

ZIRBEL SHIFTERS INSTALLATION WITH STEALTH BLIPBOX

Hi, I'll explain how to install 2 Zirbel shifters (for AXS seatpost and derailleur).

To run the Zirbel shifters to the Blipbox we need a hole in the back of the handlebar. If you are using an 80mm or longer stem, the hole must be just big enough to pass the connectors. In this case, I need a bigger hole as I am running a 65mm stem, and the connectors will be housed inside the handlebar. A 24mm x 6mm hole will be perfect.



Drilling a hole at the back of the bars seems like a crazy idea, but I have been using this handlebar for almost a year with no signs of fatigue. I am 70kgs and ride Trail and Enduro style. For heavier riders and other disciplines like DH, it's probably better to get a handlebar with holes already. Zirbel, FSA and other companies make them, check them out.

I suggest wrapping the shifter cables in bubble wrap or some kind of foam to avoid potential rattling inside the bars.



Introduce the cables and "fish" them through the hole. Easier than it sounds.



Now, I have a 2 bolt stem (Intend), so I need to put the stem in the handlebar at this point before inserting the other pair of cables.



We pass the cables through the gap and carefully turn the handlebar to its final position. Obviously, this is way easier if you have a 4 bolt stem.



I want the cables to run under the grips and inside the handlebars, so this is how it should look like:



Now we just need to connect the cables to the Blipbox. Note that I had to modify the Blipbox so it fits inside the stem. A good amount of time went into carefully sanding the edges until it fits. Of course, this will void the Blipbox warranty, so be very careful not to sand too much!!

If you have a longer stem, you may not need to modify the Blibox at all. As far as I know, the Blibox and the head cables fit perfectly inside a Newmen Evolution 80mm stem, and probably other similar stems.



Finally, you just need to insert the grips over the cables. Lock-on grips are not suitable, but there are plenty of push-on grips in the market. I am running ESI racer's edge and I love how they feel. The plastic bar ends can be trimmed to allow some space for the cables. And this is the final result:

