5 SETUP

Troubleshooting: What symptom requires what solution?

The table below shows symptoms for different kinds of events. All of these symptoms are inherent to the position and the balance between front and rear and should be fixed with the proper solution. When the bike feels good it is time to further improve and fine tune your setup using the different adjusters on your suspension. Revalving has been excluded from this guide. 99% of all setup problems shall be addressed by working with the position of the bike by changing the proper parameter and subsequently by using the adjusters.

Approach this list remembering to ask yourself/ the rider the correct questions on whether the position of the bike is helping you or working against you in the different sections. See if there are any symptoms that seem to point towards the same solution. If there is a problem with your setup it will most likely show in more than one place on the track. Remember that your starting point shall be according to the recommendations both front and rear.

Symptom	Where on track	Front/Rear	Solution	Why
Bottoming front	Landing big jump	Rear shock	Use softer spring.	Transfer weight to rear.
		Front fork	Add fluid.	
	Landing small jump	Rear shock	Remove preload rear shock.	Transfer weight to rear.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end, add fluid, close compression.	
	Going into jump face	Rear shock	Remove preload.	Transfer weight to rear.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end, add fluid.	
	Transitions	Rear shock	Use softer spring.	Transfer weight to rear
		Front fork	Add fluid, use harder front spring.	

Bottoming rear	Landing big jump	Rear shock	Use harder spring. Close high speed compression.	Transfer weight to front, make shock harder.
		Front fork	Remove fluid.	Transfer weight to front.
	Landing small jump	Rear shock	Use harder rear spring. Close low speed compression.	Transfer weight to front, make shock more dampened.
		Front fork	Remove fluid.	Transfer weight to front.
	Going into jump face	Rear shock	Use harder rear spring, close low or high speed compression.	Transfer weight to front, make shock more dampened or harder.
		Front fork	Remove fluid.	Transfer weight to front.
	Transitions	Rear shock	Use harder spring. Close low or high speed compression.	Transfer weight to front, make shock more dampened or harder.
		Front fork	Remove fluid.	Transfer weight to front.
Bike turns wide	Going into the corner	Rear shock	Add preload.	Transfer weight to front.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, remove fluid, use softer springs.	Transfer weight to front.
	Mid corner and out	Rear shock	Add preload.	Transfer weight to front.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, use softer springs.	Transfer weight to front.
Bike turns in too tight	Going into the corner	Rear shock	Remove preload.	Transfer weight to rear.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end.	Transfer weight to rear.

5 SETUP

Bike is unstable during braking	Rear end wants to come around	Rear shock	Remove preload.	Transfer weight to rear.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end, use harder springs, add fluid.	Transfer weight to rear.
Rear kicks during braking	Kicks straight up	Rear shock	Remove preload, open high speed compression, use softer spring.	Transfer weight to rear, make rear softer.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end.	Transfer weight to rear.
	Kicks side to side	Rear shock	Add preload. Open rebound adjuster rear shock	Help rebound recover between bumps.
Bad comfort front	During braking	Rear shock	Remove preload.	Transfer weight to rear so fork works higher.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end, open rebound, open or close compression.	Transfer weight to rear. Make front softer and more compliant. Closing compression makes front higher.
	On small hard edges	Rear shock	Add preload	Transfer weight to front. Put more load on the front wheel to hold against hits.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, open rebound, open compression.	Transfer weight to front. Put more load on the front wheel to hold against hits. Make front softer and more compliant.

Bad comfort rear	Acceleration	Rear shock	Add preload, open high speed or low speed compression, open rebound.	Transfer load to front. Gives rear more stroke to use. Make rear softer and more compliant.
	On small hard edges	Rear shock	Open high speed or low speed compression, open rebound.	Make rear softer and more compliant.
Bad traction front	Turning in	Rear shock	Add preload rear.	Transfer load to front.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, open compression, open rebound.	Transfer load to front. Make front softer and more compliant.
	Mid corner	Rear shock	Add preload.	Transfer load to front.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, open compression, open rebound.	Transfer load to front. Make front softer and more compliant.
	Braking	Rear shock	Add preload.	Transfer load to front.
		Front fork	Bring the fork up in the triple clamps to lower the front end, open compression, open rebound.	Transfer load to front. Make front softer and more compliant.

5 SETUP

Bad traction rear	Acceleration	Rear shock	Remove preload, open rebound, open high speed compression.	Transfer load to rear. Make rear softer and more compliant.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end.	Transfer load to rear.
	Mid corner	Rear shock	Remove preload, open rebound, open high speed compression.	Transfer load to rear. Make rear softer and more compliant.
		Front fork	Push the forks down in the triple clamps to raise the front end.	Transfer load to rear.
Chassis movement	Bike is to lively and uses a lot of stroke	Rear shock	Remove preload, change to a harder spring with less preload	More free sag lessens the bikes movement out in the stroke. Harder spring lessens the bikes movement into the stroke. This aids stability.
	Bike is too dead and uses too little stroke	Rear shock	Use softer spring with more preload.	Less free sag lets the bike move further out in the stroke. Softer spring makes the bike go deeper in the stroke. This aids turning and maneuverability.