



# Owner's Manual

Bike Model BB102-AL and BB104-AL-27 v.1

**Please read every word of this manual  
BEFORE you ride your Buddy Bike!**

Because your safety is most important to us it is our policy that a trained professional assemble and adjust your Buddy Bike. Any Buddy Bike that is not assembled by a professional at a bike shop will not be covered by the Limited Warranty.

For your protection it is important to keep a record of the serial number of your bicycle and the date and place of purchase. The serial number can be found under the Rear Bottom Bracket Shell where the rear rider crank joins the bike where the Chain Stay is welded. Please fill out the information below and keep it for your records.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bike serial number: \_\_\_\_\_

Bike model: \_\_\_\_\_

Bike color: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dealer phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

To activate your warranty, please fill out and return the enclosed Warranty Registration card along with a copy of your purchase receipt to:

Buddy Bike, LLC  
 2775 Sunny Isles Boulevard, Suite 118  
 North Miami Beach, FL 33160  
 ATTN: Warranty Registration

## Table of Contents

HELMETS AND SAFETY .....	4
MAXIMUM WEIGHT .....	4
HOW TO RIDE YOUR BUDDY BIKE .....	4
KICKSTANDS.....	5
FOLD-OUT FOOT PEGS (sold separately).....	6
PRACTICE BRAKING AND SAFE SPEED CONTROL.....	6
HOW AND WHEN TO SHIFT GEARS.....	7
HOW TO FIT YOUR BUDDY BIKE TO YOU AND YOURS.....	7
SEAT ADJUSTMENTS .....	8
HANDLEBAR ADJUSTMENTS .....	8
BRAKE LEVER ADJUSTMENTS .....	10
REMOVE CABLE STRETCH .....	10
ADJUST THE ROLLER BRAKE CABLE .....	11
BRAKE MAINTENANCE .....	11
HUB CABLE ADJUSTMENT FOR BUDDY BIKE FAMILY .....	13
LEARN TO USE QUICK RELEASE DEVICES .....	13
WHEEL AND TIRE MAINTENANCE .....	14
CHAIN MAINTENANCE .....	16
HEADSET ASSEMBLY.....	17
BUDDY BIKE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE .....	18
LIMITED WARRANTY .....	19

## Congratulations!

You have purchased the Buddy Bike, the alternative tandem bicycle! Now you and your loved one can enjoy safe cycling and quality time together. You can ride with any youngster old enough to sit on a bicycle seat or with an adult. With a maximum weight capacity of 380 pounds, the Buddy Bike is the ideal family bike that can be enjoyed by riders of all ages and abilities. Put your loved ones first, up front on a Buddy Bike as you have put them first in your life!

### Please read every word of this manual BEFORE you ride your Buddy Bike!

This manual includes tips on how to ride your Buddy Bike safely, instructions on basic bike maintenance to keep your bike in safe operating condition and a Maintenance Schedule. Please note that some maintenance should only be performed by a professional bike mechanic.

## HELMETS AND SAFETY

**Always wear a helmet!** This means adults too! Your head is too precious to risk especially if you are riding with a child who may require special assistance. Adjust your helmet as shown in **Figure 1** so it offers maximum protection. Use a helmet that bears a CPSC, ANSI or Snell safety label.

Please practice safe cycling. For safe cycling information visit our web site:  
[www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html](http://www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html)

## MAXIMUM WEIGHT

The combined weight of captain and stoker should not exceed 380 pounds. As you mount or pedal, do not bear down hard on the handlebars, as if you were doing pushups. However, should the handlebars move up or down as you mount or ride the Buddy Bike tighten all the handlebar clamp bolts with a 6-mm Allen wrench to 150—225 inch/pounds as soon as possible, as shown later in this manual in "HOW TO FIT YOUR BUDDY BIKE TO YOU AND YOURS." Better yet, stop at the nearest bike shop and have a pro do it.

## HOW TO RIDE YOUR BUDDY BIKE

Before you start the practice rides that get you familiar with your Buddy Bike's steering, braking and shifting performance, please adjust the seats, handlebars and brake levers to fit your body, as shown later in this manual in "HOW TO FIT YOUR BUDDY BIKE TO YOU AND YOURS." Practice riding your Buddy Bike in a traffic-free area, such as an empty school playground, until the rear rider ("captain") and the front rider ("stoker") are both thoroughly familiar with its braking, steering and shifting.

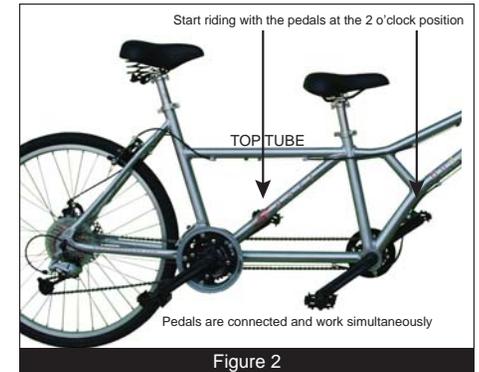
### For the Captain

Start with the captain riding alone. Straddle the top tube (the tube from the rear seat to the fork column, **Figure 2**) with one foot on the ground, the other foot on a pedal at the 2 o'clock position. Hold the captain's handlebar (**Figure 5**) firmly. Push off with the foot on the ground

and, at the same time, press down hard on that pedal, hoist your body up onto the seat and KEEP PEDALING. The momentum will help keep the bicycle balanced.

### For Both Riders

Captain and stoker should practice the start-off procedure above until it is automatic and second nature. When you brake to a stop, reverse the mounting and start-off instructions given above so you are ready to take off again, say from a stoplight. At this point both riders should have one or both feet on the ground and be straddling the bicycle.



## Pedaling Techniques

As **Figure 2** shows, captain's and stoker's pedals are connected by a bicycle chain. Both sets of pedals move simultaneously. As one rider pedals, the other rider must also pedal. To coast, both riders must agree to do so. Verbal communication on a tandem is important! If one rider decides to coast and the other tries to keep pedaling, balance and control can be affected. For stoker's with disabilities, it is also helpful for the captain to maintain a slow, steady pace for stoker to work at keeping their feet on the pedals.

## Steering Techniques

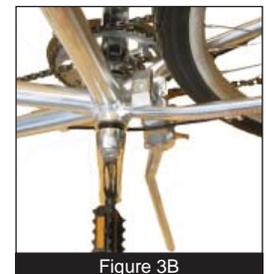
The Buddy Bike has a much shorter wheelbase than conventional tandems and it is unique in that both sets of handlebars (**Figure 5**) turn as the bicycle is steered. The captain leans into the direction of the turn, moves the handlebars to turn and, as he/she does so, the stoker's handlebars will move in the same direction. The stoker should balance in the same direction. Whenever possible, the captain should tell the stoker when a turn is about to be made. Again, communication between captain and stoker is essential to the safety of both.

**NOTE:** A bike shop professional should adjust the stoker handlebars to accommodate the reach of the stoker. For safety, do not rotate the handlebars to closer than a 90 degree angle.

## KICKSTANDS

Buddy Bike Family BB102-AL includes one bi-pod spring kickstand (**Figure 3A**). Buddy Bike Sport includes one Pletscher bi-pod kickstand (**Figure 3B**). Once assembled, to lower either kickstand, slightly raise the bicycle by the rear seat and use your foot to push the kickstand down then gently lower the bike. To raise the kickstand, slightly raise the bicycle by the rear seat and use your foot to sweep the kickstand backwards. These kickstands are intended to hold and balance the bike while it is not being ridden. Raise the kickstand to mount the bicycle.

**PLEASE DO NOT** mount the bicycle while it is balanced on the kickstand.



## FOLD-OUT FOOT PEGS (sold separately)

To install the fold-out foot pegs (**Figure 4A**): 1) remove the adhesive from the padded tape sections and press to the inside curve of each foot peg; 2) with the pegs folded up, position the pegs on the small down tube in front of the front rider seat and 3) use the included screws to secure the pegs to the tube. The foot pegs should be positioned above the path of the pedals so the stoker's feet will be safely out of the pedal motion path.

While the stoker is pedaling, fold the pegs up (**Figure 4B**). For smaller riders, fold each peg down (**Figure 4C**) so they can rest their feet out of the way of the pedal motion path.



Figure 4A



Figure 4B



Figure 4C

## PRACTICE BRAKING AND SAFE SPEED CONTROL

First, be aware that the right side of a bicycle is the side to your right as you sit on the seat. That's the side the chainwheel is on. **Figure 5** was taken from riders' point of view. The brake lever on the left side of the captain's handlebar is for the front brake (D in **Figure 5**). The brake lever on the right side of the captain's handlebar is for the rear brake (C in **Figure 5**). The brake lever on the right stoker's handlebar is for the additional brake which is a hub brake on some versions of Buddy Bike Family or a standard brake caliper on the rear wheel of Buddy Bike Sport (E in **Figure 5**). The stoker's brake provides additional braking power and a sense of control for the stoker but it will not stop the bike if used alone.

**CAUTION: Your Buddy Bike can go faster than single bikes, for these reasons:**

The Buddy Bike with aluminum frame weighs 51-55 pounds (depending upon bike model and accessories). That's just 27.5 pounds or less for each of you. The rider on a typical bike (excluding road bikes) has to push its 33 pounds alone.

The captain is shielded from wind by the front rider or stoker so you both have only half the wind resistance faced by a single biker. For these reasons your Buddy Bike is a lot easier to pedal, so please keep it at a speed that lets you slow down or stop quickly and safely in an emergency.

Again, as you practice riding the Buddy Bike in a safe place try stopping at various speeds, say at 5, 10 and 15 miles per hour. Note how many feet it takes to stop at each of these speeds. Use the captain's brakes alone then combined with the stoker's brake. Use this information to keep your speed under control. Go slower in traffic, for example, where you may have to make a sudden, unexpected stop. Look as far ahead as possible, be alert

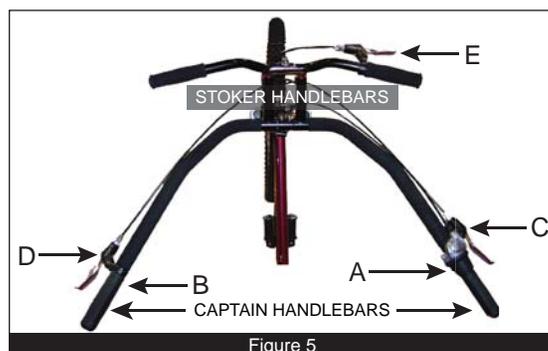


Figure 5

as you approach parking lot driveways, children and others on foot, bicycles, skate boards or roller blades. Watch out for school and other buses approaching a stop. When you come to a stop, both captain and stoker should extend one foot to the ground, and then both feet if you have to wait for a stoplight.

On the flats, the captain can usually control speed by applying both brake levers. Apply the rear brake lever first, then the front brake lever. On a downhill ride or in an emergency situation use both captain's and stoker's brakes to slow or to stop. Both riders should practice braking on the flats and on downhill runs until you both are thoroughly familiar with the braking power and speed control of the Buddy Bike's brakes.

**NOTE:** When it's raining, your brakes, good as they are, will lose some stopping power. It will take longer to stop when wheel rims are wet. In wet conditions, apply brakes sooner than you would in dry conditions. Both captain and stoker should use both sets of brakes, even at low speeds. Reduce speed in wet weather and beware of slippery surfaces.

For more safe cycling information visit our web site:  
[www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html](http://www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html)

## HOW AND WHEN TO SHIFT GEARS

### 7-Speed Buddy Bike Family (BB102-AL)

Buddy Bike Family is equipped with the Shimano's NEXUS INTER 7. It can shift to any gear anytime, even at a stop. To shift, simply rotate the gripshifter on the right of the captain's handlebar (A in **Figure 6**). The 7 speed gear combinations gives you a wide range of choices for easy pedaling. By turning the gripshifter toward you, select gear 6 or 7 for pedaling downhill. While on level roads or paths use gears 3, 4 or 5. Upon pedaling uphill, turn the gripshifter away from you to gear 1 or 2. By selecting the proper gear, you can make pedaling comfortable and easier for both riders.

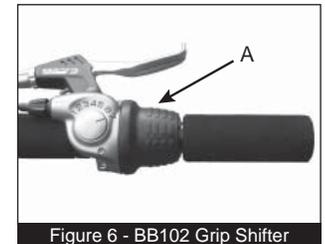


Figure 6 - BB102 Grip Shifter



Figure 7A - BB104 Left Shifter

### 27-Speed Buddy Bike Sport (BB104-AL-27)

Buddy Bike Sport is equipped with a Shimano Deore 27 speed hub. This bike includes a derailleur so it is best to shift gears while pedaling. To shift the gears, push the bottom lever to lower the gear and pull the top lever to shift to a higher gear on the left side (**Figure 7A**) or right side (**Figure 7B**) of the captain's handlebar. The Deore hub is considered a professional level component. The shifters are not numbered or marked so practice shifting until you are comfortable with the procedure and various gear levels.



Figure 7B - BB104 Right Shifter

## HOW TO FIT YOUR BUDDY BIKE TO YOU AND YOURS

Before you go off for your first practice rides, have your bicycle dealer inspect the Buddy Bike and make the following handlebar and seat adjustments to your Buddy Bike for your riding comfort and safety. You could make them yourself, if you wish, using a torque wrench (**Figure 8**) to tighten nuts and bolts to the torque tightness specified, so you are sure they are safely tight.

## SEAT ADJUSTMENTS

You can move each seat in five directions, up or down, closer to or farther from the handlebars, and tilted for comfort.

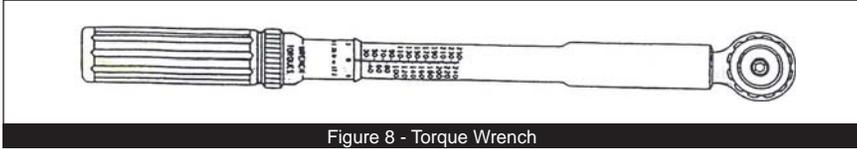


Figure 8 - Torque Wrench

### Seat Height

Adjust seat height for both riders so the knee is slightly bent when one pedal is at the 6 o'clock position, as shown in **Figure 9**. To adjust seat height, turn the seat post quick release lever, (A in **Figure 10**) to the OPEN position. Move the seat up or down until the rider's knee is bent as shown in **Figure 9**. Tighten the seat post quick release lever to the closed position, with the end of this lever facing toward the rear. (Be sure to read "LEARN TO USE THE FRONT WHEEL AND SEAT QUICK RELEASES" section later in this manual).

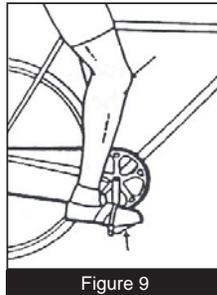


Figure 9

**CAUTION:** For safety, keep at least 4 inches of the seat post inside the seat tube, as shown in **Figure 11**.

### Seats to handlebar distance

The seat should be close enough to the handlebars so the riders can reach them without strain. To move the seat toward or away from the handlebars, simply loosen the seat clamp bolts that hold the seat on the seat post (**Figure 12**), and move the seat toward to or away from the handlebars, until the rider has a slight bend at the elbows.



Figure 10

### Seat Tilt

Reduce pressure on the hands by tilting each seat so its nose points slightly upward (B in **Figure 10**). To make these adjustments, loosen the seat clamp bolts (C in **Figure 10**) with a 5-mm Allen wrench, slide the seat forward or back as necessary and tilt it as noted above. Tighten the clamp bolts to 180—250 inch/pounds with a torque wrench (**Figure 8**). **Again, use the torque wrench on all applicable nuts and bolts noted throughout this manual so you are sure they are safely tightened.**

## HANDLEBAR ADJUSTMENTS

Adjust both handlebars so they can be reached without strain. Move the handlebars up or down, tilt (rotate) them and move them closer to or further away from the rider as needed for comfort. Here's how:

### Captain's Handlebar

The captain's handlebar shown in **Figure 5** is the longest bar on the Buddy Bike. Loosen clamp bolts (A in **Figure 13**) with

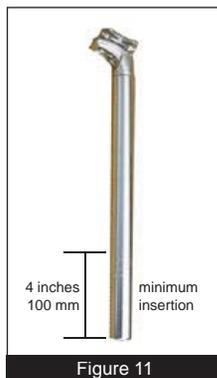


Figure 11

a 6-mm Allen wrench. Tilt the captain's handlebar up or down until the captain can ride with a comfortable bend of his upper body while sitting on the rear seat. Once the handlebar is at a convenient angle, tighten these bolts to 150—225 inch/pounds.

**CAUTION:** The handlebar stem supports both captain and stoker handlebars. The stem is held by two clamp bolts (A in **Figure 14**). The stem must always be in the position shown in **Figure 14**, all the way down to the fork bearing locknut (B in **Figure 14**). **Do not loosen these bolts to raise the handlebars. Handlebar height can only be adjusted as shown above.**



Figure 12

### Stoker's Handlebar

The stoker's handlebar (**Figure 5**), is adjustable to three different positions, tilt, up or down, and distance from the stoker's seat. For your stoker's safety, please do not rotate the handlebars to closer than a 90 degree angle.

**Tilt:** Loosen clamp bolt (B in **Figure 13**) with a 6-mm Allen wrench, and rotate the handlebar until the stoker can reach it without strain and with ease. Tighten this bolt to 150—225 inch/pounds.

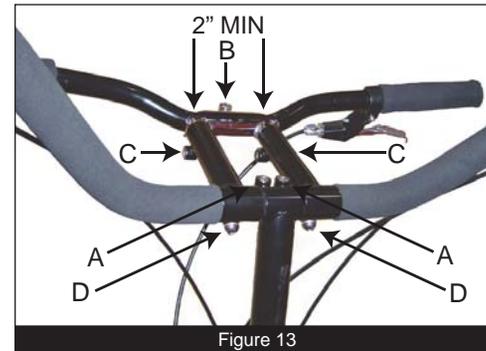


Figure 13

### Distance from Seat

Loosen clamp bolts (C in **Figure 13**) with a 6-mm Allen wrench and move the stoker's handlebar closer to or away from the stoker's seat until it can be reached in comfort. Tighten these bolts to a torque of 150—225 inch/pounds.

**CAUTION:** For safety keep at least 2 inches of the stoker's handlebar stem **INSIDE** the handlebar tubes as shown in **Figure 13**.

### Up or Down

Loosen clamp bolts (D in **Figure 13**) with a 6-mm Allen wrench and rotate the stoker's handlebar to move it up or down to suit the stoker's arm length. Tighten these bolts to 150—225 inch/pounds.

**CAUTION:** Before your first ride and every four to six months thereafter (depending on ride frequency), stand in front of the Buddy Bike, hold the front wheel between your knees, grasp the captain's handlebar and rotate it firmly from side to side. If the handlebar moves but the wheel does not, retighten the clamp bolts (A in **Figure 13**) with a 6-mm Allen wrench to a torque of 180—250 inch/pounds. These two handlebar stem bolts (A in **Figure 14**) hold both stoker and captain handlebars securely on the fork steerer tube.

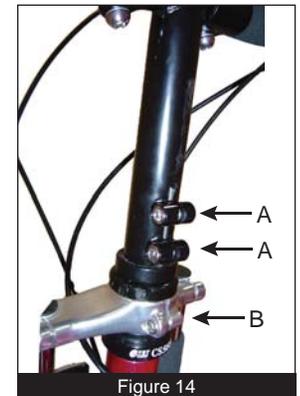


Figure 14

## BRAKE LEVER ADJUSTMENTS

There are two adjustments for each brake lever, one for hand reach and one for finger fit.

**Hand Reach:** You should be able to grasp brake levers quickly from a hand rest position on the handlebars. Rotate each brake lever until you can do so. Loosen the brake lever clamp bolt (D in Figure 15), with the 5-mm Allen wrench shown, and rotate the lever on the handlebars to a quickly reachable position. Tighten the clamp bolt to 44—60 inch/pounds.

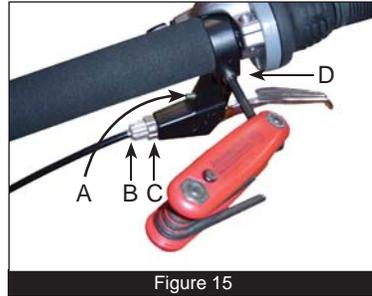


Figure 15

**Finger Fit:** If the brake lever begins to apply braking force as soon as you depress it, adjust its “reach” with a 2-mm Allen wrench (A in Figure 15), until your fingers can safely and comfortably apply force to the brakes. The brake lever can be safely depressed up to about one inch from the handlebar. If the brake lever comes any closer the brake cable has stretched. Cable stretch reduces braking power and response, so remove this stretch.

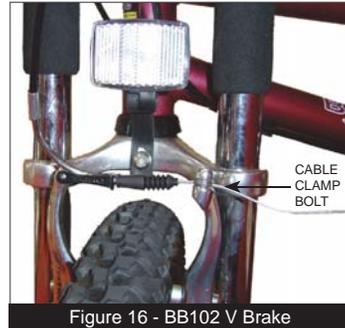


Figure 16 - BB102 V Brake

## REMOVE CABLE STRETCH

**NOTE:** New cables will stretch and require adjustment.

### Cable Stretch at Brake Levers

Loosen cable slack adjuster locknut, (C in Figure 15) a few turns. Turn slack adjuster (B in Figure 15) counterclockwise until slack is removed. Tighten locknut (C in Figure 15) against the brake body. Repeat if the brake lever still comes more than an inch from the handlebars. Make this adjustment on all brake levers as necessary.



Figure 17 - BB102 Drum/Hub Brake

### Cable Stretch at the Brakes

#### 7-Speed Buddy Bike Family (BB102-AL)

**Captain V Brakes:** If cable slack can't be removed at brake levers, reverse the adjustments in Step 1 above so the cable is as slack as possible. At captain's brake loosen the cable clamp bolt (Figure 16) with a 5-mm Allen wrench while holding brake shoes against the wheel rim. Pull out cable slack with a pair of pliers. Tighten the cable clamp bolt to a torque of 44—60 inch/pounds. Repeat as necessary.

**Stoker Drum/Hub Brake:** Remove cable slack with the slack adjuster, similar to the cable slack adjuster on brake levers in Step 1 above. The adjuster locknut is arrow A, the adjuster is arrow B in Figure 17.

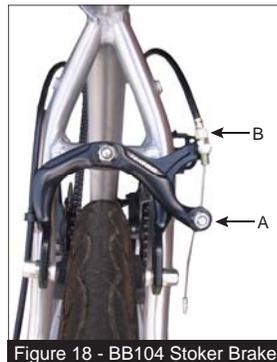


Figure 18 - BB104 Stoker Brake

### Cable Stretch at the Brakes

#### 27-Speed Buddy Bike Sport (BB104-AL-27)

**Captain Disc Brakes:** Use the barrel adjuster on the brake lever (B in Figure 18) or the in-line barrel adjuster (A in Figure 18) to remove any cable slack from the system. Turn the adjuster out until there is no free play in the lever but not so far that the torque arm on the caliper is advanced. The torque arm should return completely when the brake lever is released.

**Stoker Rear Standard Brake Caliper:** Loosen the fix bolt (A in Figure 18) and the barrel adjuster (B in Figure 18). Pull out cable slack with a pair of pliers. Tighten the fix bolt and the barrel adjuster.

## ADJUST THE ROLLER BRAKE CABLE

1) check that the wheel does not easily turn while the brake cable is being pulled; 2) depress the brake lever about 10 times as far as the grip in order to run in the brake cable; 3) check that both ends of the outer casing are securely inserted into the cable adjusting bolts of both the brake lever and brake arm. See Figure 19.

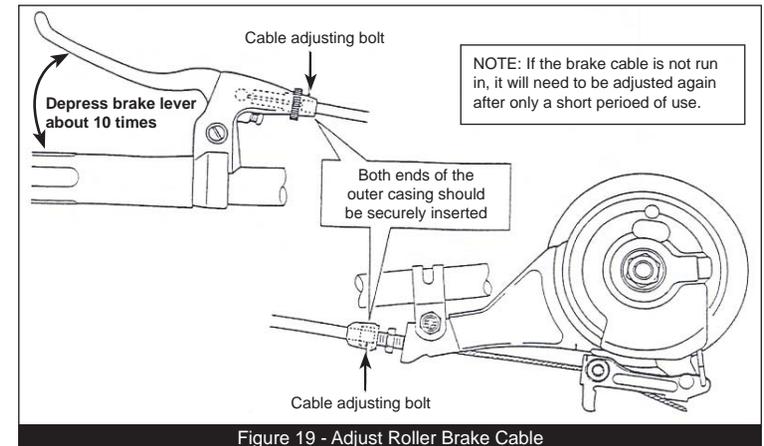


Figure 19 - Adjust Roller Brake Cable

## BRAKE MAINTENANCE

### 7-Speed Buddy Bike Family (BB102-AL)

Brake shoes wear as they do on your car. Inspect them every six months, make sure they are not worn, and that the brake shoes are properly aligned on the wheel rim for maximum braking power. Brake shoe replacement is a professional bike shop job but if you decide to replace them yourself, follow these steps:

**Brake Shoe Replacement:** 1) remove old brake shoes with a 5-mm Allen wrench. Brake shoe clamp bolt is shown in the center of the brake arm (A in Figure 20); 2) purchase replacement shoes at a bike store (install all four new shoes for safety); 3) install the new shoes in the brake arms. Before tightening the brake shoe clamp bolt to 50—70 inch/pounds, adjust brake shoes.

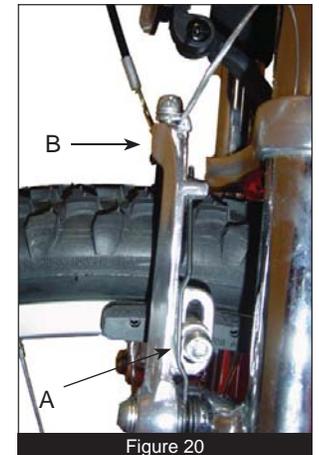


Figure 20

**Captain's Brake Shoe Adjustments:** 1) Keep each brake shoe at least 2 mm away from the tire. The brake shoe must not rub on the tire, only on the rim. Make this adjustment by loosening the brake shoe clamp bolt, (A in **Figure 20**) with a 5-mm Allen wrench, move the shoe up or down in the brake arm slot, tighten the clamp bolt to 50—70 inch/pounds of torque. 2) Adjust brake shoes so they are at least 2 mm away from the wheel rim. Make this adjustment by loosening the brake cable clamp bolt (**Figure 16**) with a 5-mm Allen wrench and by moving the brake cable in or out of the cable clamp bolt. Tighten the bolt to 44—60 inch/pounds.

**Stoker's Brake Shoe Adjustments:** Remove cable slack at the brake itself (**Figure 17**). Squeeze stoker's brake lever hard. If the brake lever comes closer than one inch to the handlebar, take the bike to a pro for brake lining replacement.

**Brake Shoe Balance:** Keep each brake shoe the same distance from the wheel rim. Use a 2-mm Allen wrench in each brake arm to balance brake shoes for even clearance.

## 27-Speed Buddy Bike Sport (BB104-AL-27)

### Captain Disc Brakes

**Before each ride:** Check cables for signs of wear or fraying. Squeeze the brake lever firmly and check for proper brake function. Adjust for pad wear if necessary. Ensure rotors are free of foreign substances and oils.

**Pad break in:** It may take anywhere from 20-40 complete stops to break in the brake pads. You may begin to notice an increase in braking power after the first ride. Brake noise may occur not only during the break-in period but off and on throughout the life of the brake pads. Noise is dependent upon factors such as brake setup, rider weight, riding style, braking style and riding conditions.

**Care and cleaning:** Extreme care must be taken when cleaning both the bike and its disc brakes. We suggest that you take your bike to a bike shop mechanic to perform any disc brake maintenance. Your bike shop mechanic may provide some of these adjustments: spring tension adjustment, pad wear adjustment and pad replacement.

**CAUTION:** DO NOT touch the pads or the rotors with your fingers or the pads and rotors may become contaminated. If you have to touch them for some reason, use powder free latex gloves. Contamination of the pads and rotors may cause brake noise. To eliminate noise, you can clean the rotors with rubbing alcohol.

### Stoker Rear Standard Brake Caliper

The stoker brake is a standard brake caliper on the rear wheel. Use the same maintenance procedures as mentioned above for adjusting cable tension and brake pad maintenance.

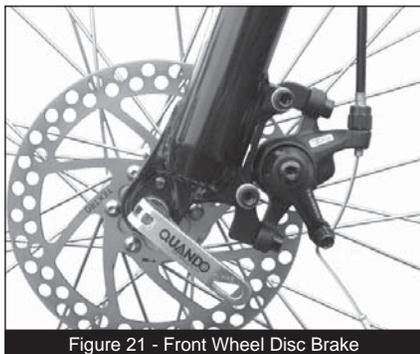


Figure 21 - Front Wheel Disc Brake



Figure 22 - Rear Wheel Disc Brake

## HUB CABLE ADJUSTMENT FOR BUDDY BIKE FAMILY

Set the gripshift dial to 4. Check to be sure that the red setting lines on the cassette joint bracket and pulley are aligned. (**Figure 23**)

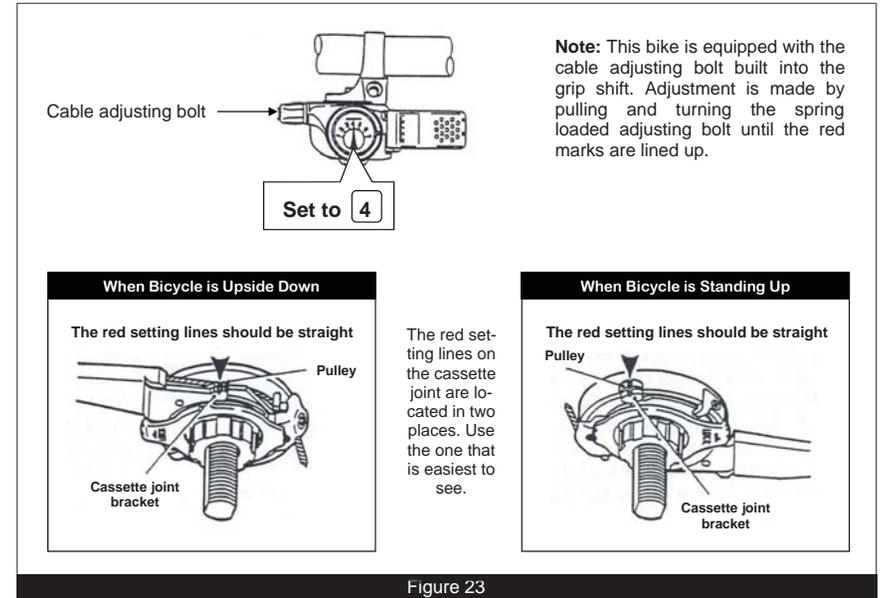


Figure 23

## LEARN TO USE QUICK RELEASE DEVICES

There are three or four quick release mechanisms on your Buddy Bike. On Buddy Bike Family, there is one quick release on the front wheel and one on each seat post. On Buddy Bike Sport there is one quick release on each wheel and one on each seat post. They make it easier to remove and reinstall the wheels and to move seats up and down to adjust for rider height. For the wheels particularly, it is **very important** to understand how to use the quick release, to insure that the wheel is tightly and safely held in the fork, and that the wheel will stay in place even if you should hit a bump or pothole.

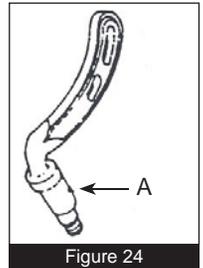


Figure 24

**A quick release is a cam action device, not a nut and bolt unit.** Use only your fingers to adjust and tighten the quick release. The opening and closing lever of the quick release has an eccentric bump, a cam on it, (A in **Figure 24**) which is, in effect, a powerful lever. This lever amplifies the turning force made by your hand as you force the quick release lever to the closed position (**Figure 25**).

You need to know how to remove and install the front wheel to fix a flat or to carry the Buddy Bike in your car, and how to reinstall it so it will not pop out and cause loss of control.

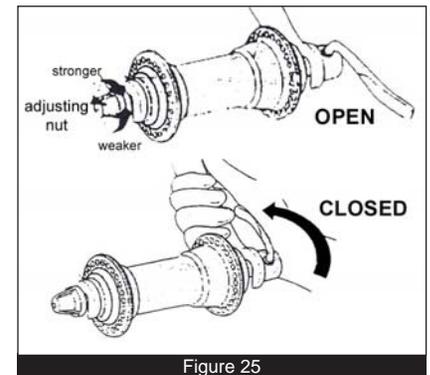


Figure 25

Here's how to make sure your wheels are securely in place.

## WHEEL AND TIRE MAINTENANCE

**Before every ride** make sure the front wheel is securely clamped in the fork, so it won't fall out if you hit a bump. Lift the Buddy Bike up a few inches. Punch down hard on the front tire with the side of your fist. Do this even if you rode the Buddy Bike the day before. You never know when someone has tampered with, or accidentally turned, the quick release lever to the OPEN position that could let the wheel fall out.

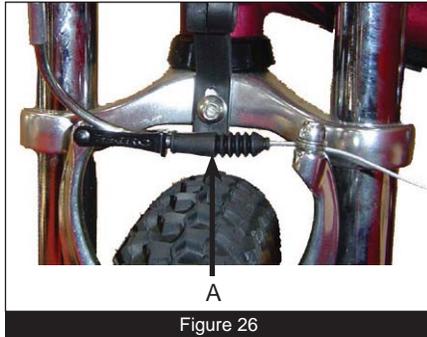


Figure 26

### To Remove the Front Wheel (Quick Release)

Hold brake shoes against the wheel rim while you pull the cable carrier up and out of the slot in the crossbar (A in **Figure 26**). Now the brake shoes will be far enough apart so you can remove the front wheel (**Figure 27**). Turn the quick release lever to the OPEN position (**Figure 25**) which is when the lever is pointed toward the front of the Buddy Bike. Remove the front wheel. Punch down on the tire if necessary.



Figure 27

### To Install the Front Wheel (Quick Release)

Replace the front wheel in the fork dropouts. Be sure the tire is centered between the fork blades (**Figure 28**). Hold the wheel in place while you tighten the quick release lever all the way to the closed position (**Figure 25**). Check quick release tightness. As you move the quick release lever toward the rear of the bike, past the 12 o'clock position you should feel increasing pressure. You should have a red pressure mark on the palm of your hand from the force needed to close this lever all the way. If you do not feel this pressure, readjust the quick release mechanism as follows:



Figure 28

### Adjust the Quick Release

Open the quick release lever past the 12 o'clock position to around the 4 o'clock more open position. Hold the adjuster nut with one hand and turn the quick release lever counter clockwise as far as possible.

Do not use any tool on this adjuster nut. Use only your fingers! Turn the quick release lever all the way to the closed position (**Figure 25**). Again, you must feel considerable turning resistance as the lever moves past the 12 o'clock position to the closed position.



Figure 29

### Check Quick Release Tightness

See that the red mark from tightening pressure is on the palm of your hand. Punch down hard on the tire with the flat of your clenched fist. The wheel should not fall out. Open the quick release, remove the wheel and inspect the fork dropouts. You should see "bite" marks on the fork dropout made by the sawtooth edges of the quick release (**Figure 29**). Repeat these quick release adjustments and tightening steps until you can see these "indents." Replace the cable in the crossbar (**Figure 26**) as you hold the brake shoes against the wheel rim.

**Make sure the brake cable is correctly back in the crossbar slot. Squeeze the brake lever as tightly as possible. If the lever drops to the handlebars, the cable has popped out of the slot. Replace it and check again for correct placement.**

**CAUTION:** The brake spring may also have popped off the brake arm (A in **Figure 20**). If so, replace it behind the tab on the brake arm, as shown in **Figure 20**, where arrow A is the brake spring, arrow B shows the brake arm with brake tab. This caution also applies to the rear wheel.

### 7-Speed Buddy Bike Family (BB102-AL)

**Remove the Rear Wheel:** Shift the chain to the small freewheel cog. Spread brake shoes as explained above for front wheel removal (**Figure 27**). Use a 15-mm wrench and loosen both axle bolts. Lift the chain off the small cog as you remove the wheel.

**Install the Rear Wheel:** Make sure the axle is all the way into the dropout slots, and that the wheel is evenly spaced in the bike frame, similar to **Figure 28**. Tighten the axle bolts to 300—320 inch/pounds.

### 27-Speed Buddy Bike Sport (BB104-AL-27)

**Remove the Rear Wheel:** Removal and installation of the rear wheel has a few extra steps because of the gear cluster. Just like the front wheel, you'll need to deflate the tire. If you do not wish to deflate the tire, it will be necessary to loosen the fix bolt (A in **Figure 18**). Next, adjust your rear shifter until the chain is on the smallest sprocket. Then loosen the quick release lever and carefully removed the wheel.

**Install the Rear Wheel:** To re-install the rear wheel, first place the chain back onto the smallest sprocket, and then slide the axle evenly up into the rear dropouts. Tighten the quick release lever the same way as the front wheel, with the lever on the left side of the bike. Make sure the lever is safely tucked in between both of the left chain stays. Inflate the tire AFTER it has been installed. Make sure the pads are lined up correctly with the rim and tighten the fix bolt (A in **Figure 18**) if you removed it earlier.

### Wheel Alignment

**Wobbly wheels cut braking power.** So keep both wheels running true. Wheels can lose alignment over time as spokes stretch. Wheel alignment takes special tools and know-how so have this done by a bike shop.

### About Your Tires

Keep tires inflated to the pressure marked on the outer wall of the tire. Lower pressures can cause a flat and will cause more rolling resistance. Higher pressures can cause a tube to blow out. Correct pressure assures longest tire life. Repair tube punctures with a self-adhering patch, follow instructions that came with them. Check inside the tire as well as outside to find and remove what caused the flat.

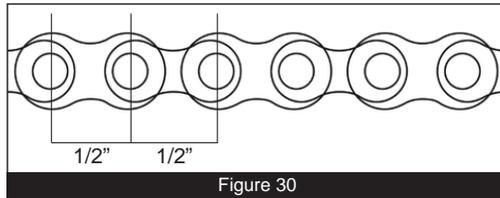
## CHAIN MAINTENANCE

Clean the chains every three to six months, more often if you have ridden over sand and dirt, or through water and mud. You may leave the chain on and clean it using an environmentally safe chain cleaning product and a brush.

If you use a solvent such as kerosene to clean the chain it would be best to remove the chain and dunk it into the solvent to avoid splashing the solvent on the tire or brake shoes. To remove the chain you will need a chain rivet tool to push a rivet out. It would be best to leave chain removal to the bike shop professionals.

### Inspect the Chain for Wear Every 3 to 6 Months

Check for chain wear by measuring the distance between chain links (Figure 30). If the distance between links exceeds 1/2 inch, replace the chain. Use the correct replacement chain; take the old one to a bike store to be sure. Better yet, have the shop replace the chain! Shift to the small front and rear cogs before removing or replacing the chain. Install a new one, or the cleaned old one, by threading the chain over the chainwheel, then in front of the top derailleur wheel and in back of the bottom derailleur wheel. Join the chain with a rivet tool.



### Maintain Correct Chain Tension that Connects Captain to Stoker's Chainrings

Loosen the two 5-mm allen bolts under the stokers bottom bracket. Rotate the offcentric cam forward so the chain has approximately 1/2" of play up and down. Then tighten the two 5-mm allen bolts. Check amount of play again after this procedure and adjust until it is correct.

## HEADSET ASSEMBLY



- |   |                                       |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| A | LOCK*                                 | G | LOWER CUP (pre-installed on headtube) |
| B | STEEL WASHER                          | H | BEARING COVER                         |
| C | RUBBER SEAL                           | I | ROLLER BEARING                        |
| D | UPPER CAP                             | J | RUBBER SEAL (pre-installed on rim)    |
| E | BEARING                               | K | STAINLESS RIM (pre-installed on fork) |
| F | UPPER CUP (pre-installed on headtube) |   |                                       |

\*Lock the top screw first, twist the lower part to lock the headset, lock the bottom screw, unlock the top screw, twist down and lock the top screw.

## BUDDY BIKE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Follow this maintenance schedule to keep your Buddy Bike in safe operating condition. Please note that we recommend some of this work be performed by a skilled bicycle mechanic in a bike shop!

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE			
<b>All handlebar bolts</b>	Check tightness with torque wrench	4 months	See text or bike shop
<b>Bottom bracket</b>	Disassemble, clean, relube	Yearly	Bike shop
<b>Brake cables</b>	Check for slack, frayed cable	6 months	Bike shop
<b>Brake arms</b>	Check mounting bolt tightness	6 months	Bike shop
<b>Brake levers</b>	Check tightness on handlebars	6 months	See text
<b>Brake shoes</b>	Inspect for wear, alignment	6 months	Bike shop
<b>Chain*</b>	Check wear, clean, relube or replace	6 months	Bike shop
<b>Chainwheels</b>	Clean	4 months	Bike shop
<b>Gripshifter</b>	Disassemble, clean, relube (special grease)	4 months	Bike shop
<b>Headset</b>	Check tightness, disassemble, relube	9 months	Bike shop
<b>Pedals</b>	Disassemble, clean, relube	9 months	Bike shop
<b>Rear axle nut</b>	Check tightness	4 months	See text
<b>Tires</b>	Check tire pressure	Weekly	See text
<b>Wheel alignment</b>	Check wheels for out of trueness	6 months	Bike shop
<b>Wheel hubs</b>	Disassemble, clean, relube	6 months	Bike shop



2775 Sunny Isles Boulevard, Suite 118 • North Miami Beach, FL 33160

## LIMITED WARRANTY

### LIMITED WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS:

- A) This warranty covers only the original retail purchaser and is not transferable.
- B) This warranty does not include frame, fork or component failure due to or because of improper use, pilot error, misuse, neglect, reckless or negligent riding, improper assembly, improper maintenance, and professional or amateur racing including but not limited to bicycle motorcross, stunt bicycling, bicycle trails, single trail mountain biking or similar activities when in training for the same.
- C) This warranty does not cover any personal injuries, damage or failure of the bicycle if used in any competitive amateur or professional event including but not limited to bicycle motorcross, stunt bicycling, bicycle trails, single trail mountain biking or similar activities when in training for the same.
- D) This warranty does not include shipping charges to or from Buddy Bike, LLC.
- E) This warranty does not cover any personal injuries.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE ONLY EXPRESS OR LIMITED WARRANTY APPLICABLE TO THE BUDDY BIKE. THE LIMITED WARRANTY SET FORTH HEREIN MAY NOT BE EXTENDED, ENLARGED OR OTHERWISE MODIFIED BY ANY BUDDY BIKE DEALER, AGENT OR EMPLOYEE, AND BUDDY BIKE DOES NOT ASSUME ANY LIABILITY OR MAKE ANY WARRANTY EXCEPT AS STATED IN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY.

### PARTS

Buddy Bike will repair or replace, at its option, defective parts for this bicycle at no charge, for a period of one year after the date of original purchase. Parts subject to normal wear and tear, including tires, tubes, saddle, pedals and grips are not covered by this one year period. Parts subject to normal wear and tear which are found to be defective by the purchaser within 30 days of purchase, including tires, tubes, saddle, pedals and grips will be replaced by Buddy Bike at no charge. This warranty does not include dealer service charges for parts replacement or shipping charges to or from Buddy Bike.

### FRAME

All Buddy Bike frames and forks are guaranteed to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of three (3) years from date of original purchase. A frame or fork found defective in materials or workmanship will be repaired or replaced at Buddy Bike's option.

### REGISTRATION

Please complete the included registration form and return to Buddy Bike within 60 days of original purchase.

Buddy Bike, LLC  
2775 Sunny Isles Boulevard, Suite 118  
North Miami Beach, Florida 33160  
ATTN: Warranty Registration



2775 Sunny Isles Boulevard, Suite 118  
North Miami Beach, Florida 33160  
T 786.489.BIKE (2453) • F 305.932.6585

Patent Number 5,503,419

**[www.buddybike.com](http://www.buddybike.com)**

CUSTOMER SERVICE & WARRANTY SUPPORT  
Shelley Patterson • 786.489.2453 • [shelley@buddybike.com](mailto:shelley@buddybike.com)

BIKE ASSEMBLY SUPPORT  
Robert Gardner • 707.456.0468 • [bob@buddybike.com](mailto:bob@buddybike.com)

Please practice safe cycling.  
For safe cycling information visit our web site:  
**[www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html](http://www.buddybike.com/BikeSafety.html)**