



FORCE AXS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL

When is new Force AXS available for retail aftermarket purchase?

The new Force AXS system is available for purchase on March 1, 2023. See your local dealer for availability and complete ordering information.

What is the MSRP for a full new Force AXS groupset?

The MSRP for a Force AXS disc-brake groupset is:

2x with power meter: \$2640US / £2228* / €2515*

2x WIDE gearing with power meter: \$2201US / £1859* / €2080*

1x with power meter: \$2142US / £1803* / €2017*

2x no power meter: \$2115US / £1751* / €1980*

1x no power meter: \$1832US / £1533* / €1715*

A groupset includes: Shift-brake system, rotors, crankset, chain, cassette,

derailleur (front and rear for 2x, rear only for 1x), batteries, and charger. Bottom bracket pricing separately. *VAT included with £ and € pricing.

What's the difference between new Force AXS, RED eTap AXS, and Rival eTap AXS?

The hood shape for the new Force AXS has changed to a narrower grip. The shift paddle shape is refined to maintain easy access to shift locations while removing the risk of braking into your fingers or into the handlebar tape. Both new Force AXS and existing Rival eTap AXS shift-brake controls are fully compatible with Wireless Blips for a remote shift option, while RED also offers two plug-in ports per shifter for MultiClic or Blip wired remote shift buttons. The new Force AXS hood shape is similar to Rival eTap AXS, but while Rival eTap AXS has an alloy brake lever, the new Force AXS has a carbon brake lever. Both SRAM RED and Force crank arms are carbon; RED has hollow carbon arms and direct mount

chainrings. Force has carbon arms with direct mount chainrings. Rival has aluminum arms and spider with bolt on chainrings for 2x, and offer direct mount chainrings for 1x. With all 12-speed cranksets, we do offer a power meter option. The new Force AXS 1x cranksets offer a spindle-based power meter similar to Rival, but with carbon crank arms. The new Force AXS 2x power meters are integrated into the chainring, similar to RED eTap AXS integrated power meters, but with a black finish. The SRAM RED and new Force AXS rear derailleurs offer our Orbit fluid damper system, and Rival eTap AXS rear derailleurs are equipped with a spring clutch for chain retention.

What gearing options are available for new Force AXS?

The new Force AXS is offered in two different rear derailleurs that offer a wide array of gearing options. The Force AXS 36T Max derailleur is compatible both in 2x and 1x with cassettes from 10-28T to

10-36T. The Force XPLR AXS rear derailleur is designed specifically for 1x and will work with 10-36T and 10-44T cassettes only. Force AXS cranksets come with integrated double chainrings in 50/37, 48/35, and 46/33 ring combinations. There is also a 2x Wide spindle version 43/30 ring set, with non-integrated chainrings on a 94mm BCD spider. This does require the use of the Wide version front derailleur. For 1x, we offer direct mount style chainrings in 36T, 38T, 40T, 42T, 44T, and 46T and 1x Aero direct mount in 48T and 50T. For extreme terrain, the new Force AXS controls and 1x cranksets can be paired with an Eagle AXS rear derailleur, Eagle 10-50T or 10-52T cassette, and Eagle chain for a super wide 1x gearing. We call this a “Mullet” configuration.

SHIFT-BRAKE SYSTEM

Does the new Force AXS shift-brake lever offer reach adjust?

Yes. Use a 2.5 mm hex wrench to rotate the brake lever reach adjust clockwise to bring the lever closer to the bar, or counterclockwise to move the lever away

from the bar. The 2.5mm hex is located under the brake lever hood/brake lever assembly. The brake lever and shifter paddle adjust together. You can find full instructions in the AXS systems manual here.

What type of batteries do the new Force AXS shift-brake levers require?

One CR2032 per shifter. The same as the previous Force AXS groupset.

How many hours of riding can I get from a fresh set of shifter batteries?

About two years, depending on how much you shift during your ride.

What are the changes to the new Force AXS shift-brake controls?

The new Force AXS shift paddle shape is refined to maintain easy access to shift locations while removing the risk of pinching fingers or into the handlebar tape when pulling the brake lever. The new controls borrow from the Rival AXS hood shape but offers a carbon brake lever blade. The change to the control hood eliminates the

Blip access ports and offers a smaller hand grip area with a shorter hood reservoir top.

Are Blip and Clic buttons compatible with new Force AXS shift-brake levers?

No. For remote shifting options, please use the SRAM Wireless Blips. You can pair up to three sets (six each) per bike.

Are new Force AXS shift levers compatible with Eagle AXS rear derailleurs?

Yes. AXS allows you to mix and match road and MTB AXS drivetrain components.

Are you offering a mechanical braking option for the new Force AXS groupset?

No, the new Force AXS groupset comes in hydraulic disc brake option only.

Does new Force AXS use Bleeding Edge technology?

Yes, the new Force AXS disc brake calipers use Bleeding Edge technology, which requires the use of a Bleeding Edge fitting with your SRAM bleed kit.

What size disc brake rotors does SRAM recommend?

We suggest 160mm rotors for road applications and 140mm for closed circuit applications such as triathlon, TT, cyclocross, and criteriums.

What type of brake pads are required for the new Force AXS HRD disc brakes?

The new Force AXS calipers use the same pad type as the previous Force eTap AXS 2-piece calipers. You can find replacement pads in organic and metal sintered compounds. See the current spare parts catalog for all available pad compounds and part numbers.

What type of brake pad compound comes stock with the new Force AXS disc brakes?

The new Force AXS disc brake calipers ship with organic brake pads for solid yet more quiet braking. SRAM offers replacement pads in both organic and metal sintered versions. Metal sintered may offer longer pad life in harsh conditions but may be noisier in certain circumstances such as dry and dusty climates.

What disc brake pad compound options does SRAM offer for Force AXS hydraulic disc brakes?

SRAM offers both organic and metal sintered pads for the Force AXS hydraulic calipers.

CRANKSET

What are the frame fit specifications for new Force AXS components?

You can find all frame fit specifications for SRAM Road drivetrain here.

What is the chain line of the new Force AXS crankset/chainrings?

The new Force AXS chainline for standard width spindle is 45mm for both 1x and 2x. For Wide cranksets, the chainline is 47.5mm.

Are new Force AXS cranksets compatible with Trek's BB90 bottom bracket standard?

No. The new Force crank arms are available with a DUB spindle only. These are not compatible with Trek's BB90 bearing system. For BB90, a GXP style spindle is required. SRAM offers a GXP spindle RED AXS crankset that is compatible.

Is there a chainring integrated power meter for 1x?

We have developed a non-driveside DUB-PWR spindle based-power meter that will be offered as the new Force 1x power meter option. This will allow for any new Force crankset to simply swap the left hand/non-drive side arm and attached DUB spindle to upgrade to the integrated power version. While this single sided power meter is offered with full 1x cranksets, it is also fully compatible with 2x new Force cranksets as a left hand arm and spindle upgrade kit.

Be sure to use the correct spindle for your crankset, as the new power meter is available in a standard spindle length and a wide spindle length. There is an aftermarket compatible spider-based power meter available separately.

What bottom bracket interface standards are the new Force AXS cranksets designed to work with?

BB DUB BSA ROAD68
 BB DUB PF ROAD86.5
 BB DUB BB30 ROAD68
 BB DUB PF30 ROAD68
 BB DUB BB386

BB DUB PF30 79-A
 BB DUB PF30 73-A
 BB DUB Italian
 BB DUB T47 Internal 86.5
 BB DUB T47 68mm External
 BB DUB T47 77-A

Are different spindle lengths required to fit wider bottom bracket variants such as BB386 and BBRight?

No, wide spindle cranksets are not required for BB386 or BBRight. These bottom brackets can be used with standard or wide spindle DUB road cranksets. Be sure to use the correct DUB spacer configuration with every DUB bottom bracket.

CHAINRINGS

What chainring size options do you offer for new Force AXS cranksets?

The new Force cranksets come with integrated double chainrings in 50/37, 48/35, and 46/33 ring combinations. There is also a 2x Wide spindle version 43/30 with non-integrated chainrings on a 94mm BCD spider. For 1x, we offer direct mount style chainrings in 36T,

38T, 40T, 42T, 44T, and 46T and 1x Aero direct mount in 48T and 50T.

Is there a 2x version of the new Force AXS crankset that uses a 4-bolt spider?

Yes, but only the 43/30 Wide spindle version crankset with a 94mm BCD.

What size and type of tool is required to remove new Force AXS direct mount chainrings from the crank arm interface?

Direct mount chainrings use a Torx T20 bolt.

When power meter-equipped new Force AXS 2x integrated road chainrings wear out, does the power meter have to be replaced?

Yes. The power meter on the new Force AXS 2x chainring sets is fully integrated with the chainrings for the lowest possible weight and the highest possible accuracy. However, these integrated chainrings are made for extreme longevity to greatly extend the life of the ring and power meter assembly. Additionally, regular chain cleaning, lubrication, and timely replacement when worn will greatly improve the lifespan of

the chainrings. Replace the chain when it reaches 0.8% wear using a Pedro's Chain Checker Plus, Pedro's Chain Checker Plus II, or a Park Tool CC-4 tool to measure chain wear. Staying on top of this preventative maintenance will also keep your drivetrain performing well while saving you money on replacement chainrings.

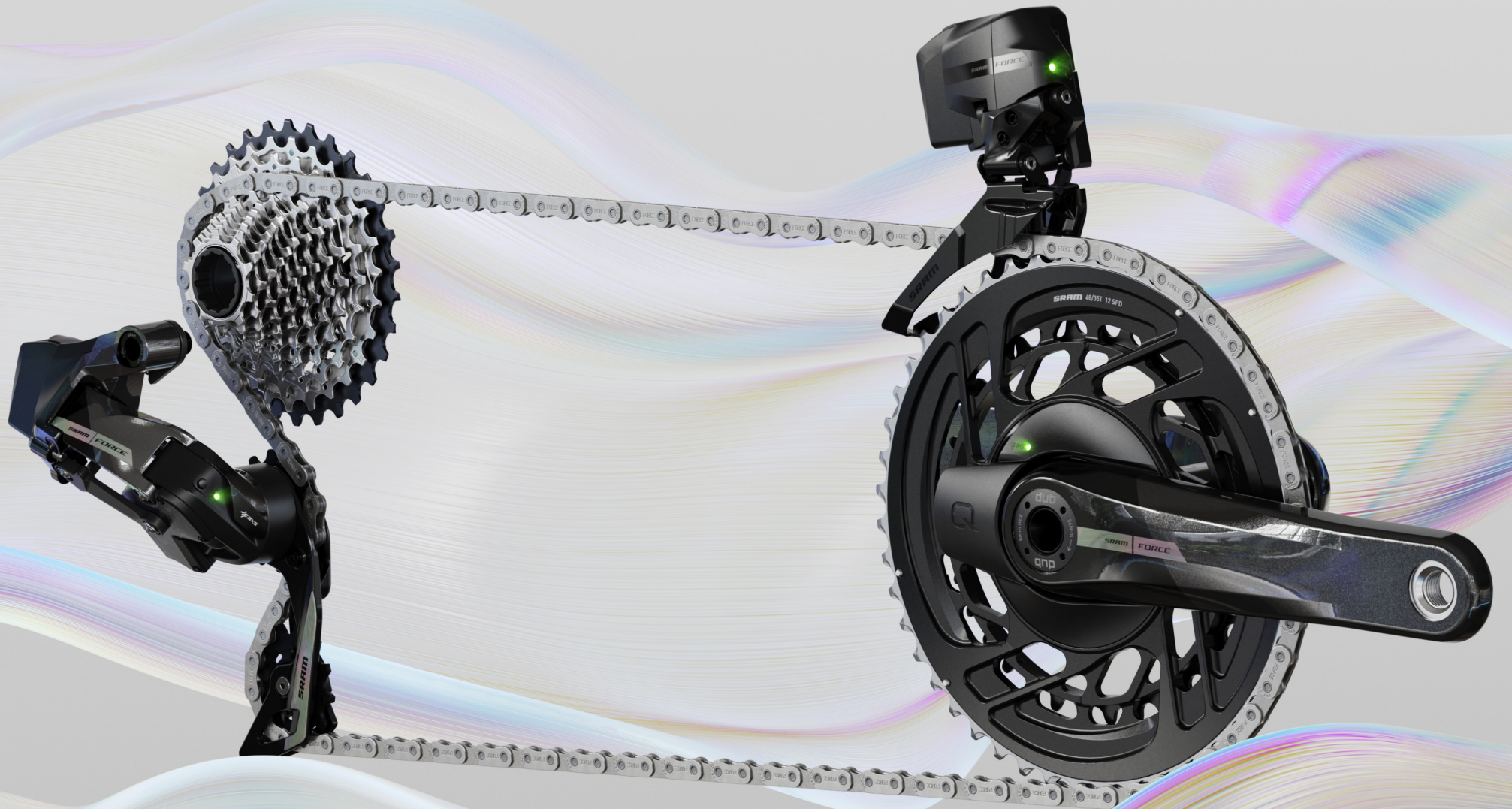
CASSETTE

What cassette sizes are compatible with the new Force AXS rear derailleur?

The Force AXS 36T Max rear derailleur is made to work with 10-28T, 10-30T, 10-33T and 10-36T cassettes. The Force XPLR AXS rear derailleur is 1x specific and works with 10-36T and 10-44T cassettes only.

What type of freehub body is required for XG-1270 and XG-1271 road cassettes?

All road 12-speed XG-1270 and XG-1271 cassettes require the use of an XDR driver body.



CHAIN

Are special chain tools, chain pliers, or chain whips required to work on new Force AXS drivetrains?

Complete tool information below. SRAM has confirmed the following tools are compatible with RED, Force, and Rival AXS Flattop chains:

CHAIN BREAKER TOOLS

- Abbey Decade Chain Tool
- Fabric Chain Splitter
- Feedback Sports Chain Pin Press
- Park Tool CT-3.3
- Pedro's Apprentice Chain Tool 1.1
- Pedro's Pro Chain Tool 3.1
- Shimano TL-CN29, TL-CN28
- Unior Professional Chain Tool 1647/2ABI-US

CHAIN PLIERS

- KMC Missing Link Opener
- Park MLP-1, MLP-1.2
- Pedro's Quick Link Pliers
- VAR CH-06400

You can find the link to compatible chain tools here.

How do I size a chain for a new 1x Force AXS drivetrain?

Wrap the chain around the large chainring and largest cassette cog with the flat edge facing away from the chainring and cassette. For 1x systems, add two inner links and two outer links where the chain starts to overlap. See the user manual for full installation instructions here.

How do I size a chain for a new 2x Force AXS drivetrain?

Wrap the chain around the large chainring and largest cassette cog with the flat edge facing away from the chainring and cassette. For 2x systems, add one inner link and one outer link where the chain starts to overlap. See the user manual for full installation instructions here.

Are SRAM Road 12-speed Flattop chain PowerLocks different from SRAM Eagle 12-speed PowerLocks?

Yes they are. Eagle PowerLocks can be easily differentiated from Flattop PowerLocks. Eagle PowerLocks have the word, "Eagle" stamped on the side. SRAM Flattop PowerLocks are stamped "SRAM PLCK-D1".

Can a SRAM 12-speed PowerLock be installed and uninstalled repeatedly, or does it need to be replaced with a new PowerLock after being removed one time?

SRAM 12-speed Flattop PowerLocks are a one-time use part that needs to be replaced after being removed.

What surface treatment/coating is SRAM using on Force AXS chains?

Force Flattop chains are nickel plated outer links and have hard chrome inner links, making the chain extremely strong and durable.

REAR DERAILLEUR

Can I use the new Force AXS rear derailleur without the front derailleur to make a 1x drivetrain?

The Force AXS 36T Max rear derailleur can be used with a front derailleur for a 2x system and also without the use of a front derailleur for a 1x system. The Force XPLR AXS rear derailleur is 1x specific only, paired with 1x X-Sync road and X-Sync 2 MTB chainrings.

Is there a different rear derailleur for 2x and 1x drivetrains for the new Force AXS drivetrain?

Yes and no. The Force AXS 36T Max rear derailleur can be used with a front derailleur for a 2x system and without the use of a front derailleur for a 1x system. The Force XPLR AXS rear derailleur is 1x specific, due to the offset upper pulley that improves shifting on the wider range cassettes.

What is the max cog size that is compatible with new Force AXS rear derailleurs?

The Force AXS 36T Max rear derailleur will work with cassettes from 10-28T to 10-36T. The Force XPLR AXS rear derailleur will work with 10-36T and 10-44T cassettes only.

Do the new Force AXS rear derailleurs still offer Orbit fluid damper?

Yes, the cage damper mechanism is the same Orbit fluid damper mechanism that was available in the previous version Force AXS Max 36T and XPLR rear derailleurs. This allows the derailleur to be easily

pulled back by hand to clear the cassette when the wheel is removed making rear wheel changes easy while also offering premium chain retention on bumpy roads.

Why do Force AXS rear derailleurs use the Orbit fluid damper instead of the Roller Bearing Clutch used on SRAM's mountain bike rear derailleurs?

Road chain management requirements are different than MTB, so they do not need to use the same mechanism. Our Orbit fluid damper is speed sensitive so that cage movement resulting from gear changes do not activate the clutch mechanism, only high-speed cage rotations created by bumps pulling down on the chain will. That way the clutch is only used when it is required.

FRONT DERAILLEUR**What is the max rear tire width compatibility for new Force AXS front derailleurs?**

Max rear tire clearance for the new Force AXS standard front derailleur, depending on frame design, is 42mm (measured

width) for 700c tires. Bikes with tires wider than this using a standard road width chainline can be built using the 1x drivetrain option, or the wide front derailleur and crankset. The Force AXS Wide front derailleur, made for use with the 43/30 crankset, will accommodate 700c tires up to 45mm wide or larger, depending on frame specifications.

What's the difference between a Wide AXS front derailleur and a standard AXS front derailleur?

The Force AXS Wide front derailleur is spaced 2.5mm more outboard than a standard AXS front derailleur. This requires the use of a Force AXS crankset with a Wide spindle for correct chainline. The Wide version front derailleur has WIDE imprinted near the mounting bolt.

BATTERY

Can you use the same eTap derailleur batteries for the new Force AXS derailleurs? Are the batteries changing with the new system?

The eTap derailleur batteries have not changed and will continue to be compatible with the new Force AXS system.

Has the battery life changed or improved?

Firmware updates have improved battery life across all AXS systems.

CONFIGURABLE CONTROLS

Can I digitally assign different functions to the buttons (e.g. move the derailleur outboard with a left shifter click)?

Yes, the AXS app allows you to customize your shift paddle functions as well as the functions of optional remote Wireless Blip shift buttons. See our article on how to customize your shift actions using the AXS mobile app here.

With new Force AXS, how many gear selections are available with a 2x drivetrain?

For all road 2x AXS drivetrains, you have two gears up front and 12 in the rear. However, the small chainring/small cog combination is always locked out to avoid chain rasp against the inside of the large chainring. This brings the total gear selections available to 23.

Can I set up my new Force AXS shifters to shift the front derailleur automatically for fully sequential-style shift logic?

Yes. All enhanced shifting modes are done using the AXS app. See details and tips here.

Can I change shifting modes with my new Force AXS system without going through the mobile app? For example, can I change shifting modes using my GPS head unit?

Head units cannot be used to change shift modes. The AXS app is used to select either Sequential or Compensating modes as the alternative to full manual.

Can I turn enhanced shifting on or off on new Force AXS without connecting to the AXS app?

You can toggle between either full manual shifting and the preselected enhanced shift mode (Sequential or Compensating) using the AXS buttons on the back of the shift paddles. This can be done while riding. Pressing the right paddle AXS button = on. Pressing the left paddle AXS button = off.

Can I customize the settings of my new Force AXS drivetrain?

Yes. The SRAM AXS app allows riders to see battery status, change component behavior, personalize controls, and update firmware.

If I select the sequential shifting option, can I still command the front derailleur to shift manually if I want it to with my new Force AXS system?

Yes. Just execute a front shift as you would in full manual mode.

Is there a shifting mode where I can set up the rear derailleur to make automatic shifts to offset changing gears when shifting the front derailleur?

Yes. You can use the AXS app to select Compensating shifting mode.

Does the system need to know what size cassette I am using for the appropriate number of compensating rear shifts?

Yes. You can use the AXS app to input your cassette size for optimal operation in Sequential mode as well as in Compensating mode (manual front shifting + automatic rear compensating shifts).

Can I pair my new Force AXS drivetrain to my Hammerhead head unit?

You can pair a SRAM AXS drivetrain to your Hammerhead Karoo 2 as you would pair any other sensor. (However, try to pair other sensors after you pair your or SRAM AXS drivetrain and not at the same time as this will take precedence)

After pairing an SRAM AXS drivetrain to your Karoo 2, you will be able to see your current gear data on the screen.

THANK YOU

SRAM