

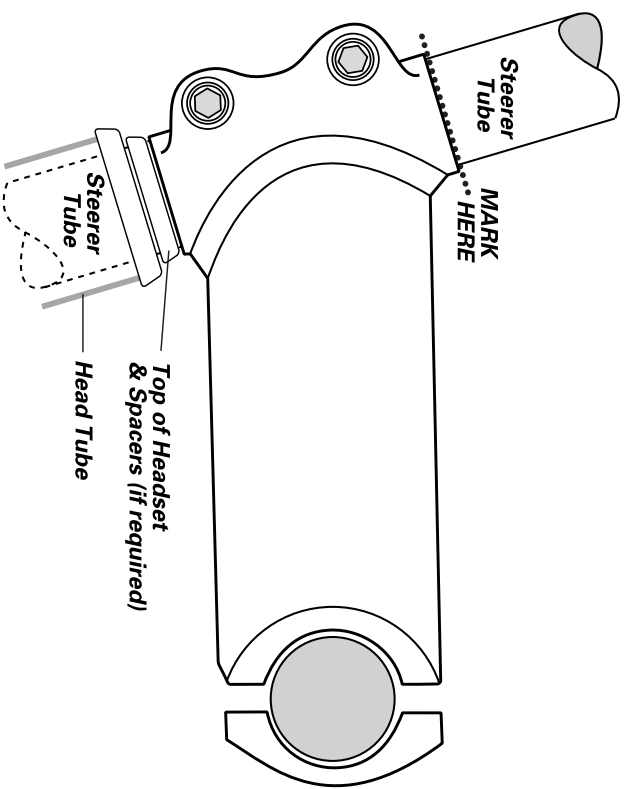
Installation:

1. Measure and record the height of your handlebars relative to the ground. You will need this measurement later to achieve the same handlebar height with the new fork installed. Remove current stem, fork and headset (if replacing headset).
2. Install the new headset according to the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Insert the fork steerer tube through the head tube and slide the stem and spacers (if required) onto the steerer tube, seating them firmly against the top of the headset (the compression ring of the headset). Compare resulting height of the handlebar to the measurement noted in step 1. Add or subtract spacers as necessary to adjust handlebar height.
4. Tighten the stem clamp bolts just enough to hold everything in place. Make a mark on the steerer tube at the top of the stem.

Make sure all the parts are correctly assembled before marking or cutting the steerer tube. Do not use your old fork as a guide.

5. Remove the stem from the steerer tube, and the fork from the head tube.
 - a) Forté Axis (chromoly or alloy steerer tube): Using a fresh 24tpi (threads per inch) or finer hacksaw blade or tube cutter, carefully cut the steerer tube 3mm **below** the mark you just made. Use a cutting guide to ensure a square cut that is perpendicular to the steerer tube.
 - b) Forté Axis Pro (carbon steerer tube): Using a 32tpi (threads per inch) or finer hacksaw blade, carefully cut the steerer tube 3mm **below** the mark you just made. Use a cutting guide to ensure a square cut that is perpendicular to the steerer tube.
6. Clean the top of the steerer tube, inside and out, with a fine file and sandpaper to remove any burrs or rough edges, and clean the outside of the steerer tube with a cloth.
7. Check to make sure the top of the steerer tube is approximately 3mm below the top edge of the stem.
 - a) If the steerer tube is too long, proper headset adjustment will not be possible. The steerer tube will need to be cut (shortened), or a spacer added.
 - b) If the steerer tube is too short, the stem may not have sufficient clamping surface against the steerer tube. Remove spacers as necessary to achieve the 3mm gap needed.

⚠ WARNING
A steerer tube which is too long to allow proper headset adjustment, or too short to provide sufficient clamping surface for the stem can cause loss of steering control, resulting in an accident and serious injury or death.



8. Install the star nut (included with Axis) and top cap or the one-piece top cap/expander plug included with the Axis Pro. Do not use a standard star nut in a carbon fiber steerer tube.
9. Tighten the stem clamp bolts (the bolts that clamp the stem to the steerer tube) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure bolt threads are well greased. Install the handlebar.

10. While holding the front wheel between your legs, vigorously try to twist the handlebar from side to side. It should not easily rotate. Double-check the adjustment and tightness of the headset and stem before riding the bicycle.

⚠ WARNING
It is critically important to check that all fittings are tightened securely to avoid possible loss of steering control.

If you have any questions about the proper installation of this fork, please call our Technical Services Department at 1-800-727-2453, M-F, 9am-6pm EST.