

## OBR Explorer Saddlebag System Installation

Congratulations on your purchase of the OBR ADV Gear Explorer Saddlebag System! The OBR Explorer Saddlebag system was designed to be a universal luggage solution that should work with most framed rack systems.

The OBR Explorer Saddlebag system is comprised of two components:

- 1) The Holster: the exterior component that is attached to the frame rack of the motorcycle. The Holster holds the removable Waterproof Dry Bag in place and can be either hard mounted to the rack system or be removable depending on the rack system manufactures mounting attachments.
- 2) The Waterproof Dry Bag: a coated polyester bag that secures within the Holster during travel. The Waterproof Dry Bag rolls down from the top and secures its seal using webbing straps. The Waterproof Dry Bag is secured in the Holster by hook and loop and the compression straps of the Holster.

The OBR Explorer Holster system is designed with a blank back plate that contains a ¼” piece of HDPE. This blank space is intended for the bolt through of your frame rack systems attachments and will attach the Holster to the frame hoops similar to any hard pannier box system.

Please fully read these instructions before proceeding (an installation video is also available on our YouTube channel).

Let's get started!

### 1) Examine kit contents.

Remove your Explorer Saddlebag system from its packaging. Your package should include:

- one (1) pair of Explorer Holsters
- one (1) pair of Explorer Dry Bags

***We have not included any hardware because there are far too many attachment types and differing sizes of hardware for the attachments. Please consider this so you have adequate hardware on hand. Your back plate thickness will range from .325”-.375”. You will need to consider this along with washer thickness and attachment thickness when determining the proper length for your hardware.***

***Note that any hardware included with your rack attachments will probably not work with the Holster due to the greater thickness of the Holster HDPE plate. We recommend Round or Button Head Stainless hardware with stainless washers and Nylock nuts. This hardware is typically available at any home improvement retailer.***

## 2) Identify your rack type.

Note that each manufacturer's mounting system is different, so adapt these instructions as needed to accommodate your specific application. Some common mounting systems:

Lower attachment only	Only have a lower attachment and then secure to the frame using a pair of knob screws.
Lower and Upper attachment	Both a lower and upper attachment. We recommend mounting your lower attachments first as this will allow you to set the Holster into the frame rack while you mark for the upper attachments.
Single attachment plate	Have a single attachment plate that clips into the frame hoop as one piece. This type of attachment is pictured in this install document.

## 3) Position Holster on frame rack.

Hold the Holster up to your frame rack. Unbuckling the holster and letting the outside half hang down sometimes makes this step easier (a second set of hands is also helpful). Establish a front to back and top to bottom position and confirm that the holster is sitting square and parallel with the hoop of your frame rack.



#### 4) Mark lower attachment/single plate locations.

Holding the Holster secure in the location established in Step 3, mark the inside perimeter of your frame rack hoop on the blank back panel of your Holster. This will provide a square point of reference while placing frame rack attachments.

Also mark the mounting hardware locations for your systems lower mount or single mount plate while continuing to hold the holster in position. (Note that if you can't access the mounting locations you will have to use the perimeter markings to locate the lower attachment later, which is not preferred).



Do not mark any upper attachments at this stage. If you have upper attachments, you will want to mount your lower attachments first as this will allow you to set the Holster back into the frame rack while you mark for the upper attachments.

Note that you will only need to mark one Holster. When one Holster is drilled it can be used as a mirrored template for the opposing side Holster.

We recommend using a grease pencil or Sharpie to mark the Holster.

5) Verify lower attachment or single plate position.

With your Holster correctly marked against the frame rack hoop in Step 4, locate and confirm the position of your lower attachment or single mounting plate.



6) Drill lower attachment/single plate holes.

After marking and confirming the placement for your lower attachments or single plate, select a properly sized drill bit. You can pre-punch or indent the HDPE through the fabric pocket if desired. Next, drill completely through the plate and the pocket for the lower attachments.



We recommend using a scrap piece of wood under the Holster while drilling to prevent damage to your drill or floor.

Note: if you ever change frame rack systems you can redrill your Holster to fit the new system attachments. Having exposed drill points will not harm the Holster, but you can use tape to cover the holes if desired.

7) Attach your lower attachments or single plate to the Holster.

Bolt the lower attachment or single plate to the holster using the hardware you acquired. A few suggestions for installing the mounting hardware:

- Keep sharp parts of the hardware away from the dry bags. Direct your hardware so that the nuts are positioned away from the inside of the Holster whenever possible.
- In an instance where it is required to run the hardware from the backside with the nut inside the Holster, we recommend using blind round base nuts whenever possible. Covering exposed nuts or bolt heads on the inside of the Holster with tape will also help further protect the dry bag.
- Using Nylock nuts will eliminate the need for thread locker, but thread locker is recommended on any fastener that does not have a locking component.
- We recommend tightening the side of the hardware **not** in contact with the Holster skin to prevent twisting of the HDPE cover skin. Hold the hardware in contact with the skin and tighten the opposite side. If twisting does occur, simply back the faster off in the opposite direction to square the material back up.



8) Mount upper attachments if needed.

Now that you have your lower attachments mounted, attach your Holster to your frame rack and hold it in place. Mark your upper attachment mounting points and follow the same steps for drilling and mounting the lower attachments.

9) Install safety bolt if provided.

Some frame racks utilize a safety bolt to the frame. If your rack offers this option, we do recommend that it be utilized.

10) Almost done! Insert dry bags.

With your Holster mounted to your frame you are ready to insert your dry bag. Match the hook and loop of the Holster and dry bag and place the dry bag into position. With the dry bag in position, you can now tension your holster compression straps. Each of the straps have a Triglide buckle that allows for locking of the strap adjustment. This process might require a few extra minutes to adjust, but it will keep your gear secure and prevent the straps from loosening during travel.

With the system empty you can expect to have some slack in the system along with some loose strap tails. We have found it best to tighten all of the SRB straps to full compression and tuck away the strap tails when running the system empty. Complete removal of the dry bag is also an option.



There it is ... you're done! Now load up some gear and take a trip!

If you have any questions, you can contact us through the contact page of our website.

[www.obradvgear.com/contact-us/](http://www.obradvgear.com/contact-us/)

