



Bridgestone RB-1

A large spacer allows the use of a headset with a different stack height if replacement becomes necessary. The SunTour AccuShift GPX shift lever has 3 settings: 7-speed, 6-speed, and friction.

ANOTHER RACING BICYCLE WITH A CHROME-MOLY frame and Japanese components in the \$600-\$700 price range? Gimme a break, you say. Do these bikes pop out of a mold somewhere in the Far East?

At first Bridgestone's RB-1 appears similar to other bikes in this category. But scratch the surface (figuratively speaking, or the dealer will get mad) and you'll find a bike that's different from the rest. In fact, this one rides more like a European road racer.

This is a stiff bike that's better suited to fast riding than leisurely jaunts. The 73-degree head angle and 74-degree seat angle help give it this responsive feel. But the longish 16.25-inch chainstays and 39.5-inch wheelbase keep it from feeling jittery.

The 4.7-pound frame (for our 56-cm test bike) is

built in Japan with Ishiwata EX 4130 chrome-moly. The tubing is triple-butt, meaning the tube walls have 3 different thicknesses to save weight without sacrificing strength. The fork, built with the same steel as the frame, weighs 1.6 pounds. Our test bike totaled 23.6 pounds, about average for the price.

Bridgestone made some unusual choices in designing the RB-1. The stays and fork were shaped to accept wider tires (up to 700x32C) for winter training. Spokes are by Wheelsmith, a nice touch for a bike in this price range. (It comes with Wolber's 478-gram, 20-mm-wide rims, which are light and quick.) Also, a large alloy spacer in the Hatta Vesta steel headset permits the use of a longer steerer tube. This allows the bar and stem to be positioned higher than with conventional headset spacing. There's another benefit—if the original headset wears out, you can replace it with virtually any brand, regardless of stack height.

Instead of the GPX platform pedals that normally come with this group, the RB-1 is equipped with SR SP-200s. These have track-style cages that don't extend past the body, thereby improving

cornering clearance.

Not so unusual—but a good choice nonetheless—was SunTour's new GPX group, including 7-speed index shifting and round chainrings. Shifting was positive and firm across the 13-23T freewheel. In fact, I came to prefer it to other index systems I've tried because the clicks are so pronounced.

The AccuShift lever features 3 settings: UL, for index shifting with SunTour's narrow-spaced Ultra-7 freewheel; F, for friction shifting; and RE (regular), for index shifting with most standard-spaced 5- or 6-speed freewheels. The RE setting is useful when switching to another wheel that does not have an Ultra-7 freewheel. (Use the F setting for 7-speed freewheels other than SunTour.)

The GPX front derailleur shifts quickly, and the lever's large barrel diameter shortens the movement required to shift chainrings. What's more, there's no chain rub, an improvement over previous narrow-cage SunTour road derailleur. Even when climbing hard out of the saddle, I couldn't make the chain scrape the derailleur cage in the 2 rideable gears with the severest chain angles (42x14 and 52x20).

The GPX brakes are solid and dependable—one staffer says they did their job with nary a squeal on the screaming descent from North Carolina's Mt. Mitchell. They feature a small, tightly wound spring inside each caliper arm, an arrangement that SunTour says retains strong spring action longer.

The "Balanced Response System" brake levers, which feature a return spring, operate smoothly. They also have a built-in "reach adjuster" that allows riders with small hands to move the lever closer to the handlebar. (It's done via an allen-key adjustment under the brake hood near the top of the lever body.) The hoods feature right- and left-hand shaping for a better grip. The click-stop quick-release at the caliper allows you to open the arms in case a mishap causes a wobbling rim.

Other features include an Avocet racing saddle and 2 pairs of water bottle cage bosses.

Our test bike had an eye-catching, white-and-black paint scheme. Solid red is also available. But whatever color you choose, you can be sure your bike didn't come out of a mold.

—Scott Martin

See specs on page 100.

BAD DOGS.

Want bad-ass performance? Look no further than the Specialized 3600s. Tough, light and all day comfortable. With a new traction hungry outsole. A thermoplastic insole for the right blend of walking flex and riding stiffness. The 3600s are made to last. When it comes to off-road action, these pups make all the other shoes roll over and play dead.


SPECIALIZED



SPECIFICATIONS

SCHWINN ALUMINUM 564

Distributed by: Schwinn Bicycle Co.
217 N. Jefferson St.
Chicago, IL 60606

Country of Origin: U.S.

Suggested Retail Price: \$570

Sizes Available: 19 to 25 in. (center-to-top) in 2-in. increments, 23 in. tested

Weight: Frame, 4.25 lbs.; fork, 1.6 lbs.; complete bike, 23.3 lbs.

Frame: Paramount Design Group double-butted 5086 H3 aluminum, forged aluminum seatstay yoke and dropouts; Tange Mangalay fork

Wheelbase _____ 39.4 in.; 100.0 cm
Seat tube _____ 23 in.; 58.4 cm
Top tube _____ 21.9 in.; 55.5 cm
Head angle _____ 73 degrees
Seat angle _____ 74 degrees
Chainstays _____ 16.14 in.; 41 cm
Bottom bracket height _____ 10.25 in.; 26 cm
Fork rake _____ 1.75 in.; 4.45 cm
Trail _____ 2.26 in.; 5.74 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Shimano Exage Sport
_____ LX low-flange, quick-release,
_____ 126-mm rear axle spacing
Spokes _____ 32, 14-gauge stainless,
_____ 3-cross
Rims _____ Araya SS45 700x20C clincher,
_____ black anodized
Tires _____ Schwinn Pro Circuit dual
_____ hardness, 700x23C, 115 psi

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ Shimano Exage Sport LX,
_____ rear SIS
Chain _____ Shimano Uniglide, black
Crankset _____ Shimano Exage Sport LX,
_____ 42/52T Biopace chainrings, 170-mm crankarms
Bottom bracket _____ Shimano Sport LX
Freewheel _____ Shimano Exage Sport
_____ LX 7-speed freehub

Components:

Pedals _____ Shimano Exage Sport
Headset _____ Shimano Exage Sport LX
Seatpost _____ SunTour internal expanding
Saddle _____ Selle San Marco Linea
Bar/stem _____ SR Custom anatomic 41-cm
_____ handlebar; SR Custom 10-cm stem
Brakes _____ Shimano Exage Sport SLR,
_____ aero levers

Gear Inches

	42	52
13	x	108
14	81	100
15	76	94
17	67	83
19	60	74
21	54	67
24	47	x

GT TEQUESTRA

Distributed by: GT Bicycles Inc.
15552 Container Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Suggested Retail Price: \$440-\$480

Sizes Available: 16 to 22 in. (center-to-center) in 2-in. increments, 18 in. tested

Weight: Frame, 6.7 lbs.; fork, 2.2 lbs.; complete bike, 32.3 lbs.

Frame: Tange MTB straight-gauge chrome-moly; chrome-moly unicrown fork

Wheelbase _____ 41.9 in.; 106.4 cm
Seat tube _____ 18 in.; 45.7 cm
Top tube _____ 22.5 in.; 57.2 cm
Head angle _____ 70 degrees
Seat angle _____ 74 degrees
Chainstays _____ 16.5 in.; 42.67 cm
Bottom bracket height _____ 11.4 in.; 28.9 cm
Fork rake _____ 1.97 in.; 5 cm
Trail _____ 2.64 in.; 6.71 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Jou Yu sealed,
_____ low-flange, quick-release, black anodized,
_____ 130-mm rear axle spacing
Spokes _____ 36, 14-gauge stainless, 3-cross
Rims _____ Araya RX-7, 26x1.5 in., 520 grams
Tires _____ Ritchey Force, 26x2.0 in.

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ SunTour XCD-6000,
_____ rear index
Chain _____ KMC
Crankset _____ SR XCE
_____ Enhanced OvalTech steel rings,
_____ 175-mm crankarms, YST bottom bracket
Freewheel _____ SunTour Alpha 6-speed

Components:

Brakes _____ Dia-Compe BRS: XCE
_____ cantilever front, 993 seatstay-mounted centerpull
_____ rear, Balanced Response System levers
Pedals _____ HTI with straps and
_____ nylon clips
Headset _____ YST
Seatpost _____ Kalloy one-bolt
Saddle _____ Viscount Gelcel
Bar/stem _____ GT steel bulge bar,
_____ 24-in. width; GT chrome-moly 13-cm stem

Gear Inches

	28	38	48
13	x	76	96
15	49	66	83
18	40	55	69
21	35	47	59
25	29	40	50
30	24	33	x

SHOGUN ALPINE GT

Distributed by: East: North American Cycles
5 Park Dr.
Melville, NY 11747
West: Seattle Bike Supply
7620 S. 192nd St.
Kent, WA 98032

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Suggested Retail Price: \$475

Sizes Available: 18 (with 26-inch front wheel), 20, 22 (tested), 24 (center-to-top)

Weight: Frame, 5.45 lbs.; fork, 1.8 lbs.; complete bike, 28.2 lbs.

Frame: Chrome-moly steel, double-butted

Wheelbase _____ 40.8 in.; 103 cm
Seat tube _____ 22.8 in.; 58 cm
Top tube _____ 22 in.; 56 cm
Head angle _____ 72 degrees
Seat angle _____ 72 degrees
Chainstays _____ 17.1 in.; 43.5 cm
Bottom bracket height _____ 11 in.; 28 cm
Fork rake _____ 2.38 in.; 6.05 cm
Trail _____ 2.09 in.; 5.3 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Suzue, sealed bearing,
_____ low-flange, quick-release, 126-mm
_____ rear axle spacing
Spokes _____ 36 front, 40 rear, 14-gauge
_____ stainless, 3-cross
Rims _____ Araya 27x1 1/4 in., alloy
Tires _____ Cheng Shin 27x1 3/8 in., 65 psi

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ Shimano Exage Trail,
_____ Shimano bar-end shift levers, rear indexing
Chain _____ Shimano Uniglide
Crankset _____ Shimano Mountain LX,
_____ Biopace chainrings, 170-mm crankarms,
_____ Tioga sealed bottom bracket
Freewheel _____ Shimano Z 6-speed

Components:

Brakes _____ Shimano Mountain LX
_____ cantilevers, Exage Sport levers
Pedals _____ Victor 382
Headset _____ Tioga sealed
Seatpost _____ Kalloy, one-bolt
Saddle _____ Vetta Gel
Bar/stem _____ Hsin Lung alloy

Gear Inches

	28	44	50
14	x	85	96
17	46	70	79
20	38	59	68
24	32	50	56
28	27	42	48
32	24	37	x

BRIDGESTONE RB-1

Distributed by: Bridgestone Cycle USA
15003 Wicks Blvd.
San Leandro, CA 94577

Country of Origin: Japan

Suggested Retail Price: \$629-\$660

Sizes Available: 48, 51, 53, 56 (tested), 59, 63,
(center-to-top)

Weight: Frame, 4.7 lbs.; fork, 1.6 lbs.; complete bike, 23.6 lbs.

Frame: Ishiwata EX 4130 triple-butted chrome-moly frame and chrome-moly fork

Wheelbase _____ 39.5 in.; 100.3 cm
Seat tube _____ 22 in.; 56 cm
Top tube _____ 21.9 in.; 55.5 cm
Head angle _____ 73 degrees
Seat angle _____ 74 degrees
Chainstays _____ 16.25 in.; 41.3 cm
Bottom bracket height _____ 10.5 in.; 26.7 cm
Fork rake _____ 1.75 in.; 4.45 cm
Trail _____ 2.26 in.; 5.74 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ SunTour GPX, low-flange,
_____ quick-release, 126-mm rear axle spacing
Spokes _____ 32, 14-gauge, stainless, 3-cross
Rims _____ Wolber GTX 2 dark anodized
Tires _____ Bridgestone 700x25c, 115 psi

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ SunTour GPX,
_____ rear AccuShift, down-tube shift levers
Chain _____ SunTour silver and black
Crankset _____ SunTour GPX, round chainrings,
_____ 170-mm crankarms
Freewheel _____ SunTour Alpha Ultra-7

Components:

Brakes _____ SunTour GPX Balanced
_____ Response System, aero levers

Pedals _____ SR SP-200, Cateye nylon toe clips
 Headset _____ Hatta Vesta, steel
 Seatpost _____ SR Sakae, one-bolt
 Saddle _____ Avocet Racing, leather
 Bar/stem _____ Sakae GT alloy 41-cm bar;
 SR alloy 10-cm stem

Gear Inches

	42	52
13	x	108
14	81	100
15	76	94
16	71	88
18	63	78
20	57	70
23	49	x

GIANT IGUANA

Distributed by: Giant Manufacturing Co.
 17050 Margay Ave.
 Carson, CA 90746

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Suggested Retail Price: \$329-\$349

Sizes Available: 15-21 in. (center-to-center) in 2-in. increments; 19 in. tested

Weight: Frame, 5.6 lbs.; fork, 2.3 lbs.; complete bike, 30.1 lbs.

Frame: Straight-gauge chrome-moly main triangle, high-tensile steel stays, chrome-moly uncrown fork

Wheelbase _____ 42.1 in.; 106.9 cm
 Seat tube _____ 19 in.; 48.3 cm
 Top tube _____ 23 in.; 58.4 cm
 Head angle _____ 71 degrees
 Seat angle _____ 73 degrees
 Chainstays _____ 17 in.; 43.2 cm
 Bottom bracket height _____ 11.75 in.; 29.85 cm
 Fork rake _____ 2 in.; 5.08 cm
 Trail _____ 2.37 in.; 6.02 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Joy Tech, low-flange, quick-release front and rear, 126-mm rear axle spacing
 Spokes _____ 36, 14-gauge, 3-cross
 Rims _____ Araya 26x1.50-in., silver
 Tires _____ Cheng Shin 26x1.95-in.

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ SunTour XCM 3040 AccuShift, rear indexing, thumbshifters
 Chain _____ KMC, silver and black
 Crankset _____ SR Sakae, Enhanced OvalTech chainrings, 175-mm crankarms, steel bottom bracket
 Freewheel _____ SunTour Alpha 6-speed

Components:

Brakes _____ Dia-Compe XCM cantilever, front and rear, XCM Balanced Response System levers
 Pedals _____ HTI resin
 Headset _____ Steel
 Seatpost _____ Steel, post-and-clamp type
 Saddle _____ Vetta
 Bar/stem _____ 22.5-in. steel bar; 10-cm chrome-moly stem

Gear Inches

	28	38	48
14	x	71	89
16	46	62	78
19	38	52	66
22	33	45	57
26	28	38	48
30	24	33	x

MIYATA TRIPLE CROSS

Distributed by: Miyata Bicycle of America, Inc.
 2526 W. Pratt Blvd.
 Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Country of Origin: Japan

Suggested Retail Price: \$450

Sizes Available: 46, 50, 54, 56 (tested), 58, 60, and 63 cm (center-to-top)

Weight: Frame, 5.1 lbs.; fork, 1.7 lbs.; complete bike, 27.3 lbs.

Frame: Miyata splined triple-butted chrome-moly main tubes; high-tensile steel stays, Mangalight fork

Wheelbase _____ 40.1 in.; 101.9 cm
 Seat tube _____ 22 in.; 56 cm
 Top tube _____ 21.9 in.; 55.5 cm
 Head angle _____ 72 degrees
 Seat angle _____ 73 degrees
 Chainstays _____ 17 in.; 43.2 cm
 Bottom bracket height _____ 11.5 in.; 29.2 cm
 Fork rake _____ 1.9 in.; 4.82 cm
 Trail _____ 2.35 in.; 5.96 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Shimano Exage Country, low-flange, quick-release, 126-mm rear axle spacing
 Spokes _____ 36, 14-gauge stainless, 3-cross
 Rims _____ Araya SS 45, silver
 Tires _____ IRC Crosscountry 700x35C, 80 psi

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ Shimano Exage Country, rear SIS, thumbshifters
 Chain _____ Shimano Uniglide, black
 Crankset _____ Shimano Exage Country, steel Biopace chainrings, 170-mm crankarms
 Freewheel _____ Shimano Z 6-speed

Components:

Brakes _____ Shimano Exage Country cantilevers, Exage levers
 Pedals _____ MKS XCE 4050 alloy, nylon clips
 Headset _____ Tange ME-S3, sealed, black
 Seatpost _____ SR SRE 105, 200-mm length
 Saddle _____ Vetta ATB, vinyl
 Bar/stem _____ SR MTB-320 steel bar, 20.5-in. width; SR MTS-P300 10-cm roller stem

Gear Inches

	28	38	48
14	x	73	93
16	47	64	81
18	42	57	72
21	36	49	62
25	30	41	52
30	25	34	x

FUJI ACE

Distributed by: Fuji America
 118 Bauer Dr.
 Oakland, NJ 07436

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Suggested Retail Price: \$360-\$396

Sizes Available: 49, 52, 54, 56, 58 (tested), 61, 64 cm, (center-to-top)

Weight: Frame, 5.3 lbs.; fork, 1.75 lbs.; complete bike, 26.2 lbs.

Frame: Chrome-moly triple-butted, channeled tubes in main triangle, high-tensile steel stays and uncrown fork

Wheelbase _____ 40 in.; 101.6 cm
 Seat tube _____ 22.8 in.; 58 cm
 Top tube _____ 22.4 in.; 57 cm
 Head angle _____ 72 degrees
 Seat angle _____ 73 degrees
 Chainstays _____ 16.3 in.; 41.4 cm
 Bottom bracket height _____ 10.8 in.; 27.4 cm
 Fork rake _____ 1.75 in.; 4.45 cm
 Trail _____ 2.51 in.; 6.38 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ King Kong KK-200, low-flange, quick-release, 126-mm rear axle spacing
 Spokes _____ 14-gauge 3-cross, 32 front, 36 rear
 Rims _____ Araya SS-45 700C, dark-anodized
 Tires _____ SCCR Tri-Max 700x25C, 100 psi

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ SunTour Blaze, rear AccuShift, down-tube levers
 Chain _____ KMC, silver and black

Crankset _____ SR Sakae Edge, OvalTech steel chainrings, steel bottom bracket
 Freewheel _____ SunTour Alpha, 6-speed

Components:

Brakes _____ Dia-Compe 505, spring-loaded aero levers
 Pedals _____ Victor 389
 Headset _____ Hsin Lung, steel, black
 Seatpost _____ SR Sakae, one-bolt, black
 Saddle _____ Avocet racing, vinyl
 Bar/stem _____ SR Sakae Custom 41-cm bar, black; SR 10-cm stem, black

Gear Inches

	42	52
13	x	108
15	76	94
17	67	83
20	57	70
23	49	61
26	44	x

MONGOOSE IBOC SERIES COMP

Distributed by: Service Cycle Bicycle Co.
 1250 Avenida Acaso
 Suite H
 Camarillo, CA 93010

Country of Origin: Taiwan

Suggested Retail Price: \$450-\$485

Sizes Available: 16-22 in. (center-to-center) in 2-in. increments; 18 in. tested

Weight: Frame, 5.9 lbs.; fork, 1.8 lbs.; complete bike, 29.1 lbs.

Frame: Tange 4130 double-butted chrome-moly, TIG-welded, chrome-moly fork

Wheelbase _____ 40.9 in.; 103.8 cm
 Seat tube _____ 18.5 in.; 47 cm
 Top tube _____ 21.5 in.; 54.6 cm
 Head angle _____ 70 degrees
 Seat angle _____ 73 degrees
 Chainstays _____ 16.9 in.; 42.8 cm
 Bottom bracket height _____ 11.5 in.; 29.2 cm
 Fork rake _____ 1.75 in.; 4.45 cm
 Trail _____ 2.90 in.; 7.36 cm

Wheels:

Hubs _____ Shimano Exage Mountain low-flange quick-release, 130-mm rear axle spacing
 Spokes _____ 36, 14-gauge, 3-cross
 Rims _____ Araya Competition CMP-20, 26x1.2 in.
 Tires _____ Mongoose IBOC skinside, 26x1.95 in.

Drivetrain:

Derailleurs _____ Shimano Exage Mountain LX, rear SIS, thumbshifters
 Chain _____ Shimano Uniglide, black
 Crankset _____ Shimano Exage Mountain LX, 28/38/48T Biopace High-Performance chainrings, 175-mm crankarms
 Freewheel _____ Shimano Hyperglide 7-speed freehub

Components:

Brakes _____ Shimano Exage Mountain LX cantilevers, Shimano Linear Response levers
 Pedals _____ Mongoose Mountain, nylon clips
 Headset _____ Tien Hsin sealed, black
 Seatpost _____ Delta alloy 300 mm, one-bolt
 Saddle _____ Mongoose IBOC Gel
 Bar/stem _____ Mongoose chrome-moly 24-in. handlebar, black; Mongoose chrome-moly MTB stem, 12.5 cm, black

Gear Inches

	28	38	48
12	x	82	104
14	52	71	89
16	46	62	78
18	41	55	69
21	35	47	59
24	30	41	52
28	26	35	x