Bowhead Hauler Assembly and Installation Instructions

TOOLS REQUIRED:

_(2) 3/4" wrenches
_7/16" wrench
_3/8" wrench
_5/16" allen wrench

CONTENTS
(PARTS)

_(1) Receiver tube assembly
_(1) Platform assembly
_(1) Jack tube
_(2) Foot peg retaining shafts
_(1) 1/2" winged safety screw
_(1) Bottle jack platform
_(2) Upper control arms
_(1) Lower control arm with nut
_(1) Lower control arm without nut
_(1) 2 ton bottle jack

CONTENTS
(HARDWARE)

_(1) Bell clamp
_(1) 1/4" x 1-1/2" machine screw
_(1) 1/4" x 3/4" machine screw
_(2) 1/4" Nyloc nuts
_(21) 1/2" inch fender washers
_(1) 5/8" treaded hitch pin & clip
_(6) 1/2" nyloc nuts
_(4) 1/2" x 4" machine screws
_(2) 1/2" x 1-3/4" flat head machine screws
(Allen wrench flat head)
_(2) 5/8" wing nuts
_(2) 5/8" washers
_(2) 5/8" lock washers

Note: Due to the powder coating process, it is possible that some of the 1/2" holes may require being chased with a 1/2" drill bit in order to make clearance to insert the 1/2" assembly screws.

Step 1:
Insert receiver tube assembly into a hitch receiver and insert hitch retaining pin.

Step 2:
Lay out jack platform and lower control arms as shown in picture. Note the orientation of the arm with the nut and the ear on the jack platform. Insert the 2-1/2" x 1-3/4" flat head(allen head) machine screws into the recessed(chamfered) holes on the lower control arms, slide a 1/2" fender washer on each, insert into holes on jack platform, slide another 1/2" fender washer on each screw, and put on the two 1/2" nyloc nuts. Tighten the two nyloc nuts to a snug fit but not too tight. You should be able to rotate the control arms on the jack platform with a moderate amount of friction between the two.

Step 3:
Slide the assembly completed in step 2 over the receiver tube as shown in the picture. Note orientation of jack platform ear with receiver tube.

Step 4:
For this step you will use 1-1/2" x 4" machine screw and 4-1/2" fender washers and one nyloc nut. Slide a washer onto screw and insert screw through upper hole in lower control arm, insert another fender washer between control arm and receiver tube, push screw through hole on other side of receiver tube, insert another fender washer between opposite control arm and receiver tube, and then push screw through hole in other control arm. Put another washer on end of screw and attach 1/2" nyloc nut. Just spin on nut by hand until it stops-you will be tightening all the control arm nuts later.

Step 5:
Attach upper control arms to the receiver tube using same sequence of instructions as step 4. Do not tighten nuts yet. Also, make sure the orientation of the stickers are correct.

Step 6:
Attach platform assembly to other end of lower control arms as illustrated in picture. Use same sequence of instructions as step 4. Do not tighten nuts yet.

Step 7:
Attach platform assembly to other end of upper control arms as illustrated in picture. Use same sequence of instruction as step 4. At this point you can tighten the 4 control arm nyloc nuts. Tighten nuts until snug, and then back off 1/8 to 1/4 turn.

Step 8:
Attach bell clamp to jack platform using 1/4" x 3/4" machine screw and 1/4" nyloc nut and tighten nut snugly so that clamp will not rotate.

Step 9:
Slide bottle jack into bell clamp and insert 1/4" x 1-1/2" machine screw and attach 1/4" nyloc nut and tighten loosely.

Step 10:
Lift platform assembly and swing bottle jack towards vertical part of receiver tube and insert top of bottle jack into retaining ring on top of receiver tube. Apply some down force onto platform to seat bottle jack and make sure bottle jack fits squarely on top of jack platform. Finish tightening 1/4" nyloc nut on bell clamp to secure bottle jack.

Step 11:
Insert two rail clamp shafts into platform deck from the top and slide onto each shaft a 5/8" flat washer followed by a 5/8" lock washer and then a 5/8" wing nut. Using jack handle, completely jack up the platform to the full up position and insert ½" winged safety screw with ½" fender washer.

Step 12:
Congratulations, you are almost ready to use your Bowhead Hauler, but before you do, please read all the safety instructions and user instructions first.

Instructions

1. Read all warnings and precautions before use.

2. Install carrier in class three or four vehicle trailer hitch receiver and secure to receiver with 5/8-inch hitch pin and pin retainer.

3. Tighten hitch bolt with suitable wrench.

4. Remove safety pin from carrier.

5. Using jack handle, slowly open bleed valve on jack and allow hauler to drop to its lowest position. Make sure no one is standing behind carrier during this operation to avoid injury.

6. Carefully slide bike onto carrier rack with front wheels of the bike facing the driver's side of the vehicle, with the frame rails of the bike nested into the contoured blocks on the platform.

7. Push the rail clamps through the holes next to the frame rail (one front, one rear) until the clamp fully rests on top of the frame rail.

8. Add flat washers, then lock washers, and then wing nuts onto the clamp shafts and tighten securely. Make sure lock washers are compressed. After tightening, for added security install the supplied cotter pins through the holes on the bottom of the clamp shafts.

9. Close bleed valve on jack and jack up the carrier rack to full up position. Also, if you are getting "bleed by" when operating the hydraulic jack (this sometimes occurs due to shipping or storage of the unit with the jack in a non upright position) you can bleed the air from the jack by opening the valve on the jack and operating the lever about 15-20 times, and then close the valve and the jack should operate normally (refer to jack manufacturers instructions provided in box with jack for additional bleeding procedures and jack trouble shooting). If bleeding still does not solve the problem, unscrew the jack main shaft extension on or two turns and that usually will solve the problem.

10. Insert and thread in safety pin and tighten securely using jack handle until lower arms are clamped against vertical on 2"x2" receiver assembly and tighten until snug but do not over tighten. Do not omit this step and depend only on the jack to hold the load.

11. To lower the bike, first make sure no one is standing on the left side of the bike. Remove safety pin and open jack bleed valve slowly to lower the bike at a controlled rate. Do not open the valve too much or too quickly or the bike will slam down uncontrollably and could cause injury or death. Sometimes it may be necessary to apply slight pressure on the bike to get it started moving at the top of the arc. It can be difficult to begin lowering the bike at the top of the arc if some or all the pivot bolts are too tight (pivot bolts should be adjusted to zero clearance or free play, but they do not need to be overly tightened). Also, if jack platform pivot bolts are too tight, the bottle jack retaining clamp may bend and the jack may not stay positioned properly on the jack platform.

12. Remove the rail clamps and remove the bike from the carrier rack.

Warnings and Precautions

1. Make sure the bike does not obscure your rearward vision while driving the vehicle.

2. If taillights of vehicle used to haul the bike are obscured, take appropriate action to remedy this situation.

3. Do not overload the vehicle or trailer receiver load capabilities.

4. Check all carrier nuts and bolts for proper tightness before each use and every one hundred miles thereafter. Also, check for any cracks on welds and all other steel parts prior to each use. Nuts on pivot points should be adjusted to zero clearance or free play. If lock washers on rail clamp shafts become worn or loose their spring tension, they must be replaced.

5. This rack is designed for typical use and applications (on paved or smooth gravel roads). Do not use this rack on a vehicle that will be driven on rough roads or where the rack (and bike) will be subject to significant or constant jarring and/or shock, or any vehicle with very stiff springs that will transfer the load shock directly to he rack and bike.

6. Proper lifting and installation of this carrier to your specific vehicle is critical and is not the manufacturer's responsibility.

7. Improper use of this product may result in damage to your carrier, your vehicle, your bike, or even other vehicles driving behind you (because of colliding with or trying to avoid fallen bike and/or the carrier).

8. The purchaser should be aware that the load created by a carrier and bike can exceed the maximum rating on the hitch and/or vehicle.

9. Never transport with carrier rack in any position other than the full upright position, and with safety pin installed and tightened securely.

10. Make sure the bike is securely attached to carrier rack before jacking up the rack.

11. Safety pin must be installed after carrier rack is raised to full upright position and prior to transport.

12. Use the jack handle to securely tighten safety pins.

13. Always tighten hitch-stabilizing bolt with suitable wrench prior to loading bike on carrier and insert safety pin clip.

14. When lowering or raising carrier rack, the operator must stand between vehicle and bike. Keep hands, feet, and arms away from all moving parts while jack is in operation.

15. Do not allow anyone to stand on the left side of bike during the raising or lowering operation. The bike could drop very quickly and with great force causing serious injury or death to anyone standing on the left side of bike (behind the carrier rack).

16. When lowering the bike, open jack bleed valve very slowly to control the rate with which the bike is lowered. Failure to do so could result in the bike lowering very rapidly and in an uncontrollable manner resulting in injury or death. Make sure no one is standing on the left side of the bike during this process.

17. Check tightness of clamp shaft wing nuts and safety pin after first ten miles of transport and every one hundred miles thereafter.

Maintenance

- Before each use check all nuts and bolts for proper tightness and check for any cracks on all welds and steel parts including the rail clamp shafts. Also, check for any bending of any steel parts.
- Lubricate threads on clamp shafts, safety pin, and hitch pin with light oil. Also lubricate the lifting shaft and small pumping shaft on the bottle jack with oil.
- Store carrier in upright position to prevent air from entering bottle jack.
- If powder coat should be scraped or scratched off of any part of carrier, remove any rust and touch up any bare spots with suitable non-water-based paint.

REMEMBER, THIS IS A PERFORMANCE PRODUCT, USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Do not use this product until you have carefully read the following agreement. This agreement sets forth the terms and conditions for use of this product. The installation of this product indicates that the buyer has read and understands all precautions, user instructions, and this agreement and accepts the terms and conditions.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Bowhead, its distributors, jobbers, and dealers (hereafter Seller) shall be in no way responsible for the products proper use and service.

THE BUYER HEREBY WAIVES ALL LIABILITY CLAIMS.

The Buyer acknowledges that he is not relying on the Sellers skill or judgment to select or furnish goods suitable for any particular purpose and that there are no liabilities which extend beyond the description on the face hereof, and the Buyer hereby waivers all remedies or liabilities expressed or implied, arising by law or otherwise, (including without any obligation of the Seller with respect to fitness, merchantability and consequential damages) or whether or not occasioned by the Seller's negligence.

The Seller disclaims any warranty and expressly disclaims any liability for personal injury or damages. The Buyer acknowledges and agrees that the disclaimer of any liability for personal injury is a material term for this agreement and the Buyer agrees to indemnify the Seller and to hold the Seller harmless from any claim related to the item of the equipment purchases. 5nder no circumstances will the Seller be liable for and damages or expenses by reason of use or sale of any such equipment.

The Seller assumes no liability regarding the improper installation or misapplication of its products. It is the installer's responsibility to check for proper installation and if in doubt contact the manufacturer.

The Buyer is solely responsible for all warranty issues from the manufacturer.