

kirtland
tour
pak

1975



Quality packs for the
serious touring enthusiast

Materials

Every serious bicyclist understands the importance of his equipment. Well-designed, reliable packs and gear are a must. After the bicycle, the most important pieces of equipment you carry are your touring packs. You need packs that are light weight, yet rugged. Packs that provide room enough to carry all your equipment and personal items. Your packs should distribute the loads evenly to give pedaling ease, balance and safety. And they should attach and dismount quickly and easily from your bicycle.

Since many tourers travel hundreds or even thousands of miles by air, rail or car to reach their general touring area, their packs must double as durable, convenient luggage.

On or off your bicycle, our packs perform. For years and years. In all weather. Under adverse conditions. We've designed them to do just that. KIRTLAND/TOURPAKS. The beginning of many pleasureable touring miles.

All KIRTLAND/TOURPAK panniers and handlebar bags are made only from materials tested and proven to be the best available. Pack fabric is rugged 8 ounce nylon-urethane coated for maximum weather and waterproofness. We've found this fabric to be long lasting. The best for touring applications. Other companies prefer to use a similar fabric with a coarser weave. However our testing has shown this coarser fabric does not hold it's waterproofing as well as our smoother fabric.

We use only self repairing YKK #5 coil zippers. Our experience has shown that they're stronger, more durable, and smoother operating than others available. To make sure the zippers stay in the bag, we double sew them to the pack fabric, providing twice the strength of zippers in many other packs. Then we cover all our zippers with a generous flap to keep the pack as completely waterproof as possible.

As many people who have used bicycle packs with wood, plastic, and soft aluminum stiffeners have found, these materials have a tendency to bend, crack, warp, and break under extreme (and sometimes not so extreme) conditions. To avoid these problems we use a 6061-T6 grade of aluminum that won't crack, warp, or break and is extremely hard to permanently bend. Used in all our models, stiffeners of this grade of aluminum have proven to be light weight, yet rugged enough to withstand all imaginable abuse. To enhance the strength of our packs, the suspension system attachments of both the panniers and handlebar bags are riveted through the pack cloth directly to these stiffeners - not just sewn to the pack cloth as is the case on most other packs. This provides the most secure riding bags on the market and prevents the stiffeners and load from shifting.

We didn't end our quest for quality materials with the major items. We chose top grain, chrome tanned leather because of its strength and resistance to water penetration. Nylon webbing is used because of its strength, abrasion resistance, and resistance to mildew. Map windows on our handlebar bags are made from a 40 thousandth inch, long lasting clear vinyl. Our super strong thread was originally developed for the shoe industry and in most cases is stronger than the pack fabric through which it is sewn. All K/T packs are double sewn at points of high stress and along all major structural seams to give our packs an extra margin of safety for carrying extra heavy loads under extreme conditions.

Our hardware was tested and chosen for its strength and long lasting finish. It is the best available anywhere. When it was not available, we had it custom made to our exacting design specifications. Such was the case of our pannier hook and spring brackets, made of tough stainless steel.

Now you know something about the materials which we use. Take a close look at the models themselves. We think you'll be impressed.

About Our Guarantee

All KIRTLAND/TOURPAK packs are guaranteed against defects in materials and workmanship for their useful lives. We will gladly repair any defect which is not the result of misuse or normal wear and tear. Please contact your dealer should any problems or questions arise.

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The Handlebar Bags

KIRTLAND/TOURPAK offers two handlebar bags in 1975. Last year's S/T (Standard Touring) handlebar bag is joined by the new L/T (Light Touring) model introduced for the economy minded bicycle tourist who still wants a top quality, large volume, easily accessible, and securely riding handlebar bag.

The two models are identical although the S/T model has two zipper pockets on the back and slot pockets on the sides. These additional pockets are designed for tourists who want maximum compartmentalization and are ideal for carrying small and frequently used items such as keys, change, sunglasses, snacks, small

cameras and a variety of other items for which quick access is desirable.

Both handlebar bags have a large main compartment with a covered zipper which goes around three sides of the pack and is accessible while on the bike, eliminating the need to lean over forward or walk to the front of the bike. This allows easy access while pedaling. There is even a convenient snap for closing the main compartment without the necessity of using the zipper. A large front pocket with zipper access provides additional carrying space.

Another important feature of the K/T handlebar bags is the full size clear vinyl map pocket on top of the main compartment which allows the tourist to navigate while riding. The map pocket is accessible only from the inside of the bag thus making it waterproof to keep your maps dry even in heavy rain showers.

Both handlebar bags attach quickly and easily to the front bag support (or directly to the bike though

we do not recommend this method) by means of three web straps and tough plastic buckles. These, in conjunction with rivets set directly into the full size aluminum stiffener in the back of the main compartment, make the pack ride extremely securely. There is also an aluminum stiffener in the bottom of the main compartment to prevent the pack from sagging when fully loaded. Leather is used to avoid excessive wear at points where the pack rubs against the rack or bicycle.

Both models come with a removable shoulder strap so that the pack can be used as a hand bag when the tourist leaves his bicycle. This is very convenient when you want to keep valuables such as money, passports, travelers checks, and cameras with you when you leave your bicycle.

S/T



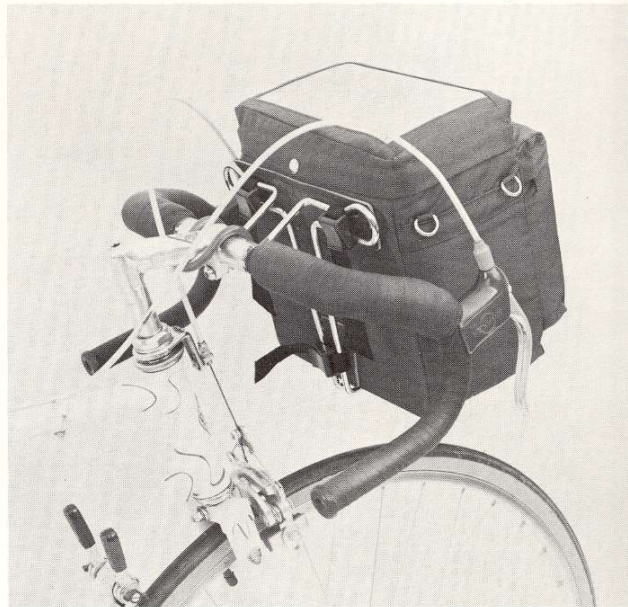
S/T Handlebar Bag

Weight: 20 oz.

Volume: 680 cu. in.

Colors: Navy Blue, Bright Red

L/T

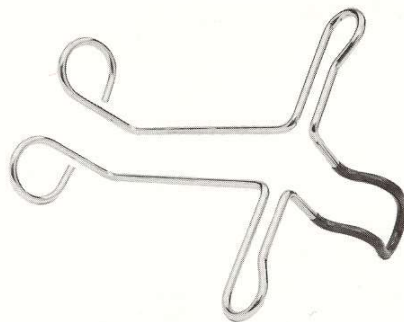


L/T Handlebar Bag

Weight: 18 oz.

Volume: 600 cu. in.

Colors: Navy Blue, Bright Red



E-Z On, E-Z Off Front Bag Support

We recommend using the K/T handlebar bags with the E-Z On, E-Z Off Front Bag Support. Although the handlebar bags can be used with a variety of front carriers, it is most compatible with this model. Your dealer should have this front bag support available for you.



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Bicycles are everywhere. Every day more people discover the pleasures of bike touring and travel. In the past several years, interest in bicycling and specifically bicycle touring and camping has increased dramatically. Bicycles are seen on campuses, commuting to work, and travelling cross country miles from the urban environment. More people than ever before return from vacations without gasoline bills. Whole families are discovering a new world of weekend enjoyment. Touring has come of age in the U.S. A practical and enjoyable answer to our recreational and transportation needs.

Design and quality of touring packs has not kept pace with the needs of the serious biker. Until now. The KIRTLAND/TOURPACK Line is designed and manufactured by active bicyclists who weren't



satisfied with design and quality of the available touring packs.

Realizing that conventional packs were simply the result of a series of evolutionary improvements, we set out to redefine the needs of the serious tourist. And we wanted to design and build top quality packs to fill those needs. We were unwilling to compromise any aspect of design, performance or quality on or off the bicycle.

We believe the results are the finest bicycle bags and panniers available to you today. Compare our packs with the others. We think you'll agree we've achieved our goals. You'll see why the name KIRTLAND/TOURPAK has become synonymous with innovative design and quality.



The K/T Twin Spring Pannier Suspension System PATENT PENDING

The unique K/T Twin Spring Suspension system is probably the strongest, most functional, and most adjustable pannier attachment system ever developed. It comes on all K/T pannier models and is compatible with almost all rear bicycle carriers.

This system allows the panniers to snap on and off the rear carrier in seconds. To mount the panniers simply mate the hook found between the springs with the hook (two provided with each set of panniers) which the user permanently attaches through the lower carrier bolt, then pull up on the handle until the upper hook plates snap over the top of the carrier. (See picture 1). It's that easy. The handles can then be removed and stored or just left on top of the carrier.

Unlike other quick on-off systems, the twin springs provide "for-aft" stability to the panniers preventing any front-back "flopping" of the packs. The tension of the heavy duty springs is more than ample to prevent excessive sideways "flopping".

Since the distance from the top of the carrier to the lower carrier hook varies depending on the type of carrier and the size of the bike frame, the tension of the springs has been designed to be easily adjustable so that the tension can be increased to prevent the panniers from bouncing off the bike. For more tension, simply remove the spring ends from the holes on the spring attachment plates and move them up several holes until the right amount of tension is obtained. (See pictures 2-3).

In carrying any set of panniers on the back of a bicycle, it is desirable to carry the load as far forward as possible without interfering with your foot clearance when peddling. With most quick on-off suspension systems it has often been a problem to get the panniers to stay where you want them on the carrier since they tend to slide forward or backward. The K/T twin spring suspension system also solves this problem. Permanent "for-aft" positioning of the panniers is accomplished by two means either in combination or individually depending on the type of carrier and the needs of the individual. First the springs can be adjusted at an angle (see picture 4) thus providing tension which tends to hold the pack forward or in back of its normal position. Second, the position of the upper hook plates can be adjusted by loosening their bolts, sliding the hook plate forward or backward, and tightening the bolts (see picture 4). After a little fooling around with these adjustments, the proper "for-aft" positioning and tension of the panniers can be found for any type of carrier, size of frame, and size of rider's foot. From then on the panniers will always attach to the carrier in the same position.

All the hardware used with our twin spring suspension is not simply sewn to the fabric but instead is securely riveted or bolted to the strong aluminum stiffener on the inside of the main compartment providing the most securely riding panniers available.



2



3



4

Other Pannier Features

Besides the twin spring suspension system there are several other features which come with all three of our pannier models.

All three are designed to be snapped together when off the bicycle to form a piece of luggage easily carried with the webbing and leather handle, an extremely valuable feature if you plan to travel to a bicycle tour. When you get to your destination, simply unsnap the panniers and snap them on the bike.

Each model has an "envelope" pocket in front of each aluminum stiffener inside the main compartments, ideal for storing items which you want to stay flat such as passports and maps.

When the panniers are mounted on the bike, the top of the rear carrier remains clear enabling extra items to be strapped on such as clothing, sleeping bags, tents, or any number of other things providing a great deal of additional space and flexibility to the tourist.

We have received a great many requests asking whether our panniers can be attached to a backpack frame. The answer is "yes and no". While no specific provisions have been made for this in the design, it is definitely possible. There are ample slots and holes in the hardware on the back of the panniers that someone with a little ingenuity will have no trouble finding the proper straps to

attach the panniers to a backpack frame. The same "yes and no" answer applies to whether or not a shoulder strap comes with the panniers. We do not provide one and don't even make one because the demand has not warranted the increased price we would have to charge for the panniers. Not that many people ever find that they use such a strap. However again, a little ingenuity and some locally available materials will be all that's necessary to come up with a pretty good shoulder strap which can be fastened to the extra slots in the upper hook plates (next to where the removable handles attach).

L/T



S/T



G/T





G/T Panniers

Designed for the bicycle tourer and/or camper who needs a large pack volume yet wants flexibility in load capacity and weight distribution, the G/T (Grand Touring) panniers are the ultimate in touring packs. Designed with a lower center of gravity than our other models for carrying those extra heavy loads, this model has a drawstring opening into the main compartment of each half covered by a top flap with a zipper pocket in it. There are six additional pockets around the sides and the front of the main compartment is "cut away" to provide more than adequate foot clearance for this lower slung pack. This is the ideal set of panniers for those planning extended tours and who need space for such things as tents, sleeping bags, stoves, freeze-dried foods, etc.

G/T Panniers
 Weight: 46 oz.
 Volume: 2400+ cu. in.
 Colors: Navy Blue, Bright Red



S/T Panniers

Our most popular model, the S/T (Standard Touring) panniers are ideal for almost any touring need from distance riding with a full load to weekend or day trips with a medium to small load. With zippered main compartments and six pockets around the sides this model is ideal for carrying almost any size load and for keeping such things as spare tools and tires away from other items such as food and clothing.

S/T Panniers
 Weight: 38 oz.
 Volume: 2000 cu. in.
 Colors: Navy Blue, Bright Red



L/T Panniers

As the name implies, our L/T (Light Touring) panniers are for the individual who keeps his load to a minimum in town or on the road. The zippered main compartments and two side pockets provide just the right amount of carrying capacity for those who travel light. The quick on-off the bike feature also makes these panniers ideal for the urban commuter who pedals to work.

L/T Panniers
 Weight: 30 oz.
 Volume: 1100 cu. in.
 Colors: Navy Blue, Bright Red

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Another quality product line by
HINE/SNOWBRIDGE, Inc.
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PHOTO CREDITS: (Front and back covers) Bicycle touring
in the Canadian Rockies, G. S. Hine photos

