CARBON STEEL SNOW CHAIN







INSTRUCTIVE | CARBON STEEL SNOW CHAIN

SAFETY FIRST

It's not only necessary to carry appropriate or adjustable chains in the trunk for the vehicle's tires, but it's also essential to know how to install them. If the chains are poorly installed or loose, there is a risk of accidents, vehicle damage, or reducing the product's lifespan. Test the assembly and disassembly before embarking on a winter journey. Usually, installation occurs in unsuitable locations and under adverse weather conditions. Those who have installed chains in freezing winds know the need to do it quickly and correctly the first time. Ideally, accumulate the necessary experience to install the chains with your eyes closed (practice makes perfect). Installing and removing chains is a simple and quick process that does not require extensive experience. If you practice for 20 to 30 minutes in your garage and follow our advice, you will undoubtedly be able to install the chains on your vehicle properly and quickly.

INSTALLATION AND USE

POINTS TO CONSIDER

Remember that the chains are mounted on the driving wheels.

For vehicles with 4X4 and AWD traction, they are installed on the steering wheels, or on all four wheels.

IMPORTANT: Before using GORILA® ladder-type chains, test them on the tire. It is usually necessary to cut the remaining links of the side chain to achieve a perfect fit. If you do not wish to cut the remaining links, securely tie them to prevent damage to the vehicle.





Select an appropriate and safe location on the roadside. The site must have enough space to move the vehicle freely (at least 3 meters in front and 3 meters behind the vehicle). Before descending, to prevent unwanted movements, engage and apply the handbrake. As an additional precaution, when the slope is excessive, it is not a bad idea to install wedges.

INSTALLATION STEPS

1. Spread the chains on the ground, ensuring that the side and cross links are not twisted. Both should be aligned.









If the GORILA® chains correspond to the model with ice-breaker spikes, the spikes should make contact with the road, never towards the tire.

If they correspond to the twisted link model without spikes, the tips of the hooks of the cross links should face outward, never towards the tire. Otherwise, the chain and tire will be damaged.



With spikes



Without spikes



With spikes



Without spikes

2. Install the chains on the tires, with the inner U-shaped hook inward and the outer hook outward. The latter, depending on the chain model, has a swan or rocker shape.







3. Slowly move the vehicle until the chains pass under the tire, enough to be hooked. If uphill, leave the long end forward and reverse. If downhill, leave the long end backward and proceed forward.







After moving the vehicle

4. First, connect the inner hook and then the outer one, both on the last link.











Inner hook connection

Outer hook connection, swan type

Rocker type inner

5. Finally, install the GORILA® rubber tensioners between bridges on the side chain, with the hook tips facing outward. If you have Gorila chains with built-in eccentric tensioners, turn them manually with the included tool until tension is achieved. Then, and only as an extreme precautionary measure, install the GORILA® rubber tensioners. After rolling a few hundred meters, the chains settle and lose tension. It is advisable, therefore, to check the installation and adjust the tension.







WATCH THE INSTALLATION VIDEO ON YOUTUBE

REMOVAL

When there is no longer snow or ice on the road, it is time to remove the chains.

- 1. Remove the rubber tensioners. In the case of eccentric tensioners, release them.
- 2. Release the inner hook first; then the outer one, never the other way around, as there is a risk of the chains falling inside and getting tangled in the axle, brake pipes, or other elements.
- 3. Slowly move the vehicle until the chains fall off the tire and remove them.

To better preserve the chains, it is recommended to clean them, dry them, and store them in their respective box.

DRIVING WITH CHAINS

- Do not exceed 48 kilometers per hour.
- Avoid sudden gear changes, dangerous overtaking, and harsh braking.
- · Take corners slowly and with extreme caution.
- · Keep in mind that when driving with chains, the vehicle's behavior is altered.
- On dirt or asphalt roads with snow or ice, it is necessary to drive at a moderate speed, maintaining a safe distance from other vehicles.

INSTALLATION		48 km/h	64 km/h	80 km/h
~	Centered chains, aligned, with good tension, moderate driving, road permanently covered with snow or ice.	100%	57%	31%
×	Off-centered chains, misaligned, insufficient tension, abrupt driving, road with intermittent snow or ice.	50%	16%	7%

MINIMUM RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

- GORILA® snow chains.
- Two pairs of GORILA® rubber tensioners.
- One emergency shovel from GORILA®.
- One tow strap or strop from GORILA® with the appropriate hardware.
- · A pair of wedges.
- A burlap sack.
- A pair of work gloves.
- · A piece of thin cord or wire.
- Basic tool kit: GORILA® pliers, screwdriver, etc.

WARRANTY

The warranty covers the product only if a manufacturing defect is present. In no case does the warranty cover: duration, adaptability to the tire, failures due to improper installation or driving, and damage to the vehicle or people.

LIFESPAN

The lifespan of the chains depends directly on the installation, speed, driving, and type of road, among other variables. It is very difficult to calculate their duration in days, hours, or kilometers.

Only the performance in percentage can be estimated, considering the most stable variables.

