

Troubleshooting and Adjusting the Blender Bike

1. Fitting the Bike into a Vehicle

It works best to have two people load the blender bike into a vehicle. How to best fit it into the vehicle depends on the size and shape of the vehicle's rear opening. In cars or SUVs, it will need to be turned on its side (see Figure 1). It may make a difference which end is loaded first, again depending on the layout of the vehicle.

In addition to removing the wheels (see #2), the bike seat can be lowered (see #3) and the handle bars can be adjusted slightly as needed to accommodate the bike in the space available.

In a van or pickup truck, the bike can be positioned upright. Be sure that it is secured so that it doesn't move around when the vehicle is in motion.



Figure 1

2. Removing the Wheels

The wheels on the front frame can be removed so that the bike fits into a vehicle; sometimes that's all that's needed to make it fit. Simply push and release the round center of the wheel (see Figure 2). When replacing the wheels, be sure that the small pin engages so that the wheel stays in place (see Figure 3).

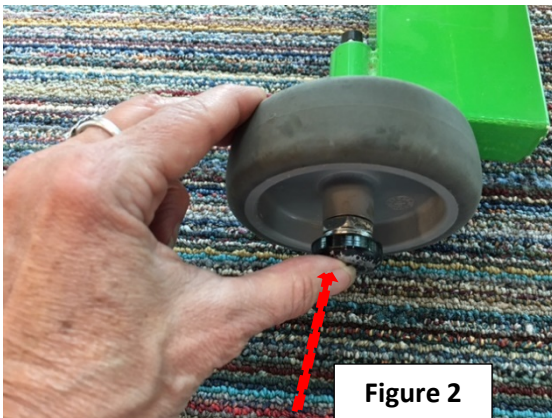


Figure 2

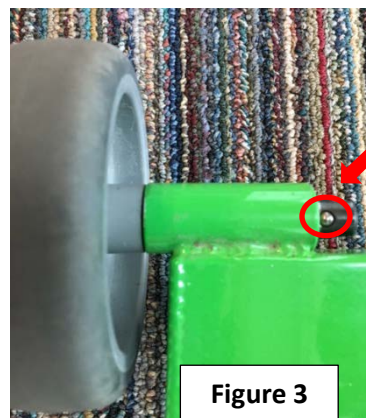
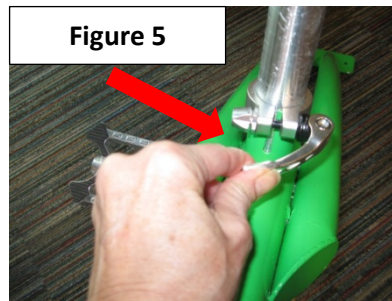
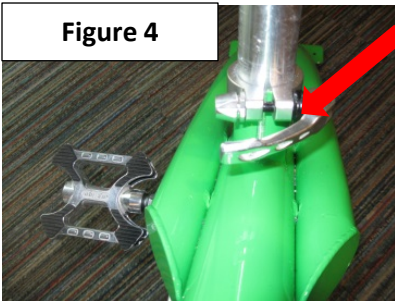


Figure 3



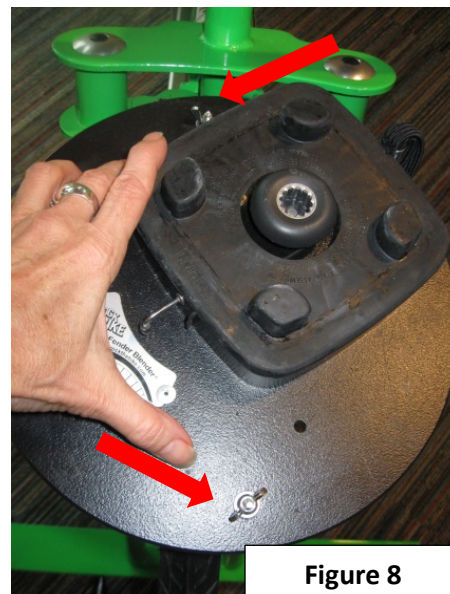
3. Adjusting the Bike Seat

The rider's knee should be slightly bent when foot is on pedal at its lowest point. To adjust, move the metal bar that secures the seat (Figure 4) away from the frame to release the post (Figure 5). Slide the metal post up or down to adjust height of bike seat to fit the size of the rider (Figure 6). Push the metal bar back towards post.



4. Adjusting the Blending Mechanism

As the bike is pedaled, it turns the metal cylinder (Figure 7), which causes the blender to spin. The tire and the cylinder must touch, but must not be too close or too far away. To adjust, loosen wing nuts on blender base and slide base slightly left or right (Figure 8) as needed to ensure the blades of the blender are turning. Sometimes this can be achieved best while the blender is secured on the base and the rider is seated on the bike and begins pedaling, making adjustments accordingly. Tighten wing nuts before blending. A scraping sound may be an indication that the metal cylinder is too close.



5. If the Blending Mechanism Isn't Spinning While Blending

When the food in the blender container has a thicker consistency (e.g., yogurt, hummus; see Figure 9) you may notice that the food in the blender container is no longer spinning. If this happens, stop pedaling. Remove the top of the blender and stir the contents using a long-handled spoon (Figure 10).

Place the top on the blender and re-secure with the strap. You may need to do this more than once before the food spins freely. You'll also be able to tell if you need to make adjustments when you see that the contents are not moving and by the sound the blender makes whether the mechanism is stuck or spinning freely.



Figure 9

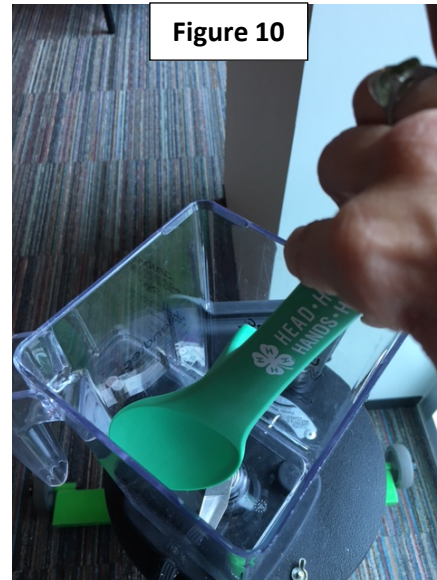


Figure 10

6. If the Chain Comes Off

Because the blender bike gets jostled about as it is moved into and out of vehicles, or if it is pedaled too vigorously, it's possible that the chain jumps off its track. In that case it, it may be necessary to slide the wheel forward to tighten the nut that holds the chain in place (see Figure 11) using a hex key or Allen wrench (Figure 12). We have provided an Allen wrench for this purpose.

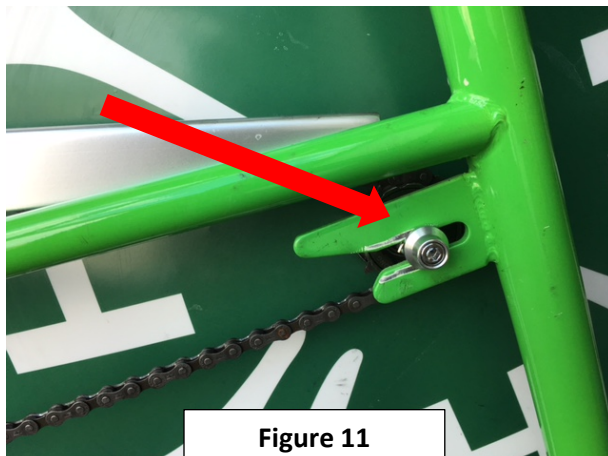


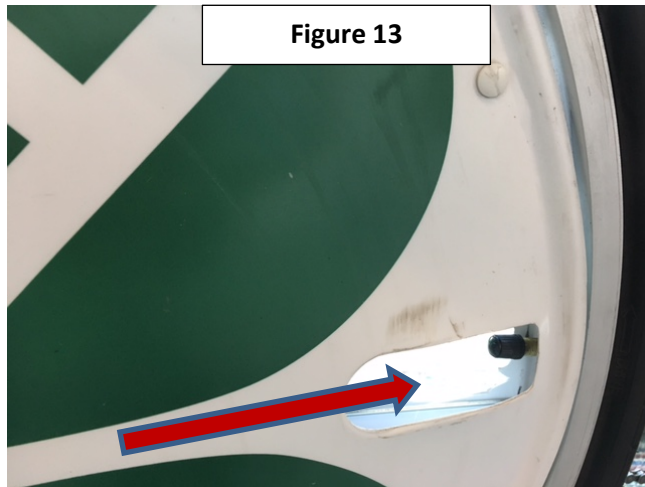
Figure 11



Figure 12

7. Adding Air to the Tire

If you experience difficulty with blending, it could be that the tire needs more air. Remove the cap (Figure 13) and add air to the tire with a bicycle pump just as you would to a regular bicycle tire.



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