

SADDLEBAG CARRIER INTERFERENCE/EARLY 1981 FL

Due to the position of the rear brake caliper and the possible "overtravel" of the rear shock absorbers on certain 1981 1340cc FLH model motorcycles equipped with saddlebags, the possibility exists for contact between the saddlebag carrier and/or brake line. This contact could possibly cause the rear brake line to become deformed. Should this deformation be severe enough it could impair the rear brake operation.

Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc., has decided to declare this a safety defect and we are recalling all 1981 1340cc FLH model motorcycles equipped with saddlebags produced and shipped between July 8, 1980 and January 9, 1981, except those with VIN numbers listed at the end of this bulletin which were remedied before shipment.

| MODEL | FROM | TO |
|-------|--------|--------|
| AAK | 010008 | 030647 |
| ABK | 013986 | 030626 |
| ACK | 013987 | 303630 |
| ADK | 010012 | 030205 |
| AGK | 010026 | 023541 |
| AHK | 010048 | 030636 |

The above vehicles must be remedied as soon as possible by replacing the rear brake assembly torque arm with a new shorter arm, which will reposition the rear brake caliper, and by making a small modification to the right side saddlebag carrier.

NOTE

All 1981 1340cc FLH model motorcycles equipped with saddlebags, which already are remedied, will be equipped with a painted (black) rear brake torque arm that is 12.28 in. long as opposed to the original non-painted (silver) rear brake torque arm that is 12.62 in. long.

To take care of your immediate requirements, we will ship all Dealers two special Code 053 TORQUE ARM KITS, Part No. 93354, no charge, transportation prepaid.

Please determine the balance of kits you will require and order only that number using the enclosed special blue Warranty Code 053 Parts and Accessory Order Form. The additional kits will be shipped no charge, transportation prepaid only if ordered on the special blue order form. These service kits cannot be ordered any other way.

All registered owners on record are being notified by mail to contact you and arrange to have the service performed at no charge to them (see enclosed letter). Each registered owner letter will include a Dealer Service Card 053 which must be completed, dated and signed by both the customer and the dealer.

We are including a list of registered owners and a list of unregistered vehicles delivered to your dealership which are involved in this campaign. It is your responsibility to perform the required service on all potentially affected vehicles, including those which may not show up on your lists. We are enclosing sufficient blank Dealer Service Cards for those vehicles. If necessary, additional cards are available through the Harley-Davidson Service Department. Be sure to check the VIN list at the end of this bulletin to see if the service has already been performed at York prior to shipment.

IMPORTANT

Because only registered owners, as shown on the enclosed list, will receive notification from us, we request that you contact any owners of vehicles still listed as unregistered, warn them of the safety recall, and make arrangements for them to come in for service. We also request you provide us with their names, addresses and VIN's as soon as possible to enable us to mail them an owner's letter as required by the National Traffic Motor Vehicle Safety Act, as amended.

| ROUTING: | SERVICE MANAGER | SALES MANAGER | PARTS MANAGER | CHIEF MECHANIC | MECHANIC NO. 1 | MECHANIC NO. 2 | MECHANIC NO. 3 | MECHANIC NO. 4 | RETURN THIS TO: |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| INITIAL HERE | | | | | | | | | |

After servicing each motorcycle, be sure to completely fill out the special Dealer Service Card provided. Fill in your Dealer Account Number the Service Code (in this case 053), the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and your Dealership name and address along with the owner information if it is blank. Be sure to place a "C" in the letter box and a quantity of "1" in the quantity box on each card. All cards must be signed and dated by both the customer and you.

The properly completed card and the original rear brake torque arm must be returned in the same box. Put a return address P-label, Form No. 1248, on the outside of the box containing the replaced part(s) and the Dealer Card(s) you are returning to us.

Upon receipt of a properly completed 053 Card and the replaced rear brake torque arm, your account will be credited for .4 hours for each vehicle serviced. This credit will cover the costs of labor and paper processing.

IMPORTANT

If, at any time, you are not sure that a Safety Recall has been completed on a motorcycle, contact the Harley-Davidson Service Department for a computer check of our recall records. Remember that this recall should be performed on any recalled 1981 1340cc FLH model motorcycle equipped with saddlebags produced and shipped between July 8, 1980 and January 9, 1981 regardless of its length of service.

Removal, Modification and Installation Instructions

1. Support motorcycle underneath frame so that rear wheel is slightly raised off the ground.
2. Remove right side saddlebag and muffler.
3. Remove cotter pin, castle nut and bolt which secure the torque arm to frame. Discard cotter pin.
4. Remove cotter pin and washer from clevis pin that secures torque arm to rear brake bracket. Discard cotter pin.
5. Loosen rear wheel adjustment screws, then remove axle nut, lockwasher and washer from rear axle.
6. Tap rear wheel axle through wheel just enough to clear brake/bracket assembly. (Do not remove axle.)
7. Raise brake/bracket assembly enough to enable removal of clevis pin through one of the holes in brake disc. Remove clevis pin and torque arm from brake/bracket assembly.

WARNING

Use care when removing clevis pin through hole in brake disc to avoid cuts from sharp brake disc finish.

CAUTION

Use caution when raising or lowering brake/bracket assembly to avoid damaging the brake line.

NOTE

For installation purposes, it may be helpful to remove some of the paint from the holes in the new torque arm.

8. Apply a small amount of lubricant onto clevis pin to help prevent corrosion.
9. Position the new torque arm in brake/bracket assembly and reinstall the clevis pin to secure torque arm to bracket. Secure clevis pin with a washer and a new cotter pin (supplied in kit).

NOTE

Perform Step 10 before wheel and brake/bracket assembly are secured back in place.

IMPORTANT

Each saddlebag anchor pin is held to the carrier frame in two spots by weld. These two weld spots are not in the same location on every saddlebag carrier. Should one of the weld spots be in the area in which the modification to saddlebag carrier is being made, leave at least .090 in. of weld to hold anchor pin to carrier frame.

CAUTION

When performing Step 10, cover brake assembly to prevent metal particles from falling directly onto assembly. Care must also be taken not to damage fender brace or fender with grinder.

WARNING

When performing Step 10, eye protection must be worn when operating the hand grinder.

10. Using a hand grinder, remove metal material from right side saddlebag carrier (Figure 1) so that carrier is modified as shown in Figure 2.

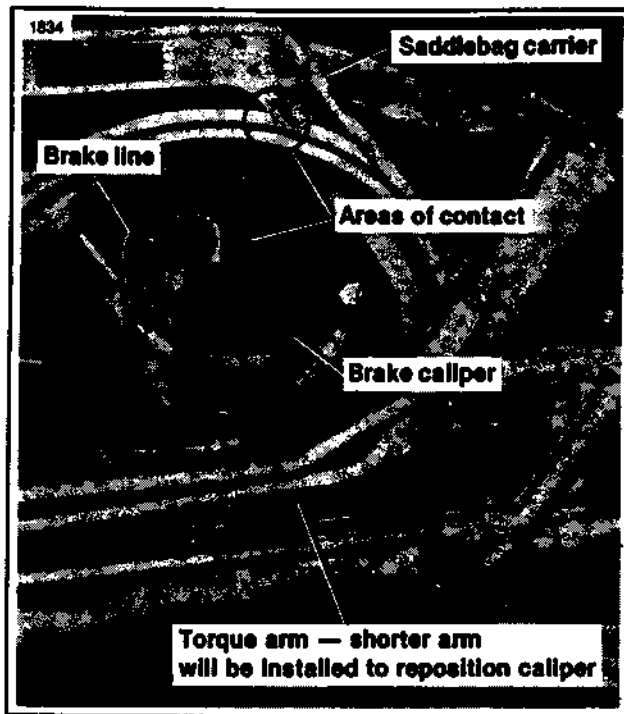


Figure 1. Contact Areas (053)

11. Push the rear axle back through brake/bracket assembly and frame, then install washer, lockwasher and axle nut onto axle. Do not tighten axle nut at this time.
12. Secure torque arm to frame with bolt, castle nut (tighten castle nut only finger tight) and a new cotter pin (supplied in kit).
13. Align the rear wheel as instructed in the FL/FX Service Manual. Tighten the axle nut to 50 ft-lbs torque.

WARNING

Visually inspect the rear brake line and caliper for any damage due to the possible "overtravel" of the rear shock absorbers. If any damage is noted replace the damaged part(s) and bleed the rear brake system as instructed in the FL/FX Service Manual before re-installing the right side muffler and saddlebag.

14. After inspection of rear brake line and caliper has been completed and any damaged parts replaced, reinstall the right side muffler and saddlebag.

NOTE

Should the brake line and/or brake caliper require replacement, submit a warranty claim form and use one or both of the special labor code numbers following:

| | Time | Labor Code |
|---------------|------|------------|
| Brake Line | .5 | 2494 |
| Brake Caliper | .3 | 2495 |

The preceding time allotments include .1 hours to cover the cost of brake fluid. Submit the Warranty Claim Form attached to the Safety Defect Correction Card.

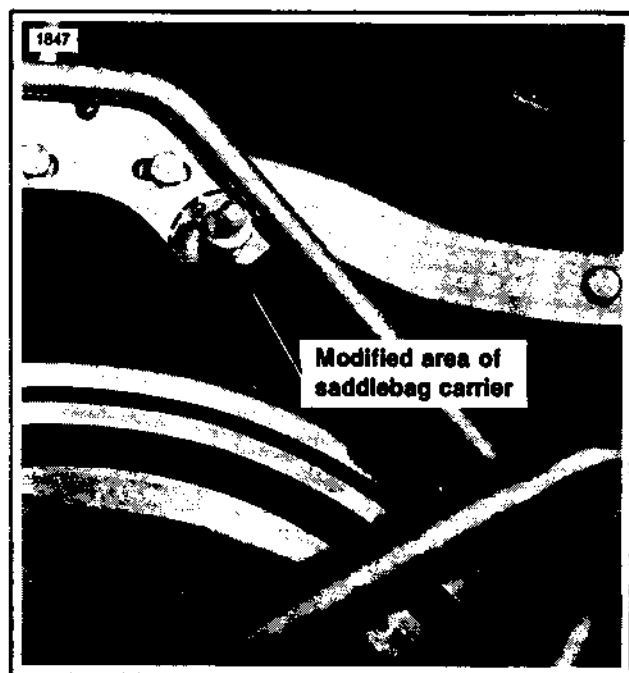


Figure 2. Modified Saddlebag Carrier (053)

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