



FlybarTM
ENJOY THE VIEW

Instruction Manual
Flybar 1200





Unpacked your Flybar 1200? Good. Can't wait to jump on? Not so fast. Before using your Flybar, please take a minute to read through these instructions carefully.

SAFETY

Use your head—play hard, but play safe. Flybar puts a lot of power under you. Using it safely is mostly common sense. It boils down to three rules:

Wear a helmet.

Don't even think about using the Flybar without one. If worn properly, helmets prevent hundreds of serious head injuries every year. Choose one that's been approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and make sure you adjust it correctly. The helmet should fit snugly—if you can easily twist or push it out of position, the straps are too loose. It should sit squarely atop your head (versus tilted back) to protect your forehead in case of a forward fall.

Check for hazards before you start.

Never jump without making sure that the surface is safe—solid, flat, clean, well lit, and dry.

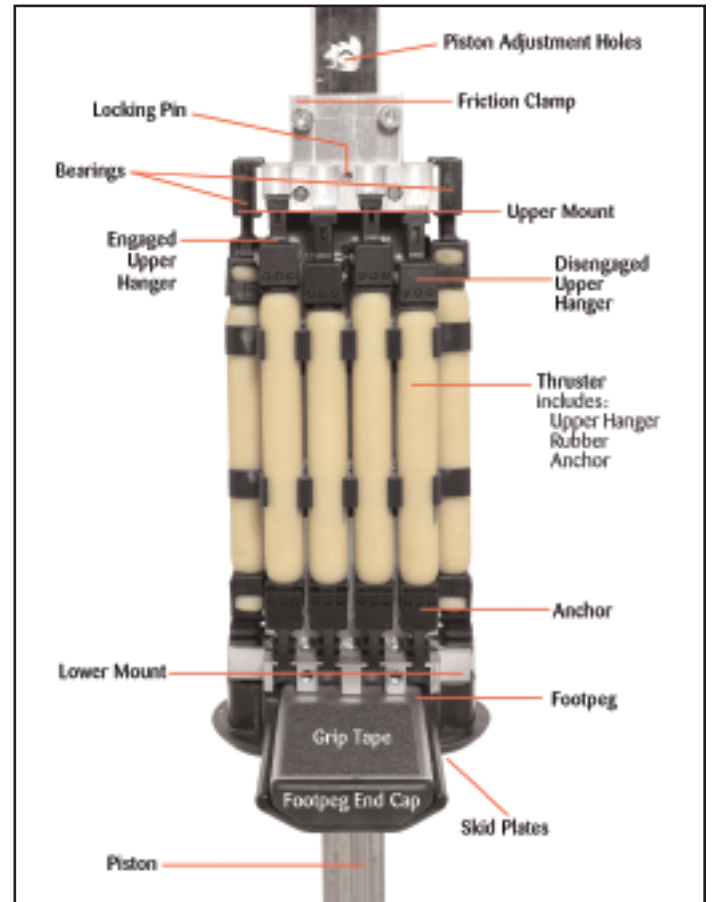
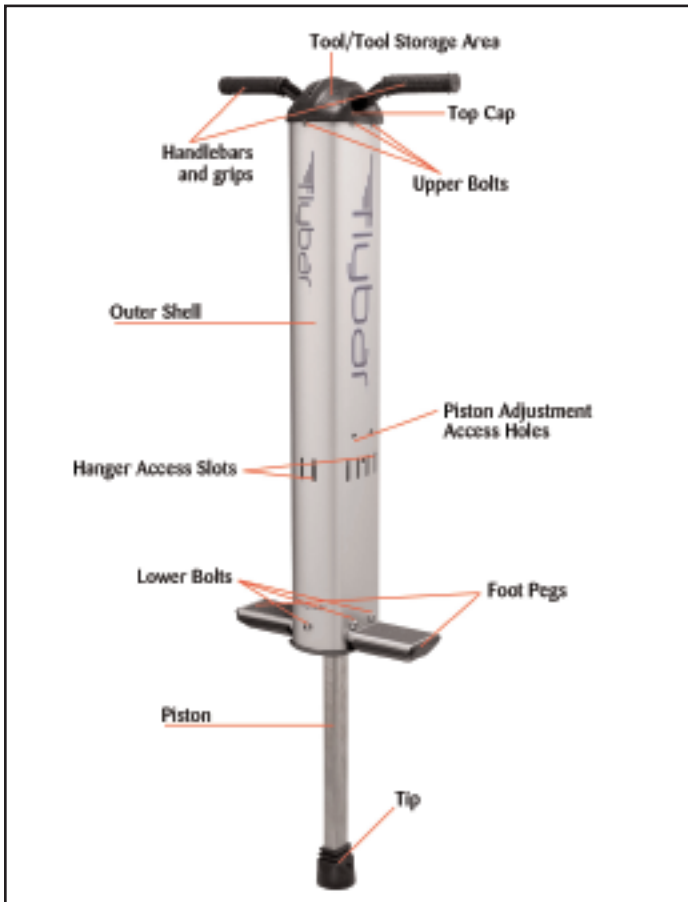
The best bet: CONCRETE. Stick to outdoor areas that are free of hazards and give you plenty of room to maneuver (you'll need several yards of clear surface on all sides). Define a field of action before you start a session, and have the discipline to step off the Flybar if you near the edge.

Hazards to watch out for:

- **Traffic:** Steer clear of streets, parking lots, and any other area vehicles may use. Maintaining your balance (and attempting challenging moves) is going to require your full attention. It's about focus—not about trying to dodge SUVs.
- **Humans:** Using your Flybar too close to other people is dangerous and rude. There's no way to predict how they'll react, so back off. Respect their safety and their space.
- **Slippery Ground:** Don't try to jump on a surface which is wet, oily, or even lightly covered with sand, gravel, leaves, or litter—you'll greatly reduce the traction of your Flybar's tip. You want to maintain an upright posture, not skid off-balance.
- **Overhead Obstacles:** Once you master the Flybar, it's possible to bounce so high that the top of your head will be 10-to-12 feet in the air. Even novices, however, should check for overhead clearance all around the field of action.
- **Steep Inclines:** Remember, you want to maintain a position perpendicular to the ground. If the surface slopes sharply, that's just not possible, and it's far more likely you'll skid sideways and fall.
- **Soft or Weak Surfaces:** At peak compression, the Flybar can pack over 1000 pounds of force. Don't jump on plank flooring, lawns, or any other surface you wouldn't be confident driving a car across.
- **Holes and Uneven Ground:** You're in greater danger of skidding or experiencing a jarring drop if you use your Flybar on any surface with holes (e.g. storm grates) or irregularities such as speed-bumps or curbs.

Stay within your abilities

With experience and skill, you'll be able to react to pretty much any situation reflexively. But skill develops slowly, so take your time. As you put in the hours, you'll become instinctively aware of how much traction you have, how high you're going to bounce, how to correct for balance, and where you're going to land. Be prepared to bail out at any time.



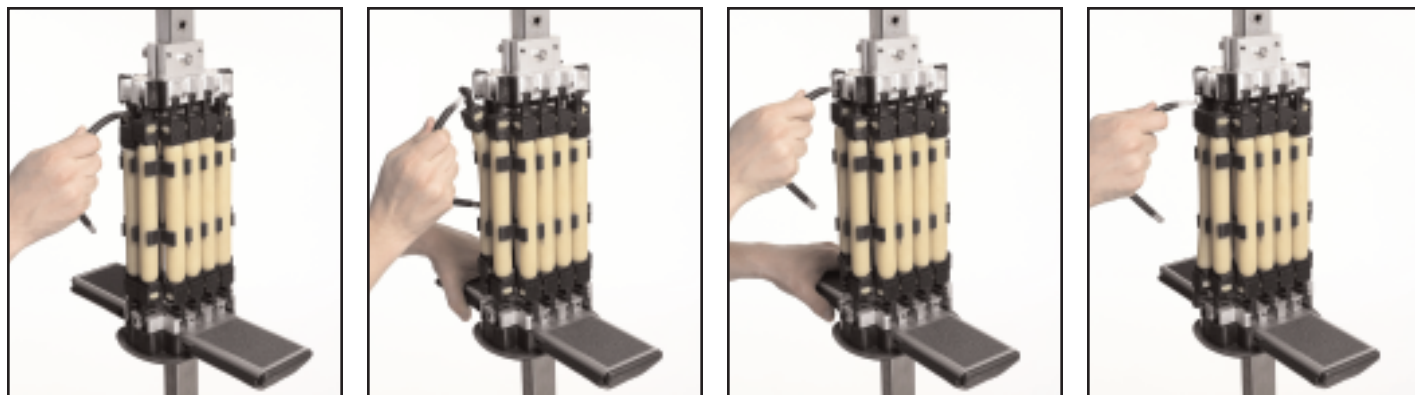
ASSEMBLY

For the most part, your Flybar comes pre-assembled. All you have to do is attach the cap to the top of the shell. Slide the cap into the shell as shown. Remove the Flybar Tool from its storage slot in the cap, and, using the end marked "A," secure it in place with the six supplied bolts.



SETUP AND ADJUSTMENT

Before using your Flybar, you'll need to adjust it to suit your weight, skill level and goals. This involves two key decisions: how many thrusters to engage and how long to set the piston. Before we go any further, remove the shell. Use the end of the Flybar Tool marked "A" to loosen the six bolts near the bottom of the shell. Now, take a good look at the Flybar's guts.



How Many Thrusters to Engage?

Your Flybar is equipped with twelve thrusters—the rubber rods anchored to the lower mount. The top end of each thruster is designed to be hooked—or “engaged”—onto the upper mount in order to power the Flybar. By choosing how many thrusters to engage, you determine the force of the Flybar bounce. Note: For safety reasons, always use your Flybar with at least four thrusters engaged.

We recommend you start by engaging one thruster per twenty pounds of weight (i.e. if you weigh 160 lbs., engage eight out of the 12 thrusters.) If you engage too many thrusters for your weight/ ability, you'll encounter too much resistance. If you engage too few, you'll be able to “bottom out” (i.e. push the foot pegs to the ground) without even tapping your full strength. Either way, your bounce height will suffer. The ideal setting should allow you to nearly bottom out while jumping with your full strength.

How to Engage and Disengage Thrusters

When the T-shaped hanger at the top of a thruster has been hooked into its cradle in the upper mount, the thruster is “engaged.” Otherwise, the thruster hangs slack. Engaging and disengaging thrusters is relatively simple, but it may take some practice to get these maneuvers down.

To engage a thruster: Insert the end of the Flybar Tool marked “B” in the hanger’s access slot. The tool functions as a hook. Using the tool, lift the hanger up and over the cradle sill in the upper mount. Then lower the hanger into the cradle, and withdraw the tool.

To disengage a thruster: Insert the “B” end of the Flybar Tool into the hanger’s slot. Lift the hanger up and out of the cradle, then let the thruster slacken, and withdraw the tool.

Note: Special slots in the Flybar’s shell allow experienced users to engage and disengage thrusters even when the shell is in place. At first, however, you'll want to perform the operation with the shell off.



Which Piston Length is Right for You?

Piston Length can be set in nine positions, from seven inches to eighteen inches. Generally, the longer you set the piston, the higher you'll bounce.

That's because most people can achieve a peak bounce height (measured from the foot-pegs to the ground) that's twice the piston length. In other words: if the piston is set at 12 inches, you'll end up with your feet 24 inches above the ground during a peak bounce. Of course, some athletes can achieve bounces four times the piston length. It depends on skill and strength (not to mention the number of thrusters engaged).

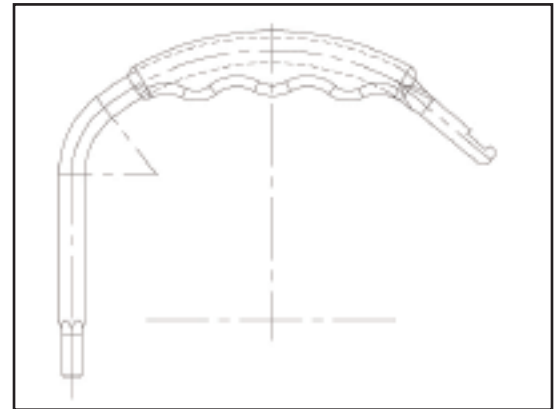
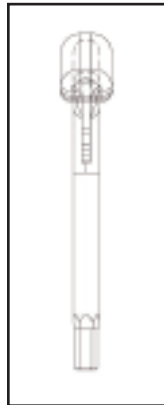
For novices, we recommend a shorter piston length for greater control, although even advanced users may prefer a shorter piston length for certain tricks or precision maneuvers. You'll likely want to increase the piston length as your skill and confidence grow.



Setting the Piston Length

First, you need to loosen the friction clamp and the locking pin that fix the piston into place. Both of these are part of the upper mount.

Use the end of the Flybar Tool marked "A" to loosen the screw that secures the clamp, and then the screw that secures the locking pin. Now the piston should slide freely, and you should hear a click each time the spring-loaded mechanism (visible in the upper mount) snaps into one of the nine holes that determine piston-length. Only these nine settings can be used; otherwise, the locking pin will not engage and the Flybar will not be safe to use.



Once you've set the piston length—and heard the spring-loaded mechanism click into place—you need to secure the piston. First tighten the locking pin, and then the clamp's screws. We really can't stress how important it is to tighten both these devices, as directed. It is not safe to use the clamp without the locking pin, and vice versa.

Note: The Flybar's shell has been designed with round access holes to allow experienced users to adjust piston length even when the shell is in place. First-time users, however, should definitely perform the operation with the shell off.

How to Adjust the Handlebars

While most of you should be fine using the Flybar as it comes out of the box, shorter users may find it more comfortable if they invert the position of the handlebars—which lowers them by 2.5". Use the "A" end of your Flybar tool to loosen the four screws set deep into the cap. (A couple of turns should suffice.) Then twist the handlebars down and retighten.

MAINTENANCE

It's important to examine your Flybar's mechanism periodically to check that all its parts are in good working order. First, remove the shell by unscrewing the six screws around the base, and sliding it off.

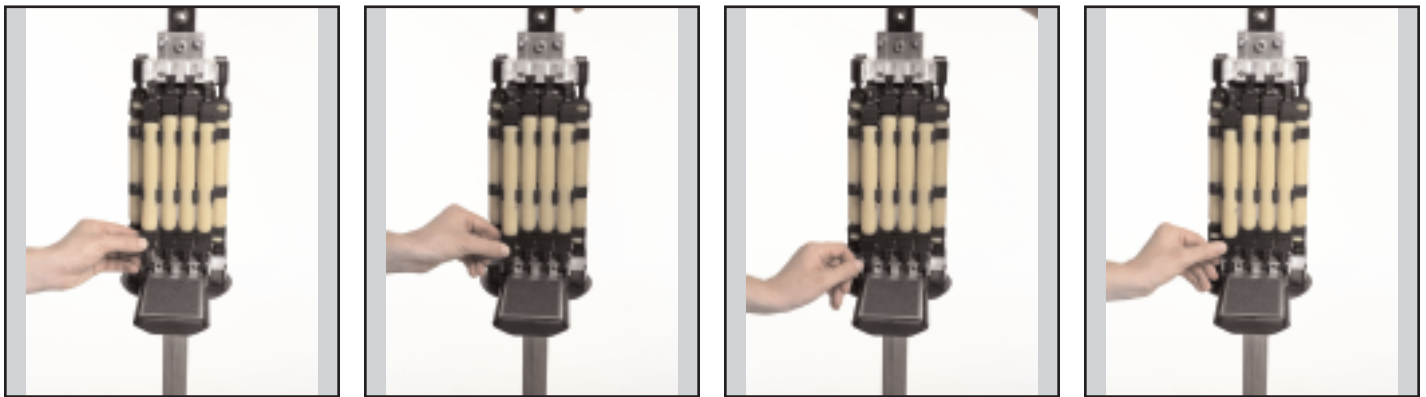
Thrusters

If engaged, a thruster will naturally lose a little elasticity over time and stretch out. The Flybar has been designed so that you can reposition aging thrusters to ensure they still deliver optimal performance.

When to reposition a thruster: If the hanger, when disengaged, brushes against the upper mount, it's time to make the adjustment.

How to reposition a thruster: You'll notice that the bottom of each thruster is attached to a plastic anchor equipped with three flanges. Initially, the lowest of these three flanges is used to engage the thruster in the lower mount. Grip the anchor and disengage it by pulling outwards. (If you're having trouble, try threading a piece of twine behind the thruster, and sliding it down until it sits behind the anchor, then using the twine to pull the anchor free.) Now, re-engage the anchor. Shift it down to the next-lowest flange and push it back into place.

Replacing a thruster: If, for any reason, you need a new thruster, contact your dealer or www.flybar.com.



Bearings

The Flybar uses sliding plastic bearings designed to last for several years, but inevitably they will wear somewhat with use. To prolong bearing life, try to keep the piston clean of sand and grit. If you notice that your piston has begun to wobble seriously from side to side, you may need to replace the bearings. Contact your dealer or www.Flybar.com for a bearing-replacement kit, including instructions.

Skid Plates

It's not always the tip that hits the terrain first. Advanced users—or reckless novices—will sometimes land on the foot pegs, intentionally or not. The bottom of each foot peg is equipped with a skid plate to protect the Flybar (and the terrain), but if the plate has cracked, or has worn to the point where its screwheads are exposed, it needs to be replaced. Contact your dealer or www.Flybar.com for a skid-plate replacement kit, including instructions.

Shock Pad

The shock pad is the rubber cushion attached to the top surface of the Flybar core. If this pad becomes visibly damaged it should be replaced. Order a replacement kit from your dealer or from www.flybar.com; instructions will be enclosed.

Tip

The Flybar's rubber tip is designed for heavy-duty use, but if it cracks or becomes excessively worn, it's time to toss it. Order a replacement kit from your dealer or from www.flybar.com; instructions will be enclosed.

We don't recommend using lubricants, but if you want to experiment, choose a dry graphite lubricant. Oil- and grease-based lubricants can carry grit up into the mechanism, which tends to wear out the bearings.

Storing Your Flybar

If you're planning to store your Flybar for a significant period of time, disengage all the thrusters (they'll last longer) and store it in a cool, dry place where it's unlikely to experience extreme temperatures.

THE BASICS: HOW TO USE THE FLYBAR

1. Jump on. Using the Flybar is mostly intuitive, and the best way for novices to learn is to simply hop on. Initially, just focus on trying to keep your balance as long as possible.
2. Try to stand correctly as you start bouncing: For the best results, hold the Flybar perpendicular to the ground (as vertical as possible, with no tilt) so its tip lands squarely on the surface. Stand upright with knees bent, centering your weight over the piston. Hold the handlebars in close to your body (see **Diagram 6a**). As you improve, try leaning your chest over the handlebars for even better alignment.
3. Learn to master balance. Good balance is really the key, so be patient. Focus on executing small controlled hops in one spot until you can bounce, say, 25 times in a row. Ultimately, you want to gain enough control that you can step off at any time and land on your feet.
4. Now start plotting your moves. Once you've got balance down, try to control your trajectory. Choose a landing spot and challenge yourself to place the tip accurately. (A hopscotch court is idea for this).
5. Go for it. What's next? That's totally up to you. Just remember: Keep it safe.

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

You're bottoming out too easily	Engaging additional thrusters and/or increasing the piston length.
You can't thrust the foot pegs more than halfway down the piston, even during your best jumps. (Ask a friend to check how much of the piston is still showing; no more than a few inches should be visible.)	Disengaging some thrusters
If you hear a rattling or tapping sound from inside the core	Check the thrusters to see if they have stretched out (their hangers may be rattling in their cradles) and need to be repositioned.
The piston seems to be sticking or grinding	Remove tip from piston, disengage all thrusters, and slide piston up and out of the core. Then shake your Flybar to dislodge any foreign objects that may have been stuck in the piston's path.





For info on Flybar events, contests, and products
go to www.Flybar.com.