



[www.freedommachine.com.au](http://www.freedommachine.com.au)  
[enquiries@freedommachine.com.au](mailto:enquiries@freedommachine.com.au)

## CHOOSING A BIKE

With so many different brands available on the market, choosing a bike for yourself or for another person can be quite a daunting task. This leaflet will endeavour to remove some of the myths and jargon that are used and give you a greater understanding of different materials and different levels of componentry and whether or not they will satisfy your requirements.

### TYPES OF BIKES

**MOUNTAIN BIKE** The most popular type of bike. Advantages are that they are strong, robust, can be taken off road and because of their oversize tyres, design and seating position, they are also the most comfortable. The disadvantages of this type of bike are that they are generally heavier and because of that they are slower than other types of bikes.





**RACER** Fastest of all the bikes. Advantages of this bike are that it is ideal for long distance riding, it corners on road better than any other type and where speed is the primary concern it is the obvious choice. Disadvantages are that the bike is more delicate than other types and it will require more maintenance. It also cannot be taken off road and the rider will feel every little bump off the road.

**HYBRID** Ideal commuting bike and as the name suggests its half way between the previous two bikes. Advantages of this bike are that it is comfortable, reasonably light, quite fast and requires less maintenance than a racer.

# *So you've decided what type of bike is right for you*

## *Now what ?*

Its time to look at the most important part of the bike, the **FRAME**, the thing everything else is attached too. Below is a list of all the different types.





Frame Types		Price range of bike
Hi Tensile Steel		\$259-\$399
Main Cro-Mo		\$399-\$459
100% Cro-Mo		\$459-\$650
Aluminium Plain Gauge		\$449-\$999
Aluminium Butted Main		\$799+
100% Butted Aluminium	Greater strength with reduced weight	\$1299+
Easton E9, Elite	Highest grade Aluminium	\$2999+
Carbon Fibre Stays	Extra shock absorbance in the rear	\$1500+
Carbon Fibre Tubed	Fibres can be layered to increase strength and improve shock absorption	\$1599+
Carbon Fibre Monocoque	The ultimate in strength and aerodynamics	2599+

After you have decided on a frame, what about the componentry you will use? Some bikes use a 100% group set which means that all of working parts are of the same make and model and this ensures that they work as they were originally intended. However most bikes use a combination of different makes of componentry. This can make certain bikes appear to be good value on the surface eg. when a bike might have a high end model rear derailleur but the rest of the bike is sub standard, so it is important to assess the bike as a complete package and not on a few selected parts. Other important components to consider are rims and the different types of suspension available. Most companies offer a range of different components, the following is Shimano's in order of quality and price.

Shimano Mountain Bike Group Sets		Price range of bike
Tourney	Recreational Only	\$199-\$300
Altus	Recreational and Sport	\$300-\$600
Acera	Sport	\$599-\$999
Alivio	Entry Level Off road	\$699-\$1099
Deore	Off Road Racing	\$899-\$2299
Deore-LX	Intermediate Racing	\$1400+
Deore-XT	Performance Off Road Use	\$2000+
XTR	Ultimate Off Road Racing	\$3500+

Shimano Road Group Sets		Price range of bike
Tourney	Recreational Only	\$699-\$999
Sora	Entry Level Racing	\$999-\$1600
Tiagra	Intermediate Racing	\$1400-\$2000
105	Performance Racing	\$2200-\$3000
Ultegra	Performance & Durability	\$3000-\$6000
Dura-Ace	Ultimate Road Racing	\$5000+

Shimano Hybrid Group Sets		Price range of bike
Nexave T-300	Recreational and Touring	\$799-\$1000
Nexave T-400	Sport and Touring	\$899-\$1400

Rim Structure		Suspension	
Conventional		Basic Non-Adjustable	Cheapest and simplest forks with limited travel.
Modular		Adjustable Spring/Elastomer	Preload is adjustable but has no damping at all.
Modular with Double Eyelet		Spring/Hydraulic	Rebuildable and adjustable in preload and damping
Aerodynamic		Air / Oil	As above but is infinitely adjustable
Heat Treating	Increases strength without weight gain	Air/Hydraulic with external adjustors	Adjustable compression/rebound damping, preload and lock out.

Now that you are more familiar with the different parts of the bike you will be able to make an informed decision on what is the best suited bike for your intended purpose and what you should be able to get for your money.

There are a few other aspects that are also of great importance. They are;

1/ Correct Size

This includes frame size, stem length, crank length and all other variables to make sure that the bike fits like a glove. At "The Freedom Machine" we have the latest computerised frame fitting system which ensures that all these are right from day one.

2/ Assembly

We have several experienced mechanics who assemble your bike in accordance with a tried and tested system that ensures that each and every bike is put together in the same manner and that every section of the bike is at least double checked.

3/ Guarantee

"The Freedom Machine" offers over and above any other guarantee that the bike may come with, this simple pledge;

**IF FOR ANY REASON YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH YOUR BIKE  
SIMPLY RETURN THE BIKE, UNDAMAGED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF  
PURCHASE AND WE WILL REPLACE IT, EXCHANGE IT OR REFUND  
YOUR MONEY AT YOUR DISCRETION**

## **Other Benefits in Buying a Bike From The Freedom Machine are;**

- 1/ 12 Months free servicing.
- 2/ A permanent record of your bike's serial number, model number, size, colour and modifications. A real benefit in the unfortunate event of theft, loss or damage.
- 3/ Extended parts and accessories guarantee.
- 4/ All servicing done within 24hrs (excluding Sundays)
- 5/ Free training rides; Road rides every week and Mountain Bike rides bi-monthly.
- 6/ Money Back Guarantee.
- 7/ Open 7 days a week for your convenience
- 8/ Free Computerised Frame fit for any bike you own.

