

CHOOSING THE RIGHT KART MOTOR MOUNT: AMERICAN OR INTERNATIONAL?

How to Choose Between American and International Kart Motor Mounts

People are often confused when ordering a replacement motor mount for their kart. Knowing what motor mount fits your kart can be confusing, and we often get customers ordering the wrong one and having to return. Understanding the difference between American and International motor mounts can make all the difference. The distinction lies in the center-to-center distance of the rails where the motor mount sits.

The terms "American" and "International" refer to the spacing between the two rails where the motor mount is positioned. This measurement is pivotal because it dictates which motor mounts and replacement clamps will fit your kart chassis.

Debunking Common Myths

A widespread misconception is that American-made karts require American motor mounts, while foreign karts use international mounts. However, in recent years, most American kart manufacturers have transitioned to the international rail spacing standard. This means newer American karts often utilize the same spacing as their international counterparts.

Exceptions to the Rule

While all Slack Chassis use International mounts, and despite the general trend towards standardization, some manufacturers have developed their own unique rail spacings over time. Some brands have switched to different rail spacing (generally wider), that does not conform to either American or International standards. If you own one of these karts, it's essential to contact the manufacturer directly for the appropriate motor mounts.

Diameter Considerations

Another critical factor is the diameter of the rails. While most motor mounts are designed for 1 1/4" diameter rails, variations exist with some karts using 1 1/8" or 1 3/8" rails. This variance means that a standard American or International motor mount may not always be compatible with your kart without proper assessment. Again, it is probably best to contact the manufacturer directly for the appropriate motor mount.

Conclusion

Choosing the right motor mount for your kart involves understanding not only the American versus International standard but also considering any unique rail spacings and diameters your kart may feature. For optimal performance and compatibility, always verify your kart's specifications and consult with experts or manufacturers if unsure.

