



CLEAN AIR SLC



E-BIKE BUYER'S GUIDE

E-bikes all have a battery, motor and control system that work together to help a rider move fast, and carry heavy loads more easily. That said, there are a lot of different e-bikes and which one is right for you will depend on your habits, needs and budget.

We've created a guide below to help you know what to look for:

WHAT'S YOUR NEED FOR SPEED?

THREE TYPES OF E-BIKE:

- 1 Pedal assist up to 20 mph
- 2 You are able to ride without pedaling up to 20 mph
- 3 Pedal assist up to 28 mph

NOTE ON PEDAL ASSIST:

Most e-bikes will have at least 3 levels of pedal assistance. Think of it as how much the motor is helping you out. Pedal assist will help you *more* in the highest mode, but it will also drain the e-bikes battery faster.

MOTOR POWER MATTERS: If your e-bike has a more powerful motor you'll be able to ride at higher speed with less effort, but the bike may be heavier.

CONSIDER SUSPENSION: Keep in mind that the faster you go the more you'll feel bumps and cracks in the road. Wider tires run at low pressure and/or front suspension will make riding more comfortable.



VALUES CHECK: How fast do you want to be able to go? Is having a fast or a light weight bike more important to you?

E-BIKE RANGE

- **Range is how far an e-bike can go on a single charge.** Keep in mind that range of a bike can vary depending on a lot of factors like the pedal assist mode and terrain.
- **Estimate how far you'll need to go without charging on your highest mileage day.** Look for e-bikes that can go further than that distance.



Batteries wear out. Range will decrease over time.



Higher torque will also help you ride up hills.



VALUES CHECK: How far do you need to go? Is it important to you to be able to transport a lot on your bike?

CARRYING CAPACITY

Do you want to be able to run errands or carry groceries? Some bikes are built better for carrying loads:

- **Look for rack mounts.** You can load a lot on a bike with a rear rack, a front basket and some bike bags!
- **Ask about motor torque.** E-bike motors usually have a torque of 40-80nM. The higher the torque the better the bike will feel with a load.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

What are the upfront vs. long term costs?

Getting a quality e-bike upfront will often save you money in long term on repair and maintenance costs. Keep in mind, there are financing options available to help.

Will you need to lift your bike or carry it ever?

Most e-bikes are heavy! If you will have to carry your bike up stairs or if you want to use it on UTA bus racks, we recommend getting a model that weighs under 50lbs.

Where will you charge your e-bike?

Some e-bikes have a battery that you can remove and charge. Others have an integrated battery, so you need to have the bike by an outlet to charge.

Are you very tall or short?

Many e-bikes are built to fit riders 5'1"-6'1". If your height is outside of that range make sure to ask at shops about which bikes will fit you.



VALUES CHECK

Take five minutes right now to outline what you are looking for in an e-bike.

Next, we recommend visiting bike shops and test riding at least 3 e-bikes that you're interested in.