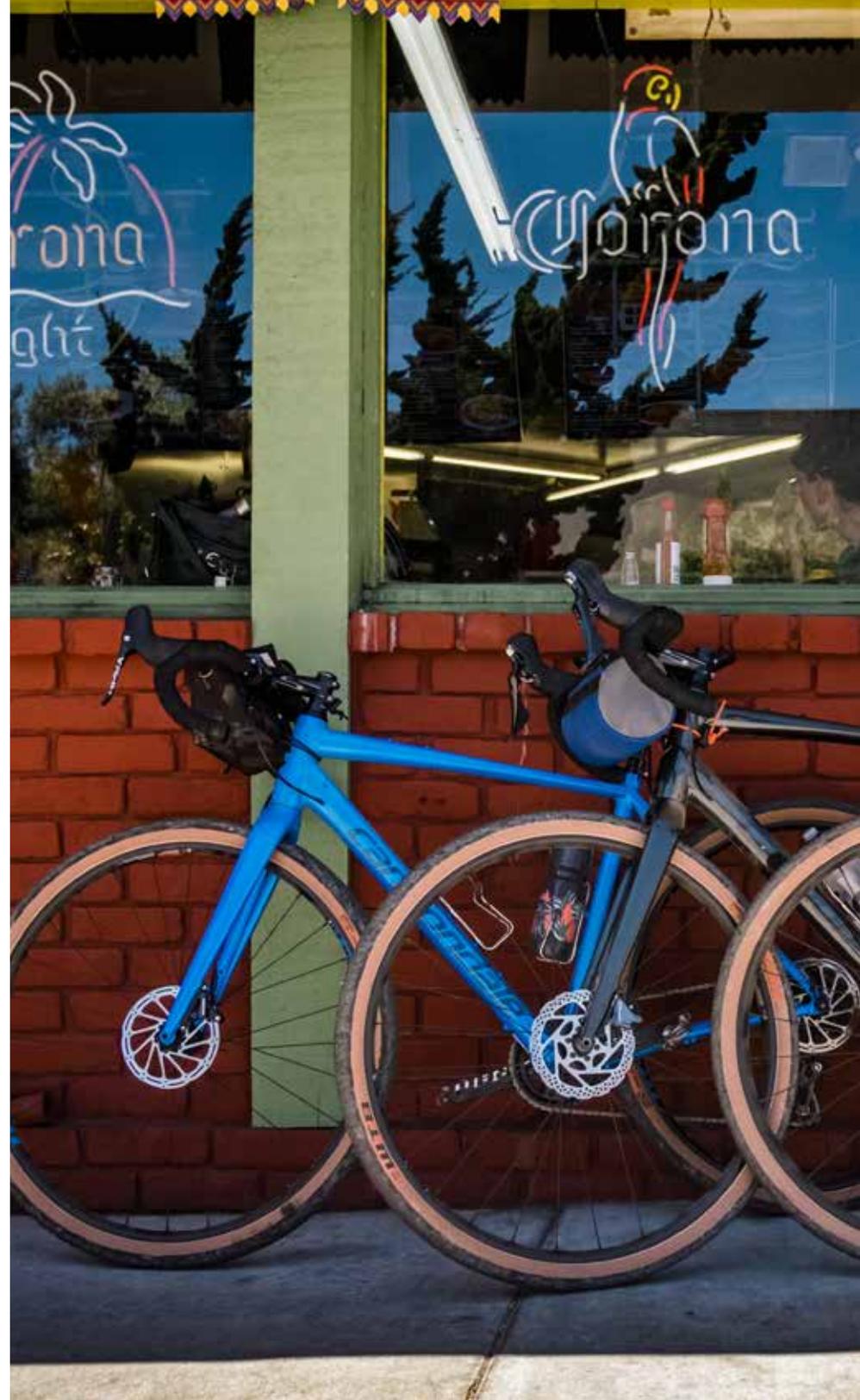




**Welcome to the family.**



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