



BLACK



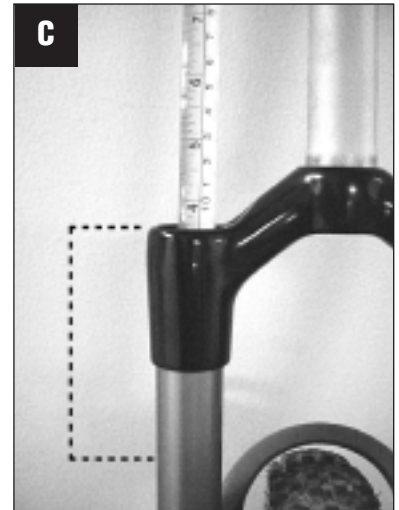
2004 OWNERS' MANUAL

Black Super Air
Black Elite
Black Comp
Black Platinum



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MANITOU SUSPENSION FORKS

CONGRATULATIONS ON CHOOSING THE LATEST IN SUSPENSION TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE, A 2004 MANITOU FORK. This fork is fully assembled and ready to be installed onto your bicycle. It comes equipped with a 1 1/8-inch threadless steerer tube and may also be available in a disc brake only version. A handlebar-mounted reflector must be used for on-road use, which is not included with your fork.

2004 MANITOU BLACK FORK LINE

BLACK COMP	100 OR 120 MM TRAVEL / COIL SPRING / FLUID FLOW DAMPING / SINGLE CROWN / RA CASTING
BLACK ELITE	100 OR 120 MM TRAVEL / COIL SPRING / FLUID FLOW DAMPING (REBOUND ADJUST) / SINGLE CROWN / RA CASTING
BLACK SUPER AIR	80, 100 OR 120 MM TRAVEL / AIR SPRING / FLUID FLOW DAMPING (REBOUND ADJUST) / SINGLE CROWN / RA CASTING
BLACK PLATINUM.....	90-120 MM RAPID TRAVEL WIND-DOWN / COIL SPRING / TPC LOCK-OUT / SINGLE CROWN / RA CASTING

You can also download this manual at www.answerproducts.com.

GENERAL WARNING **BIKING IS A HAZARDOUS ACTIVITY THAT REQUIRES THAT THE RIDER STAY IN CONTROL OF HIS OR HER BICYCLE AT ALL TIMES. READING THIS MANUAL ENTIRELY AND PROPERLY MAINTAINING YOUR BICYCLE AND SUSPENSION FORK WILL REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF INJURY OR POSSIBLE DEATH. PRIOR TO RIDING YOUR BICYCLE, YOU SHOULD INSPECT YOUR SUSPENSION FORK TO ENSURE THAT NO DAMAGE HAS OCCURRED DURING THE COURSE OF PREVIOUS RIDING OR ASSEMBLY. DO NOT RIDE YOUR BICYCLE IF THE FORK SHOWS ANY SIGNS OF BENDING, CRACKING, CREAKING, LEAKING, OR IF IT IS MISSING ANY OF THE ORIGINALLY SUPPLIED COMPONENTS. ANY FALL FROM YOUR BICYCLE CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR EVEN DEATH. FOLLOWING THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAN HELP YOU REDUCE THE RISK OF BEING INJURED. IF YOU ARE A MODERATE OR AGGRESSIVE OFF-ROAD RIDER, OR RIDE AT LEAST THREE TIMES A WEEK OVER ROUGH TERRAIN, ANSWER RECOMMENDS RETURNING YOUR SUSPENSION FORK EVERY 2 YEARS FOR A THOROUGH INSPECTION AND UPDATE. TAKE YOUR FORK TO A MANITOU AUTHORIZED DEALER WHO CAN ARRANGE FOR SHIPMENT TO ANSWER PRODUCTS, OR YOU MAY CALL ANSWER TO HAVE YOUR FORK SHIPPED DIRECTLY AT (800) 423-0273.**

IMPORTANT: The Manitou fork is an off-road fork, and as such, does not come with proper reflectors for on road use. Have your dealer or mechanic install proper reflectors to meet the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (C.P.S.C.) Requirements for Bicycles if the fork is going to be used on public roads at any time. If you have questions regarding C.P.S.C. Standards, contact your dealer.

CONSUMER SAFETY INFORMATION

Never remove or have the steerer tube or stanchions removed from the crown. The steerer tube and stanchions (inner legs) are press fit at the factory. Press fit inner legs have higher performance versus bolt-in inner legs, but can not be pressed out. Pressing them out will permanently damage the crown beyond repair and render it unsafe for any continued use. Never attempt to thread a threadless steerer tube. Cutting threads will weaken the steerer tube and cause an unsafe condition. The only safe thing to do is to obtain the proper crown/steerer from your dealer, or contact Answer Customer Service at (800) 423-0273. Any other alteration or modification to your fork should be considered unsafe. Contact Answer Customer Service prior to modifying your fork in any way for safety information.

Do not use the fork if any parts are broken, bent, cracked, or you suspect may be damaged. Contact your dealer or Answer Products Customer Service at (800) 423-0273 if you have any questions concerning the integrity or condition of your fork.

Answer Products recommends that you periodically inspect your fork for wear and damage. Inspect the crown, inner legs, outer legs, dropouts and brake arch areas for cracks or damage.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Any Answer Products fork found by the factory to be defective in materials and/or workmanship within one year from the date of purchase (or two years in EU countries) will be repaired or replaced at the option of the manufacturer, free of charge, when received at the factory, freight prepaid. This warranty does not cover breakage, bending, or damage that may result from crashes or falls. This warranty does not cover any fork that has been subject to misuse or whose serial number has been altered, defaced or removed. This warranty does not cover paint damage. Any modifications made by the user will render the warranty null and void. This warranty is expressly in lieu of all other warranties, and any implied are limited in duration to the same duration as the expressed warranty herein. Answer Products shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages.

If for any reason warranty work is necessary, return the fork with original purchase receipt to the place of purchase. At that time, instructions for repair, return, or replacement shall be given. Customers in countries other than USA should contact their dealer or local distributor.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

The steerer tube may need to be cut to length to fit your bicycle head tube. If you are not familiar with this procedure, or do not have the proper tools to cut the steerer tube, it is recommended that you seek a dealer with a qualified bicycle mechanic to perform installation.

WARNING **THE STEERER TUBE AND STANCHIONS (INNER LEGS) ARE A ONE TIME PRECISION PRESS FIT AT THE FACTORY AND CANNOT BE REMOVED FROM THE CROWN. REPLACEMENT OF THE ENTIRE CROWN/STEERER ASSEMBLY MUST BE DONE TO INCREASE STEERER TUBE LENGTHS OR CHANGE DIAMETERS. REMOVING AND REPLACING THE STEERER TUBE OR STANCHIONS WILL RESULT IN AN UNSAFE CONDITION AND SHOULD NEVER BE DONE.**

BREAK-IN

Your new fork is designed to break in during your first few rides (about 20 hours total riding time). Prior to break-in, you may notice your fork feels tight and slightly notchy. Following the break-in period, your fork will feel much smoother and will react to bumps much better than when you first put it on your bike. After 20 hours, you may want to recheck adjustments (where applicable) to fine tune the fork completely.

FORK INSTALLATION

1. Remove the old fork from your bicycle.
2. Measure and cut the steerer tube to fit your bicycle head tube (see **WARNING** above). You can use your old fork as a guide for cutting the steerer tube length.
3. Remove the headset crown race from the old fork.
4. Install headset and fork per headset manufacturer's instructions.
5. Install the handlebars and stem to the stem and handlebar manufacturer's instructions.
6. Install the brakes per the brake manufacturer's instructions.
7. To install the front wheel adjust the front wheel quick release to clear the secondary dropout safety tabs. Secure wheel per quick release manufacturer's instructions.
8. Install the brake cable per brake manufacturer instructions. Ensure that the front brake cable is properly routed. Make sure the brake line is not crimped or contacts the tire as the fork moves through its travel.

WARNING **WHEN INSTALLING THE WHEEL WITH A PROPERLY INFLATED TIRE, CHECK TO MAKE SURE THE FORK ACHIEVES MINIMUM TIRE CLEARANCE.**

1. **MEASURE FROM THE HIGHEST POINT ON THE TIRE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BRAKE ARCH, SEE FIGURE A. SEE TABLE 1 FOR MINIMUM BRAKE ARCH CLEARANCE.**
2. **MEASURE THE TIRE AT MAXIMUM WIDTH, SEE FIGURE B. SEE TABLE 1 FOR MAXIMUM TIRE WIDTH.**

TABLE 1: WHEEL CLEARANCE

MINIMUM BRAKE ARCH CLEARANCE (See Figure A)	MAXIMUM TIRE WIDTH (See Figure B)
8.5 mm	60 mm

IMPORTANT: Failure to properly route and securely attach the front brake cable to the fork can cause serious injury or death. This fork should not be used if any parts appear to be or are damaged. Contact your local dealer or Answer Products for replacement parts.

INITIAL SET-UP

MEASURING TRAVEL

To determine which travel your fork is in, simply measure the distance from the top of the seal area on the lowers (or the bottom of the fork boot) to the bottom of the crown. See Table 2 to determine travel.

TABLE 2: TRAVEL MEASUREMENT

FORK TRAVEL	SEAL TO CROWN MEASUREMENT
80 mm	Around 101 mm
100 mm	Around 121 mm
120 mm	Around 141 mm

MEASURING SAG

You'll need a tape measure, a pencil, a piece of paper and a helper.

1. Measure the distance from the front axle's centerline to the bottom of the upper crown when no one's sitting on the bike and write this distance down. (Remember the exact locations of the two points because you'll need to use them later.)
2. Have the rider sit on the bike and measure the distance between the same two points as in step one. It's important to be in the normal riding position (weight centered) with your feet on the pedals.
3. Subtract the second measurement from the first. The resulting measurement is the static sag (See Table 3).
4. On coil forks, the preload adjuster on Manitou forks is located on the top left of the crown (as you are looking at the fork from the rider's perspective). Turning the knob clockwise increases spring preload and decreases sag, while turning the knob counterclockwise decreases spring preload and increases sag.
5. On air-coil forks, remove the air cap located on the top of the left leg and, using a dedicated shock pump (Manitou part #85-4069), inflate the fork with the desired pressure (75% of rider weight for 80 mm travel forks, or 50% of rider weight for 100 mm and above). Be aware that sometimes air systems lose a small amount of pressure when the pump is removed, so you may want to check exactly how much your pump loses by reinstalling it after you have set and checked pressure.
6. If adjusting the preload or air pressure does not provide the proper sag you may require a new ride kit. Please see recommended ride kits below.

TABLE 3: SAG MEASUREMENT

FORK TRAVEL	SAG
80 mm	12-16 mm
100 mm	18-24 mm
120 mm	25-28 mm

REBOUND DAMPING ADJUSTMENT

Rebound adjusters on Manitou forks are located on the bottom of the right fork leg. Turning the knob clockwise (as you are looking at the fork from the bottom) increases rebound damping, while turning the knob counterclockwise decreases rebound damping.

RAPID TRAVEL WIND DOWN

To change the travel with Rapid Travel Wind Down, just turn the knob located at the top of the left leg (from a rider's perspective) clockwise for shorter travel and counterclockwise for longer travel. There is a dial indicator to determine the travel you are in. The number that is right side up from the rider's perspective (at the back of the fork crown) indicates your current travel setting. **Do not attempt to activate this travel adjust feature while riding.**

COMPRESSION DAMPING ADJUSTMENT – TPC LOCKOUT

For TPC with lockout forks, a simple turn of the knob located on top of the right leg is all that is needed to add compression damping and activate the lockout. Turning the knob clockwise (as you are looking from a rider's position) increases compression damping and activates the lockout, while turning the knob counter-clockwise decreases compression damping and deactivates the lockout. The last 1/2 turn of the knob activates the lockout, while the initial part of the knob's travel increases or decreases compression damping.

SPV DAMPING ADJUSTMENT

With SPV damping, your suspension's compression damping characteristics and position sensitivity can be set with an SPV pump (Manitou part #85-4161). For proper function of your SPV damping system use the following procedure.

1. Start by removing the red air cap located on the top of the right leg (from the rider's perspective) and, using a dedicated SPV pump (Manitou part #85-4161), inflate the fork to 50 psi.
2. Check sag per procedure above.
3. Adjust SPV pressure. More pressure will create more compression damping, hold the bike up more and pedal better. Less pressure will create less compression damping, allow more sag, and be more responsive and supple. **Do not run SPV pressure below 30 psi or above 100 psi.**
4. Adjust SPV volume. With a 16 mm socket wrench or the SPV 16 mm volume adjust socket (part #85-3007), you can adjust the air volume in your SPV suspension. The volume adjust hex is colored red and located on top of the right leg. Turning the volume adjuster inwards will create a more progressive damping effect and make the suspension firmer from mid-stroke to bottom out. Turning the volume adjuster outwards will make the suspension more linear in compression damping and have a softer finish.

Refer to the website for specific tuning information about your SPV suspension.

MAINTENANCE

Your fork requires periodic maintenance, cleaning and inspection. This is because moisture and contamination may build up inside the fork depending on the severity of riding conditions. To maintain top performance, it is recommended that the fork be periodically disassembled, cleaned, dried and re-lubricated. You can download service and tuning instructions on the web at www.answerproducts.com.

SUGGESTED SERVICE INTERVALS FOR BLACK FORKS		
	Short, Sporadic Rides	Long, Frequent Rides
Normal Conditions	Disassemble fork per Service Manual; clean out casting and replace Semi Bath oil every 6 months. Service FFD, TPC, and SPV damping systems by changing the damper oil every year. Grease spring stack as needed. On air fork models, check the oil level sitting on top of the air piston every 2 months per directions found on web site.	Disassemble fork per Service Manual; clean out casting and replace Semi Bath oil every 4 months. Service FFD, TPC, and SPV damping systems by changing the damper oil every year. Grease spring stack as needed. On air fork models, check the oil level sitting on top of the air piston every 6 weeks per directions found on web site.
Severe Conditions	Disassemble fork per Service Manual; clean out casting and replace Semi Bath oil every 4 months. Service FFD, TPC, and SPV damping systems by changing the damper oil every year. Grease spring stack as needed. On air fork models, check the oil level sitting on top of the air piston every 6 weeks per directions found on web site.	Disassemble fork per Service Manual; clean out casting and replace Semi Bath oil every 3 months. Service FFD, TPC, and SPV damping systems by changing the damper oil every year. Grease spring stack as needed. On air fork models, check the oil level sitting on top of the air piston every 4 weeks per directions found on web site.

IMPORTANT: Before every ride you should:

1. Ensure that quick release skewers are properly adjusted and tight per quick release manufacturer's instructions.
NOTE: Forks with standard dropouts are equipped with dropout safety tabs to retain the wheel in the fork in the event the quick release comes loose.
2. Wipe the inner legs and clean the fork. Check the entire fork for any obvious damage. Do not use the fork if any parts are broken, bent, cracked, or you suspect may be damaged.
3. Check the headset for proper adjustment per headset manufacturer's instructions.
4. Ensure that the front brake cable is properly routed and check brake adjustment.

CHECKING OIL LEVEL

IMPORTANT: Setting the proper oil level in your damped suspension fork is critical. The damping is located in the right leg of your fork. Not enough oil will allow foaming and reduce the performance. Too much oil will restrict travel and may cause damage to the system and create an unsafe riding condition. Finish reading this entire section prior to altering the oil level.

To check the oil level, remove the compression assembly located in the top of the right leg (as you are looking at the fork from the rider's position). Leave the left side spring stack in place to keep the fork fully extended. Use a tape measure or "dip stick" to measure from the top of the fork crown down to where the oil sits (Figure C). For the correct oil level see Table 4.

TABLE 4: OIL LEVEL HEIGHT	
FORK MODEL	OIL LEVEL
BLACK	110 - 120 mm (4.33" - 4.72")

NOTE: Use SAE 5WT suspension fork oil only.

If you have any questions regarding your 2004 Manitou suspension fork in the U.S., contact the Answer Customer Service Department at (800) 423-0273. For information outside of the U.S., contact your authorized Manitou dealer or distributor.

You can also log on to www.answerproducts.com and download this manual or see detailed instructions on how to service your suspension fork.

04 BLACK SERVICE PART KITS

04 BLACK Damping Assemblies

85-5800	BLACK Comp/Elite/Super Air Compression Damping Assembly
85-5868	BLACK Platinum Compression Damping Assembly
85-5556	BLACK Comp 100 mm Rebound Damping Assembly
85-5365	BLACK Comp 120 mm Rebound Damping Assembly
85-5306	BLACK Elite/Super Air 100 mm Rebound Damping Assembly
85-5802	BLACK Elite/Super Air/Platinum 120 mm Rebound Damping Assembly
85-5322	BLACK Super Air 80 mm Rebound Damping Assembly

04 BLACK Pre Load Adjuster Assembly

85-4837	BLACK Comp/Elite Preload Adjuster Assembly
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04 BLACK Air Cap Assemblies

85-5803	BLACK Super Air Air Cap Assembly
85-5304	BLACK Platinum Air Cap Assembly

04 BLACK Crown Steer Leg Assemblies

85-4838	26" BLACK Comp/Elite Crown/Steer Assembly – Steel
85-4446	26" BLACK Super Air 80 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy
85-4447	26" BLACK Super Air 100 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy
85-4448	26" BLACK Super Air 120 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy
85-5085	26" BLACK Platinum Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy
85-4450	26" BLACK Comp/Elite 100 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy – SPV
85-4451	26" BLACK Comp/Elite/Platinum 120 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy – SPV
85-4452	26" BLACK Super Air 80 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy – SPV
85-4453	26" BLACK Super Air 100 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy – SPV
85-4454	26" BLACK Super Air 120 mm Crown/Steer Assembly – Blk Alloy – SPV

04 BLACK Outer Leg Assemblies

85-5806	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Black
85-5807	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Silver
85-5808	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Red
85-5809	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – White
85-5830	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Black, No Boss
85-5831	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Silver, No Boss
85-5832	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – Red, No Boss
85-5833	26" Black Outer Leg Assembly – White, No Boss

04 BLACK Sticker/Knob/Seal/Bumper/Air Piston/O-Ring Kits

85-5840	BLACK Comp Sticker Kit – Silver
85-5841	BLACK Comp Sticker Kit – Black
85-4441	BLACK Elite Sticker Kit – Silver
85-4440	BLACK Elite Sticker Kit – Black
85-4443	BLACK Super Air Sticker Kit – Silver
85-4442	BLACK Super Air Sticker Kit – Black
85-4445	BLACK Platinum Sticker Kit – Silver
85-4444	BLACK Platinum Sticker Kit – Black
85-5865	BLACK Comp/Elite Knob Kit
85-5866	BLACK Super Air Knob Kit
85-5867	BLACK Platinum Knob Kit
85-5281	BLACK/Minute Seal Kit
85-5266	Air Piston Kit
85-5283	BLACK Bumper Kit
85-5282	BLACK O-Ring Kit
85-5364	End Cap Assembly – Left Leg
85-5869	BLACK Elite/Super Air/Platinum SPV Assembly

04 BLACK Ride Kits

Rider Weight Range

85-5842	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – X-Soft, 100 mm	130 lbs & below
85-5843	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – X-Soft, 120 mm	130 lbs & below
85-5844	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – X-Soft, 80 mm	130 lbs & below
85-5845	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Soft, 100 mm	130-150 lbs
85-5846	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Soft, 120 mm	130-150 lbs
85-4851	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Soft, 80 mm	130-150 lbs
85-4985	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Soft, 100 mm	130-150 lbs
85-4988	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Soft, 120 mm	130-150 lbs
85-5847	BLACK Platinum Ride Kit – Soft	130-150 lbs
85-5848	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Medium, 100 mm	150-170 lbs
85-5849	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Medium, 120 mm	150-170 lbs
85-4926	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Medium, 80 mm	150-170 lbs
85-4986	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Medium, 100 mm	150-170 lbs
85-4889	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Medium, 120 mm	150-170 lbs
85-5850	BLACK Platinum Ride Kit – Medium	150-170 lbs
85-5851	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Firm, 100 mm	170-190 lbs
85-5852	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – Firm, 120 mm	170-190 lbs
85-4856	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Firm, 80 mm	170-190 lbs
85-4987	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Firm, 100 mm	170-190 lbs
85-4990	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – Firm, 120 mm	170-190 lbs
85-5853	BLACK Platinum Ride Kit – Firm	170-190 lbs
85-5854	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – X-Firm, 100 mm	190 lbs & above
85-5855	BLACK Comp/Elite Ride Kit – X-Firm, 120 mm	190 lbs & above
85-5856	BLACK Super Air Ride Kit – X-Firm, 80 mm	190 lbs & above

04 BLACK Compression Rods

85-5858	BLACK Comp/Elite Compression Rod Assembly, 100 mm
85-5859	BLACK Comp/Elite Compression Rod Assembly, 120 mm
85-5857	BLACK Super Air Compression Rod Assembly, 80 mm
85-5860	BLACK Super Air Compression Rod Assembly, 100 mm
85-5863	BLACK Super Air Compression Rod Assembly, 120 mm
85-5864	BLACK Platinum Compression Rod Assembly, 90-120 mm WD
85-4422	BLACK Super Air Push Rod Assembly, 80 mm
85-4427	BLACK Super Air Push Rod Assembly, 100 mm
85-4428	BLACK Super Air Push Rod Assembly, 120 mm