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## Mean Streak Fork Spring Installation Instructions

**Removing and replacing fork springs must be performed by a qualified mechanic or according to steps outlined in a professional workshop manual that relates to your particular make, model and year motorcycle.**

The Kawasaki Mean Streak has a unique inverted type front fork. The right fork is a typical cartridge fork, but the left fork is not. The left fork requires a Kawasaki special tool (part number 57001-1502) to remove the fork spring. If you do not have this special tool, a qualified Dealer with the tool, can perform the job.

**Warning:** Never attempt to remove the fork cap nut without first placing a quality jack or sufficient blocks under the motorcycle to securely lift the front wheel off the ground. **Failure to do so could result in serious injury!**

1. Remove fork springs according to instructions contained in your shop manual. For maximum performance we highly recommend that the forks be thoroughly cleaned, inspected and new fork oil installed.
2. The recommended fork oil viscosity as noted in your owners manual is 10wt. See fine tuning for more information.

Fork oil level/volume should be checked according to the steps outlined in your authorized shop manual. Measurement of your fork oil by level is the preferred method. However, some manuals only specify a volume measurement.

3. The Progressive Suspension fork springs are a direct replacement of your stock springs, although they are longer in length. Your stock preload spacers will need to be cut shorter. See the enclosed supplement for the correct length. Install your new fork springs into the forks. Mechanically, it makes no difference which way the springs are installed. Some manuals will state; install the spring with the close wound end towards the bottom. This is done because sometimes there will be less spring noise. The springs will perform exactly the same regardless of which direction they are placed.

4. Fork Braces: We have found numerous cases of binding forks due to improperly mounted fork braces. Our experience has led us to conclude that even the slightest misalignment while installing the fork brace will cause the forks to bind. If, after installing the springs, a harshness exists (especially on small bumps and freeway expansion joints), remove the fork brace and ride the bike again over the same route. If harshness has disappeared, refer to the fork brace installation instructions for proper and concise installation to eliminate the misalignment. If harshness still exists, your front end (wheel/forks) may be misaligned. Consult your shop manual for proper wheel and fork alignment instructions.
5. Technical info: Our technical staff will assist you if you have any problems or questions. Call (714) 523-8700 from 8 am to 4 PM Pacific time.
6. To compliment your suspension, we recommend installing a pair of our 412 Series, 430 Series or 440 Series.

### Fine Tuning

Fork Oil: Oil viscosity can be changed to alter damping. Heavier oil to increase damping. Lighter oil to decrease damping. Increase in 5 weight increments (i.e. from 10 weight to 15 weight.) Oil viscosity will have more effect on rebound damping than compression damping, too high a viscosity can create harshness on sharp edge bumps. The oil level also affects the ride, too high an oil level and the forks will feel too stiff, too low an oil height and the bike will bottom and feel soft or dive excessively.

## Fork Spring Notes

1. Stock spacer may be shortened to fit.
2. Chain drive 920 and European model require a 1.50" spacer.
3. Spacers are not included. They may easily be fabricated from aluminum or PVC pipe.
4. Triumph Damper Rod Kit available. Order #31-5050.
5. Spacer required is furnished with springs.
6. Left hand fork: Remove and discard stock spacer and use 3.5" spacer supplied. Right hand fork: Shorten stock spacer to 4.2".
7. Install new spacer (1.75" PVC) below stock metal spacer to allow adjustable cap to function.
8. Reuse the stock spacer.
9. Remove and discard the stock spacer.
10. No spacer is required.
11. Some leading axles require spacer. See note 3.
12. Obsolete
13. Spacer length must be calculated according to the instructions included with the fork springs.
14. Improved damper rod kit available. Order #31-5052.
15. Improved damper rod kit available. Order #31-5051.
16. Optional 43mm springs available depending on rider weight, riding style, etc:
 

11-1143MX (Light)	19-23 lb progressive rate
11-1143LT (Med)	18-26 lb progressive rate
11-1143 (H/D)	20-30 lb progressive rate
17. If a bike is not listed, refer to off road fork springs listed below. Generally our fork springs will fit the forks with the same millimeter, but there are exceptions. The inner diameter of the forks must be at least .5 mm larger than the diameter of the fork springs. Off road spring spec's as follows:
 

Fork Diameter	Fork Spring	Spring Rate	Outside Diameter
35mm	11-1135	18-28	27mm
36mm	11-1136	18-28	29mm
38mm	11-1138	18-28	31mm
40mm (Conventional forks)	11-1140	20-30	33mm
40mm (White Power Upside Dwn)	11-1140UD	18-28	33mm
41/42mm	11-1141	18-28	35mm
43mm	11-1143LT	18-26	36mm
43mm	11-1143MX	19-23	37mm
43mm	11-1143	20-30	36mm
18. Cut the included spacer to length indicated.
19. You must add a spacer (length indicated) to spacer furnished with springs or make a spacer that is the same length as the two combined.
20. This particular bike has two different fork legs. The left fork leg requires the stock fork spacer to be shortened to 3.25". The right fork leg requires the stock spacer to be removed and discarded. No spacer is needed in the right fork leg. ABS model, refer to note #13 for preload spacers.
21. Left hand fork: Cut spacer to 6.75" long (remove 1.0").  
Right hand fork: Cut spacer to 2.63" long (remove 1.0").