

Hello Dolly!

Luggage carts exemplify designs that must be durable. Although the First Law of Packing is "Never Take More Than You Can Comfortably Carry", occasionally circumstances burden one with enough luggage that only the multi-armed Hindu god Shiva could handle it all. By then, the Second Law of Packing has kicked in, to wit: "The More The Load, The Less Time You Have To Get There."

In those times of high travel drama, the last thing you want is that modern inconvenience, the wimpy folding chromed tube luggage caddie, its shallow shelf too narrow to support your hard shell luggage and its tiny rubber wheels unable to traverse steps or uneven terrain. As with its first cousin, the collapsible travel umbrella, the narrow gauge tubing will likely bend or buckle under dynamic load.

Manfred Von Braucke, a German who wanted a easier method to haul his outboard motor from car to boat, invented the sturdy alternative in 1989. His RuXXac-cart is favored by photographers, scuba enthusiasts, musicians, pilots, boaters, manufacturer's representatives, and anyone else requiring an elegant solution for sturdy personal transport needs who have bought 50,000, mainly through industrial and mail order catalogues, during the two years it has been available in the United States.

Combining high payload capacity and compact size, the 4.5 kg cart, like an ant, will haul twenty-five times its own weight. The wheels swing inwards. so in five seconds, it folds into a beautiful 55 x 480 x 662 mm flat and easily stored sculpture. The materials are both practical and pleasing. The frame is constructed out of 22 x 2 mm, gray electrostatically-painted steel tubing. The carrying platform is highly polished, pressure-cast aluminum. The wheels, locking clamps and tiedown brace are made from marine blue, glass-fiber reenforced plastic.

The cart is designed to secure its cargo with a unique quick tiedown rail for bungee cord and equipped with 200 x 40 mm shock-absorbing, puncture-proof, closed-pore foam tires that are large enough to comfortably go up and down curbs and stairs. This Teutonic trolley was given a 1990 Industrial Forum Award for Design and gained TUV and GS safety ratings.

Unlike its small and flimsy counterparts, the RuXXac-cart will handle whatever load you give it. Its design provides the right mix of stability, mobility and comfort. The assembly and knockdown mechanism is confident. The materials have a simple lasting beauty. Here is a design that truly delivers.