

Fitting Guide

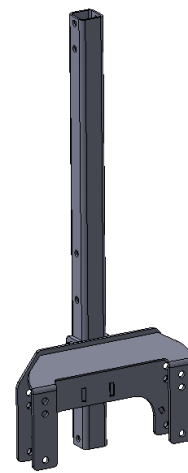
Van-Rack

Congratulations on your decision to fit a GripSport Van-Rack – the strongest, safest and simplest bike rack ever. The Van-Rack has been designed specifically for caravans, campervans and camper trailers and built tough enough for the most extreme on and off-road driving conditions. If you have any questions you're welcome to contact us by phone on (03)94662553 or via mail@gripsport.com.au

The following document is a fitting guide only – "A" frames, chassis and rear bumpers vary from van to van so specific measurements and details may not be applicable to your particular van. However, the actual method of fitting your Van-Rack will be the same and we haven't yet seen a van that couldn't be fitted with a Van-Rack. If in doubt please contact your local authorised GripSport dealer/fitter, or feel free to contact us directly.



Van-Rack
(2-bike shown)



Bolt-On Mount
(Optional)

Specs-

Van-Rack

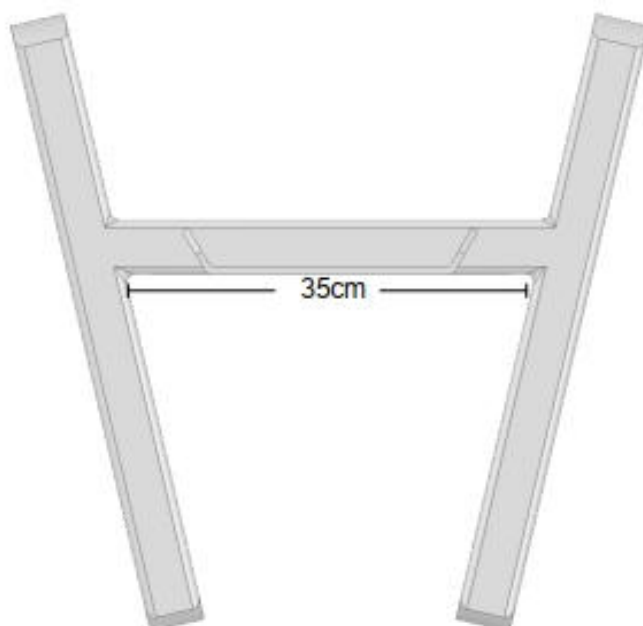
- Mild steel construction - Electro plate and Powder coat finish
- All high tensile bolts and 'nyloc' nuts
- Tilting and Non Tilting models
- 1,2,3 and 4 bike capacity models
- Suits all bikes
- Maximum load per bike spot - 30kgs
- Weight - 20kgs
- Secure points to run bike locks for bike security

Bolt-On Mount (Optional)

- Mild steel construction - Electro plate finish
- All high tensile bolts and 'nyloc' nuts
- Fits to 50x75mm AND 50x100mm rectangular steel (RHS)
- Weight - 10kgs

To "A" frame - using Bolt-On Mount - on **existing** cross member

A 50 x 75mm OR 50 x 100mm rectangular steel cross member is required in order to fit our Van-Rack using the Bolt-On Mount. The cross member **MUST** be a minimum width of 35cm.



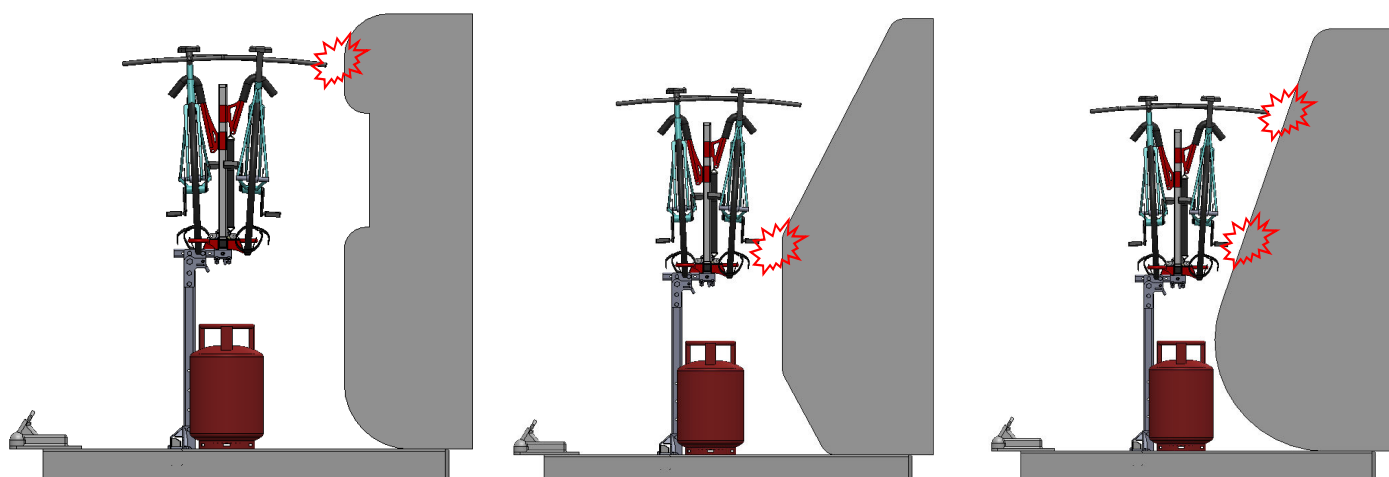
The cross member also needs to be in a suitable "place" on the drawbar

PLEASE SEE BELOW to work out if there is already a suitable cross member on your "A" frame. If not refer to Fitting Method 2 on page 7 of this guide.

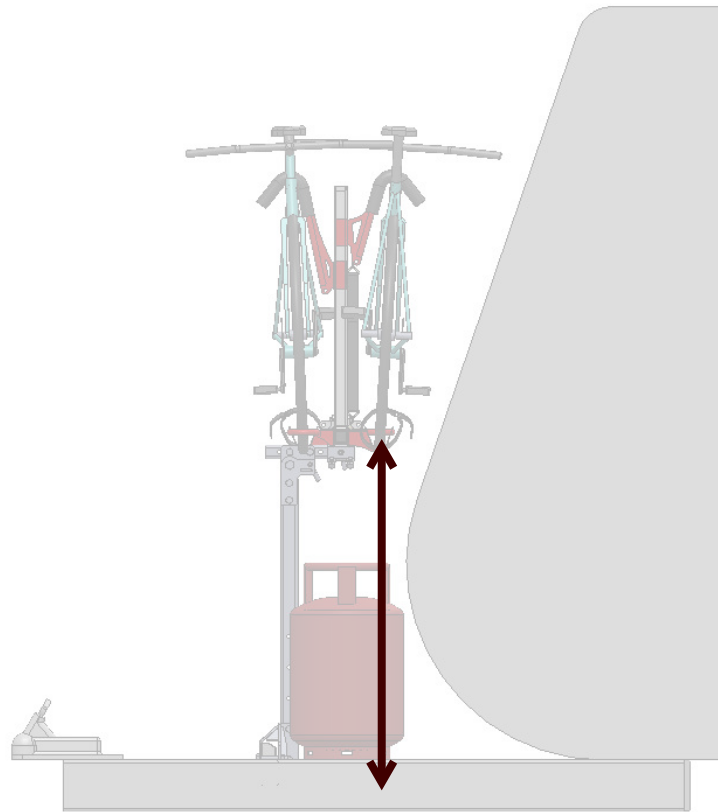
To work out where the cross member needs to be, you first need determine the 'bike position' of the bike closest to the caravan (this may require a 2 person team)

To determine where the 'bike position' will be you will need to physically hold your bike above the draw bar, remembering that the goal is to get the bike as close to the face of the van, then as low as you can.

IMPORTANT - We recommend at least 20cm of clearance from face of van to handlebars and/or pedals



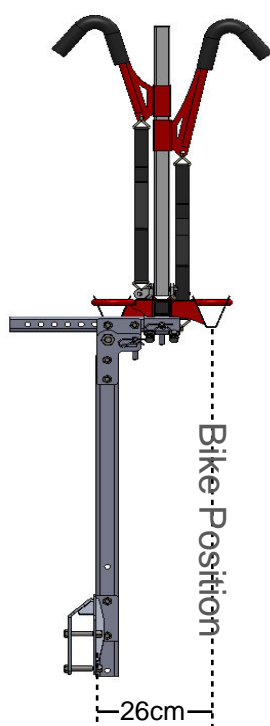
Once you have the bike in position, the 2nd person will need to transfer the position directly down to the draw bar (mark that position on your draw bar with a texta or even some chalk, you will need to refer to it later).



At this stage you can put the bike down, you now have your 'bike position'.

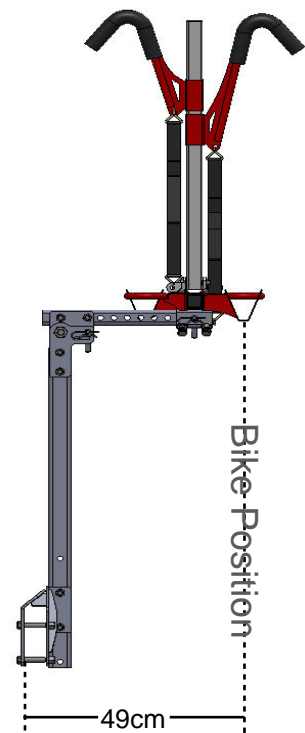
Working from that mark, the cross member that the Bolt-On Mount bolts to needs to be anywhere between the minimum distance (MIN.) and the maximum distance (MAX.), measuring towards the towing vehicle (we call this the 'cross member zone').

The MIN. and MAX. measurements will vary depending on which rack you're fitting to your drawbar. Refer to diagrams below for the 'cross member zone' of each model.

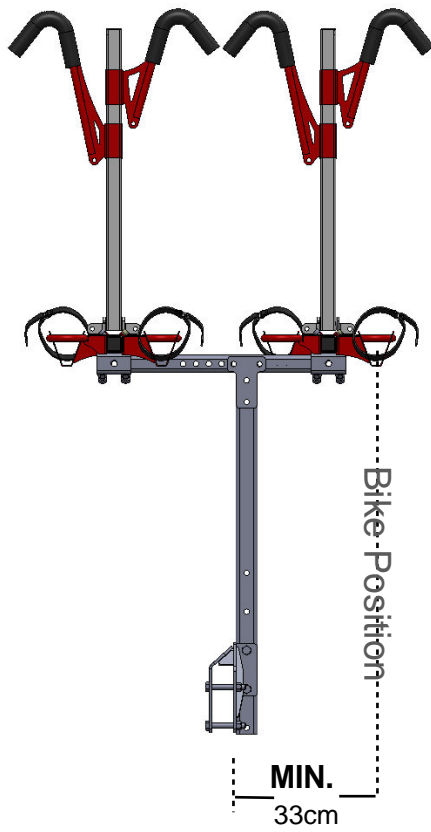


MIN.

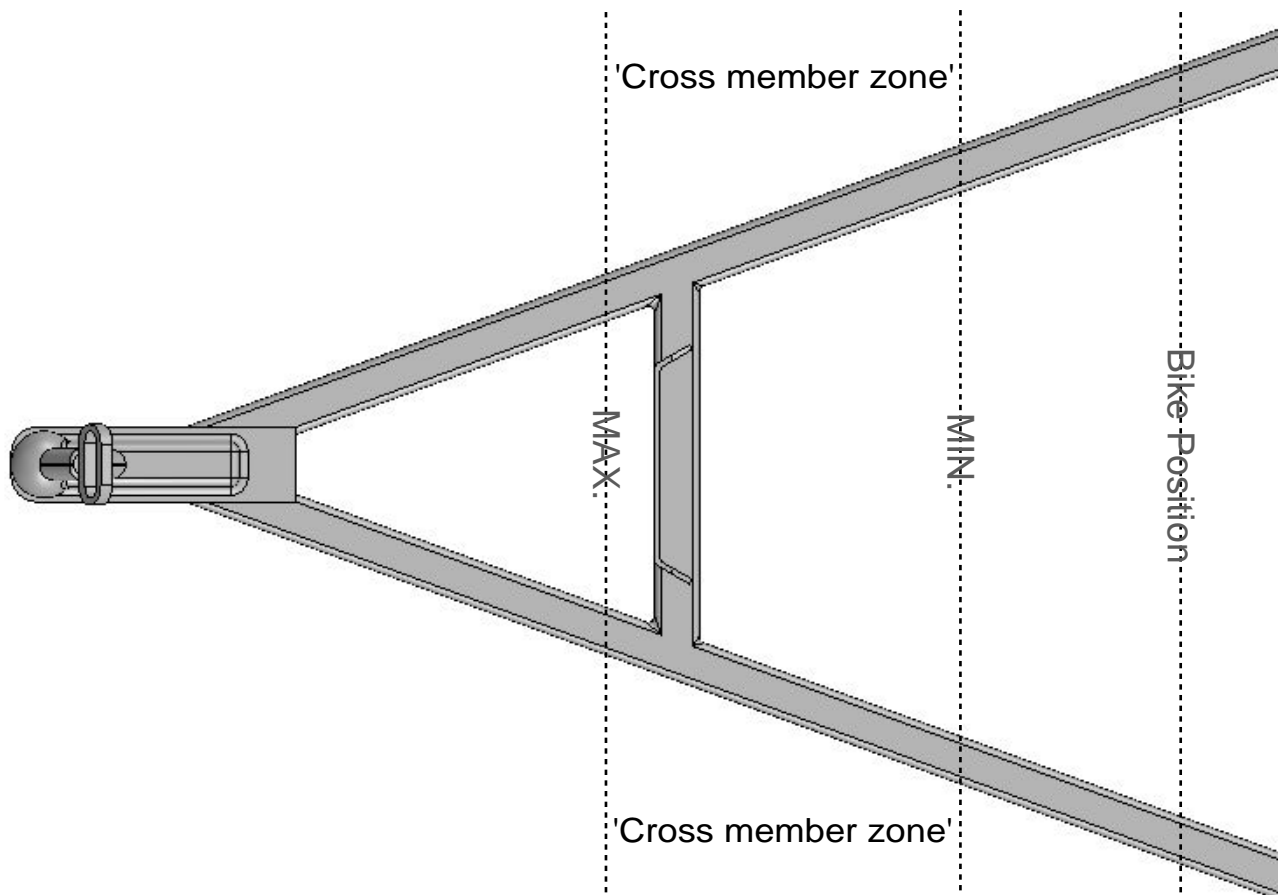
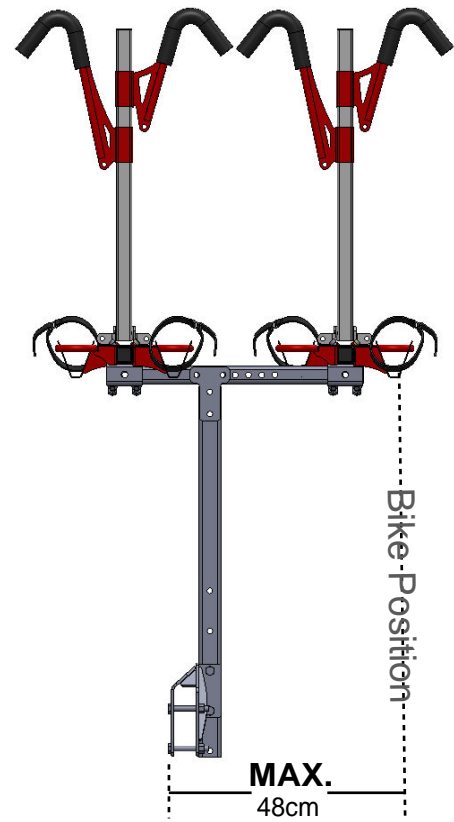
1,2 & 3 BIKE MODEL



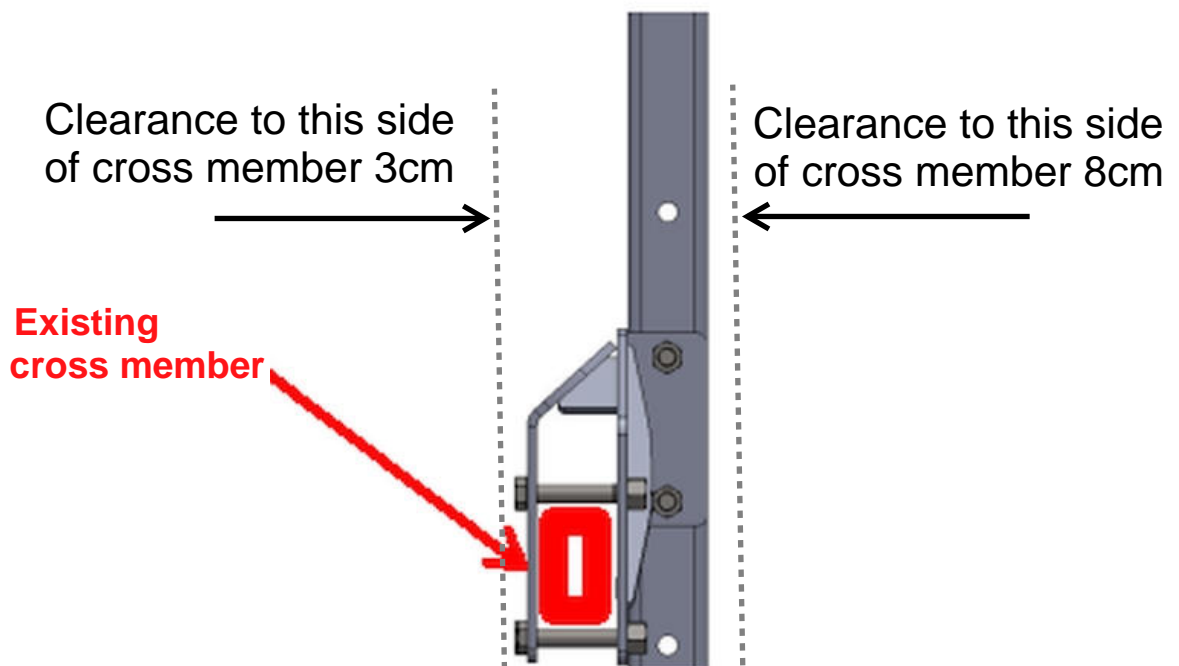
MAX.



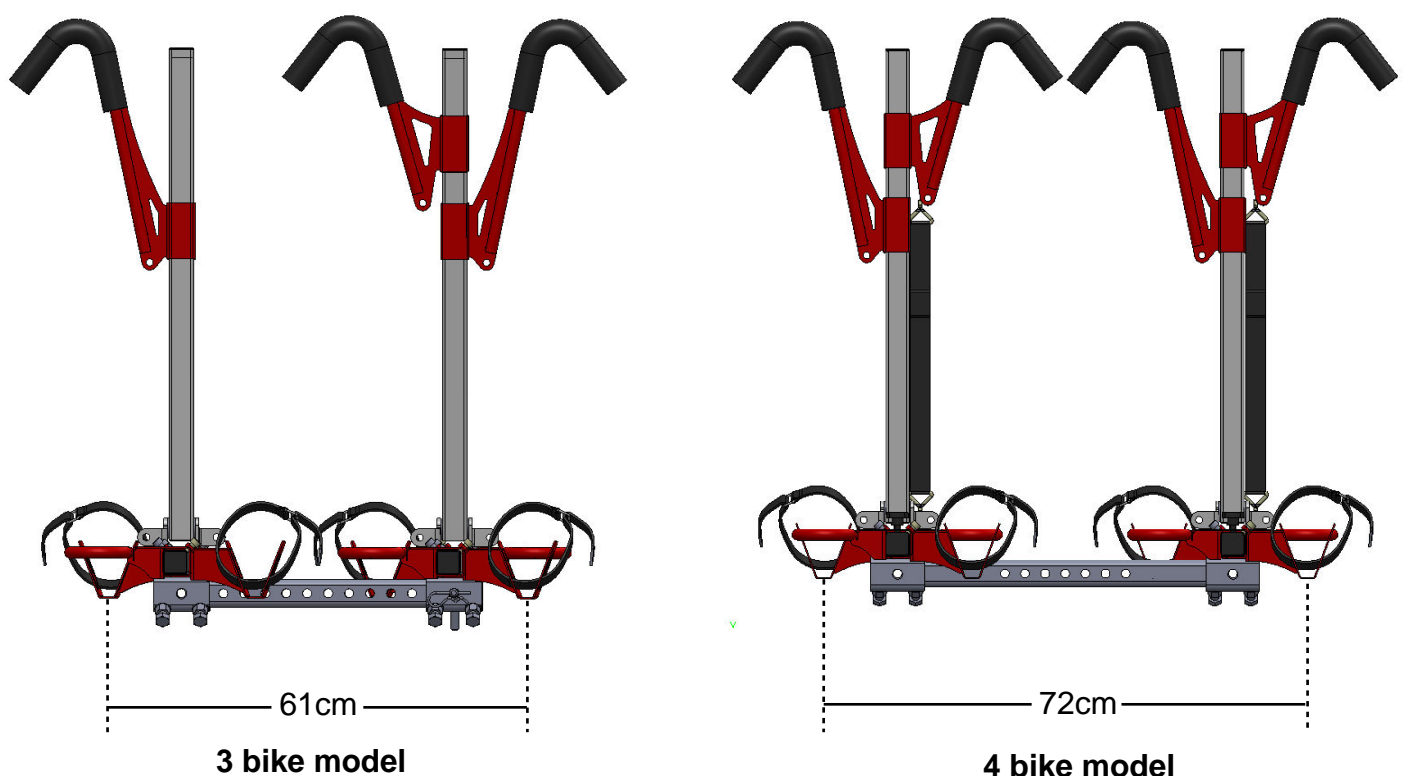
4 BIKE MODEL



If you have a suitable cross member within the cross member "zone" you can simply go ahead and fit the Bolt-On Mount to it (per below). Make sure there is enough clearance either side of the cross member for the Bolt-On Mount and its vertical post.

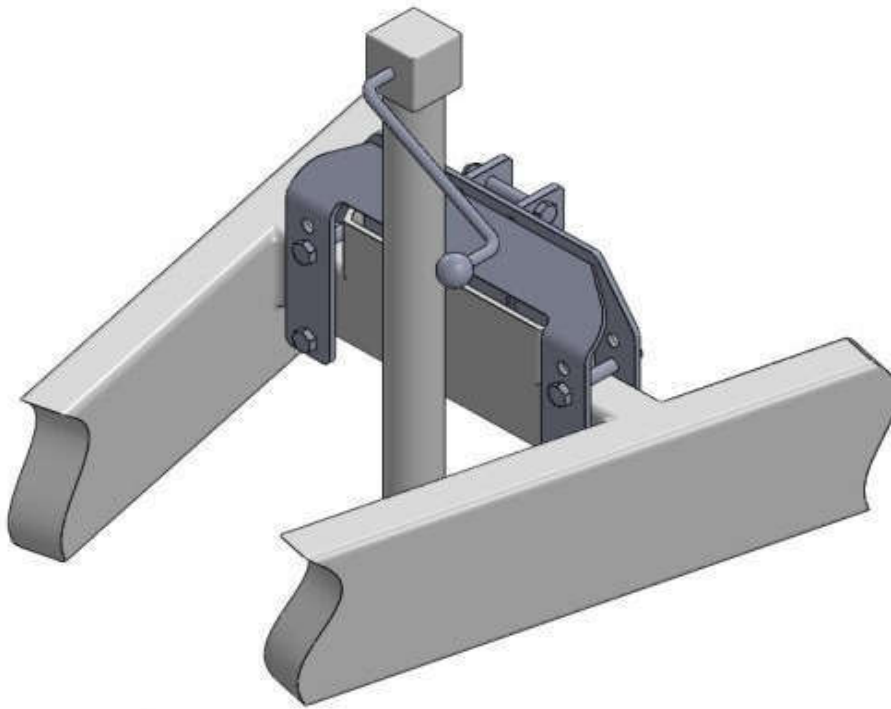


If you are attempting to mount a 3 or 4 bike model it is important to account for the distance between the bike closest to the caravan and the bike closest to the towing vehicle. If the bike furthest from the caravan ends up less than 85cm away from the rear of the vehicle, your turning circle may be slightly affected and we recommend a 'spotter' be present when jack-knifing or turning sharply. You don't want to damage the carrier, vehicle OR bikes.

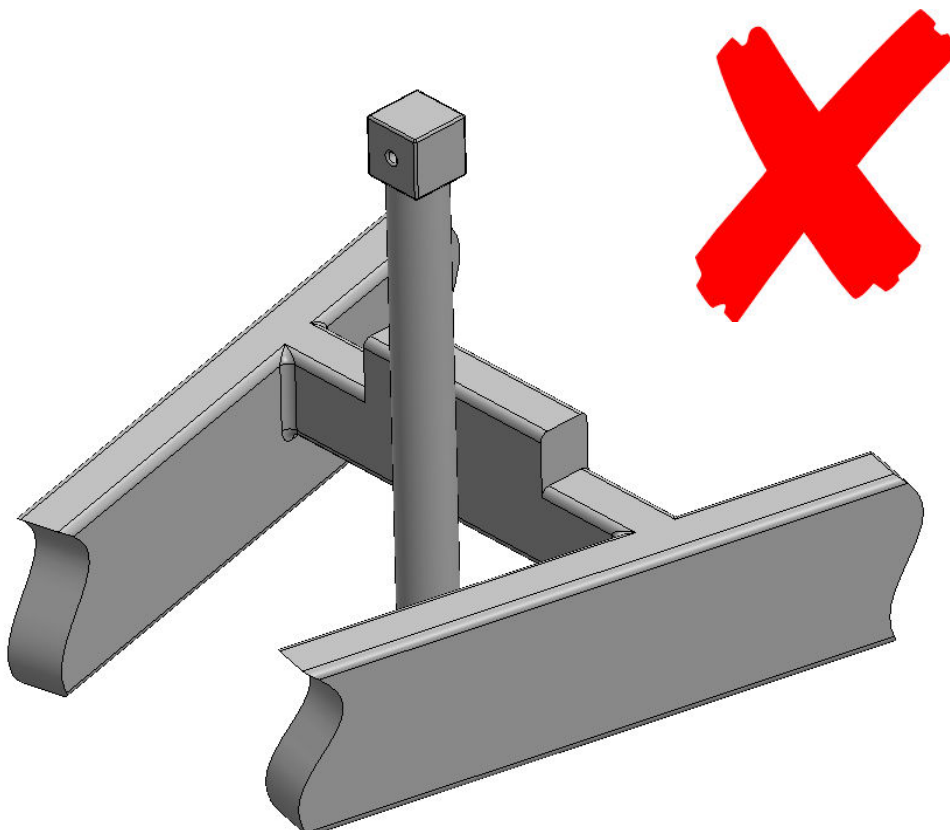


What if my jockey wheel is fitted to the cross member I want to use for the Bolt-On Mount?

It may still be possible to fit the Bolt-On Mount to an existing cross member even if there is a jockey wheel fitted there. If doing this, a side-winding or bottle-jack jockey wheel is required.



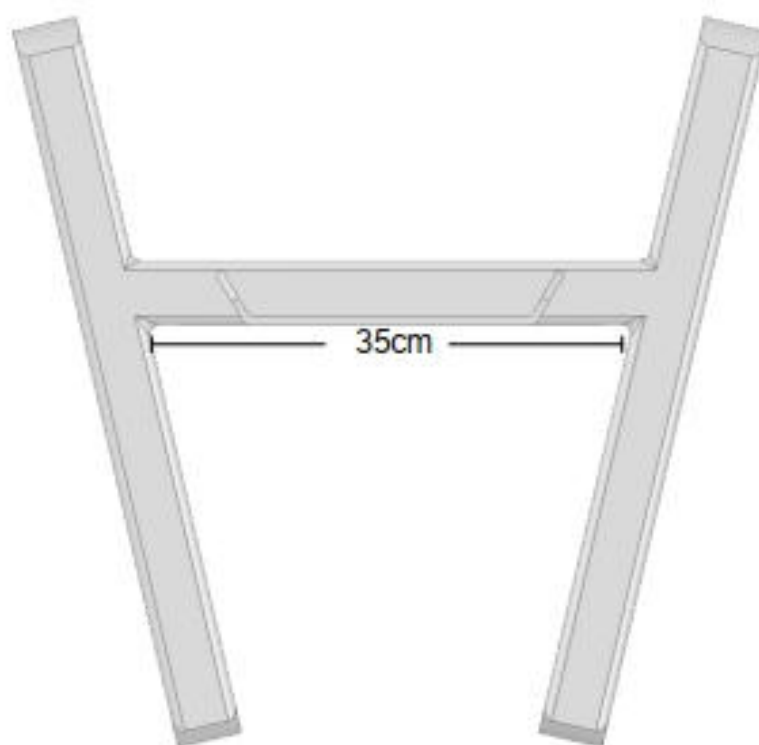
NOTE - It is not possible to fit the Bolt-On Mount to those jockey wheel cross members that have a second rectangular steel section welded on top (forming a "stack ").



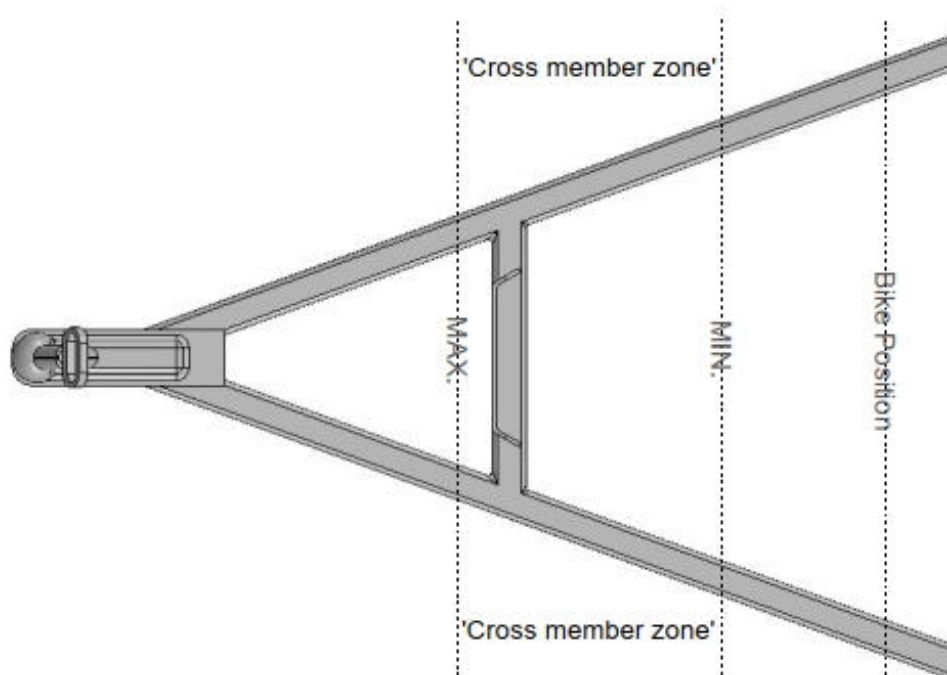
FITTING METHOD 2

To "A" frame - using Bolt-On Mount - on a **NEW** cross member

A 50 x 75mm OR 50 x 100mm rectangular steel cross member (RHS) is required in order to fit your Van-Rack using the Bolt-On Mount. The cross member **MUST** be a minimum width of 35cm (as shown below) and if there is no suitable cross member already on your "A" frame, or if the only available cross member is in the wrong position, then a new one will need to be fitted. This is a simple and routine job that can be done by us, by our dealers or DIY by any competent welder.



STEP 1 - Refer back to Page 2 to work out the position of the new cross member. This will be somewhere within your 'cross member' zone per below.



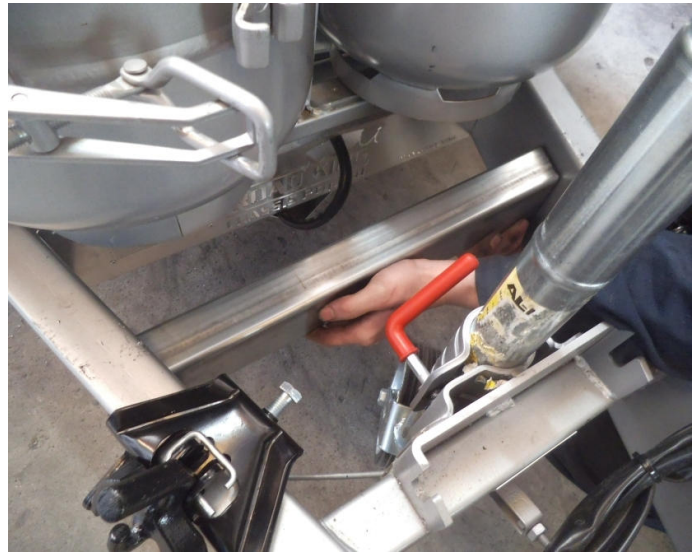
STEP 2 - Cross member material is 50x75 OR 50x100 RHS (Rectangular Hollow Section) "Dura-Gal" (galvanised) tubing with MINIMUM wall thickness of 3mm and can be fitted to the "A" frame in one of 2 ways

Option 1/ - Weld new cross member *directly* into the "A" frame

New cross member cut to size and ready to fit.



New cross member positioned and ready to weld.



New cross member welded in place with Bolt-On Mount fitted.



All finished with Van-Rack fitted to Bolt-On Mount.



Option 2/ - NO welding on "A" frame.

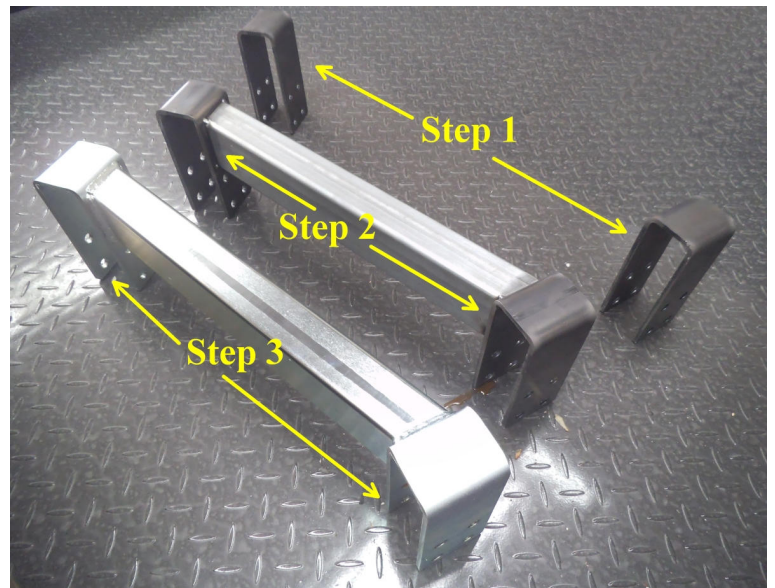
**New cross member is instead
welded onto the "A" frame
saddles (supplied with the
Bolt-On Mount)**



STEP 1. Drop saddles over "A" frame
in correct position within cross member zone

STEP 2. Weld new cross member
TO saddles (can be done on or off van)

STEP 3. Bolt new cross member in
place on "A" frame. Tighten fully.
Fit Bolt-On Mount & Van-Rack.

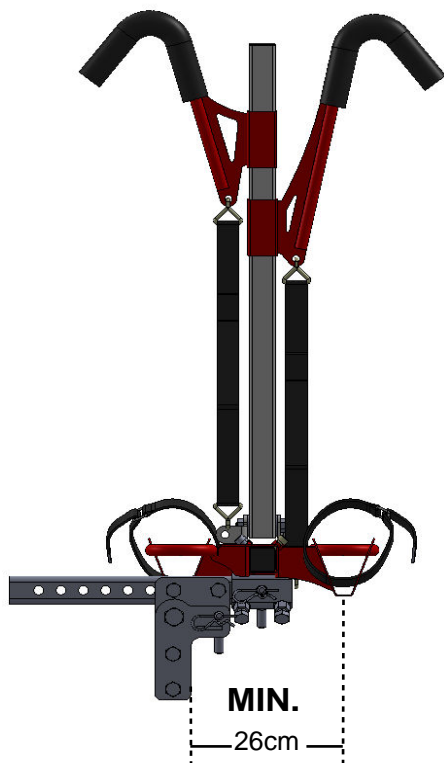


To "A" frame - **WITHOUT** using Bolt-On Mount

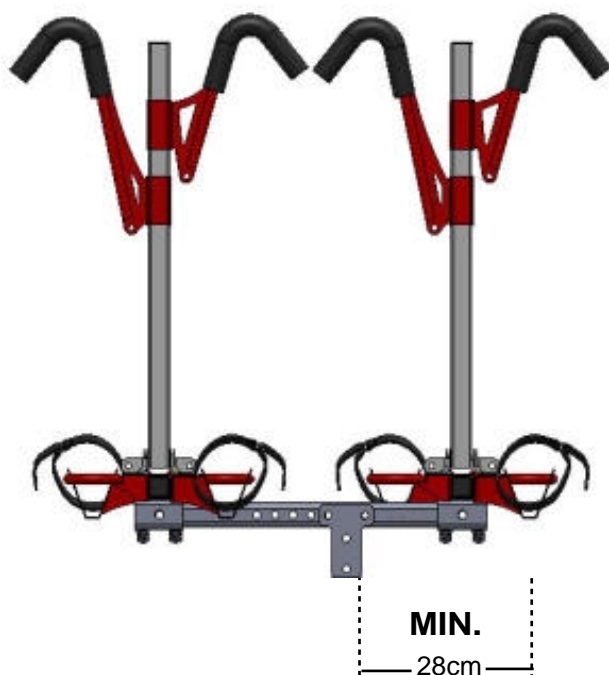
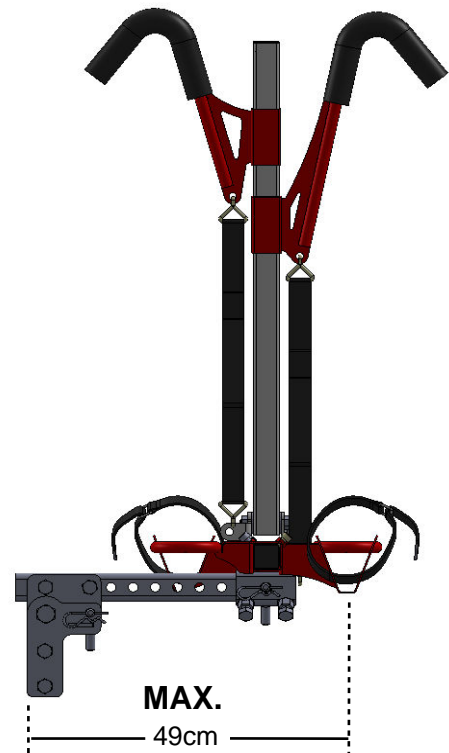
If you find your "A" frame lacks the room required to install a cross member or use the Bolt-On Mount (extremely rare), or if you simply prefer to DIY, you can still fit your Van-Rack by fabricating (or having fabricated for you), your own custom mount for it. This can be done by us, by a GripSport dealer, or by any competent welder.

If you choose to fabricate your own mount, our advice is...

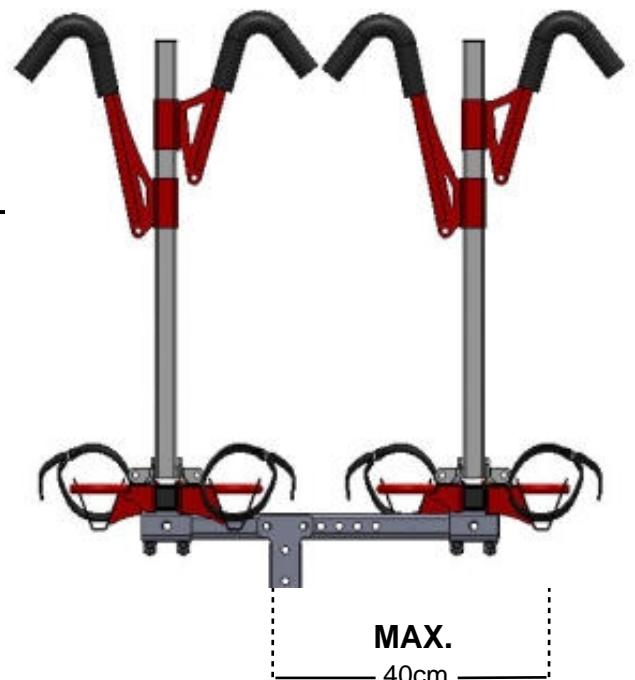
- * determine your 'bike position' (refer to page 2 & 3)
- * working from that 'bike position' establish (and mark on your "A" frame) the "upright zone" for the particular model rack you are installing. The "upright zone" is that area within which your vertical mounting post will be located. Refer to diagrams below and next page for the 'zone' of each model.



1,2 & 3 BIKE MODEL



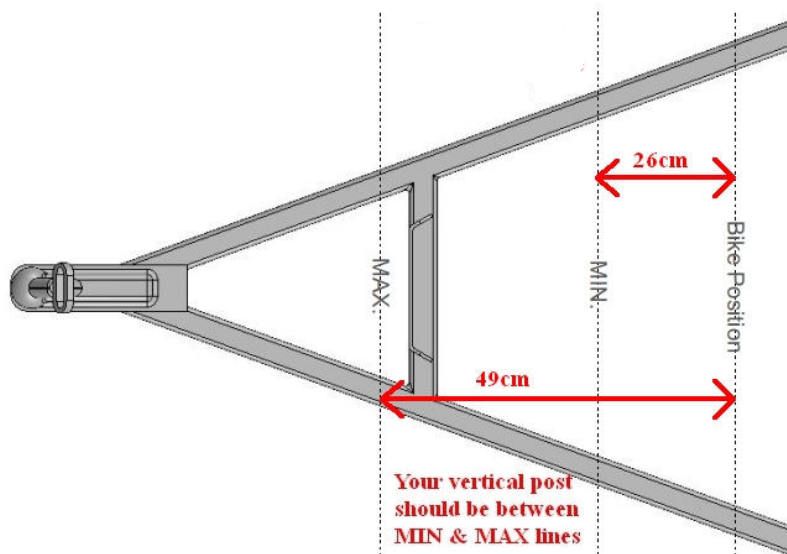
4 BIKE MODEL



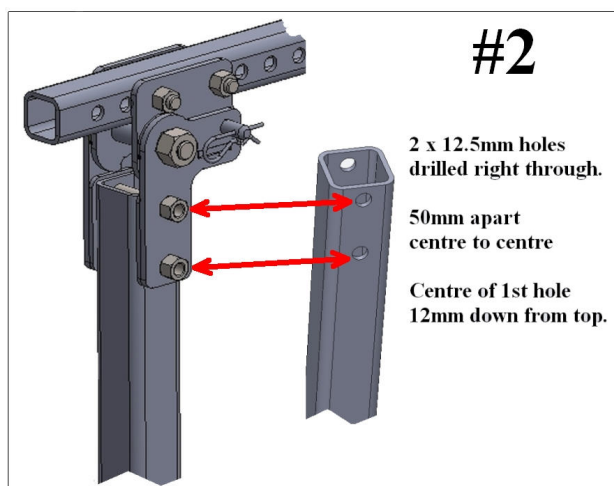
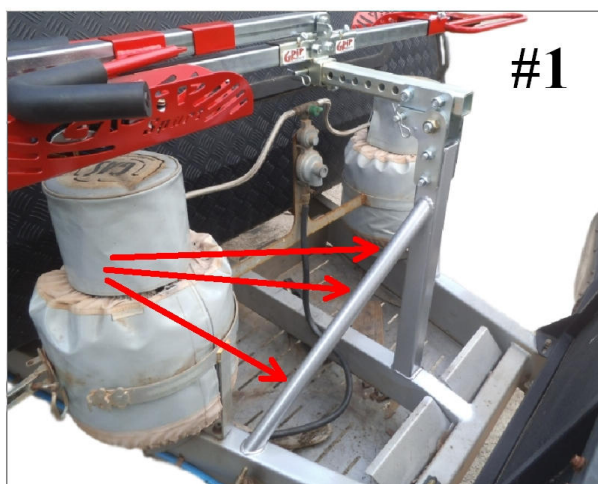
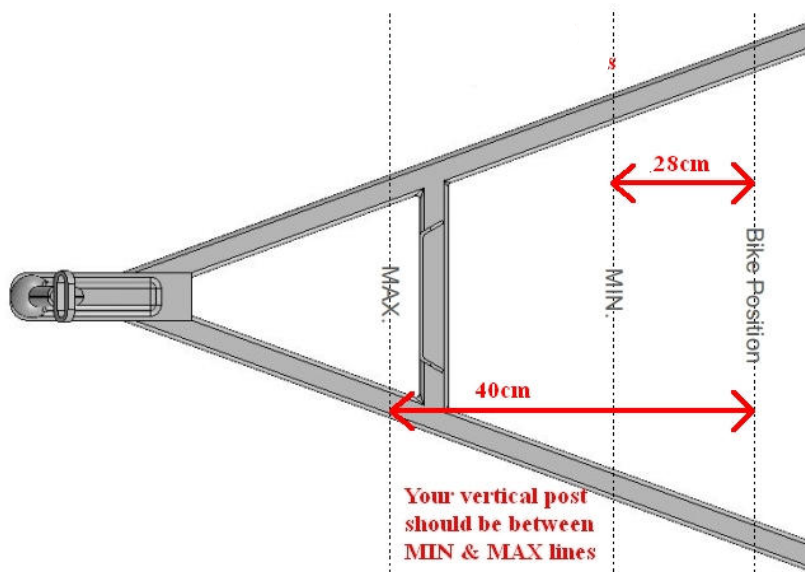
'Upright Zones' - Your vertical mounting post...

- must be 50x50 square steel tube with a minimum wall thickness of 4mm
- must be located within the appropriate 'upright zone' for the Van-Rack being fitted
- must have at least one fore or aft brace per photo #1 below
- must be drilled at top per photo #2 below and Van-Racks must **only** be bolted to upright

'Upright Zone' for 1, 2 & 3-bike Van-Racks



'Upright Zone' for 4-bike Van-Rack



Fitting Van-Rack to **REAR** of caravan/camper/trailer

IMPORTANT

We advise **AGAINST** fitting ANY bike rack to the rear of a van, camper or trailer. The correct mounting place for bikes and bike racks is always on the "A" frame.

If you are determined to fit your Van-Rack to the rear...

- It should only be fitted using the GripSport Bolt-On Mount.
- It must not be fitted to any tow bar mount, tongue, receiver or adapter.
- It must only be fitted to a 50x75 or 50x100 RHS steel bumper.
- The bumper should have a minimum of 3 'arms' connecting it to chassis.
- You should consult your van dealer or manufacturer to ensure your rear bumper is strong enough.
- You should use 1 or 2-bike Van-Rack ONLY.
- You must position rack and bike/s so as not to obstruct lights or number plate.
- You must fit an **auxiliary** light set if necessary.

And please note - GripSport will not be responsible for any resultant loss or damage arising from any fitment of its bike racks to the rear of caravans, camper vans, camper trailers, trailers and motorhomes. We absolutely guarantee our Van-Racks, but we can NOT guarantee the rear bumper you may bolt it to.

