

BRITISH DESIGNED BIKES



FORME

OWNERS MANUAL

It is important you read the content of this booklet upon purchase.

FORMEBIKES.CO.UK

Bicycle Owner's Manual**2nd Edition, 2013**

Congratulations! You are now the proud owner of one of the best pound for pound bicycles on the market.

This manual explains how to look after your bicycle safely. Please ensure you read it thoroughly before taking your first ride on your new bicycle. It is important that parents of younger riders explain the contents in a manner which their child will understand.

It has been written to help maximise your safety, comfort and enjoyment whilst cycling.

It is also important that you understand your bicycle's operations, limits and features so you can enjoy a lifetime of safe cycling from the very first ride.

This manual also shows you how to perform basic maintenance. Some maintenance should only be performed by your dealer or an experienced cycle mechanic. Should you decide to perform these tasks yourself, we strongly recommend that you purchase a detailed bicycle repair manual from your dealer and ensure you understand all instructions fully. Failure to do so may result in you losing control and falling. However, as any fall has the potential to result in serious injury and/or death, we strongly recommend that you consult a qualified bicycle technician to perform these tasks.

Please register your new bike online:

<http://www.formebikes.co.uk/bikeregister>

or contact our service department to request a registration form.

t: 01332 274200

Complete this information for future reference and attach your sales receipt:

Date of purchase: _____

My bicycle model: _____

My serial number: _____

Dealer name: _____

Dealer's contact details: _____

This manual conforms to the requirements of the following standards:

BS 6102 BS EN 14764 BS EN 14765 BS EN 14872

N.B. We may refer you to suppliers' owner manuals and any other supplements for operation and maintenance of certain components.

These manuals should be included with your bicycle. If by chance they are not, you can look these manuals up on the manufacturer's web page.

If you should encounter any issues with your bicycle that aren't covered in this manual, again please contact your nearest authorized Forme Dealer. As your number one resource, your Forme dealer can answer questions, perform required maintenance and recommend the best equipment & gear to complement your ride.

Thank you for choosing to buy *Forme!*

Now get on your bike!

SAFETY FIRST

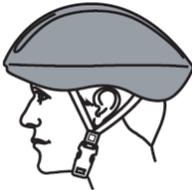
Protection

We strongly recommend that all riders wear a bicycle helmet whilst riding. Any bicycle helmet should be CE approved and tested to EN 1078. Look for these labels in the helmet.

Most serious cycling injuries involve head injuries that may have been less severe had the rider worn a helmet. We suggest helmets by Limar or Apex which will be readily available from your dealer in a wide range to suit all riders and applications.

A helmet must fit correctly, be worn correctly and be properly secured to fulfil its purpose.

Please refer to the instructions provided with your helmet for further information.



CORRECT FITTING - MAKE SURE YOUR HELMET COVERS YOUR FOREHEAD.



INCORRECT FITTING. FOREHEAD IS EXPOSED AND VULNERABLE TO SERIOUS INJURY.

Wear light, bright, and reflective clothing to make yourself more visible, especially at night.

On the Highway

For your own safety -and that of others- when riding on public highways it is your responsibility to familiarise yourself with and obey the rules and regulations relating to pedal cycles and cycling contained in the Highway Code. In addition, you should also ensure you familiarise yourself with any by-laws that are applicable where you cycle.

Watch for and avoid potholes, drain grates, kerbstones, and other deviations which could impact your wheels or cause them to slip. When crossing railroad tracks or drain grates, do so carefully at a 45° angle. If you are not sure of riding surface conditions, walk your bike. Learn to expect the unexpected from other road users. If a car suddenly enters your lane, or someone unexpectedly opens the door of a parked car, you could be involved in a serious accident. Guide dogs do not necessarily see bicycles as a danger and may lead their owners out in front of you. Mount the bell on your bicycle, and use it to alert others of your approach.

Ensure you have BS 6102-compliant front and rear lamps if riding between dusk and dawn.

Weather

No brakes, whatever their make or design will perform as effectively in wet weather as they do when dry. Ensure you anticipate the extra distance it will take to stop in the wet. Wet weather also reduces traction, remember to take wider, slower turns in the wet and on painted surfaces. Try to avoid riding in wet weather when visibility is reduced.

Strong winds can make a bicycle turn or steer unexpectedly. Slow down or use another form of transportation in windy conditions.

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GENERAL WARNING:

Like any sport, cycling involves a risk of injury and damage. By choosing to ride a bicycle, you assume the responsibility for that risk, so you need to know — and to practice — the rules of safe and responsible riding and of proper use and maintenance. Proper use and maintenance of your bicycle reduces risk of injury.

This Manual contains several “Warnings” and “Cautions” concerning the consequences of failure to maintain or inspect your bicycle and of failure to follow safe cycling practices.

Many of the Warnings and Cautions say “you may lose control and fall”.

Because any fall can result in serious injury or even death, we do not always repeat the warning of possible injury or death.

Because it is impossible to anticipate every situation or condition which can occur while riding, this Manual makes no representation about the safe use of the bicycle under all conditions. There are risks associated with the use of any bicycle which cannot be predicted or avoided, and which are the sole responsibility of the rider.

A SPECIAL NOTE FOR PARENTS:

As a parent or guardian, you are responsible for the activities and safety of your minor child, and that includes making sure that the bicycle is properly sized to the child; that it is in good repair and safe operating condition; that you and your child have learned and understand the safe operation of the bicycle; and that you and your child have learned, understand and obey not only the applicable local motor vehicle, bicycle and traffic laws, but also the common sense rules of safe and responsible bicycling. As a parent, you should read this manual, as well as review its warnings and the bicycle’s functions and operating procedures with your child, before letting your child ride the bicycle.

WARNING: Make sure that your child always wears an approved bicycle helmet when riding; furthermore, you should ensure that your child understands their bicycle helmet is for bicycling only, and must be removed when not riding. A helmet must not be worn while playing, in play areas, on playground equipment, while climbing trees, or at any time while not riding a bicycle. Failure to follow this warning could result in serious injury or death from strangulation.

1. First

NOTE: We strongly urge you to read this Manual in its entirety before your first ride. At the very least, read and make sure that you understand each point in this section, and refer to the cited sections on any issue which you don't completely understand. Please note that not all bicycles have all of the features described in this Manual. Ask your dealer to point out the features of your bicycle.

A. Bike fit

1. Is your bike the right size? To check, see Section 3.A. If your bicycle is too large or too small for you, you may lose control and fall. If your new bike is not the right size, ask your dealer to exchange it before you ride it.

2. Is the saddle at the right height? To check, see Section 3.B. If you adjust your saddle height, follow the Minimum Insertion instructions in Section 3.B.

3. Are saddle and seat post securely clamped? A correctly tightened saddle will allow no saddle movement in any direction. See Section 3.B.

4. Are the stem and handlebars at the right height for you? If not, see Section 3.C.

5. Can you comfortably operate the brakes? If not, you may be able to adjust their angle and reach. See Section 3.D and 3.E.

6. Do you fully understand how to operate your new bicycle? If not, before your first ride, have your dealer explain any functions or features which you do not understand.

B. Safety first

1. Do you have all the other required and recommended safety equipment? See Section 2. It's your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the laws of the areas where you ride, and to comply with all applicable laws.

2. Do you know how to correctly secure your front and rear wheels? Check Section 4.A.1 to make sure. Riding with an improperly secured wheel can cause the wheel to wobble or disengage from the bicycle, and cause serious injury or death.

3. If your bike has toeclips and straps or clipless ("step-in") pedals, make sure you know how they work (see Section 4.E). These pedals require special techniques and skills. Follow the pedal manufacturer's instructions for use, adjustment and care.

4. Do you have "toe overlap"? On smaller framed bicycles your toe or toeclip may be able to contact the front wheel when a pedal is all the way forward and the wheel is turned. Read Section 4.E. to check whether you have toeclip overlap.

5. Does your bike have suspension? If so, check Section 4.F. Suspension will change the way a bicycle performs. Follow the suspension manufacturer's instructions for use, adjustment and care.

C. Mechanical Safety Check

Routinely check the condition of your bicycle before every ride.

Nuts, bolts screws & other fasteners: Because manufacturers use a wide variety of fastener sizes and shapes made in a variety of materials, often differing by model and component, the correct tightening force or torque cannot be generalized. To make sure that the many fasteners on your bicycle are correctly tightened, refer to the Fastener Torque Specifications in Appendix C of this manual or to the torque specifications in the instructions provided by the manufacturer of the component in question. Correctly tightening a fastener requires a calibrated torque wrench. A professional bicycle mechanic with a torque wrench should torque the fasteners on you bicycle. If you choose to work on your own bicycle, you must use a torque wrench and the correct tightening torque specifications from the bicycle or component manufacturer or from your dealer. If you need to make an adjustment at home or in the field, we urge you to exercise care, and to have the fasteners you worked on checked by your dealer as soon as possible.

WARNING: Correct tightening force on fasteners –nuts, bolts, screws– on your bicycle is important. Too little force and the fastener may not hold securely. Too much force and the fastener can strip threads, stretch, deform or break. Either way, incorrect tightening force can result in component failure, which can cause you to lose control and fall.

Make sure nothing is loose. Lift the front wheel off the ground by two or three inches (50-75mm), then let it bounce on the ground. Anything sound, feel or look loose? Do a visual and tactile inspection of the whole bike. Any loose parts or accessories? If so, secure them. If unsure, ask someone with experience to check.

Tyres & Wheels: Make sure tyres are correctly inflated (see Section 4.G.1). Check by putting one hand on the saddle, one on the intersection of the handlebars and stem, then bouncing your weight on the bike while looking at tyre deflection. Compare what you see with how it looks when you know the tyres are correctly inflated; and adjust if necessary.

Tyres in good shape? Spin each wheel slowly and look for cuts in the tread and sidewall. Replace damaged tyres before riding the bike.

Wheel retention system: Make sure the front and rear wheels are correctly secured. See Section 4.A

Wheels true? Spin each wheel and check for brake clearance and side-to-side wobble. If a wheel wobbles side to side even slightly, or rubs against or hits the brake pads, take the bike to a qualified bike shop to have the wheel trued.

CAUTION: Wheels must be true for rim brakes to work effectively. Wheel truing is a skill which requires special tools and experience. Do not attempt to true a wheel unless you have the knowledge, experience and tools needed to do the job correctly.

Wheel rims clean and undamaged? Make sure the rims are clean and undamaged at the tyre bead and, if you have rim brakes, along the braking surface. Check to make sure that any rim wear indicator marking is not visible at any point on the wheel rim.

WARNING: Bicycle wheel rims are subject to wear. Ask your dealer about wheel rim wear. Some wheel rims have a rim wear indicator which becomes visible as the rim's braking surface wears. A visible rim wear indicator on the side of the wheel rim is an indication that the wheel rim has reached its maximum usable life. Riding a wheel that is at the end of its usable life can result in wheel failure, which can cause you to lose control and fall.

Brakes: Check the brakes for proper operation (see Sections 4.C).

Squeeze the brake levers. Are the brake quick-releases closed? All control cables seated and securely engaged? If you have rim brakes, do the brake pads contact the wheel rim

squarely and make full contact with the rim? Do the brakes begin to engage within an inch of brake lever movement? Can you apply full braking force at the levers without having them touch the handlebar? If not, your brakes need adjustment. Do not ride the bike until the brakes are properly adjusted by a professional bicycle mechanic.

Seat post: check that it is properly adjusted and in the locked position. See Section 4.B.

Handlebar and saddle alignment: Make sure the saddle and handlebar stem are parallel to the bike's centre line and clamped tight enough so that you can't twist them out of alignment. See Sections 3.B and 3.C.

Handlebar ends: Make sure the handlebar grips are secure and in good condition. If not, have your dealer replace them. Make sure the handlebar ends and extensions are plugged. If not, have your dealer plug them before you ride. If the handlebars have bar end extensions, make sure they are clamped tight enough so you can't twist them.

WARNING: Loose or damaged handlebar grips or extensions can cause you to lose control and fall. Unplugged handlebars or extensions can cut you and cause serious injury in an otherwise minor accident.

D. First ride

When you go for your first familiarization ride on your new bicycle, be sure to pick a controlled environment, away from cars, other cyclists, obstacles or other hazards. Ride to become familiar with the controls, features and performance of your new bike.

Test the brakes at slow speed, putting your weight toward the rear and gently applying the brakes, rear brake first. Sudden or excessive application of the front brake could throw you over the handlebars. Applying brakes too hard can lock up a wheel, which can cause you to lose control and fall. Skidding is an example of what can happen when a wheel locks up.

If your bicycle has toeclips or clipless pedals, practice getting in and out of the pedals.

If your bike has suspension, familiarize yourself with how the suspension responds to brake application and rider weight shifts.

Practice shifting the gears (see Section 4.D). Remember to never move the shifter while pedalling backward, nor pedal backwards immediately after having moved the shifter. This could jam the chain and cause serious damage to the bicycle.

Check out the handling and response of the bike; and check the comfort.

If you have any questions, or if you feel anything about the bike is not as it should be, consult your dealer before you ride again.

2. Safety

A. The Basics

1. Observe all national and local bicycle laws and regulations. Observe regulations about bicycle lighting, riding on pavements, laws regulating bike path and trail use, special bicycle traffic laws. It's your responsibility to know and obey the laws.

2. Always do the Mechanical Safety Check (Section 1.C) before you get on a bike.

3. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls of your bicycle: brakes (Section 4.C.); pedals (Section 4.E.); shifting (Section 4.D.)

4. Be careful to keep your body and other objects away from the moving parts of your bicycle in particular, be wary of the sharp teeth of chainrings, the moving chain, the turning pedals and cranks, and the spinning wheels of your bicycle.

5. Always wear:

- Shoes that will stay on your feet and will grip the pedals. Make sure that shoe laces cannot get into moving parts, and never ride barefoot or in sandals.
- Bright, visible clothing that is not so loose that it can be tangled in the bicycle or snagged by objects at the side of the road or trail.
- Protective eyewear, to protect against airborne dirt, dust and bugs — tinted when the sun is bright, clear when it's not. We suggest Casco eyewear which will be readily available from your dealer and available in a wide range to suit all riders and preferences.

6. Riders who insist on jumping their bikes risk serious damage, to their bicycles as well as to themselves. Before you attempt to jump, do stunt riding or race with your bike, read and understand Section 2.F.

7. Ride at a speed appropriate for conditions. Higher speed means higher risk.

B. Riding Safety

1. Obey all Rules of the Road and all local traffic laws.

2. You are sharing the road or the path with others — motorists, pedestrians and other cyclists. Respect their rights and be wary of their actions.

3. Ride defensively. Always assume that others do not see you.

4. Look ahead, and be ready to avoid:

- Vehicles slowing or turning, entering the road or your lane ahead of you, or coming up behind you.
- Parked car doors opening.
- Pedestrians stepping out.
- Children or pets playing near the road.
- Pot holes, sewer grates, manhole covers, rail tracks, expansion joints, debris and other obstructions that could cause you to swerve into traffic, catch your wheel or otherwise cause you to have an accident.
- The many other hazards and distractions which can occur on a bicycle ride.

5. Ride in designated bike lanes, on designated bike paths or as close to the edge of the road as possible, in the direction of traffic.

6. Stop at stop signs and traffic lights; slow down and look both ways at junctions and cross roads. Remember that a bicycle always loses in a collision with a motor vehicle, so be prepared to yield, even if you have the right of way.

7. Use approved hand signals for turning and stopping.

8. Never ride whilst using headphones. They mask traffic sounds and emergency vehicle sirens, distract you from concentrating on what's going on around you, and their wires can tangle in the moving parts of the bicycle, causing you to lose control.

9. Never carry a passenger, unless it is a small child wearing an approved helmet and secured in a correctly mounted child carrier or a child-carrying trailer.
10. Never carry anything which obstructs your vision or your complete control of the bicycle, or which could become entangled in the moving parts of the bicycle.
11. Never hitch a ride by holding on to another vehicle.
12. Don't weave through traffic or make any moves that may surprise people with whom you are sharing the road.
13. Observe and yield the right of way.
14. Never ride your bicycle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
15. If possible, avoid riding in bad weather, when visibility is obscured, at dawn, dusk or in the dark, or when extremely tired. Each of these conditions increases the risk of accident.

C. Off Road Safety

We recommend that children do not ride on rough terrain unless they are accompanied by an adult.

1. The variable conditions and hazards of off-road riding require close attention and specific skills. Start slowly on easier terrain and build up your skills. If your bike has suspension, the increased speed you may develop also increases your risk of losing control and falling. Get to know how to handle your bike safely before trying increased speed or more difficult terrain.
2. Wear safety gear appropriate to the kind of riding you plan to do.
3. Don't ride alone in remote areas. Even when riding with others, make sure that someone knows where you're going and when you expect to be back.
4. Always take along some kind of identification, so that people know who you are in case of an accident; and take along some cash for food, a drink or an emergency phone call.
5. Yield right of way to pedestrians and animals. Ride in a way that does not frighten or endanger them, and give them enough room so that their unexpected moves don't endanger you.
6. Be prepared. If something goes wrong while you're riding off-road, help may not be close.
7. Before you attempt to jump, do stunt riding or race with your bike, read and understand Section 2.F.

Off Road respect

Obey the local laws regulating where and how you can ride off-road, and respect private property. You may be sharing the trail with others — hikers, equestrians, other cyclists. Respect their rights. Stay on the designated trail. Don't contribute to erosion by riding in

mud or with unnecessary sliding. Don't disturb the ecosystem by cutting your own trail or shortcut through vegetation or streams. It is your responsibility to minimize your impact on the environment. Leave things as you found them; and always take out everything you brought in.

D. Wet Weather Riding

WARNING: Wet weather impairs traction, braking and visibility, both for the cyclists and for other vehicles sharing the road. The risk of an accident is dramatically increased in wet conditions.

Under wet conditions, the stopping power of your brakes (as well as the brakes of other vehicles sharing the road) is dramatically reduced and your tyres don't grip nearly as well. This makes it harder to control speed and easier to lose control. To make sure that you can slow down and stop safely in wet conditions, ride more slowly and apply your brakes earlier and more gradually than you would under normal, dry conditions. See also Section 4.C.

E. Night Riding

Riding a bicycle at night is much more dangerous than riding during the day. Any cyclist is difficult for motorists and pedestrians to see. Therefore, children should never ride at dawn, at dusk or at night. Adults who chose to accept the greatly increased risk of riding at dawn, at dusk or at night need to take extra care both riding and choosing equipment which helps reduce that risk. Consult your dealer about night riding safety equipment.

WARNING: Reflectors are not a substitute for required lights. Riding at dawn, at dusk, at night or at other times of poor visibility without an adequate bicycle lighting system and without reflectors is dangerous and may result in serious injury or death.

Bicycle reflectors are designed to pick up and reflect car lights and street lights in a way that may help you to be seen and recognized as a moving bicyclist.

CAUTION: Check reflectors and their mounting brackets regularly to make sure that they are clean, straight, unbroken and securely mounted. Have your dealer replace damaged reflectors and straighten or tighten any that are bent or loose.

WARNING: Do not remove the front or rear reflectors or reflector brackets from your bicycle. They are an integral part of the bicycle's safety system.

Removing the reflectors reduces your visibility to others using the roadway. Being struck by other vehicles may result in serious injury or death.

If you choose to ride under conditions of poor visibility, check and be sure you comply with all local laws about night riding, and take the following strongly recommended additional precautions:

- Purchase and install battery or generator powered head and tail lights which meet all regulatory requirements and provide adequate visibility.
- Wear light coloured, reflective clothing and accessories, such as a reflective vest, reflective stripes on your helmet, flashing lights attached to your body and/or your bicycle ... any reflective device or light source that moves will help you get the attention of approaching motorists, pedestrians and other traffic.
- Make sure your clothing or anything you may be carrying on the bicycle does not obstruct a reflector or light.
- Make sure that your bicycle is equipped with correctly positioned and securely mounted reflectors.

While riding at dawn, at dusk or at night:

- Ride slowly.
- Avoid dark areas and areas of heavy or fast-moving traffic.
- Avoid road hazards.
- If possible, ride on familiar routes.

If riding in traffic:

- Be predictable. Ride so that drivers can see you and predict your movements.
- Be alert. Ride defensively and expect the unexpected.
- If you plan to ride in traffic often, ask your dealer about traffic safety classes or a good book on bicycle traffic safety.

F. Extreme, stunt or competition riding

Whether it be Freeride, Trials, Downhill, Jumping, Stunt Riding, Racing or something else: if you engage in extreme or aggressive riding you will get hurt, and you voluntarily assume a greatly increased risk of injury or death.

Not all bicycles are designed for these types of riding, and those that are may not be suitable for all types of aggressive riding. Check with your dealer about the suitability of your bicycle before engaging in extreme riding.

When riding fast downhill, you can reach speeds achieved by motorcycles, and therefore face similar hazards and risks. Have your bicycle and equipment carefully inspected by a qualified mechanic and be sure it is in perfect condition.

Consult with expert riders, area site personnel and race officials on conditions and equipment advisable at the site where you plan to ride. Wear appropriate safety gear, including an approved full face helmet, full finger gloves, and body armour. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to have proper equipment and to be familiar with course conditions.

WARNING: Bicycles and bicycle parts have limitations with regard to strength and integrity, and this type of riding can exceed those limitations.

WARNING: Although many catalogues, advertisements and articles about bicycling depict riders engaged in extreme riding, this activity is extremely dangerous, increases your risk of injury or death, and increases the severity of any injury. Remember that the action depicted is being performed by professionals with many years of training and experience. Know your limits and always wear a helmet and other appropriate safety gear. Even with state-of-the-art protective safety gear, you could be seriously injured or killed when jumping, stunt riding, riding downhill at speed or in competition.

If you choose to accept the increased risk associated with this style of riding, we strongly recommend that you:

- Take lessons from a competent instructor first
- Start with easy learning exercises and slowly develop your skills before trying more difficult or dangerous riding
- Use only designated areas for stunts, jumping, racing or fast downhill riding
- Wear a full face helmet, safety pads and other safety gear
- Understand and recognize that the stresses imposed on your bike by this kind of activity may break or damage parts of the bicycle and void the warranty
- Take your bicycle to your dealer if anything breaks or bends. Do not ride your bicycle when any part is damaged.

If you ride downhill at speed, do stunt riding or ride in competition, know the limits of your skill and experience. Ultimately, avoiding injury is your own responsibility.

G. Changing Components or Adding Accessories

There are many components and accessories available to enhance the comfort, performance and appearance of your bicycle. However, if you change components or add accessories, you do so at your own risk. We will not have tested that component or accessory for compatibility, reliability or safety on your bicycle. Before installing any component or accessory, including a different size tyre, ensure that it is compatible with your bicycle by checking with your dealer. Be sure to read, understand and follow the instructions that accompany the products you purchase for your bicycle. See also Appendix A, and B.

WARNING: Failure to confirm compatibility, properly install, operate and maintain any component or accessory can result in serious injury or death.

WARNING: Changing the components on your bike with other than genuine replacement parts may compromise the safety of your bicycle and may void the warranty. Check with your dealer before changing the components on your bike.

3. Fit

NOTE: Correct fit is an essential element of bicycling safety, performance and comfort. Making adjustments to your bicycle that ensure correct fit for your body and riding conditions requires experience, skill and special tools. Always have your dealer make the adjustments on your bicycle; or, if you have the experience, skill and tools, have your dealer check your work before riding.

WARNING: If your bicycle does not fit properly, you may lose control and fall. If your new bike doesn't fit, ask your dealer to exchange it before you ride it.

A. Standover height

Your dealer should fit you with the correct size of bicycle.

There should be at least 25mm (1") clearance between the top tube and the rider when standing over a road bicycle as in figure 1.

This should increase to 50-70mm (2-3") for mountain bicycles. The seat and handlebar can be adjusted to offer the best performance and most comfortable riding position.

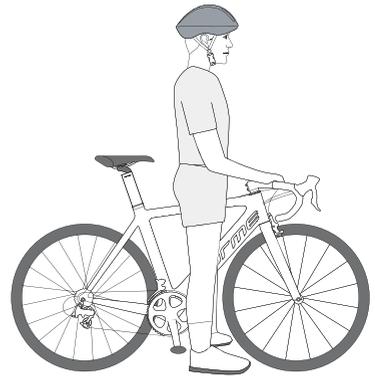


Figure 1

B. Saddle position

Correct saddle adjustment is an important factor in getting the most performance and comfort from your bicycle. If the saddle position is not comfortable for you, see your dealer.

The saddle can be adjusted in three directions:

1. Up and down adjustment. To check for correct saddle height:

- sit on the saddle;
- place one heel on a pedal;
- rotate the crank until the pedal with your heel on it is in the down position and the crank arm is parallel to the seat tube.

If your leg is not completely straight, your saddle height needs to be adjusted.

If your hips must rock for the heel to reach the pedal, the saddle is too high. If your leg is bent at the knee with your heel on the pedal, the saddle is too low.

Ask your dealer to set the saddle for your optimal riding position and to show you how to make this adjustment.

If you choose to make your own saddle height adjustment:

- loosen the seat post clamp
- raise or lower the seat post in the seat tube
- make sure the saddle is straight fore and aft
- re-tighten the seat post clamp to the recommended torque (Appendix C or the manufacturer's instructions).

Once the saddle is at the correct height, make sure that the seat post does not project from the frame beyond its "Minimum Insertion" mark.

NOTE: Some bicycles have a sight hole in the seat tube, the purpose of which is to make it easy to see whether the seat post is inserted in the seat tube far enough to be safe. If your bicycle has such a sight hole, use it instead of the "Minimum Insertion" or "Maximum Extension" mark to make sure the seat post is inserted in the seat tube far enough to be visible through the sight hole.

If your bike has an interrupted seat tube, as is the case on some suspension bikes, you must also make sure that the seat post is far enough into the frame so that you can touch it through the bottom of the interrupted seat tube with the tip of your finger without inserting your finger beyond its first knuckle.

WARNING: If your seat post is not inserted in the seat tube as described in B.1 above, the seat post may break, which could cause you to lose control and fall.

2. Front and back adjustment. The saddle can be adjusted forward or back to help you get the optimal position on the bike. Ask your dealer to set the saddle for your optimal riding position and to show you how to make this adjustment. If you choose to make your own front and back adjustment, make sure that the clamp mechanism is clamping on the straight part of the saddle rails and is not touching the curved part of the rails, and that you are using the recommended torque on the clamping fastener(s) (Appendix C or the manufacturer's instructions).

3. Saddle angle adjustment. Most people prefer a horizontal saddle; but some riders like the saddle nose angled up or down just a little. Your dealer can adjust saddle angle or teach you how to do it. If you choose to make your own saddle angle adjustment and you have a single bolt saddle clamp on your seat post, it is critical that you loosen the clamp bolt sufficiently to allow any serrations on the mechanism to disengage before changing the saddle's angle, and then that the serrations fully re-engage before you tighten the clamp bolt to the recommended torque (Appendix C or the manufacturer's instructions).

WARNING: When making saddle angle adjustments with a single bolt saddle clamp, always check to make sure that the serrations on the mating surfaces of

the clamp are not worn. Worn serrations on the clamp can allow the saddle to move, causing you to lose control and fall.

Always tighten fasteners to the correct torque. Bolts that are too tight can stretch and deform. Bolts that are too loose can move and fatigue. Either mistake can lead to a sudden failure of the bolt, causing you to lose control and fall.

Note: If your bicycle is equipped with a suspension seat post, the suspension mechanism may require periodic service or maintenance. Ask your dealer for recommended service intervals for your suspension seat post.

Small changes in saddle position can have a substantial effect on performance and comfort. To find your best saddle position, make only one adjustment at a time.

WARNING: After any saddle adjustment, be sure that the saddle adjusting mechanism is properly seated and tightened before riding. A loose saddle clamp or seat post clamp can cause damage to the seat post, or can cause you to lose control and fall. A correctly tightened saddle adjusting mechanism will allow no saddle movement in any direction. Periodically check to make sure that the saddle adjusting mechanism is properly tightened.

C. Handlebar height and angle

Your bike is equipped a "threadless" stem, which clamps on to the outside of the steerer tube.

Your dealer may be able to change handlebar height by moving height adjustment spacers from below the stem to above the stem, or vice versa. Otherwise, you'll have to get a stem of different length or rise. Consult your dealer. **Do not attempt to do this yourself, as it requires special knowledge.**

WARNING: On some bicycles, changing the stem or stem height can affect the tension of the front brake cable, locking the front brake or creating excess cable slack which can make the front brake inoperable. If the front brake pads move in towards the wheel rim or out away from the wheel rim when the stem or stem height is changed, the brakes must be correctly adjusted before you ride the bicycle.

Your dealer can also change the angle of the handlebar or bar end extensions.

WARNING: An insufficiently tightened stem clamp bolt, handlebar clamp bolt or bar end extension clamping bolt may compromise steering action, which could cause you to lose control and fall. Place the front wheel of the bicycle between your legs and attempt to twist the handlebar/stem assembly. If you can twist the stem in relation to the front wheel, turn the handlebars in relation to the stem, or turn the bar end extensions in relation to the handlebar, the bolts are insufficiently tightened.

D. Control position adjustments

The angle of the brake and shift control levers and their position on the handlebars can be changed. Ask your dealer to make the adjustments for you.

If you choose to make your own control lever angle adjustment, be sure to re-tighten the clamp fasteners to the recommended torque (Appendix C or the manufacturer's instructions).

E. Brake reach

Many bikes have brake levers which can be adjusted for reach. If you have small hands or find it difficult to squeeze the brake levers, your dealer can either adjust the reach or fit shorter reach brake levers.

WARNING: The shorter the brake lever reach, the more critical it is to have correctly adjusted brakes, so that full braking power can be applied within available brake lever travel. Brake lever travel insufficient to apply full braking power can result in loss of control, which may result in serious injury or death.

4. Tech

It's important to your safety, performance and enjoyment to understand how things work on your bicycle. We urge you to ask your dealer how to do the things described in this section before you attempt them yourself, and that you have your dealer check your work before you ride the bike. If you have even the slightest doubt as to whether you understand something in this section of the Manual, talk to your dealer. See also Appendix A, B, C and D.

A. Wheels

Bicycle wheels are designed to be removable for easier transportation and for repair of a tyre puncture. In most cases, the wheel axles are inserted into slots, called "dropouts" in the fork and frame, but some suspension mountain bikes use what is called a "through axle" wheel mounting system.

If you have a mountain bike equipped with through axle front or rear wheels, make sure that your dealer has given you the manufacturer's instructions, and follow those when installing or removing a through axle wheel. If you don't know what a through axle is, ask your dealer.

Wheels are secured in one of three ways:

- A hollow axle with a shaft ("skewer") running through it which has an adjustable tension nut on one end and an over-centre cam on the other.
- A hollow axle with a shaft ("skewer") running through it which has a nut on one end and a fitting for a hex key, lock lever or other tightening device on the other.
- Hex nuts or hex key bolts which are threaded on to or into the hub axle (bolt-on wheel).

Your bicycle may be equipped with a different securing method for the front wheel than for the rear wheel. Discuss the wheel securing method for your bicycle with your dealer. It is very important that you understand the type of wheel securing method on your bicycle, that you know how to secure the wheels correctly, and that you know how to

apply the correct clamping force that safely secures the wheel. Ask your dealer to instruct you in correct wheel removal and installation, and ask him to give you any available manufacturer's instructions.

WARNING: Riding with an improperly secured wheel can allow the wheel to wobble or fall off the bicycle, which can cause serious injury or death. Therefore, it is essential that you:

- 1. Ask your dealer to help you make sure you know how to install and remove your wheels safely.***
- 2. Understand and apply the correct technique for clamping your wheel in place.***
- 3. Each time, before you ride the bike, check that the wheel is securely clamped.***

The clamping action of a correctly secured wheel must emboss the surfaces of the dropouts.

1. Removing and Installing wheels

CAUTION: If your bike has a disc brake, exercise care in touching the rotor or caliper. Disc rotors have sharp edges, and both rotor and caliper can get very hot during use.

a. Removing a disk brake or rim brake Front Wheel

(1) If your bike has rim brakes, disengage the brake's quick-release mechanism to increase the clearance between the tyre and the brake.

(2) If your bike has cam action front wheel retention, move the cam lever from the locked or CLOSED position to the OPEN position. If your bike has through bolt or bolt-on front wheel retention, loosen the fastener(s) a few turns counter-clockwise using an appropriate wrench, lock key or the integral lever.

(3) If your front fork has a clip-on type secondary retention device, disengage it and go to step (4). If your front fork has an integral secondary retention device, and a traditional cam action system, loosen the tension adjusting nut enough to allow removing the wheel from the dropouts. If your front wheel uses a cam-and-cup system, squeeze the cup and cam lever together while removing the wheel. No rotation of any part is necessary with the cam-and-cup system.

(4) You may need to tap the top of the wheel with the palm of your hand to release the wheel from the front fork.

b. Installing a disk brake or rim brake Front Wheel

CAUTION: If your bike is equipped with a front disk brake, be careful not to damage the disk, caliper or brake pads when re-inserting the disk into the caliper. Never activate a disk brake's control lever unless the disk is correctly inserted in the caliper. See also Section 4.C.

(1) If your bike has cam action front wheel retention, move the cam lever so that it curves away from the wheel. This is the OPEN position. If your bike has through bolt or bolt-on front wheel retention, go to the next step.

(2) With the steering fork facing forward, insert the wheel between the fork blades so that the axle seats firmly at the top of the fork dropouts. The cam lever, if there is one, should be on rider's left side of the bicycle. If your bike has a clip-on type secondary retention device, engage it.

(3) If you have a traditional cam action mechanism: holding the cam lever in the ADJUST position with your right hand, tighten the tension adjusting nut with your left hand until it is finger tight against the fork dropout. If you have a cam-and-cup system: the nut and cup will have snapped into the recessed area of the fork dropouts and no adjustment should be required.

(4) While pushing the wheel firmly to the top of the slots in the fork dropouts, and at the same time centring the wheel rim in the fork:

(a) With a cam action system, move the cam lever upwards and swing it into the CLOSED position. The lever should now be parallel to the fork blade and curved toward the wheel. To apply enough clamping force, you should have to wrap your fingers around the fork blade for leverage, and the lever should leave a clear imprint in the palm of your hand.

(b) With a through-bolt or bolt-on system, tighten the fasteners to the torque specifications in Appendix C or the hub manufacturer's instructions.

NOTE: If, on a traditional cam action system, the lever cannot be pushed all the way to a position parallel to the fork blade, return the lever to the OPEN position. Then turn the tension adjusting nut counter-clockwise one-quarter turn and try tightening the lever again.

WARNING: Securely clamping the wheel with a cam action retention device takes considerable force. If you can fully close the cam lever without wrapping your fingers around the fork blade for leverage, the lever does not leave a clear imprint in the palm of your hand, and the serrations on the wheel fastener do not emboss the surfaces of the dropouts, the tension is insufficient. Open the lever; turn the tension adjusting nut clockwise a quarter turn; then try again. See also the first WARNING in this Section

(5) If you disengaged the brake quick-release mechanism in 3. a. (1) above, re-engage it to restore correct brake pad-to-rim clearance.

(6) Spin the wheel to make sure that it is centred in the frame and clears the brake pads; then squeeze the brake lever and make sure that the brakes are operating correctly.

c. Removing a disk brake or rim brake Rear Wheel

(1) If you have a multi-speed bike with a derailleur gear system: shift the rear derailleur to high gear (the smallest, outermost rear sprocket).

If you have an internal gear rear hub, consult your dealer or the hub manufacturer's instructions before attempting to remove the rear wheel.

If you have a single-speed bike with rim or disk brake, go to step (4) below.

(2) If your bike has rim brakes, disengage the brake's quick-release mechanism to increase the clearance between the wheel rim and the brake pads (see Section 4.C).

(3) On a derailleur gear system, pull the derailleur body back with your right hand.

(4) With a cam action mechanism, move the quick-release lever to the OPEN position. With a through bolt or bolt on mechanism, loosen the fastener(s) with an appropriate wrench, lock lever or integral lever; then push the wheel forward far enough to be able to remove the chain from the rear sprocket.

(5) Lift the rear wheel off the ground a few inches and remove it from the rear dropouts.

d. Installing a disk brake or rim brake Rear Wheel

CAUTION: If your bike is equipped with a rear disk brake, be careful not to damage the disk, caliper or brake pads when re-inserting the disk into the caliper. Never activate a disk brake's control lever unless the disk is correctly inserted in the caliper.

(1) With a cam action system, move the cam lever to the OPEN position. The lever should be on the side of the wheel opposite the derailleur and freewheel sprockets.

(2) On a derailleur bike, make sure that the rear derailleur is still in its outermost, high gear, position; then pull the derailleur body back with your right hand. Put the chain on top of the smallest freewheel sprocket.

(3) On single-speed, remove the chain from the front sprocket, so that you have plenty of slack in the chain. Put the chain on the rear wheel sprocket.

(4) Then, insert the wheel into the frame dropouts and pull it all the way in to the dropouts.

(5) On a single speed or an internal gear hub, replace the chain on the chainring; pull the wheel back in the dropouts so that it is straight in the frame and the chain has about 6mm (1/4 inches) of up-and-down play.

(6) With a cam action system, move the cam lever upwards and swing it into the CLOSED position. The lever should now be parallel to the seat stay or chain stay and curved toward the wheel. To apply enough clamping force, you should have to wrap your fingers around the fork blade for leverage, and the lever should leave a clear imprint in the palm of your hand.

(7) With a through-bolt or bolt-on system, tighten the fasteners to the torque specifications in Appendix C or the hub manufacturer's instructions.

NOTE: If, on a traditional cam action system, the lever cannot be pushed all the way to a position parallel to the seat stay or chain stay, return the lever to the OPEN position. Then turn the tension adjusting nut counterclockwise one-quarter turn and try tightening the lever again.

WARNING: *Securely clamping the wheel with a cam action retention device takes considerable force. If you can fully close the cam lever without wrapping your fingers around the seat stay or chain stay for leverage, the lever does not leave a clear imprint in the palm of your hand, and the serrations on the wheel fastener do not emboss the surfaces of the dropouts, the tension is insufficient. Open the lever; turn the tension adjusting nut clockwise a quarter turn; then try again. See also the first WARNING in this Section.*

(8) If you disengaged the brake quick-release mechanism in 3. c. (2) above, re-engage it to restore correct brake pad-to-rim clearance.

(9) Spin the wheel to make sure that it is centred in the frame and clears the brake pads; then squeeze the brake lever and make sure that the brakes are operating correctly.

B. Seat post cam action clamp

Some bikes are equipped with a cam action seat post binder. The seat post cam action binder works exactly like the traditional wheel cam action fastener (Section 4.A.2) While a cam action binder looks like a long bolt with a lever on one end and a nut on the other, the binder uses an over-centre cam action to firmly clamp the seat post.

WARNING: *Riding with an improperly tightened seat post can allow the saddle to turn or move and cause you to lose control and fall.*

Therefore:

1. Ask your dealer to help you make sure you know how to correctly clamp your seat post.
2. Understand and apply the correct technique for clamping your seat post.
3. Before you ride the bike, first check that the seat post is securely clamped.

Adjusting the seat post cam action mechanism

The action of the cam squeezes the seat collar around the seat post to hold the seat post securely in place. The amount of clamping force is controlled by the tension adjusting nut. Turning the tension adjusting nut clockwise while keeping the cam lever from rotating increases clamping force; turning it counterclockwise while keeping the cam lever from rotating reduces clamping force. Less than half a turn of the tension adjusting nut can make the difference between safe and unsafe clamping force.

WARNING: *The full force of the cam action is needed to clamp the seat post securely. Holding the nut with one hand and turning the lever like a wing nut with the other hand until everything is as tight as you can get it will not clamp the seat post safely.*

If you can fully close the cam lever without wrapping your fingers around the seat post or a frame tube for leverage, and the lever does not leave a clear imprint in the palm of your hand, the tension is insufficient. Open the lever; turn the tension adjusting nut clockwise a quarter turn; then try again.

C. Brakes

There are three general types of bicycle brakes: rim brakes, which operate by squeezing the wheel rim between two brake pads; disc brakes, which operate by squeezing a hub-mounted disc between two brake pads; and internal hub brakes. All three can be operated by way of a handlebar mounted lever.

WARNING:

- 1. Riding with improperly adjusted brakes, worn brake pads, or wheels on which the rim wear mark is visible is dangerous and can result in serious injury or death.**
- 2. Applying brakes too hard or too suddenly can lock up a wheel, which could cause you to lose control and fall. Sudden or excessive application of the front brake may pitch the rider over the handlebars, which may result in serious injury or death.**
- 3. Some bicycle brakes, such as disc brakes and linear-pull brakes, are extremely powerful. Take extra care in becoming familiar with these brakes and exercise particular care when using them.**
- 4. Some bicycle brakes are equipped with a brake force modulator, a small, cylindrical device through which the brake control cable runs and which is designed to provide a more progressive application of braking force. A modulator makes the initial brake lever force gentle, progressively increasing force until full force is achieved. If your bike is equipped with a brake force modulator, take extra care in becoming familiar with its performance characteristics.**
- 5. Disc brakes can get extremely hot with extended use. Be careful not to touch a disc brake until it has had plenty of time to cool.**
- 6. See the brake manufacturer's instructions for operation and care of your brakes, and for when brake pads must be replaced. If you do not have the manufacturer's instructions, see your dealer or contact the brake manufacturer.**
- 7. If replacing worn or damaged parts, use only manufacturer-approved genuine replacement parts.**

1. Brake controls and features

It's very important to your safety that you learn and remember which brake lever controls which brake on your bike. The right brake lever controls the front brake and the left brake lever controls the rear brake.

Make sure that your hands can reach and squeeze the brake levers comfortably. If your hands are too small to operate the levers comfortably, consult your dealer before riding the bike. The lever reach may be adjustable; or you may need a different brake lever design.

2. How brakes work

The braking action of a bicycle is a function of the friction between the braking surfaces. To make sure that you have maximum friction available, keep your wheel rims and brake pads or the disk rotor and caliper clean and free of dirt, lubricants, waxes or polishes.

Brakes are designed to control your speed, not just to stop the bike. Maximum braking force for each wheel occurs at the point just before the wheel "locks up" (stops rotating) and starts to skid. Once the tyre skids, you actually lose most of your stopping force and all directional control. You need to practice slowing and stopping smoothly without locking up a wheel.

When you apply one or both brakes, the bike begins to slow, but your body wants to continue at the speed at which it was going. This causes a transfer of weight to the front wheel (or, under heavy braking, around the front wheel hub, which could send you flying over the handlebars).

A wheel with more weight on it will accept greater brake pressure before lockup; a wheel with less weight will lock up with less brake pressure. So, as you apply brakes and your weight is transferred forward, you need to shift your body toward the rear of the bike, to transfer weight back on to the rear wheel; and at the same time, you need to both decrease rear braking and increase front braking force.

Two keys to effective speed control and safe stopping are controlling wheel lockup and weight transfer. This weight transfer is even more pronounced if your bike has a front suspension fork. Front suspension “dips” under braking, increasing the weight transfer (see also Section 4.F). Practice braking and weight transfer techniques where there is no traffic or other hazards and distractions.

Everything changes when you ride on loose surfaces or in wet weather. It will take longer to stop on loose surfaces or in wet weather. Tyre adhesion is reduced, so the wheels have less cornering and braking traction and can lock up with less brake force. Moisture or dirt on the brake pads reduces their ability to grip. The way to maintain control on loose or wet surfaces is to go more slowly.

D. Shifting gears

If you have one of our multi-speed bicycles, it will have a derailleur drivetrain.

1. How a derailleur drivetrain works

If your bicycle has a derailleur drivetrain, the gear-changing mechanism will have:

- a rear cassette or freewheel sprocket cluster
- a rear derailleur
- a front derailleur
- two shifters
- two or three front sprockets called chainrings
- a drive chain

a. Shifting Gears

There are several different types and styles of shifting controls: levers, twist grips, triggers, combination shift/brake controls and push-buttons. Ask your dealer to explain the type of shifting controls that are on your bike, and to show you how they work.

The vocabulary of shifting can be pretty confusing. A downshift is a shift to a “lower” or “slower” gear, one which is easier to pedal. An upshift is a shift to a “higher” or “faster”, harder to pedal gear. What’s confusing is that what’s happening at the front derailleur is the opposite of what’s happening at the rear derailleur. For example, you can select a gear which will make pedaling easier on a hill (make a downshift) in one of two ways: shift the chain down the gear “steps” to a smaller gear at the front, or up the gear “steps” to a larger gear at the rear. So, at the rear gear cluster, what is called a downshift looks like an upshift. The way to keep things straight is to remember that shifting the chain in towards the centreline of the bike is for accelerating and climbing and is called a downshift. Moving the chain out or away from the centreline of the bike is for speed and is called an upshift.

Whether upshifting or downshifting, the bicycle derailleur system design requires that the drive chain be moving forward and be under at least some tension. A derailleur will shift only if you are pedaling forward.

CAUTION: *Never move the shifter while pedaling backward, nor pedal backwards immediately after having moved the shifter. This could jam the chain and cause serious damage to the bicycle.*

Which gear should I be in?

The combination of largest rear and smallest front gears is for the steepest hills. The smallest rear and largest front combination is for the greatest speed. It is not necessary to shift gears in sequence. Instead, find the “starting gear” which is right for your level of ability — a gear which is hard enough for quick acceleration but easy enough to let you start from a stop without wobbling — and experiment with upshifting and downshifting to get a feel for the different gear combinations. At first, practice shifting where there are no obstacles, hazards or other traffic, until you’ve built up your confidence. Learn to anticipate the need to shift, and shift to a lower gear before the hill gets too steep. If you have difficulties with shifting, the problem could be mechanical adjustment. See your dealer for help.

WARNING: *Never shift a derailleur onto the largest or the smallest sprocket if the derailleur is not shifting smoothly. The derailleur may be out of adjustment and the chain could jam, causing you to lose control and fall.*

What if it won’t shift gears?

If moving the shift control one click repeatedly fails to result in a smooth shift to the next gear chances are that the mechanism is out of adjustment. Take the bike to your dealer to have it adjusted.

How to adjust a single-speed drivetrain

If your bicycle has a single speed drivetrain, the chain requires tension to make sure the chain doesn’t come off the sprocket or chainring.

E. Pedals

1. Some bicycles come equipped with pedals that have sharp and potentially dangerous surfaces. These surfaces are designed to add safety by increasing grip between the rider’s shoe and the pedal. If your bicycle has this type of high-performance pedal, you must take extra care to avoid serious injury from the pedals’ sharp surfaces. Based on your riding style or skill level, you may prefer a less aggressive pedal design, or choose to ride with shin pads. Your dealer can show you a number of options and make suitable recommendations.

2. Toeclips and straps are a means to keep feet correctly positioned and engaged with the pedals. The toeclip positions the ball of the foot over the pedal spindle, which gives maximum pedaling power. The toe strap, when tightened, keeps the foot engaged throughout the rotation cycle of the pedal. While toeclips and straps give some benefit with any kind of shoe, they work most effectively with cycling shoes designed for use with toeclips. Your dealer can explain how toeclips and straps work. Shoes with deep treaded soles or welts which might make it more difficult for you to insert or remove your foot should not be used with toeclips and straps.

WARNING: *Getting into and out of pedals with toeclips and straps requires skill which can only be acquired with practice. Until it becomes a reflex action, the technique requires concentration which can distract your attention and cause*

you to lose control and fall. Practice the use of toeclips and straps where there are no obstacles, hazards or traffic. Keep the straps loose, and don't tighten them until your technique and confidence in getting in and out of the pedals warrants it. Never ride in traffic with your toe straps tight.

3. Clipless pedals are another means to keep feet securely in the correct position for maximum pedaling efficiency. They have a plate, called a "cleat," on the sole of the shoe, which clicks into a mating spring-loaded fixture on the pedal. They only engage or disengage with a very specific motion which must be practiced until it becomes instinctive. Clipless pedals require shoes and cleats which are compatible with the make and model pedal being used.

Many clipless pedals are designed to allow the rider to adjust the amount of force needed to engage or disengage the foot. Follow the pedal manufacturer's instructions, or ask your dealer to show you how to make this adjustment. Use the easiest setting until engaging and disengaging becomes a reflex action, but always ensure that there is sufficient tension to prevent unintended release of your foot from the pedal.

WARNING: Clipless pedals are intended for use with shoes specifically made to fit them and are designed to firmly keep the foot engaged with the pedal. Do not use shoes which do not engage the pedals correctly.

Practice is required to learn to engage and disengage the foot safely. Until engaging and disengaging the foot becomes a reflex action, the technique requires concentration which can distract your attention and cause you to lose control and fall. Practice engaging and disengaging clipless pedals in a place where there are no obstacles, hazards or traffic; and be sure to follow the pedal manufacturer's setup and service instructions. If you do not have the manufacturer's instructions, see your dealer or contact the manufacturer.

F. Bicycle Suspension

Many bicycles are equipped with suspension systems. There are many different types of suspension systems — too many to deal with individually in this Manual. If your bicycle has a suspension system of any kind, be sure to read and follow the suspension manufacturer's setup and service instructions. If you do not have the manufacturer's instructions, see your dealer or contact the manufacturer.

WARNING: Failure to maintain, check and properly adjust the suspension system may result in suspension malfunction, which may cause you to lose control and fall.

If your bike has suspension, the increased speed you may develop also increases your risk of injury. For example, when braking, the front of a suspended bike dips. You could lose control and fall if you do not have experience with this system. Learn to handle your suspension system safely. See also Section 4.C.

WARNING: Changing suspension adjustment can change the handling and braking characteristics of your bicycle. Never change suspension adjustment unless you are thoroughly familiar with the suspension system manufacturer's instructions and recommendations, and always check for changes in the handling and braking characteristics of the bicycle after a suspension adjustment by taking a careful test ride in a hazard-free area.

Suspension can increase control and comfort by allowing the wheels to better follow the terrain. This enhanced capability may allow you to ride faster; but you must not confuse the enhanced capabilities of the bicycle with your own capabilities as a rider. Increasing

your skill will take time and practice. Proceed carefully until you have learned to handle the full capabilities of your bike.

WARNING: Not all bicycles can be safely retrofitted with some types of suspension systems. Before retrofitting a bicycle with any suspension, check with the bicycle's manufacturer to make sure that what you want to do is compatible with the bicycle's design. Failing to do so can result in catastrophic frame failure.

G. Tyres and Tubes

1. Tyres

Bicycle tyres are available in many designs and specifications, ranging from general-purpose designs to tyres designed to perform best under very specific weather or terrain conditions. If, once you've gained experience with your new bike, you feel that a different tyre might better suit your riding needs, your dealer can help you select the most appropriate design.

The size and pressure rating are marked on the sidewall of the tyre. The most important part of this information to you is Tyre Pressure.

WARNING: Never inflate a tyre beyond the maximum pressure marked on the tyre's sidewall. Exceeding the recommended maximum pressure may blow the tyre off the rim, which could cause damage to the bike and injury to the rider and bystanders.

The best and safest way to inflate a bicycle tyre to the correct pressure is with a bicycle pump which has a built-in pressure gauge.

WARNING: There is a safety risk in using motor vehicle air hoses or other air compressors. They are not made for bicycle tyres. They move a large volume of air very rapidly, and will raise the pressure in your tyre very rapidly, which could cause the tube to explode.

Tyre pressure is given either as maximum pressure or as a pressure range. How a tyre performs under different terrain or weather conditions depends largely on tyre pressure. Inflating the tyre to near its maximum recommended pressure gives the lowest rolling resistance; but also produces the harshest ride. High pressures work best on smooth, dry road surfaces.

Very low pressures, at the bottom of the recommended pressure range, give the best performance on smooth, slick terrain such as hard-packed clay, and on deep, loose surfaces such as deep, dry sand.

Tyre pressure that is too low for your weight and the riding conditions can cause a puncture of the tube by allowing the tyre to deform sufficiently to pinch the inner tube between the rim and the riding surface.

Ask your dealer to recommend the best tyre pressure for the kind of riding you will most often do, and have the dealer inflate your tyres to that pressure. Then, check inflation as described in Section 1.C so you'll know how correctly inflated tyres should look and feel when you don't have access to a gauge. Some tyres may need to be brought up to pressure every week or two, so it is important to check your tyre pressures before every ride.

2. Valves

There are primarily two kinds of bicycle tube valves: The Schraeder Valve and the Presta Valve. The bicycle pump you use must have the fitting appropriate to the valve stems on your bicycle.

The Schraeder valve is like the valve on a car tyre. To inflate a Schraeder valve tube, remove the valve cap and clamp the pump fitting onto the end of the valve stem. To let air out of a Schraeder valve, depress the pin in the end of the valve stem with the end of a key or other appropriate object.

The Presta valve has a narrower diameter and is only found on bicycle tyres. To inflate a Presta valve tube using a Presta headed bicycle pump, remove the valve cap; unscrew (counter-clockwise) the valve stem lock nut; and push down on the valve stem to free it up. Then push the pump head on to the valve head, and inflate. To inflate a Presta valve with a Schraeder pump fitting, you'll need a Presta adapter (available at your bike shop) which screws on to the valve stem once you've freed up the valve. The adapter fits into the Schraeder pump fitting. Close the valve after inflation. To let air out of a Presta valve, open up the valve stem lock nut and depress the valve stem.

WARNING: We highly recommend that you carry a spare inner tube when you ride your bike. Patching a tube is an emergency repair. If you do not apply the patch correctly or apply several patches, the tube can fail, resulting in possible tube failure, which could cause you to lose control and fall. Replace a patched tube as soon as possible.

5. Service

Technological advances have made bicycles and bicycle components more complex, and the pace of innovation is increasing. It is impossible for this manual to provide all the information required to properly repair and/or maintain your bicycle. In order to help minimize the chances of an accident and possible injury, it is critical that you have any repair or maintenance which is not specifically described in this manual performed by your dealer. Equally important is that your individual maintenance requirements will be determined by everything from your riding style to geographic location. Consult your dealer for help in determining your maintenance requirements.

If you want to learn to do major service and repair work on your bike:

1. Ask your dealer for copies of the manufacturer's installation and service instructions for the components on your bike, or contact the component manufacturer.
2. Ask your dealer to recommend a book on bicycle repair.
3. Ask your dealer about the availability of bicycle repair courses in your area.

We recommend that you ask your dealer to check the quality of your work the first time you work on something and before you ride the bike, just to make sure that you did everything correctly. Since that will require the time of a mechanic, there may be a modest charge for this service.

We also recommend that you ask your dealer for guidance on what spare parts, such as inner tubes, light bulbs, etc. it would be appropriate for you to have once you have learned how to replace such parts when they require replacement.

A. Service Intervals

Some service and maintenance can and should be performed by the owner, and require no special tools or knowledge beyond what is presented in this manual.

The following are examples of the type of service you should perform yourself.

All other service, maintenance and repair should be performed in a properly equipped facility by a qualified bicycle mechanic using the correct tools and procedures specified by the manufacturer.

1. Break-in Period: Your bike will last longer and work better if you break it in before riding it hard. Control cables and wheel spokes may stretch or “seat” when a new bike is first used and may require readjustment by your dealer. Your Mechanical Safety Check (Section 1.C) will help you identify some things that need readjustment. But even if everything seems fine to you, it’s best to take your bike back to the dealer for a checkup. Dealers typically suggest you bring the bike in for a 30 day checkup. Another way to judge when it’s time for the first checkup is to bring the bike in after three to five hours of hard off-road use, or about 10 to 15 hours of on-road or more casual off-road use. But if you think something is wrong with the bike, take it to your dealer before riding it again.

2. Before every ride: Mechanical Safety Check (Section 1.C)

3. After every long or hard ride; if the bike has been exposed to water or grit; or at least every 100 miles: Clean the bike and lightly lubricate the chain’s rollers with a good quality bicycle chain lubricant. Wipe off excess lubricant with a lint-free cloth. Lubrication is a function of climate. Talk to your dealer about the best lubricants and the recommended lubrication frequency for your area. Avoid contaminating the rims with lubricant!

4. After every long or hard ride or after every 10 to 20 hours of riding:

- Squeeze the front brake and rock the bike forward and back. Everything feel solid? If you feel a clunk with each forward or backward movement of the bike, you probably have a loose headset. Have your dealer check it.
- Lift the front wheel off the ground and swing it from side to side. Feel smooth? If you feel any binding or roughness in the steering, you may have a tight headset. Have your dealer check it.
- Grab one pedal and rock it toward and away from the centreline of the bike; then do the same with the other pedal. Anything feel loose? If so, have your dealer check it.
- Take a look at the brake pads. Starting to look worn or not hitting the wheel rim squarely? Time to have the dealer adjust or replace them.
- Carefully check the control cables and cable housings. Any rust? Kinks? Fraying? If so, have your dealer replace them.
- Squeeze each adjoining pair of spokes on either side of each wheel between your thumb and index finger. Do they all feel about the same? If any feel loose, have your dealer check the wheel for tension and trueness.
- Check the tyres for excess wear, cuts or bruises. Have your dealer replace them if necessary.
- check the wheel rims for excess wear, dings, dents and scratches. Consult your dealer if you see any rim damage.
- Check to make sure that all parts and accessories are still secure, and tighten any which are not.
- Check the frame, particularly in the area around all tube joints; the handlebars; the stem; and the seatpost for any deep scratches, cracks or discoloration. These are signs of stress-caused fatigue and indicate that a part is at the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced. See also Appendix B.

WARNING: Like any mechanical device, a bicycle and its components are subject to wear and stress. Different materials and mechanisms wear or fatigue from stress at different rates and have different life cycles. If a component's life cycle is exceeded, the component can suddenly and catastrophically fail, causing serious injury or death to the rider. Scratches, cracks, fraying and discoloration are signs of stress-caused fatigue and indicate that a part is at the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced. While the materials and workmanship of your bicycle or of individual components may be covered by a warranty for a specified will last the term of the warranty. Product life is often related to the kind of riding you do and to the treatment to which you submit the bicycle.

The bicycle's warranty is not meant to suggest that the bicycle cannot be broken or will last forever. It only means that the bicycle is covered subject to the terms of the warranty. Please be sure to read Appendix A, Intended Use of your bicycle and Appendix B, The lifespan of your bike and its components.

5. As required: If either brake lever fails the Mechanical Safety Check (Section 1.C), don't ride the bike. Have your dealer check the brakes.
If the chain won't shift smoothly and quietly from gear to gear, the derailleur is out of adjustment. See your dealer.

6. Every 25 (hard off-road) to 50 (on-road) hours of riding: Take your bike to your dealer for a complete checkup.

B. If your bicycle sustains an impact:

First, check yourself for injuries, and take care of them as best you can. Seek medical help if necessary.

Next, check your bike for damage.

After any crash, take your bike to your dealer for a thorough check. Carbon composite components, including frames, wheels, handlebars, stems, cranksets, brakes, etc. which have sustained an impact must not be ridden until they have been disassembled and thoroughly inspected by a qualified mechanic.

See also Appendix B, Lifespan of your bike and its components.

WARNING: A crash or other impact can put extraordinary stress on bicycle components, causing them to fatigue prematurely. Components suffering from stress fatigue can fail suddenly and catastrophically, causing loss of control, serious injury or death.

Appendix A

Intended use of your bicycle

WARNING: Understand your bike and its intended use. Choosing the wrong bicycle for your purpose can be hazardous. Using your bike the wrong way is dangerous.

No one type of bicycle is suited for all purposes. Your retailer can help you pick the “right tool for the job” and help you understand its limitations. There are many types of bicycles and many variations within each type. There are many types of mountain, road, racing, touring and cyclocross bicycles.

There are also bicycles that mix features. For example, there are road/racing bikes with triple cranks. These bikes have the low gearing of a touring bike, the quick handling of a racing bike, but are not well suited for carrying heavy loads on a tour. For that purpose you want a touring bike.

Within each of type of bicycle, one can optimize for certain purposes. Visit your bicycle shop and find someone with expertise in the area that interests you. Do your own homework. Seemingly small changes such as the choice of tyres can improve or diminish the performance of a bicycle for a certain purpose.

On the following pages, we generally outline the intended uses of various types of bikes.

Industry usage conditions are generalized and evolving. Consult your dealer about how you intend to use your bike.

All adult Forme Bicycles are designed and tested for a maximum combined rider/cargo/bike weight of 100Kg.

High-Performance Road

- **CONDITION 1:** Bikes designed for riding on a paved surface where the tyres do not lose ground contact.
- **INTENDED:** To be ridden on paved roads only.
- **NOT INTENDED:** For off-road, cyclocross, or touring with racks or panniers.
- **TRADE OFF:** Material use is optimized to deliver both light weight and specific performance. You must understand that (1) these types of bikes are intended to give an aggressive racer or competitive cyclist a performance advantage over a relatively short product life, (2) a less aggressive rider will enjoy longer frame life, (3) you are choosing light weight (shorter frame life) over more frame weight and a longer frame life, (4) you are choosing light weight over more dent resistant or rugged frames that weigh more. All frames that are very light need frequent inspection. These frames are likely to be damaged or broken in a crash. They are not designed to take abuse or be a rugged workhorse. See also Appendix B.

General Purpose Riding

- **CONDITION 2:** Bikes designed for riding Condition 1, plus smooth gravel roads and improved trails with moderate grades where the tyres do not lose ground contact.
- **INTENDED:** For paved roads, gravel or dirt roads that are in good condition, and bike paths.
- **NOT INTENDED:** For off-road or mountain bike use, or for any kind of jumping. Some of these bikes have suspension features, but these features are designed to add comfort, not off-road capability. Some come with relatively wide tyres that are well suited to gravel or dirt paths. Some come with relatively narrow tyres that are best suited to faster

riding on pavement. If you ride on gravel or dirt paths, carry heavier loads or want more tyre durability talk to your dealer about wider tyres.

Cyclo-cross

- **CONDITION 2:** Bikes designed for riding Condition 1, plus smooth gravel roads and improved trails with moderate grades where the tyres do not lose ground contact.
- **INTENDED:** For cyclo-cross riding, training and racing. Cyclo-cross involves riding on a variety of terrain and surfaces including dirt or mud surfaces. Cyclo-cross bikes also work well for all weather rough road riding and commuting.
- **NOT INTENDED:** For off road or mountain bike use, or jumping. Cyclo-cross riders and racers dismount before reaching an obstacle, carry their bike over the obstacle and then remount. Cyclo-cross bikes are not intended for mountain bike use. The relatively large road bike size wheels are faster than the smaller mountain bike wheels, but not as strong.

Cross-Country, Marathon, Hardtails

- **CONDITION 3:** Bikes designed for riding Conditions 1 and 2, plus rough trails, small obstacles, and smooth technical areas, including areas where momentary loss of tyre contact with the ground may occur. NOT jumping. All mountain bikes without rear suspension are Condition 3, and so are some lightweight rear suspension models.
- **INTENDED:** For cross-country riding and racing which ranges from mild to aggressive over intermediate terrain (e.g., hilly with small obstacles like roots, rocks, loose surfaces and hard pack and depressions). Cross-country and marathon equipment (tyres, shocks, frames, drive trains) are light-weight, favouring nimble speed over brute force. Suspension travel is relatively short since the bike is intended to move quickly on the ground.
- **NOT INTENDED:** For Hardcore Freeriding, Extreme Downhill, Dirt Jumping, Slopestyle, or very aggressive or extreme riding. No spending time in the air landing hard and hammering through obstacles.
- **TRADE OFF:** Cross-Country bikes are lighter, faster to ride uphill, and more nimble than All-Mountain bikes. Cross-Country and Marathon bikes trade off some ruggedness for pedalling efficiency and uphill speed.

All Mountain

- **CONDITION 4:** Bikes designed for riding Conditions 1, 2, and 3, plus rough technical areas, moderately sized obstacles, and small jumps.
- **INTENDED:** For trail and uphill riding. All-Mountain bicycles are: (1) more heavy duty than cross country bikes, but less heavy duty than Freeride bikes, (2) lighter and more nimble than Freeride bikes, (3) heavier and have more suspension travel than a cross country bike, allowing them to be ridden in more difficult terrain, over larger obstacles and moderate jumps, (4) intermediate in suspension travel and use components that fit the intermediate intended use, (5) cover a fairly wide range of intended use, and within this range are models that are more or less heavy duty. Talk to your retailer about your needs and these models.
- **NOT INTENDED:** For use in extreme forms of jumping/riding such as hardcore mountain, Freeriding, Downhill, North Shore, Dirt Jumping, Hucking etc. No large drop offs, jumps or launches (wooden structures, dirt embankments) requiring long suspension travel or heavy duty components; and no spending time in the air landing hard and hammering through obstacles.
- **TRADE OFF:** All-Mountain bikes are more rugged than cross country bikes, for riding more difficult terrain. All-Mountain bikes are heavier and harder to ride uphill than cross country bikes. All-Mountain bikes are lighter, more nimble and easier to ride uphill than Freeride bikes. All-Mountain bikes are not as rugged as Freeride bikes and must not be used for more extreme riding and terrain.

Appendix B

The lifespan of your bike and its components

1. Nothing Lasts Forever, Including Your Bike.

When the useful life of your bike or its components is over, continued use is hazardous.

Every bicycle and its component parts have a finite, limited useful life. The length of that life will vary with the construction and materials used in the frame and components; the maintenance and care the frame and components receive over their life; and the type and amount of use to which the frame and components are subjected. Use in competitive events, trick riding, ramp riding, jumping, aggressive riding, riding on severe terrain, riding in severe climates, riding with heavy loads, commercial activities and other types of non-standard use can dramatically shorten the life of the frame and components. Any one or a combination of these conditions may result in an unpredictable failure.

All aspects of use being identical, lightweight bicycles and their components will usually have a shorter life than heavier bicycles and their components. In selecting a lightweight bicycle or components you are making a trade-off, favouring the higher performance that comes with lighter weight over longevity. So, If you choose lightweight, high performance equipment, be sure to have it inspected frequently.

You should have your bicycle and its components checked periodically by your dealer for indicators of stress and/or potential failure, including cracks, deformation, corrosion, paint peeling, dents, and any other indicators of potential problems, inappropriate use or abuse. These are important safety checks and very important to help prevent accidents, bodily injury to the rider and shortened product life.

2. Perspective

Today's high-performance bicycles require frequent and careful inspection and service. In this Appendix we try to explain some underlying material science basics and how they relate to your bicycle. We discuss some of the trade-offs made in designing your bicycle and what you can expect from your bicycle; and we provide important, basic guidelines on how to maintain and inspect it. We cannot teach you everything you need to know to properly inspect and service your bicycle; and that is why we repeatedly urge you to take your bicycle to your dealer for professional care and attention.

WARNING: Frequent inspection of your bike is important to your safety. Follow the Mechanical Safety Check in Section 1.C of this Manual before every ride.

Periodic, more detailed inspection of your bicycle is important. How often this more detailed inspection is needed depends upon you.

You, the rider/owner, have control and knowledge of how often you use your bike, how hard you use it and where you use it. Because your dealer cannot track your use, you must take responsibility for periodically bringing your bike to your dealer for inspection and service. Your dealer will help you decide what frequency of inspection and service is appropriate for how and where you use your bike.

For your safety, understanding and communication with your dealer, we urge you to read this Appendix in its entirety. The materials used to make your bike determine how and how frequently to inspect.

Ignoring this WARNING can lead to frame, fork or other component failure, which can result in serious injury or death.

A. Understanding metals

Steel is the traditional material for building bicycle frames. It has good characteristics, but in high performance bicycles, steel has been largely replaced by aluminium and some titanium. The main factor driving this change is interest by cycling enthusiasts in lighter bicycles.

Properties of Metals

Please understand that there is no simple statement that can be made that characterizes the use of different metals for bicycles. What is true is how the metal chosen is applied is much more important than the material alone. One must look at the way the bike is designed, tested, manufactured, supported along with the characteristics of the metal rather than seeking a simplistic answer.

Metals vary widely in their resistance to corrosion. Steel must be protected or rust will attack it. Aluminium and Titanium quickly develop an oxide film that protects the metal from further corrosion. Both are therefore quite resistant to corrosion. Aluminium is not perfectly corrosion resistant, and particular care must be used where it contacts other metals and galvanic corrosion can occur.

Metals are comparatively ductile. Ductile means bending, buckling and stretching before breaking. Generally speaking, of the common bicycle frame building materials steel is the most ductile, titanium less ductile, followed by aluminium.

Metals vary in density. Density is weight per unit of material. Steel weighs 7.8 grams/cm³ (grams per cubic centimetre), titanium 4.5 grams/cm³, aluminium 2.75 grams/cm³. Contrast these numbers with carbon fibre composite at 1.45 grams/cm³.

Metals are subject to fatigue. With enough cycles of use, at high enough loads, metals will eventually develop cracks that lead to failure. It is very important that you read The basics of metal fatigue below.

Let's say you hit a curb, ditch, rock, car, another cyclist or other object. At any speed above a fast walk, your body will continue to move forward, momentum carrying you over the front of the bike. You cannot and will not stay on the bike, and what happens to the frame, fork and other components is irrelevant to what happens to your body.

What should you expect from your metal frame? It depends on many complex factors, which is why we tell you that crashworthiness cannot be a design criteria.

With that important note, we can tell you that if the impact is hard enough the fork or frame may be bent or buckled. On a steel bike, the steel fork may be severely bent and the frame undamaged. Aluminium is less ductile than steel, but you can expect the fork and frame to be bent or buckled. Hit harder and the top tube may be broken in tension and the down tube buckled. Hit harder and the top tube may be broken, the down tube buckled and broken, leaving the head tube and fork separated from the main triangle.

When a metal bike crashes, you will usually see some evidence of this ductility in bent, buckled or folded metal.

It is now common for the main frame to be made of metal and the fork of carbon fibre. See Section B, Understanding composites below. The relative ductility of metals and the lack of ductility of carbon fibre means that in a crash scenario you can expect some

bending or bucking in the metal but none in the carbon. Below some load the carbon fork may be intact even though the frame is damaged. Above some load the carbon fork will be completely broken.

The basics of metal fatigue

Common sense tells us that nothing that is used lasts forever. The more you use something, and the harder you use it, and the worse the conditions you use it in, the shorter its life.

Fatigue is the term used to describe accumulated damage to a part caused by repeated loading. To cause fatigue damage, the load the part receives must be great enough. A crude, often-used example is bending a paper clip back and forth (repeated loading) until it breaks. This simple definition will help you understand that fatigue has nothing to do with time or age. A bicycle in a garage does not fatigue. Fatigue happens only through use.

So what kind of "damage" are we talking about? On a microscopic level, a crack forms in a highly stressed area. As the load is repeatedly applied, the crack grows. At some point the crack becomes visible to the naked eye. Eventually it becomes so large that the part is too weak to carry the load that it could carry without the crack. At that point there can be a complete and immediate failure of the part.

One can design a part that is so strong that fatigue life is nearly infinite. This requires a lot of material and a lot of weight. Any structure that must be light and strong will have a finite fatigue life. Aircraft, race cars, motorcycles all have parts with finite fatigue lives. If you wanted a bicycle with an infinite fatigue life, it would weigh far more than any bicycle sold today. So we all make a tradeoff: the wonderful, lightweight performance we want requires that we inspect the structure.

What to look for

- **ONCE A CRACK STARTS IT CAN GROW AND GROW FAST.** Think about the crack as forming a pathway to failure. This means that any crack is potentially dangerous and will only become more dangerous.

SIMPLE RULE 1: If you find crack, replace the part.

- **CORROSION SPEEDS DAMAGE.** Cracks grow more quickly when they are in a corrosive environment. Think about the corrosive solution as further weakening and extending the crack.

SIMPLE RULE 2: Clean your bike, lubricate your bike, protect your bike from salt, remove any salt as soon as you can.

- **STAINS AND DISCOLORATION CAN OCCUR NEAR A CRACK.** Such staining may be a warning sign that a crack exists.

SIMPLE RULE 3: Inspect and investigate any staining to see if it is associated with a crack.

- **SIGNIFICANT SCRATCHES, GOUGES, DENTS OR SCORING CREATE STARTING POINTS FOR CRACKS.** Think about the cut surface as a focal point for stress (in fact engineers call such areas "stress risers," areas where the stress is increased). Perhaps you have seen glass cut? Recall how the glass was scored and then broke on the scored line.

SIMPLE RULE 4: Do not scratch, gouge or score any surface. If you do, pay frequent attention to this area or replace the part.

- **SOME CRACKS (particularly larger ones) MAY MAKE CREAKING NOISE AS YOU RIDE.** Think about such a noise as a serious warning signal. Note that a well-maintained bicycle will be very quiet and free of creaks and squeaks.

SIMPLE RULE 5: Investigate and find the source of any noise. It may not be a crack, but whatever is causing the noise should be fixed promptly.

In most cases a fatigue crack is not a defect. It is a sign that the part has been worn out, a sign the part has reached the end of its useful life. When your car tyres wear down to the point that the tread bars are contacting the road, those tyres are not defective. Those tyres are worn out and the tread bar says "time for replacement." When a metal part shows a fatigue crack, it is worn out. The crack says "time for replacement."

Fatigue Is Not A Perfectly Predictable Science

Fatigue is not a perfectly predictable science, but here are some general factors to help you and your dealer determine how often your bicycle should be inspected. The more you fit the "shorten product life" profile, the more frequent your need to inspect. The more you fit the "lengthen product life" profile, the less frequent your need to inspect.

Factors that shorten product life:

- Hard, harsh riding style
- "Hits", crashes, jumps, other "shots" to the bike
- High mileage
- Higher body weight
- Stronger, more fit, more aggressive rider
- Corrosive environment (wet, salt air, winter road salt, accumulated sweat)
- Presence of abrasive mud, dirt, sand, soil in riding environment

Factors that lengthen product life:

- Smooth, fluid riding style
- No "hits", crashes, jumps, other "shots" to the bike
- Low mileage
- Lower body weight
- Less aggressive rider
- Non-corrosive environment (dry, salt-free air)
- Clean riding environment

WARNING: Do not ride a bicycle or component with any crack, bulge or dent, even a small one. Riding a cracked frame, fork or component could lead to complete failure, with risk of serious injury or death.

B. Understanding composites

All riders must understand a fundamental reality of composites. Composite materials constructed of carbon fibres are strong and light, but when crashed or overloaded, carbon fibres do not bend, they break.

What Are Composites?

The term "composites" refers to the fact that a part or parts are made up of different components or materials. You've heard the term "carbon fibre bike." This really means "composite bike."

Carbon fibre composites are typically a strong, light fibre in a matrix of plastic, molded to form a shape. Carbon composites are light relative to metals. Steel weighs 7.8

grams/cm³ (grams per cubic centimetre), titanium 4.5 grams/cm³, aluminium 2.75 grams/cm³. Contrast these numbers with carbon fibre composite at 1.45 grams/cm³.

The composites with the best strength-to-weight ratios are made of carbon fibre in a matrix of epoxy plastic. The epoxy matrix bonds the carbon fibres together, transfers load to other fibres, and provides a smooth outer surface. The carbon fibres are the “skeleton” that carries the load.

Why Are Composites Used?

Unlike metals, which have uniform properties in all directions (engineers call this isotropic), carbon fibres can be placed in specific orientations to optimize the structure for particular loads. The choice of where to place the carbon fibres gives engineers a powerful tool to create strong, light bicycles. Engineers may also orient fibres to suit other goals such as comfort and vibration damping.

Carbon fibre composites are very corrosion resistant, much more so than most metals.

Think about carbon fibre or fibreglass boats.

Carbon fibre materials have a very high strength-to-weight ratio.

What Are The Limits Of Composites?

Well designed “composite” or carbon fibre bicycles and components have long fatigue lives, usually better than their metal equivalents.

While fatigue life is an advantage of carbon fibre, you must still regularly inspect your carbon fibre frame, fork, or components.

Carbon fibre composites are not ductile. Once a carbon structure is overloaded, it will not bend; it will break. At and near the break, there will be rough, sharp edges and maybe delamination of carbon fibre or carbon fibre fabric layers. There will be no bending, buckling, or stretching.

If You Hit Something Or Have A Crash, What Can You Expect From Your Carbon Fibre Bike?

Let’s say you hit a curb, rock, car, other cyclist or other object. At any speed above a fast walk, your body will continue to move forward, the momentum carrying you over the front of the bike. You cannot and will not stay on the bike and what happens to the frame, fork and other components is irrelevant to what happens to your body.

What should you expect from your carbon frame? It depends on many complex factors. But we can tell you that if the impact is hard enough, the fork or frame may be completely broken. Note the significant difference in behaviour between carbon and metal. See Section 2.A, Understanding metals in this Appendix.

Even if the carbon frame was twice as strong as a metal frame, once the carbon frame is overloaded it will not bend, it will break completely.

Inspection of Composite Frame, Fork, and Components

Cracks:

Inspect for cracks, broken, or splintered areas. Any crack is serious. Do not ride any bicycle or component that has a crack of any size.

Delamination:

Delamination is serious damage. Composites are made from layers of fabric. Delamination means that the layers of fabric are no longer bonded together. Do not ride any bicycle or component that has any delamination.

These are some delamination clues:

1. A cloudy or white area. This kind of area looks different from the ordinary undamaged areas. Undamaged areas will look glassy, shiny, or “deep,” as if one was looking into a clear liquid. Delaminated areas will look opaque and cloudy.

2. Bulging or deformed shape. If delamination occurs, the surface shape may change. The surface may have a bump, a bulge, soft spot, or not be smooth and fair.

3. A difference in sound when tapping the surface. If you gently tap the surface of an undamaged composite you will hear a consistent sound, usually a hard, sharp sound. If you then tap a delaminated area, you will hear a different sound, usually duller, less sharp.

Unusual Noises:

Either a crack or delamination can cause creaking noises while riding. Think about such a noise as a serious warning signal. A well maintained bicycle will be very quiet and free of creaks and squeaks. Investigate and find the source of any noise. It may not be a crack or delamination, but whatever is causing the noise must be fixed before riding.

WARNING: Do not ride a bicycle or component with any delamination or crack. Riding a delaminated or cracked frame, fork or other component could lead to complete failure, with risk of serious injury or death.

C. Understanding components

It is often necessary to remove and disassemble components in order to properly and carefully inspect them. This is a job for a professional bicycle mechanic with the special tools, skills and experience to inspect and service today's high-tech high-performance bicycles and their components.

Original Equipment components

Bicycle and component manufacturers test the fatigue life of the components that are original equipment on your bike. This means that they have met test criteria and have reasonable fatigue life. It does not mean that the original components will last forever. They won't.

Aftermarket "Super Light" components

Think carefully about your rider profile as outlined above. The more you fit the "shorten product life" profile, the more you must question the use of super light components. The more you fit the "lengthen product life" profile, the more likely it is that lighter components may be suitable for you. Discuss your needs and your profile very honestly with your dealer.

Take these choices seriously and understand that you are responsible for the changes.

Appendix C

Fastener Torque Specifications

Correct tightening torque of threaded fasteners is very important to your safety. Always tighten fasteners to the correct torque. In case of a conflict between the instructions in this manual and information provided by a component manufacturer, consult with your dealer for clarification. Bolts that are too tight can stretch and deform. Bolts that are too loose can move and fatigue.

Either mistake can lead to a sudden failure of the bolt.

Always use a correctly calibrated torque wrench to tighten critical fasteners on your bike. Carefully follow the torque wrench manufacturer's instructions on the correct way to set and use the torque wrench for accurate results.

RECOMMENDED TORQUE VALUES

- Water bottle cage bolts - 2 to 3 Nm
- Stem (to handlebar/basebar) - 8 to 12 Nm
- Brake/shift levers - 5 to 8 Nm
- Brake calipers - 8 to 10 Nm
- Stem (to fork) - 4 to 5 Nm is recommended.
- Stem Top cap - Apply only enough torque to remove all headset play while ensuring it still rotates freely. 1 to 2 Nm is recommended.
- Bar extensions (to basebar) - 9 Nm
- Bar extensions (armrest bolt) - 8 Nm
- Saddle (seatpost head bolt):
- Alloy seatpost front T-nut head bolt - 7.5 Nm; rear wedge bolt - 6 Nm
- Carbon seatpost saddle clamp bolt - 12 Nm
- Round seatpost head bolt - 16.2 Nm
- Seattube collar:
- Alloy seattube collar - 6 to 7 Nm
- Carbon seattube collar - 4 Nm
- Round seattube collar - 6 Nm
- *Note that collar & bolt must be greased; aluminium seatposts greased, carbon seatposts coated in carbon assembly compound.*
- Pedals - 30 to 35 Nm
- Wheels - Measured torque is not used for quick release wheels, the recommended industry practice is to close the release so that resistance occurs at the midpoint of the lever's travel from fully open to fully closed.

LIMITED WARRANTY

This limited lifetime warranty should not be taken to suggest or imply that your bicycle cannot be broken or that it will last forever. It does however mean that with due care and correct use, your bicycle or frameset is covered against defects in assembly materials and workmanship.

Forme bicycles are sold exclusively through our network of trusted, professional and therefore authorized dealers. Purchasing through an authorized dealer is your assurance of authentic Forme quality. To find your preferred dealer, please visit our **dealer locator**. Forme products purchased through any channel other than an authorized retailer are not covered by this Forme warranty.

Any claim filed under this warranty must be made through an authorized dealer.

This warranty applies only to the original owner of a Forme bicycle or Frameset (excluding paint and decals) and is not transferable to subsequent owners.

This warranty applies to all models from the 2012 collection onwards and covers Forme branded products only. Any other original part or component shall be covered by the stated warranty of the original manufacturer.

Damage resulting from normal wear and tear, including the results of fatigue, is not covered.

This warranty is made void in its entirety by any modification of the frame, fork, or components.

This warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective frame, and said repair or replacement is at the sole discretion of Moore Large & Co. Ltd. No other remedy is available under this warranty.

1. Any bicycle must be supplied fully assembled from an authorized dealer's premises.
2. The instructions for use, maintenance and cleaning of the frame must be followed and all usual precautions to protect the frame from the elements must be taken at all times.
3. Normal wear and tear, crash damage or accidental damage is excluded from this warranty
4. This warranty will not apply to frames which have been improperly assembled; or modified; or have had parts or accessories fitted which are not compatible with the frame.
5. Repainting or re-lacquering a metal frame will invalidate the warranty where the process involves heating the frame to over 180 Celsius. Repainting or re-lacquering a carbon frame will invalidate this warranty altogether.
6. Moore Large & Co. Ltd. declines all responsibility for damages to people, animals or objects due to the use of this product

THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER:

- Normal wear and tear including the results of Fatigue. Fatigue damage is a symptom of the frame being worn out through normal use. It is one kind of normal wear and tear, and it is the owner's responsibility to inspect his/her bicycle. See your Forme Bicycle Owner's Manual for further details.
- Assembly by non-authorized personnel
- Improper follow-up maintenance
- Installation of components, parts, or accessories not originally intended for or compatible with the frameset or bicycle as sold
- Damage or failure due to accident, misuse, abuse or neglect (including frames used for jumping, trick riding, racing or any other non-standard use.
- Labour charges for part replacement or changeover
- Postage and packing costs. However, the shipping of any new frame will be paid by Moore Large.
- Incidental or consequential damages suffered.

Procedure:

A Forme owner who needs to make a warranty claim should take the bike to his Forme dealer with proof of purchase.

A warranty form will then be sent to Forme with the following information:

- Dated proof of purchase
- Description of Frame model
- Description of Model year
- Frame size
- Frame number
- Two digital pictures of good quality (one picture of the whole bike and one macro shot of the problem). If pictures can't be sent, the frame will have to be sent in for inspection.
- Short description of the problem.

The Warranty form has to be sent to customer.service@moorelarge.co.uk Warranty claims will not be processed if any of this information is missing!

Defective Material Replacement:

After inspection of the defective material, several options are possible:

- If the problem comes from a manufacturing defect or defective material, Moore Large will replace the frame with the same model or one of similar quality. Upgrades may be possible for a consideration, please ask for details.
- In case of doubt regarding the problem origin, Moore Large will offer a 50% discount on the suggested retail price for a new frame.
- If the problem is not caused by a manufacturing defect, nor defective material, or if some of the requested information about the bicycle and its owner are missing, warranty will be voided and no offer will be made.

This warranty does not affect your statutory rights.

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ANOTHER QUALITY BICYCLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY
MOORE LARGE CO LTD, SINFIN LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
SINFIN LANE, DERBY, DE24 9GL

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