Wait, read this real quick.

READY.

SET.

GO!
Here are some tips to help you enjoy your new ride.

**Check, check. 1-2, 1-2.**
Before you get on your bike, give it the once over and make sure your tires are properly inflated and the front wheel is secure. Nothing ruins an awesome wheelie like losing a wheel. If you’re not sure how the wheel attaches, the details are inside.

**We like that brain of yours, protect it.**
We know, helmet hair, right? But you know what looks lamer? Concussion hair. Besides, we’ve got a sweet line of helmets to match your bike.

**Avoid things that can get stuck in your front wheel.**
A shopping bag in your hand, a purse, rogue sticks. If something gets jammed in there and the front wheel stops suddenly, you’re going to have a bad time.

**Use bike lights on every ride, day and night.**
Use them all the time. It’s just like driving these days. People smarter than us have done studies showing lights are the single best way to stand out to motorists, even when the sun is shining.

**Something sounds or feels weird? Get it checked out.**
Just like planes, bikes are easier to fix before you take off. Electra retailers are there to help.

**Like a fender after rain, we’ve got your back.**
If you ever have a problem your local Electra shop can’t solve, reach out to: customercare@electrabike.com or write Electra President Kevin Cox directly at kc@electrabike.com.

**Read the rest of this manual.**
Sounds like homework, but it’s worth it. 25 years on the streets have taught us a lot of stuff worth sharing.
First things first
We know you want to get out there and ride. Before you do, it’s important that you complete steps 1 & 2 below. They won’t take long.

1 Register your bike
Registration records your serial number (which is important if your bike is ever lost or stolen), and serves as a means of communication with Electra if there are any safety alerts about your bicycle. If you have questions about your bicycle, even years down the line, in just seconds your registration lets us know exactly which bike we’re discussing, so we can give you the best service possible.

If you or your bike shop haven’t already registered your bike, please do so in the Support section at the top of the home page at electrabike.com. It’s quick and easy.

2 Read this manual
This manual contains essential safety information. Even if you’ve ridden a bicycle for years, it’s important that you read and understand the information in this manual before riding your new bicycle. You can read it here or online in the Support section at the top of the home page at electrabike.com.

Parents or guardians, if this bicycle is for a child or dependent, please make sure he or she understands all safety information in this manual.

How to use this manual
This manual covers all Electra bicycle models. It contains useful information for the life of your bicycle.

Read the fundamentals
Read Chapter 1, Fundamentals, before you ride your bike.

If you purchased an electric-assist bicycle (e-bike), please also read the supplemental Electric Bicycle Owner’s Manual. It’s also available in the Support section of electrabike.com.

Go online for more great info
You’ll find the most current and detailed information at electrabike.com.
A note about warnings

As you read this manual, you’ll see gray warning boxes like this:

**WARNING!** Text in a gray box with the safety alert symbol will warn you about a situation or behavior that could cause severe injury or death.

The reason for these warnings is that we don’t want you — or your loved ones, or your bicycle — to get hurt.

We want you to have fun on your bicycle, just like we love to have fun on our bicycles.

We know what it’s like to tip over at a stop sign, to bloody our knuckles while fixing a chain, to crash on slick pavement. We’ve done it all. At best, those mishaps aren’t fun. At worst, you could get hurt.

So please pay attention to the warnings. It’s our way of letting you know we care about your safety.

Keep this manual for reference

This manual shows you how to ride safely, and how and when to do basic inspections and maintenance (Chapter 2). Keep it for the life of your bicycle. We also recommend that you keep your proof of purchase along with the manual in case you need to make a warranty claim.

Important safety information

Read this important safety information before riding your bicycle.

A bicycle can’t protect you in an accident

The most common cause of injury on a bicycle is falling. In a crash or impact, it is not uncommon for your bicycle to sustain damage and for you to fall. Cars have bumpers, seat belts, air bags, and crumple zones. Bicycles do not. If you fall, your bicycle cannot prevent injury.

If you are involved in any kind of impact, crash, or accident, check yourself thoroughly for injuries. Then have your bicycle thoroughly inspected by your bike shop before you ride it again.

Know your bike’s limits

Use conditions

Your bicycle is made to withstand the stress of “normal” riding within specific use conditions (see Use conditions section). If you misuse your bicycle by riding outside those conditions, it can be damaged by stress or fatigue (You’ll see the word “fatigue” frequently in this manual. It means the weakening of material over time due to repeated load or stress.). Any damage can drastically reduce the life of the frame, fork, or other parts.

Lifespan

A bicycle is not indestructible, and its parts will not last forever. Our bicycles are made to withstand the stress of “normal” riding because those stresses are well known and understood.

Know your limits

A bicycle can be dangerous, especially if you try to ride beyond the limits of your ability. Know your skill level and don’t ride beyond it.
However, we cannot predict the forces that might occur if you ride in extreme conditions, if it is involved in an accident, if it is used for rentals or for commercial purposes, or if it is used in other ways that apply high stress or fatigue loads.

With damage, the life of any part can be drastically reduced and may fail without warning.

The safe life of a part is determined by its construction, materials, use, maintenance, rider weight, speed, terrain, and environment (humidity, salinity, temperature, etc.), so it is not possible to give an accurate timetable for replacement.

Any crack, scratch, or change of color in a high-stress area indicates the part (including the frame or fork) has reached the end of its life and should be replaced. If you are not sure or you don’t feel comfortable inspecting or repairing your bicycle, consult your bike shop.

In some cases, a lighter frame or part has a longer life than a heavier one. However, regular maintenance, frequent inspections, and frequent replacement of parts are necessary for any bicycle.

E-bike components are especially vulnerable. Electric cables, connectors, battery dock, battery, and the controller can be easily damaged if handled incorrectly.

**Think safety**

Stay tuned to your environment and avoid dangerous situations which are usually obvious (traffic, obstacles, drop-offs, and so on), but sometimes are not. Many of those situations are shown in this manual.

Some of the high-risk stunts and jumps seen in magazines or videos are very dangerous; even skilled athletes get severe injuries when they crash (and they do crash).

Modifications to your bicycle can make it unsafe. Each part of your new bicycle has been carefully chosen and approved. The safety of accessory or replacement parts, and especially how those parts attach and interface with other parts of the bicycle, is not always apparent. For this reason, you should only replace parts with original equipment or parts that are approved. If you are not sure what parts are approved, ask your bike shop.

Examples of modifications include this partial list:

- Physically altering existing parts (sanding, filing, drilling, etc.)
- Removing safety equipment such as reflectors or secondary retention devices
- Using adapters for brake systems
- Adding a motor or engine
- Installing accessories
- Changing parts

---

**WARNING:** A bicycle is subjected to wear and high stress. Different materials and parts may react to wear or stress fatigue in different ways. If the design life of a part has been exceeded, it may suddenly fail.

For a maintenance schedule, see the **Caring for your bike** section.

**Handle with care**

Some parts of your bicycle can injure you if mishandled. There are sharp points, for example, on the teeth of the chainrings and some pedals. Brakes and their parts get hot. Rotating wheels can cut skin and even break bones. Clamps and pivoting parts such as brake levers can pinch, as can the chain where it runs onto sprocket teeth.

E-bike components are especially vulnerable. Electric cables, connectors, battery dock, battery, and the controller can be easily damaged if handled incorrectly.
Important e-bike information
It is important to read this manual and the supplemental Electric Bicycle Owner’s Manual carefully before you ride your new electric bike.

- There’s good stuff in each manual about your e-bike.
- We’re partners in protecting the earth, so you need to properly use, maintain, and dispose of electrical components.

Get to know your bike shop
The best way to ensure many happy hours of trouble-free cycling is to build a relationship with your favorite bike shop.

The ultimate resource
This manual contains lots of valuable information about your bicycle — and there’s even more in the Support section of electrabike.com.

But a manual or a website can’t fix a flat, tune your derailleur, correct your saddle height, pour you a cup of coffee, or wax endlessly about that one time when you almost won that one thing.

Locally owned bike shops are the heart and soul of cycling. Here’s just a sampling of what they offer:

Knowledgeable staff
Bike shop staff aren’t just salespeople. They’re riders who use and understand the products they sell.

The right fit
Your shop can set up and adjust your bike to fit you, your riding style, and your preferences.

Professional mechanics
Service staff at your shop will keep your bike or e-bike in tip-top shape season after season.

Warranty service
If you have an issue with a product we sell, your bike shop is committed to making it right.

There’s a shop for every rider
We work with over 2,000 local bike shops in the U.S. and hundreds more worldwide. While some dealers specialize in performance bikes, Electra retailers offer something for everyone. It’s all about getting on bikes and enjoying the ride.

If you don’t already have a favorite shop, the best place to find one is Find a retailer at electrabike.com.
Bike diagrams

These diagrams include basic bike parts. Your specific model may not have all the parts shown. Visit the Support section of electrabike.com for more specific information.
Before your first ride
It’s extremely important to make sure your bicycle is adjusted and ready for use before your first ride.

Ride the right size bike
Almost all Electra models feature our patented Flat Foot Technology® frame geometry. One size typically fits most, but your shop will help you find the Electra bicycle that fits you best.

Raise or lower the saddle to a height that allows you to slightly touch the ground flat-footed while supporting your entire weight on the saddle. Make sure your legs are in a straight vertical position and your knees are NOT bent (Figure 1.1). In most cases, this will give you proper riding leg extension. If you prefer more extension, raise the saddle slightly.

Stay within the weight limit
Your bicycle has a weight limit. See the Use conditions section for general guidelines.

To avoid damage to the seatpost or bike frame, do not position the saddle beyond the minimum insertion line on the seatpost or seatmast (Figure 1.2). If you can’t properly position your saddle, see your bike shop.

Adjust your handlebar and stem to a comfortable height
Handlebar position is important for control and comfort. You point the handlebar and the bike follows.

Special tools and training are necessary to align, adjust, and torque your stem, so only your bike shop should do this. Do not attempt to make the adjustments yourself as these changes may also require adjustments to the shift levers, brake levers, and cables.

WARNING: An incorrect headset and stem assembly, and incorrect torque can cause damage to the fork’s steerer tube, possibly causing the tube to break. If the steerer tube breaks, you could fail.

Get to know your bike
For the most possible enjoyment from your bicycle, familiarize yourself with:

- Pedals
- Brakes (levers or pedals)
- Shifting (if equipped)

You will enjoy yourself more if you have a comfortable and confident ride.
Before every ride

Before riding your bicycle, perform a safety check on level ground and away from traffic. If any part doesn’t pass the safety check, fix it or have your bike serviced before riding.

Pre-ride checklist

Check the handlebar

- Make sure the bar is at 90 degrees to the wheel (Figure 1.3).
- Check that the handlebar is tightened sufficiently so that it will not twist out of alignment and does not rotate in the stem.
- Make sure that no cables are pulled or caught when you turn the handlebar from side to side.

Check the saddle and seat post

- Make sure the saddle is in line with the center of the bike (Figure 1.3).
- Check that the saddle rails or collar is tightened sufficiently so that it will not twist out of alignment, or move or tilt up and down.

WARNING: A wheel attachment device, including a quick-release, not correctly adjusted and closed can move independently and catch in spokes or a brake rotor. In addition, the wheel may become loose or come off, suddenly stop the wheel, decrease your control, and cause you to fall. Make sure your wheel is correctly installed and firmly attached before you ride your bicycle.

Check the wheels

- Check rims and spokes for damage. Give the wheel a spin. It should spin straight through the fork (front) and chainstays (rear), and not contact the brake pads (rim brakes).
- Check that the axles are fully seated in the dropouts.
- Lift your bicycle and hit the top of the tire with a solid blow. The wheel should not come off, be loose, or move from side to side.

WARNING: Securely clamping the wheel with a quick-release system takes considerable force. If the wheel is not properly secured, the wheel can become loose or fall off causing serious injury. The nut should be tightened enough that you need to wrap your fingers around the fork to close the lever. The lever should leave a clear imprint in your palm, and the fastener should emboss the surface of the dropout.

Check the tires

- Use a tire pump with a gauge to make sure your tires are inflated within the recommended pressure range. Do not exceed the pressure limit as stated on the side of the tire or rim; whichever is lowest.

NOTE: It is better to use a hand or foot pump than a service station pump or electric compressor. The latter are more likely to allow for over-inflation, which can cause the tire to blow out.

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NOTE: It is better to use a hand or foot pump than a service station pump or electric compressor. The latter are more likely to allow for over-inflation, which can cause the tire to blow out.
Check the brakes

• While standing still, make sure you can apply full braking force without the brake lever touching the handlebar. (If the lever touches, your brakes may need adjustment.)

• Check that the front wheel brake is working properly. Ride the bike at slow speed and apply the front wheel brake. The bike should come to an immediate stop.

Figure 1.5: Apply both brakes together. Using the front brake only could cause the bike to pitch forward.

⚠️ WARNING: Brake force applied to the front wheel suddenly or too fully could lift the rear wheel off the ground. This could decrease your control and cause you to fall. For best results, apply both brakes at the same time. (Figure 1.5)

• For rim or disc brakes, repeat the process with the rear wheel brake.

• For coaster brakes, start with the back pedal crank slightly higher than horizontal. Apply pressure downwards on the back pedal. When you move the pedal downward, the brake should engage.

Check the chain

• Make sure your chain or belt has the correct tension so that it can’t fall off. If you’re unsure of the correct tension, see your bike shop.

• Check that the chain has no kinks, rust, broken pins, plates, or rollers.

• Coaster brake: There should be between 6-12mm (0.25-0.50 in) total vertical movement in the middle of the chain (Figure 1.6).

Check your e-bike battery and controller

• With an e-bike, check that your battery is locked in the dock and fully charged, and your controller and e-bike system are functioning properly.

Check the cables

• Make sure all cables and housings are properly secured to the frame or fork so that they cannot interfere with or get caught on moving parts.

Check reflectors, lights, and accessories

• Check that reflectors are clean and correctly positioned on the wheel.

• Make sure your front and rear lights and any other accessories are securely attached, properly positioned, and working properly.

• Position your lights parallel to the ground. Make sure your batteries are charged.

Check your pedals

• Make sure your pedals and shoes are clean and free of debris that could affect your grip or interfere with the pedal system.

Grab your pedals and crank arm and wiggle to see if there’s any looseness. Also spin the pedals to make sure they rotate freely.
Safety precautions
Follow these essential safety precautions to reduce your risk of harm when riding your bicycle.

Gear up
- Always wear a helmet when riding your bicycle to reduce the risk of head injury in an accident. Make sure your helmet fits you properly and meets the required safety standards.
- Dress appropriately. Loose clothing or accessories can get caught in your wheels or other moving parts and cause you to fall (e.g., pants leg in the chainring).
- Make sure all loose straps and accessories are secured (bikepacking harness, panniers, etc.).
- Increase your visibility by wearing fluorescent apparel during daylight, and reflective apparel at night. On a bike, the unique up and down pedaling motion is what makes you recognizable on the road. At night, highlight your feet, ankles, and legs with products that feature reflective materials. During daylight, wear fluorescent socks, shoes, covers, or warmers.
- Use front and rear lights, day and night. Make sure your reflectors are clean and properly positioned.

WARNING: Reflectors, which function only when light shines on them, are not a substitute for lights. Riding in dark conditions or at times of poor visibility without adequate lighting is extremely hazardous.

Ride smart
Know your skill level and do not ride above it.
- Do not ride distracted. Using a mobile phone, music player, or similar device while riding can lead to an accident.
- Do not ride too fast. Higher speed creates higher risk, and results in higher forces if a crash occurs. You may be surprised at the power of an e-bike.
- Do not ride hands-free. Always keep at least one hand on the handlebar.
- Do not ride double except on a tandem bicycle.
- Do not ride while intoxicated or while using medications that can make you drowsy or less attentive.
- Do not ride in large groups. Riding close to other riders reduces visibility with the road and can cause you to lose control of your bicycle. Also, large groups of cyclists can cause problems for other users of the roadway.
- Do not ride in a manner not specified for your bicycle type (see section Use conditions).

E-bike Note: Be aware that other road users do not expect that an e-bike can ride faster than a normal bike. Riding faster may also increase the risk of an accident.

WARNING: You add to your risk of injury when you use your bicycle in an incorrect manner. Misuse can add stress to your bike. High stress can cause the frame or a part to break and increase your risk of injury. To decrease your risk of injury, use your bicycle in the manner for which it was designed.
Avoid misuse
Examples of misuse include jumping your bicycle; riding over sticks, debris, or other obstacles; performing stunts; riding in severe off-road terrain; riding too fast for conditions, or riding in an unusual manner. These and other misuses add to the stress on each part of your bicycle.

Avoid hazards
Watch for cars, pedestrians, and other cyclists. Assume others do not see you, and be prepared to avoid them or their actions such as opening a door in your path.

Ride carefully when off-road. Do not ride over rocks, branches, or depressions.

Do not ride with a loose object or pet’s leash attached to the handlebar or other part of your bicycle.

Watch for and avoid road hazards like potholes, drain grates, soft or low shoulders, or debris that could impact your wheels, make your wheels slide, cause your wheels to “lock up,” or catch your wheels in a rut, all of which could cause you to lose control. If you’re uncertain of the road conditions, walk your bike.

When you cross railroad tracks or drain grates, approach them carefully and cross them at a 90-degree angle to keep your wheels from getting caught in the ruts (Figure 1.7).

Figure 1.7 Crossing railroad tracks.

Respect the weather
Take extra precautions when you ride in wet or snowy weather, because the grip of your tires is greatly reduced.

Braking distances increase in wet weather. Apply your brakes earlier and use extra caution than when riding in dry conditions.

Listen to your bike
If your bicycle behaves in an unusual manner (it shakes or wobbles, for example), or you hear an unusual noise, immediately stop riding the bicycle and identify the problem.

After any crash or impact, have your bike shop thoroughly inspect your bicycle. Damage to your bicycle may not be readily visible. Repair any problem before riding again or take the bicycle to your bike shop for service.

Plan ahead
It’s a real drag to have a flat tire or other mechanical problem when out on an enjoyable bike ride. Carry a pump, spare inner tube, patch kit, tools, and spare batteries, or chargers for your lights and batteries. Be ready to fix your bike so you can return safely from your ride.

Follow the rules on and off-road
It is your responsibility to be aware of the laws that apply where you ride. Observe all laws and regulations regarding e-bikes, bicycle lighting, riding on roads or paths, helmets, child carriers, and traffic.
Use conditions & weight limits

Your bicycle has a frame sticker that indicates its use condition. Ride only in the use condition specified for your bicycle type.

Frame sticker
Check your frame for the use condition sticker and/or the following Electrically Power Assisted Cycles (EPAC) sticker:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU EPAC ISO label, CE specific to model</th>
<th>US EPAC ISO label, Class label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISO 4210-2 City/Trekking</td>
<td>Class I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Max 250 W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Max 20 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO 4210-2 City/Trekking</td>
<td>EN 15194 City/Trekking EPAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

⚠️ WARNING: If your use of a bicycle applies more stress than the Use Condition for which it is intended, the bicycle or its parts can be damaged or broken. A bicycle that has damage could decrease your control and cause you to fall. Do not ride in use conditions that apply more stress than the limits of the bicycle. If you are not sure of the limits of the bicycle, consult your bike shop.

Weight limit = rider + bicycle + gear/cargo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Terrain</th>
<th>Weight limit</th>
<th>Bicycle type or definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Bicycle</td>
<td>Riding for children. A child should not ride without the supervision of a parent. Children should not ride near slopes, curbs, stairs, drop-offs, pools, or areas that automobiles use.</td>
<td>36kg (80lb)</td>
<td>Usually a bicycle with 12&quot;, 16&quot;, or 20&quot; wheels; a child’s tricycle; and includes a trailer bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition 1</td>
<td>Riding on a paved surface where the tires are always on the ground.</td>
<td>125kg (275lb)</td>
<td>Road bicycle with drop-type handlebar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Triathlon, time trial, or speed bicycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cruiser with large, 26&quot; tires and swept-back handlebar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Road electric-assist bicycle with drop-type handlebar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>136kg (300lb)</td>
<td>Standard pedelec electric-assist bicycle (e-bikes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>250kg (550lb)</td>
<td>Tandem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition 2</td>
<td>Riding in Condition 1, plus smooth gravel roads and groomed trails with low-angle grades. Drop-offs of less than 6&quot; (15cm).</td>
<td>80kg (175lb)</td>
<td>Mountain or hybrid bike with 24&quot; wheels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>125kg (275lb)</td>
<td>Cyclocross bicycle: drop-type handlebar, knobby 700c tires, and cantilever or disc brakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>136kg (300lb)</td>
<td>Hybrid or DuoSport bicycle with 700c wheels, tires wider than 28c, and flat handlebar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Standard pedelec electric-assist bicycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Basic riding technique

Use the following tips and techniques to get the most out of your riding experience.

Turning and handling

Be careful of “toe overlap.” When you turn the handlebar at very slow speeds, your foot could overlap or touch the front wheel or fender. Do not pedal when you ride slowly with the handlebar turned.

Wet, debris-strewn, or uneven pavement will affect the handling of your bicycle. Paint (crosswalks, lane lines) and metal surfaces (grates, manhole covers) can be especially slippery when wet. Try to avoid sudden changes in direction on less-than-ideal surfaces.

Figure 1.8: Toe overlap.

Stopping

Always ride with a safe distance between you and other vehicles or objects to give yourself adequate room to stop. Adjust distances and brake forces to suit riding conditions and speeds.

For safest braking, use your brakes smoothly and evenly. Look ahead and adjust your speed in advance to avoid hard braking.

Different bikes have different brake systems and different levels of brake power depending on their use condition (see Use conditions & weight limits section). Be aware of your bicycle’s braking power and don’t ride beyond it. If you want more — or less — braking power, consult your bike shop.

Wet, debris-strewn, or uneven pavement will affect how your bike reacts to braking. Take extra care when braking under less-than-ideal road conditions. Keep it smooth, and allow more time and distance for stopping.

Coaster brakes

Parents or guardians: explain this to your child or dependent.

If your bicycle has a coaster brake (a brake activated by the pedals), apply the brake by pedaling backwards.

Figure 1.9
For greatest braking force, the crank arms should be horizontal when you apply the brake. The crank will rotate some before the brake starts to work, so start to apply the brake with the rear pedal slightly higher than horizontal (Figure 1.9).

**Hand brakes**

Before riding, make sure you know which brake lever controls which brake (front or rear).

If you have two hand brakes, apply both brakes at the same time.

The front brake provides more stopping power than the rear, so do not use it too forcefully or too abruptly. Gradually add pressure to both brakes until you slow to the desired speed or stop.

If you must stop quickly, shift your weight back as you apply the brakes to keep the rear wheel on the ground.

**WARNING:** Brake force applied to the front wheel suddenly or too fully could lift the rear wheel off the ground or cause the front wheel to slide out from under you. This will decrease your control and cause you to fall.

Some front brakes include a ‘modulator’, a device that makes application of the front brake more gradual.

**Shifting gears**

The gears on your bicycle allow you to pedal comfortably in different conditions — like riding up a hill, pedaling into a headwind, or riding fast on flat terrain. Select the gear that is most comfortable for the conditions; a gear that lets you pedal at a constant rate.

There are two shifting systems on most bicycles: the derailleur which is external, and the internal gear hub (IGH). Use the proper technique for your setup.

Different shifters and derailleurs function differently. Get to know your system.

**To shift with a derailleur**

**WARNING:** Improper derailleur shifting technique could cause your chain to jam or come off, causing you to lose control and fall.

A derailleur moves your chain from one gear to another. You shift gears by changing the position of a shift lever (also called a shifter), which controls the derailleur. On most bicycles the left shifter controls the front derailleur and the right shifter controls the rear derailleur.

Shift gears only when the pedals and chain are moving forward.

Decrease the force on the pedals as you shift gears. Reduced chain tension helps the chain shift gears quickly and smoothly, which decreases chain, derailleur, and gear wear.

Use only one shifter at a time.

Do not shift gears when you ride over bumps to prevent dropping or jamming the chain or missing a gear.

Do not ride with the chain in the “cross-over” position. Cross-over is when you shift the derailleur so the chain crosses from the biggest front sprocket to the biggest rear sprocket (also the smallest sprocket to the smallest sprocket).

In this position, the chain is placed at an extreme angle causing the chain and gears to run roughly, and the parts to wear at a faster rate (Figure 1.10).
To shift with an internal gear hub (IGH)

When you shift gears, coast (do not pedal). Tension on the chain prevents the correct operation of the gear change mechanism and could damage the mechanism.

With most IGH systems you can shift while the bike is not moving — for example, you could shift into a lower gear at a stop sign for easier startup.

Pedaling

Although there are different pedal systems available, all Electra bicycles come standard with flat pedals.

Riding with a child

Take these precautions to give young riders the safest, best experience possible.

Towing or carrying a child on your bike

• If you allow a child to ride in a carrier or trailer attached to a bicycle, be extra vigilant to ensure the child’s safety. Make sure your bicycle is suitable for the attachment of a child carrier or trailer. Trailers should use the flag provided.
• Check its attachment or connection to your bike before every ride.
• Keep in mind the maximum allowed load of your bicycle when attaching a child carrier on a rear rack. On e-bikes with a rear rack battery, the maximum load is lower due to the weight of a battery. The maximum allowed load can be found on the rack or rack support bracket. In many cases, it is recommended to mount a child carrier on the seat tube, to unburden the rear rack.

• If you attach a child carrier to the rear of your bicycle, exposed saddle springs could injure a child’s fingers. Cover the springs or use a saddle that does not have springs.
• Never leave a child unattended in a child carrier or trailer. The bicycle could fall over and injure the child.
• Make sure the child wears protective gear, especially an approved, properly fitted helmet.
• Frequently check to be sure a child on a trailer (with pedals) is awake and alert.
• Reduce your speed. Read and follow the instructions that came with your carrier.

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• Frequently check to be sure a child on a trailer (with pedals) is awake and alert.
• Reduce your speed. Read and follow the instructions that came with your carrier.
Accompanying a child riding his/her own bike

- Make sure your child is dressed properly for riding in bright, highly visible clothing.
- Make sure your child is riding the right size bike, and that the seat and handlebar are properly positioned for maximum comfort and control.
- Children are less likely than adults to recognize hazards and may not respond correctly in an emergency situation, so you’ll need to lend your eyes and ears, and judgment to keep them safe.
- Children should not ride near slopes, curbs, stairs, drop-offs, pools, or areas that automobiles use.
- Teach your child the rules of the road and emphasize the importance of obeying them.
- Clearly establish your own riding rules that suit your location, including where, when, and for how long your child can ride.

**WARNING:** Training wheels prevent the regular lean of a bicycle during a turn. If the child turns too quickly, the bicycle can fall and cause injury. With training wheels, do not permit a child to ride fast or turn suddenly.

- Inspect your child’s bicycle before every ride (see section Before every ride).
- Pay extra attention to the grips or handlebar covers on your child’s bicycle. In the event of a crash, an exposed handlebar end presents a puncture hazard.

**WARNING:** A handlebar end that is not plugged or covered can cut the rider in a crash. Parents should regularly inspect a child’s bicycle and replace damaged or missing grips.

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Safeguard your bike
We build our bicycles to last a long time — with a little help from you. Follow these safeguards to keep your bicycle in good shape for the long haul.

Keep it clean
Clean your bicycle with water or mild detergent and a non-abrasive sponge if your bicycle is very dirty. Never spray your bicycle using high pressure, and never spray directly onto bearing points or electrical parts on e-bikes. Never use harsh chemicals or alcohol wipes to clean your bike. See the Five easy fixes section for more details on washing your bicycle.

Part replacement
If you need to replace any bike parts (worn brake pads, for example, or broken parts from an accident), visit your bike shop or go to electrabike.com.

Use only genuine replacement parts. If you use anything other than genuine replacement parts you may compromise the safety, performance, or warranty of your bicycle.

A warning about servicing your bike
Special tools and skills are necessary for the servicing of your bicycle. If a repair or adjustment is not specifically listed in this manual, for your safety only your bike shop should make that repair.
Suggested tools list
Not all these tools are necessary for all bicycles.
• 2, 4, 5, 6, 8mm hex wrenches
• 9, 10, 15mm open-end wrenches
• 15mm box end wrench
• Socket wrench, 14, 15, and 19mm socket
• T25 Torx wrench
• No. 1 Phillips-head screwdriver
• Bicycle inner tube patch-kit, tire pump with gauge, and tire levers
• Torque wrench

Your safety depends on the correct maintenance of your bicycle. If a repair, adjustment, or software update is not specifically listed in this manual, only your bike shop should make that repair.

After any repair or accessory installation, check your bicycle as shown in the Before every ride section.

Parking, storing, and transporting your bike
Prevent theft
Do not park your bicycle unless you secure it to a fixed object with a bike lock that resists bolt cutters and saws. For an e-bike, lock the battery in place and remove the controller, if applicable.

Register your bicycle online (see section Register your bike). Record the serial number in this manual and put the manual in a safe location.

Park or store your bike safely
Park your bicycle where it cannot fall or roll away. Any fall can cause damage to your bicycle or property around you.

Incorrect use of a bicycle parking rack could bend your wheels, damage brake cables, or in the case of e-bikes, damage electric system cables.

Do not rest your bicycle on its derailleurs. The rear derailleur could bend or dirt could get on the drivetrain.

Protect your bike from the elements when possible. Rain, snow, hail, and even direct sunlight can damage your bicycle frame, finish, or parts.

Before you put away your bicycle for an extended time, clean and service it and apply frame polish. Hang your bicycle off the ground with the tires at approximately half the recommended inflation pressure.

Please see the supplemental Electric Bicycle Owner’s Manual for proper battery storage.

Protect your bike’s finish
The finish or paint on your bicycle can be damaged by chemicals (including some sports drinks) or abrasive contact. Dirt can scratch or remove paint (and even frame material) especially where a cable rubs or a strap is placed around a tube. Use adhesive padding to prevent rubbing in critical spots.

Avoid excessive heat
Excessive heat may damage the joints of frame parts. Do not exceed 65°C (150°F) exposure to your bicycle. The interior of a car parked in the sun can reach this temperature.

Use care with car racks, work stands, trailers, and trainers
Clamping devices such as those found on a work stand, car carrier, trainer, or child’s trailer can cause damage to bicycle frames. Follow the instructions for your specific accessory to protect your bicycle from harm. Not all bicycles are compatible with a luggage carrier, bicycle trailer, etc.... If you are not sure, ask your bike shop.
WARNING: Adding a child carrier to your bicycle adds weight and raises the center of gravity, which can make the bike take longer to stop, become hard to control, and be easier to tip over. Do not leave your child unattended in a child carrier. Take extra care when balancing, braking, and cornering with a child carrier. Tipping over or loss of control may lead to severe injury or death to you or your child passenger.

WARNING: Certain bicycle racks are not intended for use with child carriers. If you are unsure, contact your Electra bike shop.

WARNING: Child carrier manufacturers have different mounting systems which may or may not be compatible with certain bicycle racks. If you are unsure, contact the child carrier manufacturer.

WARNING: If you attach a rack that is incompatible, it could come loose or come off unexpectedly, cause the child to come in contact with moving parts or fall, and lead to severe injury or death.

Package your bicycle carefully for shipping
An incorrectly packed bicycle is easily damaged in transit. Always use a hard case or carton that will protect your bicycle when you package it for shipping. Attach foam pads to all the frame and fork tubes, and use a rigid block to protect the fork tips and maintain structural support of the fork blades.

There are also special rules and considerations when shipping an e-bike. If you are not sure of what you’re doing, see the supplemental Electric Bicycle Owner’s Manual at electrabike.com or ask your bike shop to package your bicycle for you.

Maintenance
Technological advances have made bicycles and bicycle parts more complex, and the pace of innovation is increasing. It’s impossible for this manual to provide all the information required to properly repair and/or maintain every bicycle.

To help minimize the chances of an accident and possible injury, it’s critical that you have your bike shop perform any repair or maintenance not specifically described in this manual.

Many variables, from your riding style to geographic location will determine your maintenance requirements. The longer you neglect maintenance, the more it becomes critical. Your bike shop can help you decide your maintenance requirements.

After initial use, new bicycles should be checked. As an example, cables stretch through use, and this can affect the operation of shifting or braking. Approximately two months after you purchase your new bicycle, have your bike shop fully check it. Have your bike shop fully service your bicycle each year even if you did not ride your bicycle much.

Before each ride, perform an inspection as outlined in the Before every ride section.
Inspection
As listed in the Maintenance schedule, perform the following inspections and maintenance when indicated.

Check tightness
Your new bicycle left the shop with bolts and connections properly tightened — but those bolts and connections loosen over time. This is normal. It’s important to check and adjust them to proper torque specifications.

A torque wrench is the only reliable method of determining correct tightness. If you do not have a torque wrench, you cannot properly inspect for tightness and should consult your bike shop.

The torque specification is often written on or near the bolt or part. If a part does not have a specification on it, check the Support section of electrabike.com, or ask your bike shop. It shouldn’t take more than a few minutes to check the following and adjust as necessary to proper torque specs:

- Saddle clamp bolt(s)
- Seatpost clamp bolt
- Stem bolts
- Shift lever attachment bolts
- Brake lever attachment bolts

Know your torque specs
Torque is a measure of the tightness of a screw or bolt.

Too much torque can stretch, deform, or break a bolt (or the part it attaches). Too little torque can allow the part to move and may lead to fatigue and breakage of the bolt (or the attached part).

Handlebar
Check:
- That the handlebar grips are secure (they shouldn’t move or rotate).
- The handlebar tape (if applicable) and replace if it’s loose or worn.
- That any handlebar extensions or bar ends are properly positioned and secure, and that bar caps are secure.

Frame and fork
Examine your frame and fork, especially near junctions, and clamping or attachment areas.

- Brake bolts, front and rear, including any bolt that attaches a cable housing stop

Brakes
Check the brake pads for wear.
- Rim brakes: If the grooves in the brake pad surface are less than 2mm deep (or 1mm deep for direct-pull brakes), replace the brake pads.
- Disc brakes: Replace brake pads that are thinner than 1mm.
- Disc brake rotors: Check the thickness/wear of the rotor. The minimum thickness is often printed on the disc.

WARNING: A handlebar end that is not plugged or covered can cut the rider in a crash. Parents should regularly inspect a child’s bicycle and replace damaged or missing grips.

Wheels and tires
Check the tires for damage or a worn area. As a tire wears thin, it may become more susceptible to puncture.

Look and feel for signs of fatigue: dents, cracks, scratches, deformation, discoloration, unusual noises (e.g. chain slap or brake rub during acceleration). If you find any, contact your bike shop before riding the bicycle.
If a cut goes all the way through the casing, or any casing thread shows through the tread, replace the tire. Your bike shop should fix or replace loose spokes or spokes with damage.

A word about rim wear. Brake pads remove rim material when you apply the brake. If the brakes remove too much material over time, the rim can become weak and break. Aluminum rim wear-indicators:

- A shallow groove around the circumference of the rim (Figure 2.1). If the groove is no longer visible in any spot, replace the rim.
- A dot on the rim – typically near the valve stem. If this indicator is worn such that the dot is no longer visible, replace the rim.

If a hub feels loose or makes a grinding noise, your bearings may need attention. Only your bike shop should adjust bearings.

Derailleurs
Shift gears through all the sprocket combinations to make sure the derailleurs operate correctly and smoothly, and the chain does not come off.

Pedals
Wiggle the pedals to make sure they’re secure on the crank arms. Rotate the pedals on the crank arm. If the pedals don’t rotate smoothly, see your bike shop to adjust your pedal bearings.

If necessary, tighten your pedals. The right pedal is threaded in the usual direction. The left pedal is left-hand threaded. Please see your bike shop to tighten your pedals to the correct torque.

Crank
Gently wiggle the crank arms and turn the crank (chainring) with the rear wheel off the ground.

If the crank feels or sounds loose, or if you hear a grinding noise when you turn the crank, do not ride your bicycle. Your bottom bracket (the bearing system that allows the crank arms to turn in the frame) may need adjustment.

If your inspection shows that your bike needs maintenance, visit the Support section at electrabike.com, or take your bike to your bike shop for service. Only your bike shop should adjust bearings.

Chain
Check the chain for stiff link pins or wear and dirt. Clean and lubricate the chain (see section Five easy fixes).

Accessories
Check all accessories to make sure they’re correctly and securely attached.

Some bikes include accessories, such as a kickstand, or you may have added some of your own. Visit the Support section on our website for further instructions on operation and maintenance, or follow the instructions that came with your accessories.
Cables
Check the cables for problems: kinks, rust, broken strands, or a frayed end. Cables should have an end cap to prevent fraying. Also check the cable-housing for loose wire strands, bent ends, cuts, and worn areas. If there is a problem with a cable or housing, do not ride your bicycle. Unless you feel comfortable adjusting your wire cables, take your bicycle to your bike shop for service.

E-Bikes
Check all wires and connectors for damage. Check the operation of the system. Check the controller docking for damage. Check the operation of all lights and horn (if applicable).

Fenders
When mounting a front fender, you must coat the top mounting bolt threads with fresh Loctite Blue 242 adhesive (or similar) with each installation.

This is for all fork mounting locations: front, rear, or under the fork crown (Figure 2.1.1).

Figure 2.1.1 Front fender mounting bolt locations. L-R: front, rear, under the crown.

Five easy fixes every rider should know

We know not everybody is mechanically inclined … but every rider should master these five basic skills. We cover the highlights below.

1. Check your tires
Properly inflated tires make for an enjoyable ride. Checking your tires for inflation and wear is your first step to improve your bicycle’s performance.

Check your tire pressure
Use a tire gauge, or a pump equipped with a gauge, to check your tire pressure.

Inflate (or deflate) your tires
Use a hand pump to inflate your tires to the air pressure recommended on the sidewall of the tire or to the pressure recommended for the rim, whichever is lower. Make sure your pump is suitable for your valve:

WARNING: When re-installing a fender, make sure you use the bolt(s) supplied with the bicycle or fender assembly. These bolts have specific sizes and locking capabilities. Failure to use these bolts may result in a loose or detached fender contacting the tire causing an abrupt stop.

WARNING: Fender mounting bolts may become loose. To avoid loose top bolts, coat the bolt threads with fresh Loctite Blue 242 adhesive (or similar) with each installation. Failure to use an adhesive on the bolts may result in a loose or detached fender contacting the tire causing an abrupt stop.

Figure 2.2

With a Presta valve, you must loosen the top valve two turns before trying to inflate the tire.

Do not over-inflate your tires. If your tire is over the recommended range, release air and recheck the pressure.
NOTE: It is better to use a hand or foot pump than a service station pump or electric compressor. The latter is more likely to allow for over-inflation, which can cause the tire to blow out.

2. Wash your bike
It just feels better to ride a clean bicycle. Not only does it look good, it will also add to the life of the bike. Constant attention to your bicycle’s details will keep you up to date with maintenance as well.

All you need is a water hose, a bucket, mild soap, a soft brush, and a towel.

Wet your bicycle with the hose, then work with the brush from the top down using plenty of soapy water. Rinse the soap off and wipe it down.

NOTE: High pressure water may damage bicycle parts. Do not clean your bicycle with a high-pressure washer. High pressure water might also seep into electric connectors, motors, controllers or other parts of the electric system.

3. Degrease and lube your chain
Proper lubrication will keep your chain running smoothly and quietly and will prolong the life of your chain. We recommend you clean (degrease) the chain prior to lubrication.

Degrease
It’s a dirty job so leave your dress clothes in the closet. You’ll need a bike-specific degreaser (a biodegradable option is good). There are designated chain-cleaner tools, but you can also use a toothbrush.

Apply the degreaser with a toothbrush or a chain-cleaner tool to the bottom length of the chain and pedal backwards. After degreasing, wash the chain with soapy water and a brush, rinse it clean, and allow to dry.

Perfect lubricant on brake surfaces can cause decreased braking function, and increase the possibility of an accident or injury. Wipe off any lubricant that contacts brake surfaces.

Lubricate
Use a bicycle-specific chain lubricant. Apply lubricant to each link pin as you slowly pedal backwards. Wipe off any excess lubricant.

4. Remove & replace your wheels
WARNING: If you have an e-bike, or your bike is equipped with a hub brake, or if it has an internal gear rear hub, do not attempt to remove the wheel. The removal and re-installation of most hub brakes and internal gear hubs requires special knowledge. Incorrect removal or assembly can result in brake or gear failure, which can cause you to lose control and fall.

WARNING: Do not get lubricant on rim sidewalls or disc brake rotors. Lubricant on brake surfaces can cause decreased braking function, and increase the possibility of an accident or injury. Wipe off any lubricant that contacts brake surfaces.

Figure 2.3: Apply lubricant to the bottom of the chain.

TIP: Apply the lubricant to the bottom length of the chain and hold a rag under the chain. This will keep the lube from dripping on your chainstay (frame) or wheel and make the process less dirty (Figure 2.3).
NOTE: If you have disc brakes, be careful not to press the brake lever after removing the wheel. This may close the brake pads making it difficult for the rotor to go back inside the pads.

Remove the rear wheel
1. Shift down to the smallest gear in the cassette. If you have rim brakes, open the quick release cable mechanism for the rear brake to open the brake arms.
2. Loosen the quick release, nuts, or through axle on the wheel.
3. Grab the derailleur body and push down, then back and release the wheel from the dropouts.
4. Tilt the wheel and remove the chain from the cassette. Set the wheel and your bike down with the gears up.

Replace the rear wheel
1. Standing at the rear of the bike, with the wheel between your knees, grab the rear derailleur with your right hand and pull back and push down making sure the top of the chain drops over the first (or smallest) gear on the cassette. Make sure the wheel axle fits all the way into the frame of the bicycle.
2. Tighten the quick release making sure that it is properly positioned within the dropouts and closed. If the quick release is not closed correctly (in-line with the chain stay), the lever can catch in a disc brake rotor (Figure 2.4).
3. Replace the quick release cable mechanism for the rear brake (rim brakes) and you’re done.

WARNING: A quick-release device not correctly adjusted and closed can move independently and catch in spokes or a brake rotor. In addition, the wheel may become loose or come off, suddenly stop the wheel, decrease your control, and cause you to fall. Make sure the quick release lever is correctly positioned in the dropouts and closed before you ride your bicycle.

5. Remove & replace your tire
These instructions are written for standard tire systems with tubes. For another type of tire, consult your bike shop.

Remove the tire from the wheel
1. Deflate the inner tube and loosen the valve nut (Presta valve).
2. Loosen the tire from the rim.
3. Use your hands or tire levers to remove the tire from one side of the rim. Do not use a sharp object such as a screwdriver to remove the tire.
4. With one side of the tire removed, you can reach in and remove the inner tube.
5. To remove the tire completely use your hands or tire levers to remove the other side of the tire from the rim.
CHAPTER 3

Reference

52 Additional resources
54 Glossary of cycling terms
Additional resources
This basic manual is just the beginning. Here’s some additional information to help support fun bicycling.

How-to videos
Electra has its own YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/ElectraBicycle which has helpful “how to” videos.

World Bicycle Relief
worldbicyclerelief.org
This organization provides specially designed, locally assembled bicycles across rural Africa through sustainable work-to-own and study-to-own programs.

Social Responsibility
PeopleForBikes
peopleforbikes.org
PeopleForBikes aims to make riding better for everyone. By collaborating with millions of individual riders, businesses, community leaders, and elected officials, they unite people to create a powerful, united voice for bicycling and its benefits.

DreamBikes
dream-bikes.org
DreamBikes is a non-profit that hires and trains teens in disadvantaged neighborhoods to fix and sell used bikes.

Trek 100
trek100.org
The Trek 100 is a charity bicycle ride hosted annually at the world headquarters of Trek Bicycle in Waterloo, Wisconsin. Funds raised benefit Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer (MACC Fund).

NICA
nationalmtb.org
The National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) develops mountain biking programs for student athletes, providing guidance and leadership for communities and coaches.

Warranty
Electra Limited Warranty
We’ve Got You Covered
Every Electra bicycle comes with a limited lifetime warranty against manufacturers defects and warrants the replacement of the components of Electra bicycles due to defects in material and/or workmanship. For the full warranty statement, please see electrabike.com/warranty.

First things first
Contact an authorized Electra retailer or distributor to initiate a warranty claim. Proof of purchase is required.
Glossary of cycling terms

**Bead**
Part of the tire that clinches to the wheel’s rim.

**Bar ends**
Perpendicular extensions to the end of straight handlebars for additional hand positions.

**Bike share**
A fun, easy, affordable urban transit system in which users rent bikes for short rides, checking them in and out at docking stations.

**Biomotion or body movement**
Highlighting the movement of your feet and legs with contrasting colors to improve your visibility. Use fluorescent during daylight and reflective at night.

**Cadence**
The rate at which a cyclist pedals (in revolutions per minute).

**Captain**
The rider on a tandem bike steering (shifting, braking) the bike. Also pilot.

**Chain guard**
A housing around your chain.

**Drive side**
Refers to the side of the bike where the chain and related drivetrain components sit.

**Drivetrain**
The system that transfers pedaling power to the wheels. Components include crank, chainring, and chain (or belt), as well as derailiers and a cassette in geared bikes.

**Dropout**
Small notch in the bike frame where the seatstay meets the chainstay. The rear wheel skewer or axle rests in the dropouts.

**Dynamo hub**
A small electrical generator built into the hub of a bicycle wheel usually used to power lights.

**e-bike assist**
An e-bike amplifies your pedal power with a motor and battery. When riding, the electric motor only kicks in when pedaling.

**Fat Bike**
A tough, capable bike built to accommodate extra-wide tires and designed to ride on any kind of terrain you darned well please.

**Frameset**
The bicycle frame plus the front fork.

**High-vis**
Short for high-visibility. High-vis gear and apparel makes riders more likely to be seen.

**Hybrid**
A versatile style of bike that combines traits of road and mountain bikes. Equally suited to city streets and gravel paths, but not intended for rigorous off-road use.

**Pannier**
A bag or similar container attached to the frame, handle bars, or on racks above the wheels of a bicycle.

**Quick Release**
A mechanism for attaching a wheel to a bicycle. It consists of a rod threaded on one end and a lever-operated cam assembly on the other.

**Ride tuned**
Tuned for optimal ride feel.

**Road rash**
Skin abrasions caused from sliding on the asphalt in a crash.

**Single-Speed**
A beautifully simple bicycle: one free-wheel gear, no shifting.

**Steer tube**
The part of the fork that is inserted into the head tube of the frame. Used to attach the fork to the frame using a headset.

**Step-Thru**
A type of bicycle frame with a low or absent top tube or cross-bar (a.k.a. open frame or low-step frame).

**Stoker**
The rider on a tandem bike not steering.

**Tandem**
A bicycle built for two.

**Thru axle**
An alternative to the quick-release skewer. A thru axle slides through holes in closed dropouts. It’s a stronger, stiffer axle, and has long been a standard for mountain bike wheels.

**Wheelie**
Lifting the front wheel of the bicycle in the air while riding on only the back wheel.
### Limited lifetime warranty

For more, go to electrabike.com.

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