

LoopEride

Care and Maintenance of my New Ride

On your first ride:

- **Breaking in your Brakes:** New disc brakes need to be bedded in a bit for best performance. Otherwise they may end up squealing and have poor braking power. We do this briefly on showroom assembled bikes, but best to also do this yourself, especially if the bike was shipped to you.
 - Hop on your bike somewhere with plenty of room. Pedal up to a moderate speed – 10 mph or so.
 - Sit down in the saddle and apply the brakes evenly, without skidding, until speed drops to a walking pace.
 - Release the brakes while you're still moving.
 - Repeat 10 times. You will feel brake power increasing with each repetition. Be careful not to skid as brake power increases with each repeat.
 - Perform the same set of steps, but increase speed to 15-20 mph.
 - Repeat 5-6 times.

After a few rides:

- **Tighten nuts and bolts:** The main thing to do after 50-100 miles is to go over your bike and tighten all nuts, bolts, and screws. Things rattle around a lot and even though it was all tight when you bought it, they will definitely loosen a little after break in. Don't forget to check your seat bolts for tightness and your pedals, too. You should continue checking these things periodically to avoid problems that occur from loose nuts and bolts. Also check your spokes. If you find any that seem a lot looser than others, you should tighten them to spec if you are comfortable doing that, or take it to us or a local bike shop for service.
- **Clean/lube chain, cassette, and chainring:** You need to be doing this regularly. A quick method for the chain is to take a clean rag and hold it around your chain on the lower part between the pedals and the derailleur. Now backpedal and rub off as much dirt and grime as you can. Now add your lube, trying to get a drop on every link. Now take another clean rag, hold it around the chain, and back pedal to wipe off the excess. Now and then you'll need a deeper cleaning of your chain which can be done best with a chain cleaning tool using a chain degreaser. For the cassette, you can fold a thin rag and rub between the gears to clean it out, rotating as you go, or use a cassette cleaning brush. The chainring on the crank can be wiped down with a rag.
- **Clean your bike:** Keeping your bike clean is important, especially with e-bikes. Dirt and grime buildup, especially on the battery connections and other electrical parts will only lead to problems. You can rinse your bike down with a gentle spray, and soapy water with the power turned off and the battery in place. After a rinse and dry, you should remove the battery and clean around the area where the battery rests. Also look at the battery connections and clean

carefully with a rag, brush, or Q-tip or something non magnetic. Adding some dielectric grease or battery terminal protector occasionally is a good idea, especially in marine environments.

- **Check your tire pressure:** You should keep an eye on your tire pressure regularly. Running tires too low will increase load on your motor, use more battery, and wear out your tires sooner. If you have fat tires, then about 15-20 psi is good for regular use. If you do a snow or beach ride you can let some out for better flotation, just make sure to pump them back up when you're back on pavement or hard trails. If riding in winter on icy or snowy conditions, you can also run a little lower pressure.
- **Battery Care:** Generally speaking you should allow your battery to discharge at least half way before charging. This will help you get the most out of your battery life, since longevity for these is mostly based on the number of charge/discharge cycles. So, if you do a lot of small charges when the battery is only drained a little, you are using up more of your fixed amount of lifetime charges faster than if you do fewer, longer charge cycles. Always charge in a safe location. It is rare, but if there is a problem with the battery it potentially could catch on fire while charging, so it's best to charge on a non combustible surface. When riding in winter, charge your battery before your ride, in room temperature. When you return, let the battery warm back up before charging it. The battery will work in cold weather, but it likes to be warm to charge. If you'll not be using your battery for a while, charge it up and store it inside, above freezing. Don't leave it connected to the charger. Check it every couple months or so to see if it needs charging. Most likely it will not need to be recharged, and as long as it's over 50% it will be fine, just keep an eye on it.

Long term Care:

- **Hub motor cleaning:** After a year or so of riding, you may need to disassemble your hub motor to clean and add some white lithium grease to the little plastic planetary gears inside. The grease will dissipate over time, and your motor may make more noise or struggle with a load. Generally, you need to remove the wheel, remove the cassette (you need a special tool for this part), and then 6 small bolts that hold the hub motor together. This can certainly be done at home. One way to support the wheel to work on it is on top of a round 33 gallon trash can. Put a clean trash bag in first, in case you drop any bolts. When you get the motor apart, just clean it well, then re-apply white lithium grease to the planetary gears and the teeth around the perimeter of the hub. There are many Youtube videos on this, and we should have one up soon also on the LoopEride Youtube channel. If you are not comfortable doing this, you can bring it in to us for service, or find a local shop that will do it.
- **Brake Pad Replacement:** You need to be periodically checking the disc brake pads, and also noticing the sound when you brake. When they are close to worn down, not much pad left on the metal backing plate, or you hear a scraping sound, it is time to replace them. They are held in place with a cotter pin, and are fairly simple to remove. If you have cable disc brakes, you should adjust them all the way out first. You can get pads from us, online, or most bike shops. Clean your rotors well after replacing pads, then do the bedding in process described earlier.
- **Battery replacement:** The battery should last several years with proper care. Eventually it will wear out however, and you will need a replacement. Contact us for the proper replacement for your ride.

This is a general list, and may be updated from time to time. If you have any questions, email or call us, or check our videos on the website or Youtube.

Enjoy your ride!