

3. SEAT TUBE ANGLE

The thing is, many (and I'd say "most") riders I know use a seat post with set-back and still ram the saddle all the way back and wish it could go back more. Even with a 72-degree seat tube angle.

When that's true, there's no reason to go any steeper.

One degree moves one centimeter over 55cm (this fact comes in handy when you do the top tube, too). And if your saddle height is 89cm, that's a whole 1.5cm back, going from 73 to 72 degrees. Relatively huge.

Short riders often get rooked (can't say "screwed," can't say "gypped" anymore, and maybe rookies will object to "rooked") in the seat tube angle dept....with numbers like 74.5, 75. It's not right, but the makers do it so the top tube has a nice misleadingly short length. Confusing? Sorry, shouldn't have gone on about that. Draw in any seat tube angle you like, but keep in mind that modern front derailleurs don't love the combo of extreme shallow angles--below about 71.5) and tons of drop.

C-thru protractors and long lines make it easy to line up stuff. Most heartily recommended that you do! On both ends, and top and bottom, too. So you should've marked the bb point on a crosshair.

