



E-BIKES

REPLACE YOUR OLD CAR WITH AN ACTIVE AND GREEN
ELECTRIC BICYCLE



What is an e-bike?

An e-bike (electric bike) is a bicycle with a boost. A battery and electric motor take the sweat and effort out of bicycling.



How much are e-bikes?

E-bikes start around \$1,500 in bike shops with lots of models in the \$2,000-\$4,000 range.



How far can I ride?

Batteries typically provide enough power to ride anywhere from 20-80 miles on a charge.

What is an e-bike? An e-bike (electric bike) is a bicycle with a boost. A battery and electric motor take the sweat and effort out of bicycling, making it accessible to people of all ages and physical condition. They can replace a car by making it practical to carry heavy loads, go long distances and climb steep hills. They are extremely energy efficient - equivalent to a car getting over 1,000 MPG- and have only a small fraction of the climate emissions. They are far cheaper to operate than car, using less than a penny a mile of electricity to charge the battery.

How do I operate it? Some e-bikes have a throttle and operate like a moped or motorcycle. Many are pedal-assist bikes which detect when you press on the pedal and instantly provide power to help. Most pedal assisted e-bikes allow you to select the level of support you want from the motor and also let you pedal without using the motor.

How fast do they go & where can I ride it? Most e-bikes provide motor assistance up to a legally mandated limit of 20 MPH. These Class 1 (pedal assisted) & Class 2 (throttle) e-bikes can be ridden on most bike paths and do not require a license to ride. E-bikes that provide motor assistance for going faster than 20 MPH are called Class 3 (pedal assisted), are prohibited on some protected bikeways and off-street paths. Class 3 riders must be at least 16 years old, wear a helmet and may need a license.

How far can I ride? Batteries typically provide enough power to ride anywhere from 20-80 miles on a charge and are recharged in 2-6 hours from a regular home outlet. How far the bike can go on a charge depends on the size of the battery and how much you pedal.

How do I select the right e-bike? There are e-bikes of all types, including commuters, beach cruisers, mountain bikes, trikes, folding bikes and cargo bikes that can carry several children or big loads of cargo. Discuss the type of riding you expect to be doing with your local bike shop. They may recommend that you try bike types with which you are not familiar, but that may better serve your needs than bikes you have experienced in the past. Try to take test rides on a range of different types of bikes and talk to your dealer about sizing to understand what will be most comfortable and effective for the kind of riding you do.

How much does an e-bike cost? Basic new city commuter e-bikes start around \$1,500 in bike shops with lots of models in the \$2,000-\$4,000 range. You can find lower prices online but consider the trade-off of lower price versus having a local dealer to fit you and to support and maintain your purchase. Cargo bikes are about \$3,000-\$5,000. You may also need to buy additional accessories for the bike (locks, lights, baskets, etc.) and a good helmet and bright vest or jacket for the rider.