For the warranty to be valid, the bicycle must be fully assembled by an authorized Argon 18 dealer. High-end components, particularly carbon parts, need extra care when assembled. These components must be installed using a torque wrench to make sure every bolt is at the right torque setting to prevent damage.
Tools needed for assembly

1. Bearing Cup Press (Park Tool HHP-2)
2. Allen Key Set
3. Grease
4. Utility Pick Set (Park Tool Item #UP-SET)
5. Clean Rags
6. Derailleur Hanger Alignment Gauge (Park Tool Item #DAG-2)
7. Cables and Housing Cutter
8. Carbon Paste
9. Loctite #242
10. Torque Wrench

First Aid Kit: Essential parts to always have on hand
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY...THIS MIGHT SAVE YOUR RIDE!

1. Spare rear derailleur hanger:  
   (Direct mount option if utilize)

   SKU: 80802  
   SKU: 80832

2. Seat clamp

   SKU: 80801
BEFORE ASSEMBLING YOUR NEW DARK MATTER, MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ALL THE FOLLOWING:

1. Frameset parts checklist (see p.4-6)
2. Inspect the frame for cosmetic aspect (scratches, bumps, cracks, paint defect, etc.)
3. For reference, check serial number and write it on p.1
4. All the necessary bolts (refer to Frameset Parts, p.4-6)
5. For optimal shifting performance, use a derailleur alignment gauge to make sure that the derailleur hanger is straight

IMPORTANT:

The following parts are assembled on the frame. When assembling the bike, you will need to adjust these parts according to their torque specifications when necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parts installed on frame</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Screw type</th>
<th>Torque Nm</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Seatpost Collar</td>
<td>M5 Screw (1x)</td>
<td>Socket head</td>
<td>4Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Seatpost head</td>
<td>M5 Screws (2x)</td>
<td>Socket head</td>
<td>9.5Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Water bottle cage / FD Hanger screws</td>
<td>M5 Screws (4x)</td>
<td>Socket head</td>
<td>3Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rear derailleur hanger</td>
<td>M4 Screw (1x)</td>
<td>Flat head</td>
<td>2Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chain catcher</td>
<td>M5 Screw (1x)</td>
<td>Socket head</td>
<td>3Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Headset cap screw</td>
<td>M4 Screw (1x)</td>
<td>Flat head</td>
<td>0.5-1.0Nm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Console cap screw</td>
<td>M4 Screws (2x)</td>
<td>Flat head</td>
<td>0.5-1.0Nm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DARK MATTER 341A / 341B: 3. Frameset Parts

FK.DM.M-XL.341A
FK.DM.XXS-S.341A
FK.DM.M-XL.341B
FK.DM.XXS-S.341B

SP.KRYCS.273B

341A: 81461
341B: 81462

341A: 81463
341B: 81464

341A: 81465
341B: 81466

341A: 81467
341B: 81468

80807

80264

80832

80802

80800

80801

80805

80804

80898

80799

80797

80551

80798

80796

80800

80795

80832

80802

80801
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Assembled on</th>
<th>A18 SKU#</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Parts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter frame</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter fork (M-L-XL)</td>
<td></td>
<td>FK.DM.M-XL.341A</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-OR-</td>
<td></td>
<td>FK.DM.M-XL.341B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter fork (XXS-XS-S)</td>
<td></td>
<td>FK.DM.XXS-S.341A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FK.DM.XXS-S.341B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter seatpost (same as Krypton CS)</td>
<td></td>
<td>SP.KRYCS.273B</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seat post collar</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80801</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RD Hanger kit (incl. Hanger, screw, DO DS)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80802</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal cable stopper</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chain catcher (incl. small / large, washer and screw)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80806</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plastic plug M5</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80264</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 0mm (341A)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81461</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 0mm (341B)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81462</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 15mm (341A)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81463</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 15mm (341B)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81464</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 30mm (341A)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81465</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter headset cap - 30mm (341B)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81466</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. 30 + 3D with TH-881-1, headset assembly</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80771</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter console cover mechanical (341A)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81467</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter console cover mechanical (341B)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81468</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter console cover electronical (341A)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81469</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Matter console cover electronical (341B)</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81470</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console insert for mechanical drivetrain</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80795</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console insert for internal junction A box</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80799</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console ring for internal junction A box</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80800</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console insert for wireless drivetrain</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80796</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console insert for 1x11 groupset</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80797</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Console insert for external junction A box</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80798</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Removable front derailleur hanger</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80981</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Down tube frame protector</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80983</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Front derailleur cable stopper</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80984</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Except for the frame itself, which is not sold as a spare part, all parts can be ordered by referring to their respective SKU number.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Assembled on</th>
<th>A18 SKU#</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Parts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long grommet mech</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80985</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Direct hanger</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80832</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long plug</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80804</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long grommet Di2</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80805</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rear brake oblong cable guide</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80551</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fender bracket assembly</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80992</td>
<td>1 set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A18 Front thru axle</td>
<td>Fork</td>
<td>81052</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A18 Rear thru axle</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81053</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A18 Thru axle lever</td>
<td>Axles</td>
<td>81054</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seatpost battery holder</td>
<td>Seatpost</td>
<td>38446</td>
<td>1 set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foam liner</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>80811</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CS protector</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81045</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CS guard</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>81277</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brakes
Use only flat mount hydraulic disc brakes. The frame and fork are compatible with either 140mm or 160mm disc rotors. Adapters might be required, consult brake manufacturer.
  • Rear mount thickness: 25mm

Tire Clearance
The biggest tires that can be installed must be no wider than 45mm for the rear and front wheel. If fenders are installed, the tires must be no wider than 40mm

Seat Post
27.2mm

Seat Post Clamp
31.8mm

Bottom Bracket
BB86 (Press-fit)

Headset
FSA No 30 + 3D Press-fit (Bearing 1 1/8", 36°x45° top and 1 1/2", 36°x45° bottom + FSA TH-881-1 Compressor included)

No more than 30mm of spacer can be placed between the stem and the top cap of the 3D system. And the use of more than 5mm spacer on top of the stem could void the efficiency of the compressor. These practices will automatically cancel any warranty claim against the manufacturer.

Headset cap:
When uninstalling the headset cap, you need to first loosen the headset cap, remove the HS cap screw and remove the fork from the frame. Then you need to pinch the rear section the headset cap and lift the rear section upward. This will release the headset cap from the frame.
Assemble the seat post collar with the seat post. Apply carbon paste on the inside of the frame (seat tube). Tighten the bolt at 4 Nm.
The seat post is supplied fully assembled.

Unscrew both bolts slightly until the top clamp (b) and the cradle (c) are separated enough to insert the saddle rail. Do not unscrew the bolts completely.

- Screw both bolts in order to adjust the angle of the saddle and clamp the rail.
- Tighten the bolt at 9.5 Nm.
1. Select the correct rear derailleur hanger depending on the type of derailleur that you have.
   a. Direct mount
   b. Regular mount

2. Make sure to align the rear derailleur hanger.

3. Use Derailleur Hanger Alignment Gauge like Park Tool Item #DAG-2.

For any assistance, visit Park Tool’s website:
www.parktool.com/product/derailleur-hanger-alignment-gauge-dag-2
Like on almost all Argon 18 you will benefit from the 3D system, on the Dark Matter you can benefit from 3 positions, 0mm, 15mm and 30mm.

Step of assembly

1. Insert the headset plastic sleeve into the top on the headtube. (apply grease)
2. Insert the required headset column, 0, 15 or 30mm, in the headset plastic sleeve. (apply grease)
3. Insert bottom bearing on the fork.
4. Slide the fork in the head tube of the frame.
5. Install top bearing in the headset column. (apply grease)
6. Install conical compressor ring.
7. Install stack compressor.
8. Apply grease on the headset seal to avoid any noise.
9. Install the corresponding headset cap to complete the assembly.
10. Fix the cap with the M4 flat head screw.
The console is the central point of the cable and housing routing. Depending on the type of assembly you will have to select the correct assembly.

**Tip:** No matter the type of assembly you will choose, always pass the brake housing first starting from the back of the bike to the front.

1. With the rear brake housing coming from the back of the bike, guide the end of the housing through the hole on the frame’s down tube.

2. Use the brake housing to insert the foam line into the downtube.

3. Guide the end of the housing through the right side of the rectangular opening of the Di2 console cap (3)

4. Guide the Di2 cable coming from the shifters through the grommet (4) and into the rectangular opening of the console.

5. Guide the bake housing to the bigger hole of the grommet (4).

6. Fix the grommet on the console.

7. Place the Di2 O-Ring (5) around the Shimano EW-RS910 junction box.

8. Connect the front and rear Di2 cable to the Shimano EW-RS910 junction box.

9. Clip the Shimano EW-RS910 junction box on the console cap (3).

10. Fix the console cap to the downtube of the frame with the screws.
1. With the rear brake housing coming from the back of the bike, guide the end of the housing through the hole on the frame’s down tube.

2. Use the brake housing to insert the foam liner around the brake housing.

3. Guide the end of the housing through the opening of the mechanical console cap (1).

4. Insert the Di2 wire from the external junction box A through the hole in the mechanical console cap.

5. Secure the Di2 wire into the Di2 external insert.

6. Secure the brake housing into the Di2 external insert.

7. Secure the Di2 external insert into the console cap.

8. Fix with the provided screws the console cap on the frame.
1. With the rear brake housing coming from the back of the bike, guide the end of the housing through the hole on the frame’s down tube.

2. Use the brake housing to insert the foam liner around the brake housing in the downtube.

3. Guide the end of the housing through the opening of the mechanical console cap (1).

4. Guide the brake housing in the wireless insert.

5. Secure the Wireless insert (6) on the console cap (1) by pressing firmly on the insert.

6. Fix with the provided screws the console cap on the frame.
1. With the rear brake housing coming from the back of the bike, guide the end of the housing through the hole on the frame’s down tube.

2. Use the brake housing to insert the foam liner around the brake housing.

3. Guide the end of the housing through the opening of the mechanical console cap (1).

4. Secure the brake housing into the console insert for mechanical drive train (8).

5. Secure the mechanical insert into the console cap.

6. Fix with the provided screws the console cap on the frame.

7. Wire the mechanical cables and housing in the appropriate hole of the insert (8), see image below.
1. With the rear brake housing coming from the back of the bike, guide the end of the housing through the hole on the frame’s down tube.

2. Use the brake housing to insert the foam liner around the brake housing.

3. Guide the end of the housing through the opening of the mechanical console cap (1).

4. Secure the brake housing into the console insert for mechanical drive train (7).

5. Secure the mechanical insert into the console cap.

6. Fix with the provided screws the console cap on the frame.

7. Wire the mechanical cable and housing in the appropriate hole of the insert (8), see image below.
Rear derailleur cable and rear brake housing must be routed on the right side in the inside of the downtube.

Rear brake housing need to routed above the bb carbon sleeve.

Red line: brake cable/housing / Yellow line: derailleur cable/housing
Enter derailleur housing through bottom bracket (BB) hole.
Once the housing is visible from the square downtube hole, Install the housing ferrule.
Pass the cable through the housing. Guide the housing in the Non drive side of the cable stop.
Install the housing ferrule supplied in the barrel adjuster with the rubber dust seal.
Pass the cable through the assembly.
Screw the barrel in place. Pull on the cable to fully place the housing in the housing ferrule.
Do not put the housing in the ferrule before screwing the barrel, his will cause difficult thread engagement.
**Without barrel adjuster**

Housing length: depend on the chainring.
Enter derailleur housing through bottom bracket (BB) hole.
Once the housing is visible from the square downtube hole, Install the housing ferrule.
Pass the cable through the housing.
Guide the housing in the Non drive side of the cable stop.
Install the grommet
Front derailleur hanger

A bottle cage can still be fit above the derailleur hanger.

If a bottle cage is desired, it’s better to install it before adjusting the derailleur. Tighten the screw to 3 Nm.
Di2 cable and rear brake housing must be routed on the right side in the inside of the downtube.

Rear brake housing need to routed above the bb carbon sleeve.

*Red line: derailleur cable/housing / Yellow line: brake cable/housing*
Use the square hole to connect all the wires to the junction box.
Attach the junction box with the supplied O-ring.
Insert the junction box in the hole. Use the two screws to secure the cable stop in place.

EW = Electronic Wire
You can also attach the battery with the O-ring and the junction box with a tie-wrap on the groove of the battery and insert the package through the hole. This allows you to use a dropper post.
Exit the hydraulic brake hose through the hole on the chain stay.

BR = Brake Hose
EW = Electronic Wire
Install all the grommet supplied to close all the hole on the frame.

Exit the hydraulic brake hose through the hole on the chain stay.
The cable stop need to be in place to fix the downtube protector.

Install the downtube protector using the 3 supplied screw:

Tighten the upper screw of the cable stop. Remove the lower screw of the cable stop. This will ensure that the cable stop don’t rotate.

Place the downtube protector and install it with the remaining screw, long screw at both end, shorter screw in center.
1. Select the corresponding chain catcher. The selection of the correct chain catcher is made according to the size of the small chaining.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Chain Ring Size</th>
<th>Chain Catcher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-32</td>
<td>Small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 and more</td>
<td>Large</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Insert the screw in the chain catcher and place the lock washer between the frame and the piece. Secure the assembly loosely to be able to adjust the parts.

3. Place the tip of the chain catcher at approximately 2mm to the inner side of the small chain ring and torque at 3Nm.
13. Fender bracket

i. According to the model of fender using place the bracket at the correct height on the seatstay.

ii. Secure the fender bracket with the 2 attached rubber band making sure that the 2 plastic parts are well overlapping.

iii. When securing the fender on your seatstay, make sure that the screw is not longer than 10mm.
Refer to the tables below for details on Saddle Height and SeatPost insertion limits.

i. The correct frame size must be determined according to the saddle height limits.
   A. Minimum Saddle Height
   D. Maximum Saddle Height

ii. Depending on the size of the frame and the desired saddle height, the SeatPost might need to be cut.
   B. Maximal insertion depth in the Frame’s SeatTube.
   C. Required SeatPost cut length to be able to adjust the Saddle Height at the Minimum position.
      - Adjust the SeatPost cut length in accordance with your desired Saddle Height.
      
      Required minimum SeatPost Cut length = C - ("desired Saddle Height" - A)

      - Example: - For a desired Saddle Height of 600mm on a XX-Small Dark Matter Frame
      - The required minimum SeatPost Cut length is: 135 - (600-520) = 55mm
      E. Minimal insertion depth in the Frame’s SeatTube.