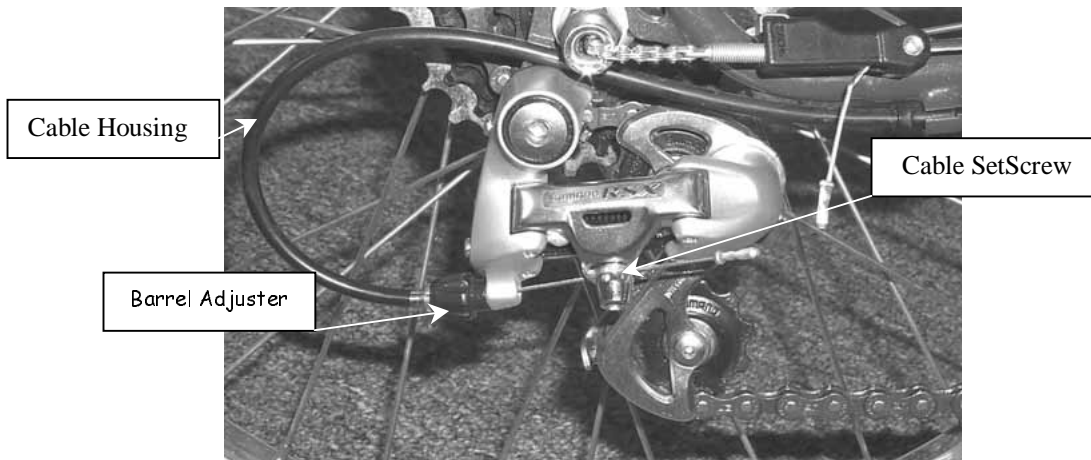


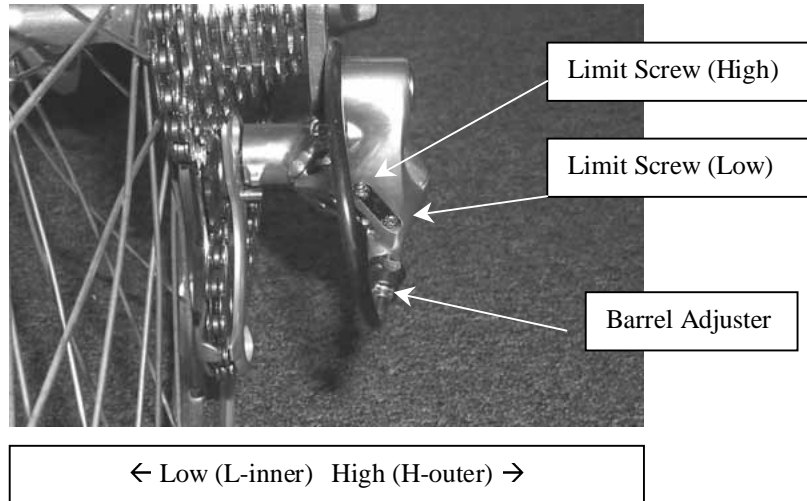
Adjusting Your Rear Derailleur

1. The first thing we need to do is label everything, so that we are talking about the same stuff. Below is a picture of a Shimano RSX derailleurs. You may not have this derailleurs, but the one you have, should look a lot like it.



2. Okay, so now that we are talking about the same stuff, let's work on the problem. There are two main reasons that a bike will not shift properly. Either the cable is too tight, or it is too loose. There are other reasons, but a bike shop should handle those.
3. So, let's determine what the problem is. If you are having trouble shifting from the smallest cogs to the biggest cogs (harder gears to easier gears), then the cable tension is too loose. The first thing to try is to turn the *Barrel Adjuster* in the direction that you are having trouble shifting (in effect you are lengthening the *Cable Housing*, therefore making the cable tighter). If after one or two full turns of the *Barrel Adjuster*, you are not seeing the shifting smoothing out, it is time to try a different approach. Move the *Barrel Adjuster* so that it is in its middle position (to allow for maximum adjustment). Using your 5mm Allen key, loosen the *Cable SetScrew*, and pull the cable as tight as possible, using your fingers. Clamp the bolt down again, and try the shifting.
4. If you are having shifting trouble going from the large cogs to the smaller ones (easier gears to the harder gears), then the cable tension is too high. Again start by turning the *Barrel Adjuster* in the direction that you are having trouble shifting (you are now effectively shortening the *Cable Housing*, therefore making the cable looser). If that does not work, then move the *Barrel Adjuster* to the middle position, undo the *Cable Set Screw*, using a 5mm Allen, and loosen the cable. Cable adjustments should not move more than $\frac{1}{4}$ " at a time.
5. It can be a bit of a cat and mouse game, moving the tension of the cable back and forth, trying to get it just right. But if you are having trouble shifting in one direction at a time, then it is a matter of cable tension, and just playing with it until it is right. If you are having trouble shifting in both directions at the same time,

then you may have a bent derailleurs hanger, or a bent derailleurs, or both. Contact your local bike shop, or us, to have it (them) re-aligned.



6. If you are having trouble with the chain falling off either side of the cassette, the fix is easier than you think. There are *Limit Screws* on the back of the derailleurs, which physically limit how far the derailleurs can move. Turning the *Limit Screw* in (clockwise) will limit how far the derailleurs can move, and turning it out (counter-clockwise) will allow it to move further. The *High Limit* regulates how far the derailleurs moves away from the frame, and the *Low Limit* regulates how far the derailleurs can move towards the wheel. Do not move either limit screw more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ turn at a time. Tighten the appropriate *Limit Screw*, until the chain will no longer fall off.
7. If the shifting is not improving, then it is time to take the bike to your local bike shop. If your bike is within the 90-day warranty period, the work may be covered by warranty. Please, have the shop contact us at our toll free number, and ask for a service technician to authorize the work.

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