

Rifton Trike Tune-up

Introduction

Rifton tricycles last forever. We've visited many classrooms and seen tricycles purchased years ago still going strong. But a quick tune-up once a year helps to keep them in top form.

You will need the following for the yearly tune-up:

- Light household lubricant
- Phillips screwdriver
- 3/16" hex-head wrench
- 5/32" hex-head wrench

Place your tricycle over newspaper, set the parking brake and begin.

Getting Ready



Remove the plastic storage tote from the rear of the adaptive tricycle.



Use a Phillips screwdriver to remove the screw in the side of the chain guard.



Remove the top cover of the chain guard by lifting at the back.



Detach the back of the bottom cover by pushing down.



Remove the front of the bottom cover by pushing it forward, then pulling down.

1. Chain Tension Maintenance



To check the chain tension, lift the lower chain. There should be no more than 1" of deflection.



To tighten the chain, begin by loosening the two screw caps on top of the crankcase using the 3/16" hex-head wrench.



Use the 3/16" hex-head wrench to tighten the cap screws at the front of the plate. This tightens the chain. When the chain tension is right, tighten the 2 cap screws on the top of the crankcase. (If the chain tension is fine to begin with, it is still a good idea to check the tightness of the 2 cap screws).

2. Rear Sprocket Maintenance



Tighten the rear sprocket screw with the 5/32" hex-head wrench. The gear sprocket should be centered left-to-right on the rear axle when tightened.

3. Oiling the Chain



Place two drops of oil on the rear axle on either side of the toothed gear sprocket where the plastic chain guard rests to prevent squeaking.



Place two drops of oil on either side of the front gear sprocket.



Apply a moderate amount of oil along the chain. Release the brake, and raise the left rear drive wheel off the ground and rotate the pedals to distribute the oil evenly.

4. Replace the Chain Guard and Storage Tote Box

Congratulations, you've completed your yearly trike maintenance!