Bicycle Chain Maintenance

**CLEANING** Maintaining a clean chain prevents premature wear on your chain and other bicycle components.

1. Regularly clean chain with a degreasing solvent and wipe clean with a folded rag to remove any dirt or grime accumulated.
2. Periodically deep clean chain with a degreasing solvent and a chain cleaning tool, removing as much dirt and grime off as possible.

**Lube** Maintaining a properly lubricated chain prevents rust and excess wear from damaging your chain.

1. Apply chain lubricant after cleaning the chain or when the chain feels dry to the touch.
2. Place the bike in a stand or prop against an object in a way that allows you to freely turn the pedals backward.
3. Following any manufacturer recommendations on the lube label; apply a light and steady amount of lubricant, only to the chain, while turning the pedals backwards. Use a folded rag to wipe off any excess lubricant.

**What Lubricant?**

1. Use only lubricants designed for bicycle chains, these are designed to work ideally under bicycle riding conditions. Do not use WD-40 or grease as a chain lubricant.
2. Lubricants can be grouped into two main categories Dry and Wet. Dry lubricants will become “dry” after application, making them ideal for dry climates such as here in Colorado because they do not attract as much dust. Wet Lubricants stay “wet” after application making them ideal for humid environments like in other parts of the country or in Colorado during the winter months.

For further questions please feel free to visit the Mechanics at The Spoke!
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