

# HAUL IT SAFELY

Tie-Downs, Locks, and Chocks

BY ERNIE LOPEZ ■ PHOTOGRAPHY: ERNIE LOPEZ



Frame Lock is a five-piece system with two frame clamps, a frame brace, lock base mount, and locking pin. There is also a support bar to be mounted under the trailer or truck bed for strength.

**1**

**W**e all know that there are days when you need to put your bike in the bed of a truck or the back of a trailer. Maybe it needs repairs, or maybe you want to get it to a show. Whatever the reason, you want the bike to get wherever you're going safely. The inspiration for this article came about when a friend needed to get his bike off the side of the road one day, and his wife showed up with a neighbor's truck. The truck had no ramp or tie-downs, so they went off to the hardware store for a 2x10 plank for the ramp and a set of cheap ties (not the ratchet type).

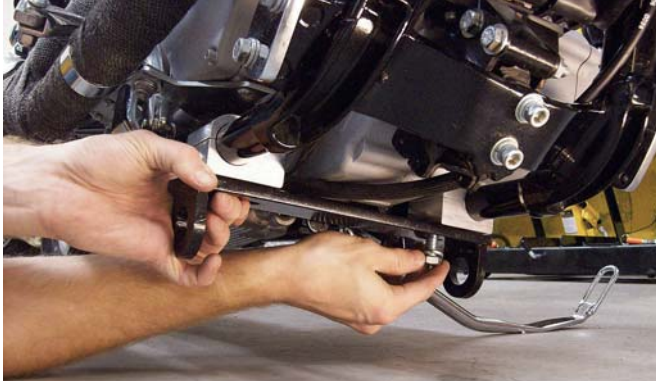
They loaded the bike onto the truck, but after that things went south. As our friend strapped down the bike, he noticed that the truck's back wall was bowing, but he wanted to make sure that the bike was tightened down. As soon as he hit the first pothole, the back wall buckled, and the bike came loose. The front wheel moved and the straps snapped, and soon enough the bike was flapping. Not only did the bike get a few scratches, but the truck needed repairs as well.

We here at *HOT BIKE* want to show you that there are different ways to get your bike safely transported without any damage. The first one is the Frame Lock system, which comes from DRM Industries and is distributed through S&S Cycles. This is one way to secure your bike to anything that you can mount the base unit to: truck bed, trailer, even the garage floor to help keep it from tipping over or getting ripped off. There is no need for tie-downs, and it helps prevent suspension damage. The kit retails for about \$350 and works with Sportster models up to big touring bikes. If you would like to mount more than one bike, you can buy individual pieces for this kit such as the frame clamps or Frame Lock base. **HB**



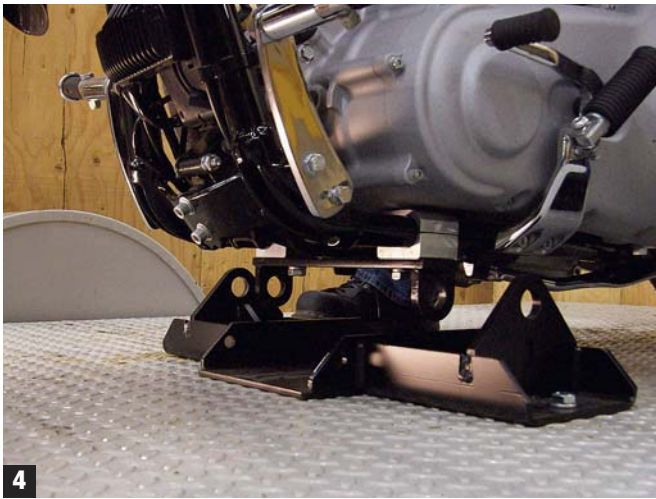
**2**

To get started, you will need to decide where to mount the Frame Lock base. Place the bike on the trailer or truck bed to ensure adequate clearance of handlebars to trailer walls or other motorcycles. Once the base is in place, mark the hole to be drilled. Use a step drill, or work your way up to a 1/2-inch hole. Use grade-8 bolts and flat washers. Secure the base and tighten the bolts to 110 lb-ft of torque. Once the base is in place, mark where the frame clamp will mount. Measure 7-1/8 inches from the transmission crossmember and mark it with a black marker, then center the clamps in place with the Allen bolts pointed down and tighten them. Do this to both sides. ▶



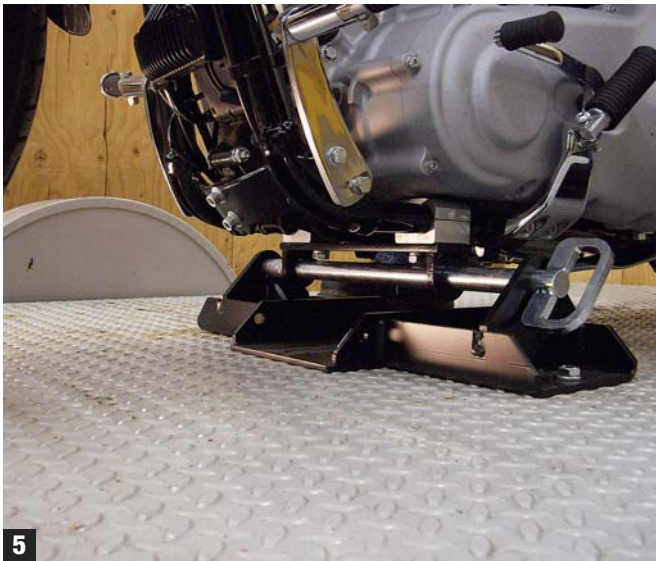
**3**

Next, mount the eyelet bracket with the included hex-bolts to the frame clamps. This will help straighten (align) the frame clamps.



**4**

Then position the motorcycle squarely and center it over the Frame Lock base unit.



**5**

Slide the locking pin through the Frame Lock and the eyelet bracket. Use a cotter pin or padlock to lock the pin in place. If the holes do not line up properly, you may not be centered over the Frame Lock.

One thing we need to point out is that the frame clamps can and will stay on the bike, but the eyelet bracket needs to be removed before riding. **DO NOT RIDE WITH THE EYELET BRACKET ON THE BIKE.**



**6**

There you have it. The Frame Lock will hold and keep your bike in place.