# THOMSON®

STEM

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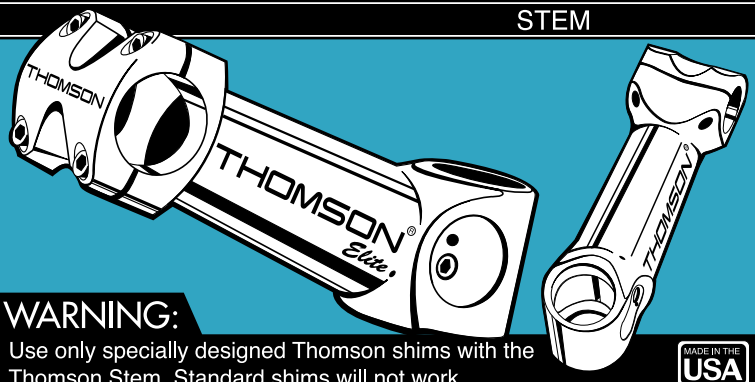


**WARNING:**
Use only specially designed Thomson shims with the Thomson Stem. Standard shims will not work.

MADE IN THE USA

## Congratulations !

THANK YOU for purchasing the Thomson Stem. The following instructions should be read completely before installation. If you have any questions regarding installation or service of this product, please contact your local dealer. We recommend that a professional bicycle mechanic install and service this product.

*Tested to a New Unit of Measure*

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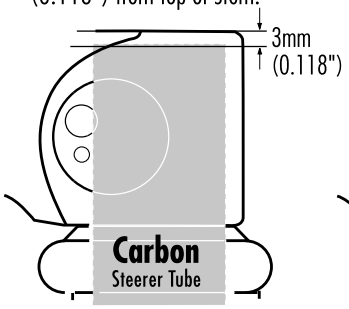
**web:** www.lhthomson.com

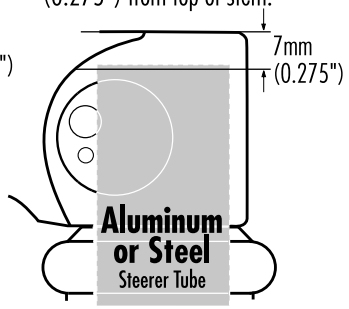
**Shipping:**
LH Thomson Co. Inc.7800 N.E. Industrial Blvd.
Macon, Georgia USA 31216-7748
**fax:** 478.788.1956
**email:** bikes@lhthomson.com

## 1 Before starting assembly,

**Carbon Fiber Steerers**
must be inserted no more than 3 mm (0.118") from top of stem.



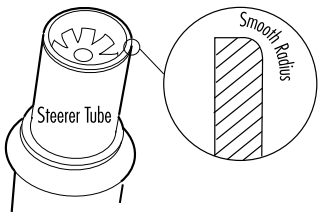

**Aluminum or Steel Steerers**
must be inserted no less than 7mm (0.275") from top of stem.

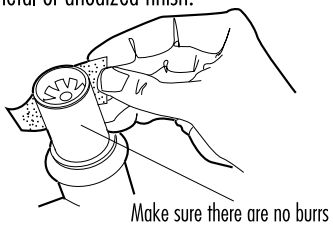



## 2 Important: For carbon fiber steerer tubes

refer to the manufacturer's specifications on how to properly cut and finish the carbon fiber steerer tube.

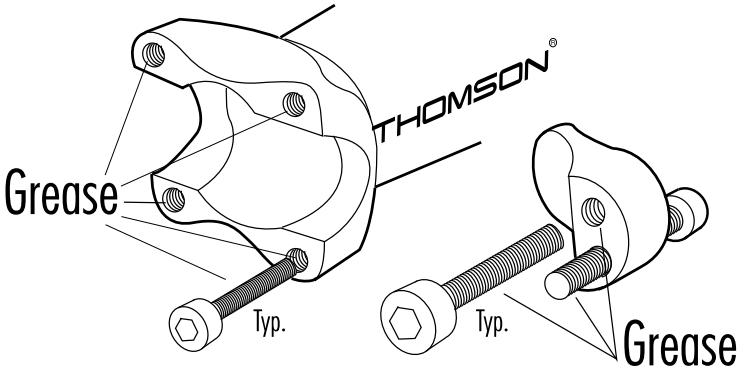
For steel and Aluminum steerer tubes: Remove any burrs from the steerer tube; do not remove any base metal. File a smooth radius around the top edge as shown. If the Thomson stem has a burr at a point of contact with the steerer tube, handlebars, or clamp, remove them with 400 grit sandpaper. Do not remove any base metal or anodized finish.



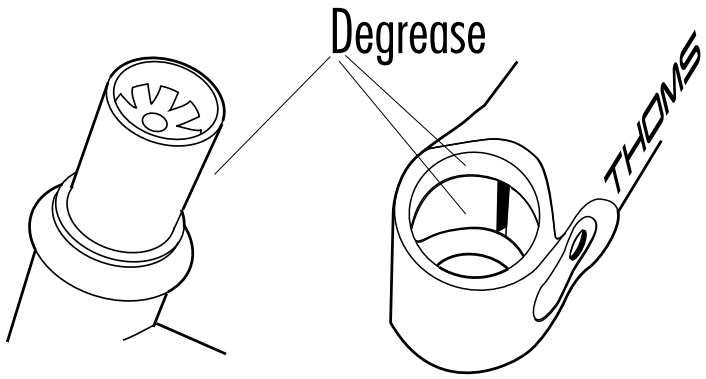

## 3

Grease all of the bolt threads and the nut threads inside the steerer clamp before assembly. All 6 bolts are identical.



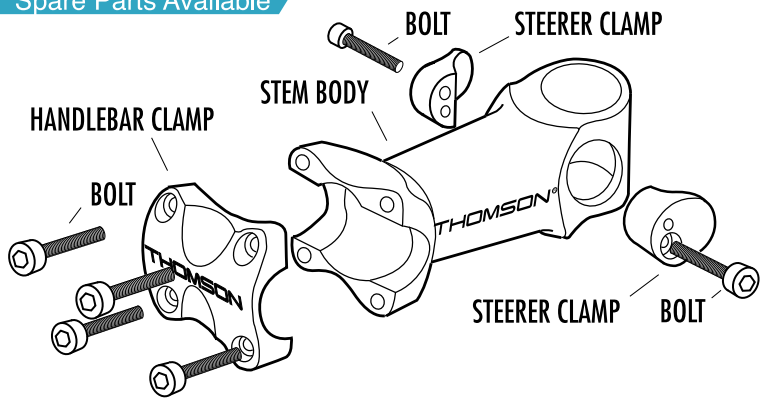

## 4

Degrease the steerer tube, the inside of the of the Thomson Stem and the steerer clamps before assembly. Rubbing alcohol is an effective degreaser.



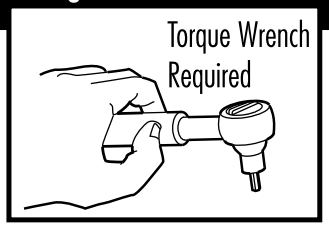

## Assembling the THOMSON® Stem

Spare Parts Available




**WARNING:** Torque Wrench Required for assembly. Bolts that are too loose or too tight can cause failure.

## Torque Specifications




Steerer clamp bolts 48 in-lb. (5.5 nm)

Handlebar clamp bolts 48 in-lb. (5.5 nm)

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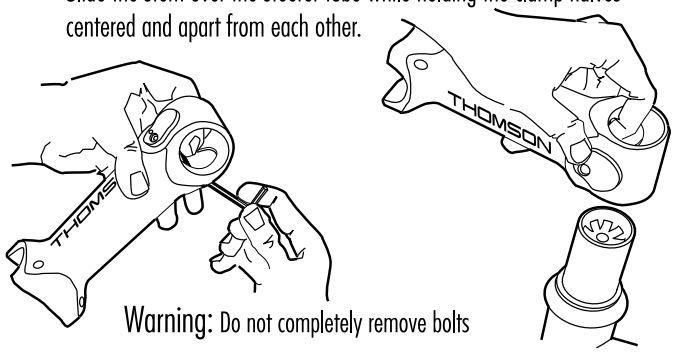
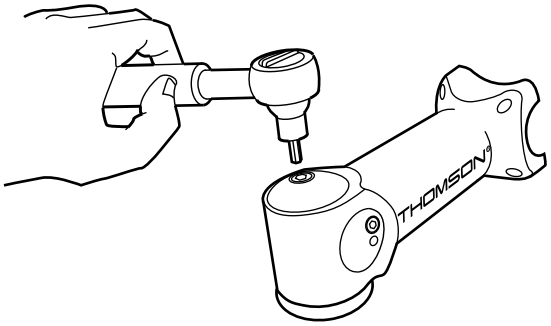
5 Unthread the steerer clamp bolts until there is a 1/4" (6mm) gap between the two large steerer clamp halves. Do not completely remove the bolts. Use your index finger to hold the clamp halves centered and in place. Slide the stem over the steerer tube while holding the clamp halves centered and apart from each other.

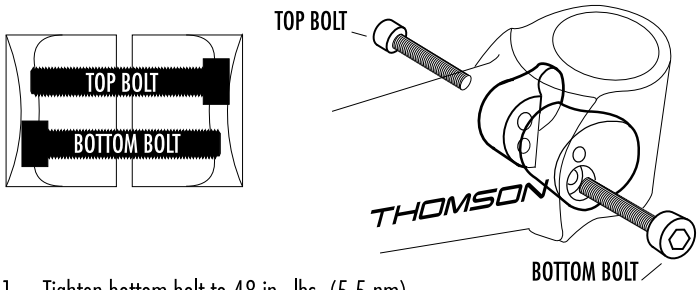



Warning: Do not completely remove bolts

6 Tighten headset to the headset manufacturer's torque specification. It is important to recheck the torque on the stem bolts and headset preload after the first couple rides. The headset bearings are likely to seat-in and need readjusting.



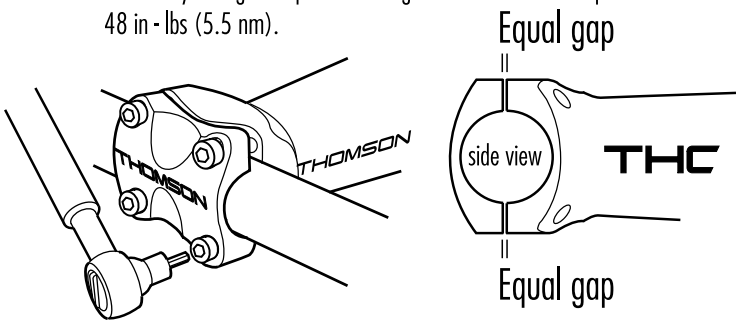

7 ## Tightening Process for Steerer Clamp Bolts



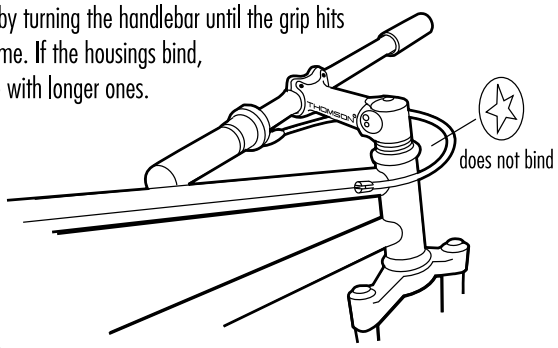

1. Tighten bottom bolt to 48 in - lbs. (5.5 nm).
2. Tighten top bolt to 48 in - lbs. (5.5 nm).
3. Repeat until there is an equal torque 48 in - lbs (5.5 nm) on both bolts.

8 ## Tightening Process for Bar Clamp Bolts

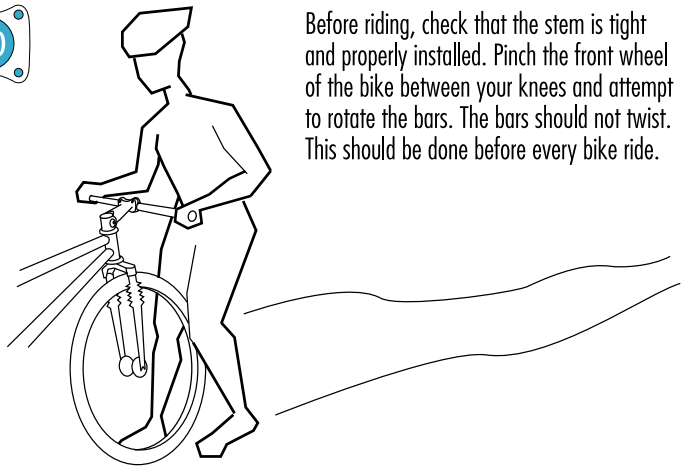
Make sure there is an equal gap between the handlebar clamp and the stem body. Using a torque wrench tighten the four bar clamp bolts to 48 in - lbs (5.5 nm).




9 After installing the stem, check that the cable housings do not bind. Check by turning the handlebar until the grip hits the frame. If the housings bind, replace with longer ones.

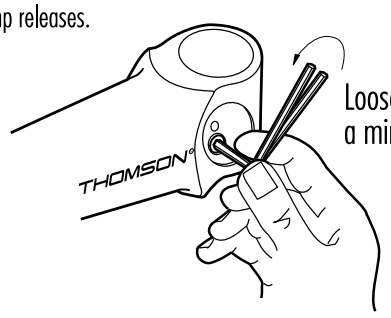



10 Before riding, check that the stem is tight and properly installed. Pinch the front wheel of the bike between your knees and attempt to rotate the bars. The bars should not twist. This should be done before every bike ride.



**NOTICE:**
Check the Thomson Stem for any cracks before riding. Cease riding immediately if cracks are found during inspection or riding.

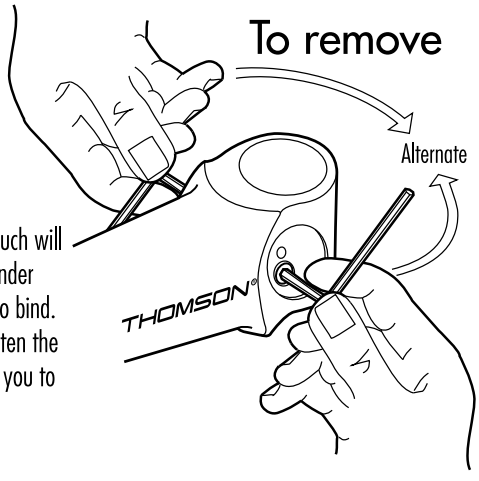
11 **To remove** the Thomson Stem from the steerer tube, use a sharp new allen wrench. Loosen the first bolt a minimal amount, then the second bolt a minimal amount. Loosen each bolt on the steerer tube clamp in this manner, alternating from bolt to bolt until the clamp releases.




Loosen the first bolt a minimal amount

! ## Caution:

Loosening one bolt too much will place the opposing bolt under more tension, causing it to bind. In this case, simply retighten the loose bolt. This will allow you to loosen the bound bolt.

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