

Packing Your TrekPod

Synopsis:

- Many people want to travel with their TrekPod packed in their luggage
- Removing the upper tube from the TrekPod reduces the longest piece to 36"
- Most luggage doesn't accept items longer than 28"
- There is an acceptable work-around if you only travel occasionally

Background:

We at Trek-Tech realize many people would rather travel with their TrekPod packed in their luggage than carry it as an additional piece of luggage in our optional travel case. Trek-Tech's engineering team is working on this problem. In the meantime, there is a work-around that many people find acceptable if you only travel by air occasionally.

If you don't mind doing a bit of disassembly and assembly, the legs can be fairly easily removed and re-attached. There is a single allen head screw that holds the legs in place. This same screw also allows for hinge tension adjustment, but if it is loosened considerably then the legs can be removed. Once the legs have been removed you are left with the longest single TrekPod piece being the upper tube, which is 27 1/2" (69.9 cm) long if the MagMount is removed or 29" (73.7cm) if you leave it on. This length is short enough to fit in most large suitcases.

Work-around:

- Use a 5/32" (4 mm) allen wrench to loosen the hinge joint screw 5 to 6 turns
- Swing the legs outward and remove them from the hinge joint
- At your destination, place the legs back into the hinge joint
- Firmly hand-tighten the hinge joint screw

Details:

There are two drawbacks to this process. One is that a "third hand" really helps for reassembly, although you can manage by yourself with a little practice. The other is that after a few assembly procedures you may need to reapply some medium strength Locktite so that the screw will stay tight at the desired leg friction.

Note that on reassembly, you will need to tighten the screw with enough torque to apply the proper friction to the legs. This may be difficult with a small allen wrench, depending on your hand strength. You may prefer to use a T-handle allen wrench, or an allen wrench set with a large enough handle (as in our photos) to generate sufficient leverage on the screw—15 to 30 inch-pounds (1.7 to 3.4 Nm, or 17 to 34 kg-cm) of torque.

Thank you for you interest in Trek-Tech products!

