

Buying a Used Bike

How to avoid duds and find the bike of your dreams!



Welcome and thanks for being here!

- Land Acknowledgement
- Feel free to introduce yourself in the chat!
- You can keep your video on or off for the presentation
- Ask us questions!! Throw them in the chat whenever you want
 - Q: has anyone bought a used bike before? Is there something you wish you had known beforehand or something you want to share from that experience? Put your thoughts in the chat!

Why buy a used bike?

- Cheaper than buying new 🤪🤪🤪🤪
- More sustainable than buying new
- Keep a well-loved bike running
- New bikes are hard to find right now

What do you want from a bike?



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VS



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Types of bike

Road



Touring







Hybrid



Mountain

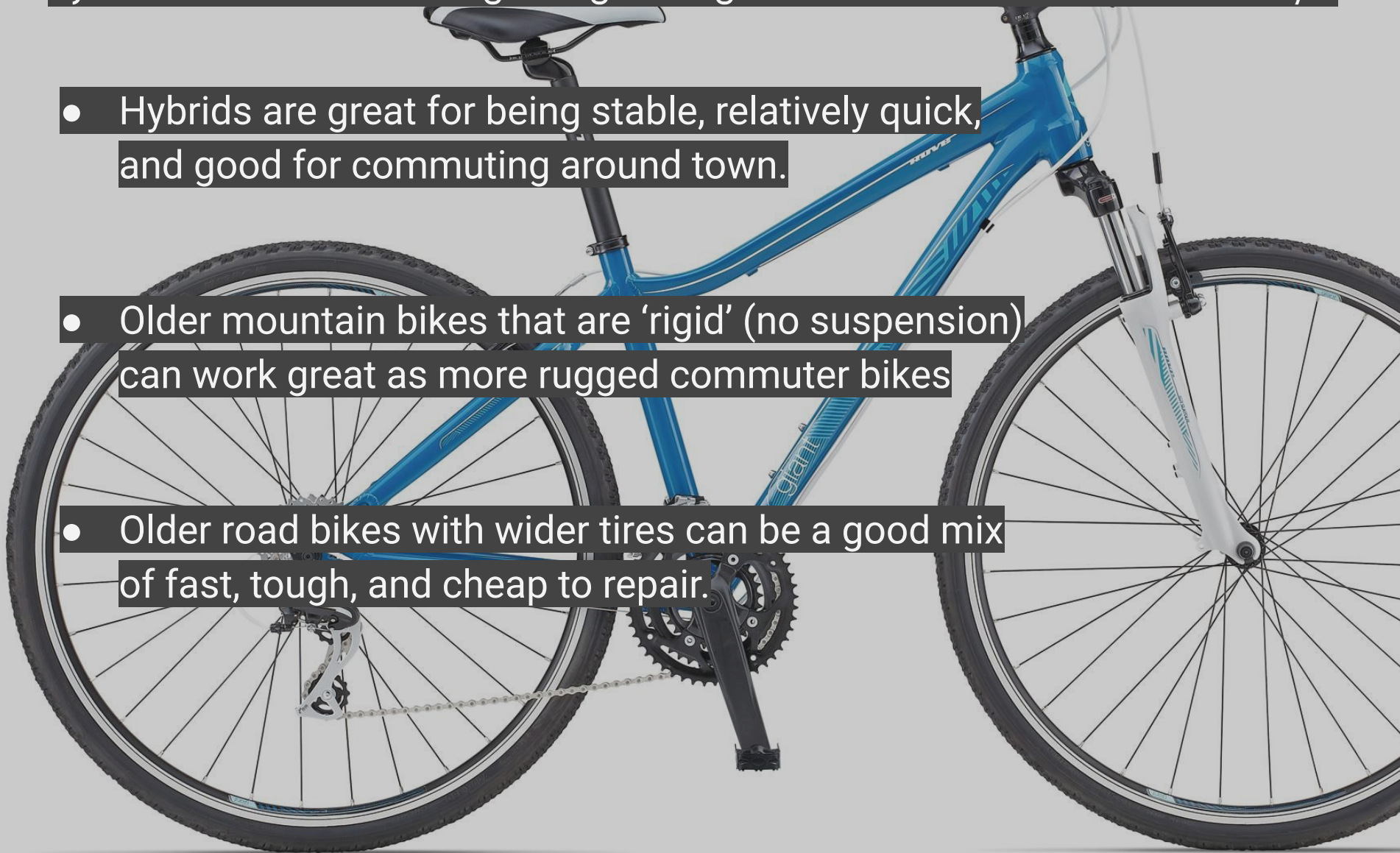


Types of bike

Road	Touring	Mountain	Hybrid
<p>Made for speed, but not heavy loads.</p> <p>Typically fits narrow tires.</p> <p>Generally an aggressive riding position.</p>	<p>Made for riding long distances under heavy loads.</p> <p>Allows wider tires, full fenders, and front & rear racks.</p> <p>Generally a more upright, comfortable riding position.</p>	<p>Made to endure a battering and steep climbs.</p> <p>Often has suspension, which can make a bike feel sluggish and squishy on the road, and massive, knobby tires.</p> <p>Generally more upright, with wide handlebars for leverage.</p>	<p>Made for comfort-oriented urban commuting.</p> <p>Typically has wider tires than road bikes, mountings for fenders and rear racks, and flat handlebars.</p> <p>Generally a more upright riding position, similar to a touring bike.</p>
			

I just want something for getting around town- what do I buy?

- Hybrids are great for being stable, relatively quick, and good for commuting around town.
- Older mountain bikes that are 'rigid' (no suspension) can work great as more rugged commuter bikes
- Older road bikes with wider tires can be a good mix of fast, tough, and cheap to repair.



Sizing your bike - Update

Frame:

- Stand over your bike
- Should be 1" of clearance to the top tube (if the top tube is horizontal)



Seat

- You can change your seat height
- Adjust it so your leg is almost straight (with a slight bend) when at the bottom of your pedal stroke

Sizing your bike - What is bike fit?

- Different bikes fit different bodies
- The longer you ride the more bike fit matters (problems get worse the more they're triggered)
- Bad bike fit can worsen existing pain and injuries

Sizing your bike - Numbers Numbers Numbers

How are bikes sized?

- S/M/L vs 48cm/50cm/...
- But what do these numbers mean for me?

Sizing your bike - Trying the bike

** The bike should feel comfortable **

- You shouldn't feel too stretched or be reaching forward too much
- You also shouldn't feel squished or bunched up on the bike

Thing to look out for

- Having to put the seat all the way up or down

Sizing your bike - Hot tips!

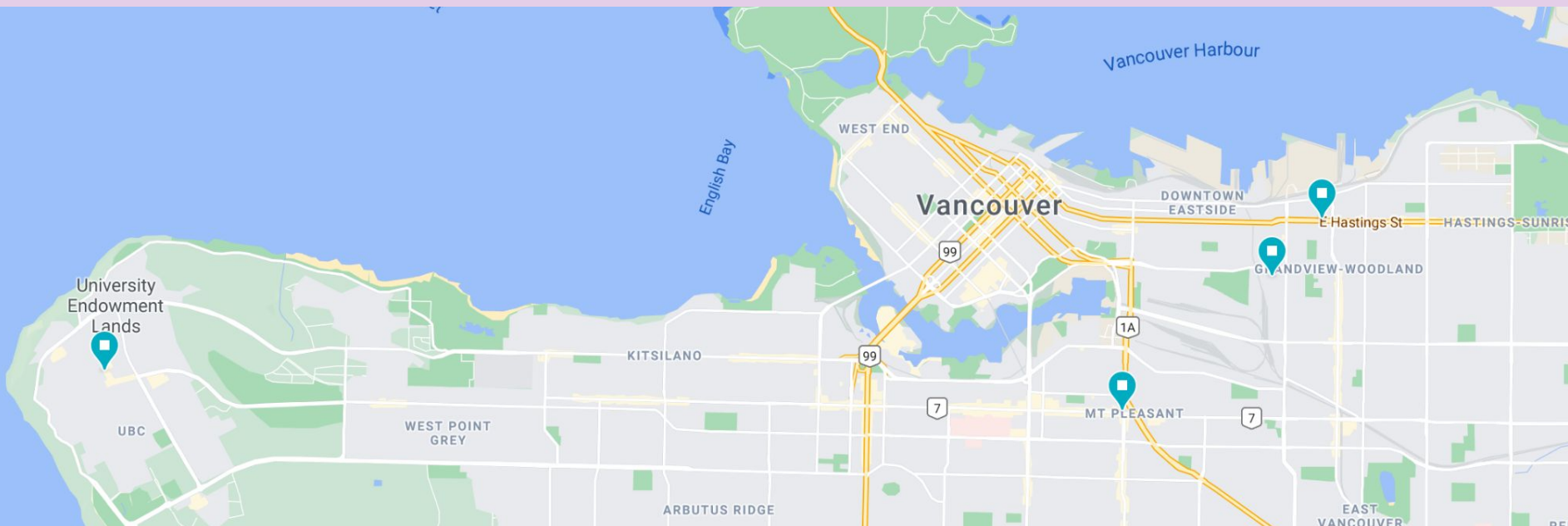
- Try some of your friends bikes and see what feels comfortable
- You may need allen keys to adjust the bike
- If you find a deal that doesn't quite fit know that it is generally easier to make a bike fit bigger than smaller
- Ask the seller how tall they are
- What are womens specific bikes

Where to buy that bike!

Find someone to throw money at

Where to buy a bike: Reputable used bike shops

- The Bike Kitchen (UBC Campus)
- Our Community Bikes (Main/Broadway)
- Kickstand (Commercial/Venables)



Where to buy a bike: Other sources

- Facebook (marketplace and groups), Craigslist, Pinkbike
- Used bike shops
- Friends

Buying the bike

What to look out for

Inspecting a potential purchase

- **Wheels: make sure they spin straight**
- **Tires: check for cracking, worn out rubber, tears**
- **Brakes: shouldn't rub the rim, aren't set up too loosely or too tight**
- **Chain, cranks, gears: a bit of rust is fixable, but watch out for frozen chain links. Make sure the rear derailleur isn't bent!**

Dealbreakers

Some things you can't fix.

- Bent frame
- Cracked Frame
- Heavy rust
- Frozen seatpost
- Bad vibes



Red flags - used department store bikes

- Bikes from places like Canadian Tire, Walmart, and some places online don't tend to last
- Cheap parts and assembly plus regular wear isn't a good combo
- Brands to watch out for: Supercycle, CCM, Diadora, Huffy, Infinity, Nakamura.



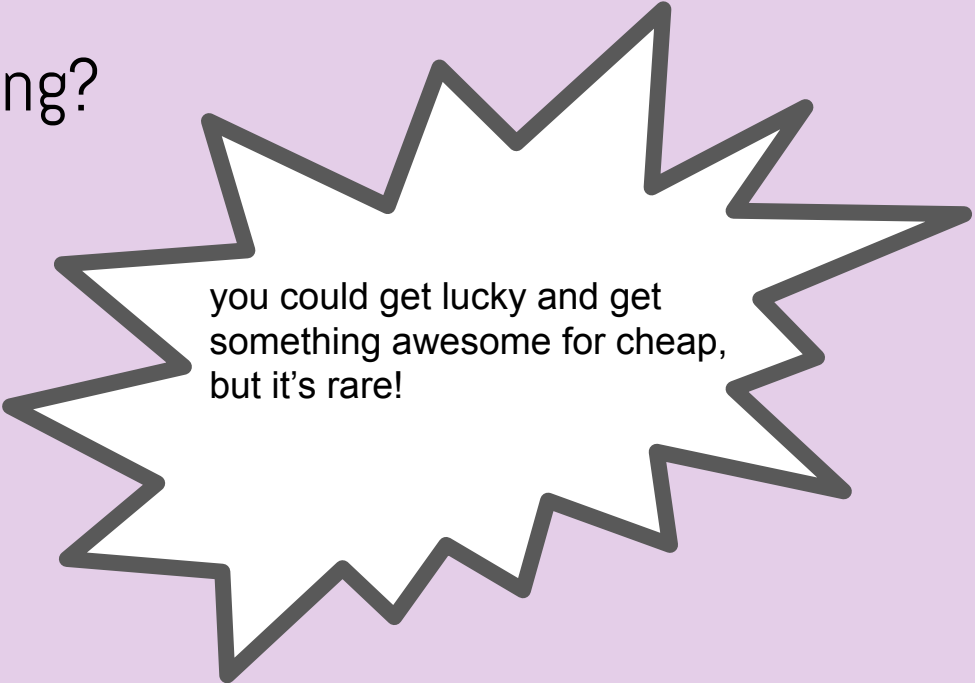
Red flags - low-end vintage bikes

- Have the same problems as department store bikes, plus up to forty years of wear.
- Watch out for steel wheels, they're dangerous in the rain.
- Brands to watch out for: Supercycle, Free Spirit, some Apollos, and a whole lot more.



How much should you be paying?

- > 200\$
 - Older bikes that will need a significant amount of maintenance
- 200-400\$
 - Old rigid mountain bikes
 - Used hybrid bikes
 - Old road bikes that need tuning up
- 400-700\$
 - Vintage road and touring bikes
 - High quality hybrid bikes
 - Older mountain bikes with suspension
 - Low-end newer road bikes
- 700-1000\$
 - High end vintage bikes in great condition
 - Some Road bikes
- >1000\$
 - High end and more specialized bikes



you could get lucky and get something awesome for cheap, but it's rare!

A note on “fancy” parts

- Suspension is expensive
- Road bike integrated shifters can be expensive
- High-end parts mean finding high-end replacements when things wear out

Now you've got a bike!

Congratulations :)

Staple Racks

- These racks are all over the city and the UBC campus, you can use any of them
- Make sure you lock up correctly!!!



How to lock your bike

U-lock and cable



U-lock only



This can happen, do everything you can to avoid it



- Get a good lock
- Lock your bike correctly
- Make sure you're locking to a solid object
- Lock you bike in well lit and well trafficked areas

Bike Cages

- Communal bike storage areas
- Lock your bike inside to one of the racks. An extra layer of security
- Free for UBC students, faculty and staff
- There are bike cages scattered around the lower mainland
 - Translink offers “Bike Parkades” at some skytrain stations



Register online at
bikecoop.ca/bike-cages

Bike Lockers

- An individual locker, just for your bike!
- Several convenient locations on campus
- \$45 key deposit, \$12 a month
- Can be found at transit stations, office buildings etc.

Register online at
bikecoop.ca/lockers



Other things to keep in mind...

City of Vancouver Laws and Bylaws

- CoV has developed some rules to help keep all cyclists safer while on the road.
- Key bylaws:
 - All cyclists must wear a helmet and have a bell
 - Must use both white front light and rear red light between 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise
 - Do not ride next to another cyclist
 - Keep at least one hand on the handlebars
 - Do not wear headphones in both ears
 - Do not ride on the sidewalk, unless otherwise posted by signs

How to keep your ride going

Keep that bike rolling

Safety First!

- Take that bike to a shop for a safety check and look over. This can catch little things and save you a lot of money down the line
- Some things you can tell pretty easily yourself (ex. is the tire flat?) but you can't replace a professional opinion



Adjusting your bike

You can adjust many components on your bike to suit your specifications

- Adjust your stem/bar height to change your riding position
- Having trouble with hills? Some lower gears can help



Upgrades

Take some time and figure out what's bugging you, or what else you'd like to get out of your bike

- You can switch out a saddle for one that's a better fit for your body and riding style.
- Getting bumped around on rough roads? Wider tires can be more comfortable
- Add a panier, basket, or saddle bag for more storage
- Get spoke cards, fun lights, or stickers to give it some style

Thanks for coming!

Feel free to chat, ask questions, ask for resources



Setting Up Your Bike: Tires

Consider:

- Width
- Tread
- Quality



These Bikes can Use Wider Tires Up to 700x40c = More Comfort + Stability ==>>
Thinner = Faster <===> Wider = More Comfort

Setting Up Your Bike: Brakes



Cantilever



Disc (hydraulic or cable)



V-Brake



Road (single-pivot)