

Cyckit Aeroclam

\$46.50



RATING

88%

Function	37/40
Quality	35/40
Price	8/10
Appearance	8/10

A tidy solution to your saddle-bag woes.

Let's hear it for the Internet. Bike products used to come to market in quite traditional ways, but now it's possible for truly inventive designs to reach buyers through crowdfunding avenues. Case in point is the Cyckit Aeroclam—developed in New Zealand and now ready to go global.

The genesis of the Aeroclam was its inventor's belief that clumsy cloth saddle-bags could be much more elegant. After extensive development, he arrived at a sleek plastic shell as the solution. Fitted onto the rails, it's more discreet than most of its fabric counterparts, tucking away under the saddle; in profile it's almost unnoticeable, although is relatively broad from the back [road saddle width].

Apart from being aesthetically cleaner—particularly on minimalist road bikes—this is also a great option for riders with limited seat-post extension, as it increases the amount of space for fitting a saddle-bag and a rear light.

Installation is straightforward—a single Allen bolt attaches the upper half of the Aeroclam to the angled part of the saddle rails, and the lower half slides into

the hinges of the upper. It opens like, well, a clam, and is held together by a rubber latch that has been tested to hold up for more than 500 openings.

Because of its small profile, capacity isn't enormous—it's designed for the puncture-repair basics, not your smartphone and energy bars as well. With careful placement, you can fit a road tube, slim-line multi-tool, and a Co2 canister and head. The Aeroclam also comes with a pair of minimalist tyre levers. Once all of this is inside, it's a tight fit, so annoying under-saddle rattles and rustles are a thing of the past.

There are currently two models in production that cover many popular saddle brands, but not all—there's no Fizik model available yet, although it's on the way. A potential downside of the Aeroclam is its relative permanence; if you like taking your saddle bag on and off, this may get annoying. If you're happy to leave it on, though, the Aeroclam is a really tidy solution for an annoyance I didn't realise I had until I started using it.

Review by Iain Treloar
For details www.cyckit.com