



Instruction 106-5986

09.16.2025

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## Installation Instructions: S&S 97" & 106" Big Bore Kits for 1999–2017 big twins (except M8 Models)

### DISCLAIMER:

S&S parts are designed for high performance, closed course, racing applications and are intended for the very experienced rider only. The installation of S&S parts may void or adversely affect your factory warranty. In addition such installation and use may violate certain federal, state, and local laws, rules and ordinances as well as other laws when used on motor vehicles used on public highways, especially in states where pollution laws may apply. Always check federal, state, and local laws before modifying your motorcycle. It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of the user to determine the suitability of the product for his or her use, and the user shall assume all legal, personal injury risk and liability and all other obligations, duties, and risks associated therewith.

The words Harley<sup>®</sup>, Harley-Davidson<sup>®</sup>, H-D<sup>®</sup>, Sportster<sup>®</sup>, Evolution<sup>®</sup>, and all H-D part numbers and model designations are used in reference only. S&S Cycle is not associated with Harley-Davidson, Inc.

### SAFE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION RULES:

Before installing your new S&S part it is your responsibility to read and follow the installation and maintenance procedures in these instructions and follow the basic rules below for your personal safety.

- Gasoline is extremely flammable and explosive under certain conditions and toxic when breathed. Do not smoke. Perform installation in a well ventilated area away from open flames or sparks.
- If motorcycle has been running, wait until engine and exhaust pipes have cooled down to avoid getting burned before performing any installation steps.
- Before performing any installation steps disconnect battery to eliminate potential sparks and inadvertent engagement of starter while working on electrical components.
- Read instructions thoroughly and carefully so all procedures are completely understood before performing any installation steps. Contact S&S with any questions you may have if any steps are unclear or any abnormalities occur during installation or operation of motorcycle with a S&S part on it.
- Consult an appropriate service manual for your motorcycle for correct disassembly and reassembly procedures for any parts that need to be removed to facilitate installation.
- Use good judgment when performing installation and operating motorcycle. Good judgment begins with a clear head. Don't let alcohol, drugs or fatigue impair your judgment. Start installation when you are fresh.
- Be sure all federal, state and local laws are obeyed with the installation.
- For optimum performance and safety and to minimize potential damage to carb or other components, use all mounting hardware that is provided and follow all installation instructions.
- Motorcycle exhaust fumes are toxic and poisonous and must not be breathed. Run motorcycle in a well ventilated area where fumes can dissipate.

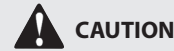
### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Statements in this instruction sheet preceded by the following words are of special significance.



**WARNING**

Means there is the possibility of injury to yourself or others.



**CAUTION**

Means there is the possibility of damage to the part or motorcycle.

### NOTE

*Other information of particular importance has been placed in italic type.*

*S&S recommends you take special notice of these items.*

### WARRANTY:

All S&S parts are guaranteed to the original purchaser to be free of manufacturing defects in materials and workmanship for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of purchase. Merchandise that fails to conform to these conditions will be repaired or replaced at S&S's option if the parts are returned to us by the purchaser within the 12 month warranty period or within 10 days thereafter.

In the event warranty service is required, the original purchaser must call or write S&S immediately with the problem. Some problems can be rectified by a telephone call and need no further course of action.

A part that is suspect of being defective must not be replaced by a Dealer without prior authorization from S&S. If it is deemed necessary for S&S to make an evaluation to determine whether the part was defective, a return authorization number must be obtained from S&S. The parts must be packaged properly so as to not cause further damage and be returned prepaid to S&S with a copy of the original invoice of purchase and a detailed letter outlining the nature of the problem, how the part was used and the circumstances at the time of failure. If after an evaluation has been made by S&S and the part was found to be defective, repair, replacement or refund will be granted.

### ADDITIONAL WARRANTY PROVISIONS:

- (1) S&S shall have no obligation in the event an S&S part is modified by any other person or organization.
- (2) S&S shall have no obligation if an S&S part becomes defective in whole or in part as a result of improper installation, improper maintenance, improper use, abnormal operation, or any other misuse or mistreatment of the S&S part.
- (3) S&S shall not be liable for any consequential or incidental damages resulting from the failure of an S&S part, the breach of any warranties, the failure to deliver, delay in delivery, delivery in non-conforming condition, or for any other breach of contract or duty between S&S and a customer.
- (4) S&S parts are designed exclusively for use in Harley-Davidson<sup>®</sup> and other American v-twin motorcycles. S&S shall have no warranty or liability obligation if an S&S part is used in any other application.

## KIT CONTENTS

- (2) 3.927" pistons (front and rear pistons are the same)
- (2) 0.927" piston pins
- (4) Piston pin clips
- (2) Ring packs which include the top, second, oil rail, and expander rings
- (2) Cylinders
- (2) MLS (Multi Layer Steel) head gaskets
- (2) Cylinder base O-rings
- (2) Cylinder base dowel O-rings
- (2) Exhaust gaskets

## SPECIAL TOOL REQUIREMENTS

- Harley-Davidson® service manual for the specific model you are working on
- Piston C-clip installer
- Piston ring compressor
- Piston ring expander
- Piston ring end gap filing tool
- Digital or dial calipers
- Feeler gauge

## INSTRUCTION CONTENTS

- General Information
- Disassembly
- Installation and Reassembly
  - A- Setting Ring End-Gap
  - B- Piston Ring Installation
  - C- Piston Installation
  - D- Cylinder Installation
  - E- Cylinder Head Installation
  - F- Final Assembly
  - E- Break-in Procedure

**IMPORTANT** - Following installation, it is important to immediately tune your engine. Fuel injected engines need to have the correct air to fuel ratio and timing adjustments. Carbureted engines require a performance adjustable ignition and a properly adjusted carburetor, preferably by a professional tuner. Failure to get your engine professionally tuned can result in engine and part damage and will also void the warranty.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Thoroughly read and understand all the instructions before starting installation.
- S&S 106" big bore kits contain 3.927" bore pistons with 1.090" deck height. These kits are intended for stock stroke (4.375") 2007–up big twin engines.
- S&S 97" big bore kits contain 3.927" bore pistons with 1.270" deck height. These kits are intended for stock stroke (4.000") 1999–'06 big twin engines.
- Pistons are the same for the front and rear cylinders and can be used with either cylinder.
- The 3.927" piston is marked with an arrow that should point to the front of the engine when installed.
- The pistons are machined during manufacturing, to provide the correct running clearance when cylinders are bored to nominal size of 3.927". In other words the clearance it built into the piston diameter. If you wish to confirm piston diameter be sure to measure the piston only at the micrometer windows on the front and rear skirts of the piston. Measuring the piston in areas with non-stick coating applied will result in incorrect readings. Cylinder measurements must be taken with the cylinder in torque plates with bolts tightened at correct torque value to simulate conditions in an assembled engine.
- In all cases it is the engine builder's responsibility to confirm proper clearances when assembling an engine. This is especially critical with performance components such as larger valve, high performance heads and high lift camshafts.
- In addition to clearances mentioned, 0.060" valve to piston clearance must be confirmed.



## CAUTION



**Failure to follow instructions and perform required clearancing, installation and/or break-in procedures may result in damage to pistons and or other engine components not covered under warranty. The proper break-in procedure is in Section 4 of these instructions.**

## DISASSEMBLY

Refer to the Harley-Davidson® manual for your specific motorcycle for the correct disassembly procedure.

The engine should be disassembled to the short block i.e. induction system, exhaust system, cylinder heads, cylinders, and pistons should be removed.

Suggested ring end gaps		
Ring	Ring Gap Tolerance (inches)	
	Min	Max
Top	0.016	0.022
2nd	0.016	0.026
Oil ring rails	0.010	0.050

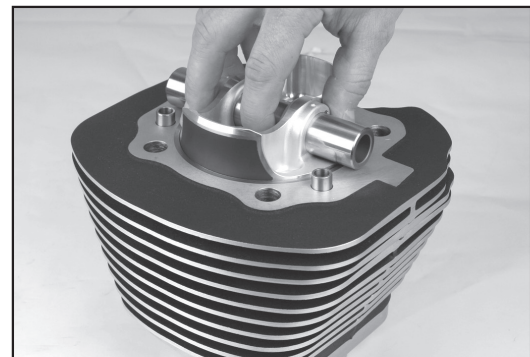
## INSTALLATION AND REASSEMBLY

### A- Setting Ring End Gaps

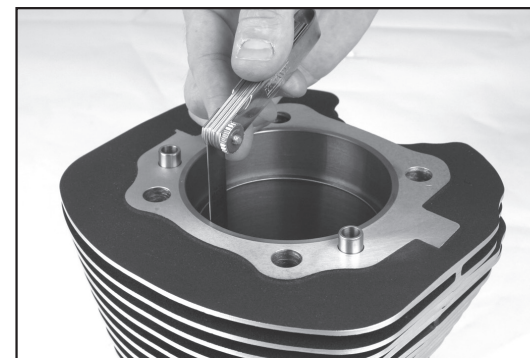
#### NOTES

- *Important! The gap of the second ring should be larger than the top ring; this will help keep the top ring seated for improved performance.*
- *Each ring should be fitted to the particular cylinder in which they will be installed.*
- *Oil rails can be installed without adjusting the end gap. The minimum gap should be 0.010"*
- *Never alter the end gap of the oil expander ring.*
- *Always install the ends of the expander facing up as shown in Picture 3, middle of the next page.*

- 1- Thoroughly wash cylinders with hot soapy water, then wash with brake cleaner and wipe with a clean white towel. Repeat until towel does not show evidence of debris and apply a light coat of oil immediately.



Picture 1



Picture 2

- 2- Check the ring end gap by placing the ring into the cylinder. Use a piston or caliper to ensure that the ring is placed squarely in the bore.
- 3- Measure the ring end gap with a feeler gauge.
- 4- See table for proper end gap measurement. If adjustment to the gap must be made, use a proper ring end gap filing tool.
- 5- Always file from the ring face towards the inside diameter to avoid damaging the face coating.
- 6- Remove material from only one end of the ring.
- 7- Ensure that ring end gaps are square.
- 8- Remove sharp edges and burrs.
- 9- Recheck gap measurement and adjust as necessary.
- 10- Repeat procedure with the other rings.

## B- Piston Ring Installation

Order of installation

- 1- Oil ring expander (*ends must face up as shown in Picture 3, above*)
- 2- Oil ring rails
- 3- 2nd ring
- 4- Top ring



Picture 3

- 1- Install the oil ring expander to the bottom groove of the piston. The expander ring has a gold finish. Make sure the end of the expander ring is butted together and not overlapping (**Picture 3, above**). If the tips are overlapped, excessive oil consumption will occur. Orient the expander gap such that it can be viewed as it enters the cylinder. **See Picture 5c, bottom right.**
- 2- Install oil rails. The oil rails are the thinnest of all the rings. Either side can be placed up. Use a ring expander to install the rails into the groove. Install one rail above the expander, and one below. Orient the gaps according to **Picture 5a, top right.**
- 3- Install the 2nd ring with the dot facing up (**see Picture 4, below**). The 2nd ring has a dull black finish and is the thickest of all the rings. Use an expander to install the ring to the 2nd groove in the piston. Orient the gap according to **Picture 5a, top right.**
- 4- The top ring must be installed with the dot facing up. If there is no marking, the top ring can be installed with either face up. The top ring has a chrome edge and is thicker than the oil rails. Use a ring expander tool to install the ring to the top groove. Orient the gap according to **Picture 5a, top right.**

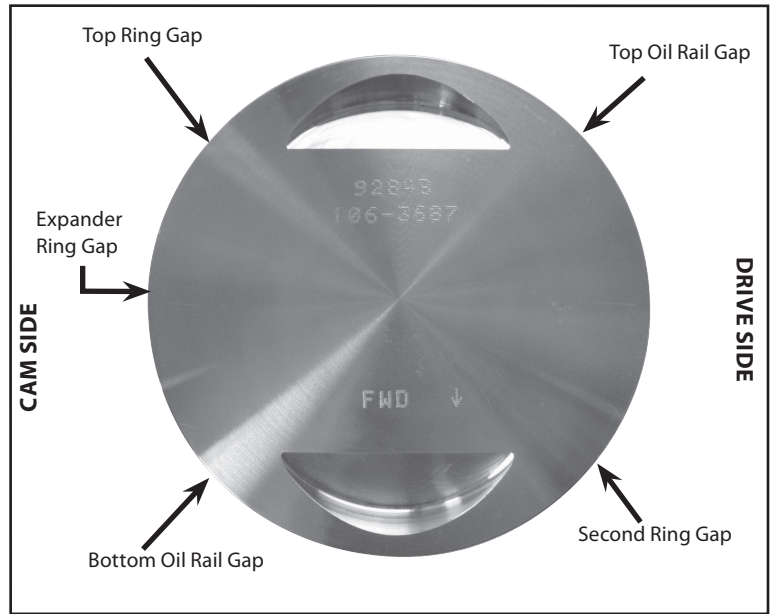
## C- Piston Installation

### NOTES

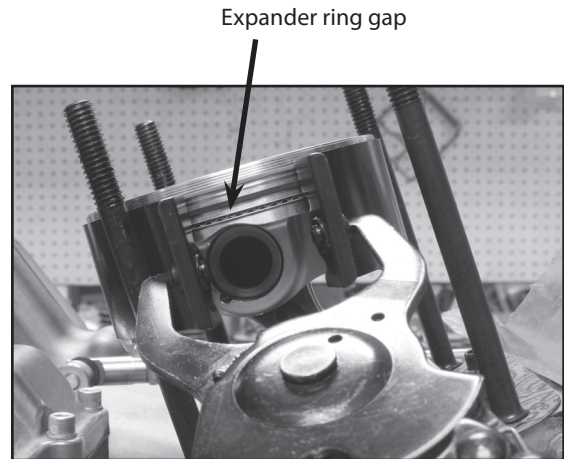
- *Pistons are identical and can be installed in either cylinder. Each piston is stamped "FWD" or has an arrow which must point toward the front of the engine when assembled.*
- *Check piston pin to connecting rod bushing clearance. Clearance should*



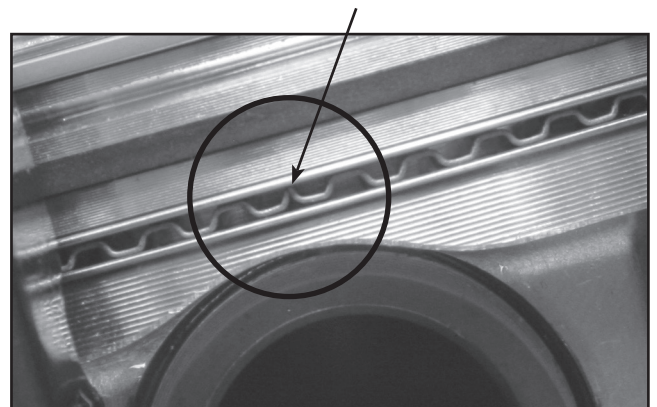
Picture 4



Picture 5a



Picture 5b



Picture 5c

be between 0.0007" and 0.0012". Bushing should be replaced if clearance exceeds 0.002".

- 1- Place rubber tubing over the cylinder studs to prevent damage to the pistons and rings during assembly.
- 2- Place a clean sheet of plastic over the crankcase openings to prevent anything from dropping into the crankcase.
- 3- Install one of the piston pin clips into each of the pistons. Make sure the piston pin clip opening is facing up when installed.
- 4- Lightly oil the piston pin, piston pin bore and upper connecting rod bushing with clean 20W-50 oil or assembly lube.
- 5- Hold the piston over the connecting rod with the piston facing the correct direction and the piston pin bore and upper bushing bores lined up.
- 6- Install the piston pin through the piston pin bore and through the connecting rod bushing until the pin contacts the clip.
- 7- Install the other piston clip with the opening facing up. Ensure that both clips are fully seated.
- 8- Repeat procedure for the rear piston.

#### D- Cylinder Installation

- 2- Bring the front cylinder to TDC.
- 3- Apply a light coating of oil to the piston and rings.
- 4- Install the cylinder base o-ring on the cylinder.
- 5- Lightly oil the new o-rings for the lower cylinder deck alignment dowels and install.
- 6- Verify that the ring gaps are orientated correctly, refer to **Picture 5a, page 3**.
- 7- Remove the rubber tubing from the cylinder studs.
- 8- Compress ring pack by using a suitable ring compressor. If possible, position the ring compressor so that you can see the oil expander gap during installation. **Picture 5b, page 3**.
- 9- Install cylinder on piston, making sure not to overlap oil ring expander.
- 10- Remove ring compressor.
- 11- Remove plastic sheeting covering crankcase.
- 12- Slide the cylinder down until it seats against the crankcase.
- 13- Rotate the engine until the rear cylinder is at TDC.
- 14- Repeat procedure for the rear cylinder.

#### E- Cylinder Head Installation

*Head Gasket Tightening Torque Specifications*

*Multi layer steel (MLS) head gasket, PN 106-3714, 3.927" bore.*

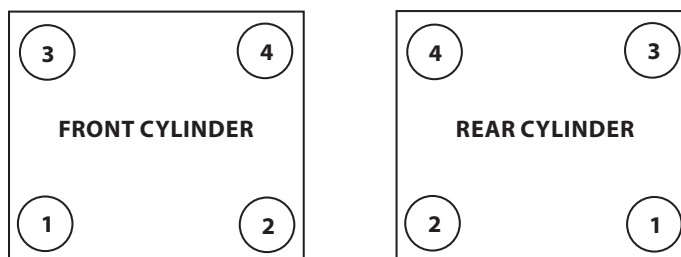
- 1- Check surfaces for flatness and imperfections, an excessively rough finish may cause gasket failure.
- 2- Check all hardware for defects. Clean all threads and lubricate with clean oil. Lubricate the underside flange of the head bolts with clean oil (wipe away excess).
- 3- The head bolts are two different lengths. The short ones go on the spark plug side; the long ones go on the pushrod side.
- 4- Place the head gasket on the cylinder and locate the gasket using the cylinder head alignment dowels. Either face of the gasket can be up, there is not a specific top or bottom to the gasket.

**NOTE:** Do not use the cylinder head alignment dowel O-rings with MLS head gasket.

- 5- Once the gasket is in place, make sure that it fits the bore. The gasket should not hang into the bore or combustion chamber area.
- 6- If using cylinder heads other than stock, check the brass rivets of the MLS gaskets to ensure the rivets do not interfere with the sealing surface in any way.
- 7- **Important!** In order to properly seal the head gasket, the head bolts must be torqued in the sequence shown in the next step, fully loosened, then torqued again a 2nd time. Follow the head

#### Head Bolt Tightening Sequence

Cam Side



Drive Side

**Picture 6**

tightening sequence in the next step then fully loosening the head bolts ¼ turn at a time in the sequence shown in **Picture 6** until fully loose. Repeat the tightening sequence in step 8 a second time.

- 8- Tighten the head bolts according to the following procedure, start with the front head then the rear head.
  - a- Tighten each bolt finger tight using the sequence in **Picture 6, top right**.
  - b- Tighten each bolt to 10-12 ft-lbs using the sequence.
  - c- Tighten to 15-17 ft-lbs using the sequence.
  - d- Finally, tighten the bolts an additional ¼ turn (90 degrees).

#### F- Final Assembly

Assemble the remaining items according to the Harley-Davidson service manual specific for your motorcycle.

#### G- Tuning

S&S big bore kits increase the displacement and compression ratio of your engine. The fuel and ignition systems must be calibrated for these changes before the engine is driven and break-in is attempted. It is recommended that a performance carburetor such as the S&S Super E or G be used with the correct jetting for the engine size for carbureted models.

**! IMPORTANT** - Following installation, it is important to immediately tune your engine. Fuel injected engines need to have the correct air to fuel ratio and timing adjustments. Carbureted engines require a performance adjustable ignition and a properly adjusted carburetor, preferably by a professional tuner. Failure to get your engine professionally tuned can result in engine and part damage and will also void the warranty.

#### BREAK-IN PROCEDURE

##### NOTES:

- S&S engines and parts are designed for high performance and are not as tolerant of inadequate break-in. Correct break-in will assure longer engine life and will prevent unnecessary engine damage. Engine damage caused by improper break-in is not covered under the S&S Warranty.
- Proper engine tuning will be required in order for your engine to run correctly and to prevent damage. Carbureted engines must be rejetted, and a larger carburetor is recommended.

- 1- Initial start up. Run the engine approximately one minute at 1250-1750rpm. DO NOT crack the throttle or subject to any loads during this period as head gaskets are susceptible to failure at this time. During this time, check to see that oil pressure is normal, oil is returning to the oil tank and no leaks exist.
- 2- Shut off engine and inspect for leaks. Allow engine to cool to the touch.
- 3- Start up engine again and allow the engine to warm up for 3 to 4 minutes. Again, do not crack the throttle or subject the engine to any type of load. Shut down the engine and allow to cool. Repeat this procedure at least 3 more times.
- 4- After the engine has cooled to room temperature, you are ready

to start the 500 mile engine break-in process.

- 5- The first 50 miles are the most critical for new rings and piston break-in. Engine damage is most likely to occur during this period. Keep heat down by not exceeding 2500rpm. Avoid lugging the engine, riding in hot weather or in traffic. Vary the engine speed. We recommend changing the oil after the first 50 miles.
- 6- The next 500 miles should be spent running no faster than 3500rpm or 60mph. Avoid running continuous steady speeds, and do not lug the engine, Vary the rpm. We recommend changing the oil again at 500 miles.
- 7- For the balance of the first 1000 miles the engine can be run in a normal but conservative manner. You can be more liberal with the rpm range and the motorcycle can be operated at normal highway speeds. Avoid overheating or putting any hard strain on the engine; no drag racing, dyno runs, excessive speed, trailer towing or side car operation.
- 8- After 1000 miles, change the engine oil. Now the motorcycle can be operated normally.

### OIL RECOMMENDATIONS

S&S® Cycle recommends the use of S&S 20W-50 synthetic or petroleum based V-Twin Motor Oil.

Break-in can be performed with either synthetic or petroleum based oil.

Regardless of what type of oil you select, be sure to only use oil specifically designated for use in an air cooled motorcycle engine. If you prefer not to use a multi-viscosity oil, utilize the viscosity suggested for the temperature you will be operating your motorcycle in.

Viscosity	Ambient Temperature (°F)
SAE 20W50	Normal Operating Conditions 30°–100°
SAE 10W40	Consistently Below 40°
SAE 60	Consistently Above 80°