

SCOOT[®]

CE

- ① The easy way to learn to ride
- ① Simple transition from walking to freewheeling
- ① Balance and confidence come naturally



SCOOT[®]

Beginner Bike



For every Ridgeback sold, a donation is made to organisations promoting the use of bicycles. Bikes and riding preserve our environment. By making cycling our first choice transport, we can all help to ensure our planet is still a great place to ride in the years to come.

www.ridgeback.co.uk

ridgeback go further

ridgeback go further

Before they ride **Sizing and Fitting**



Guarantee **Limited warranty for bicycles**

All Ridgeback bicycles are warranted to the original retail purchaser to be free from defects in material and workmanship.

Time period

Except for the specific models noted below, warranty coverage on the bicycle frame extends for the life of the bicycle, while owned by the original retail purchaser. Warranty coverage on bicycle components (including non-suspension forks but excluding tires, tubes and cables) extends for one year from date of purchase while owned by the original retail purchaser. Warranty coverage of front suspension forks, rear shocks and some components will be covered by the warranty stated by their original manufacturers.

This warranty does not cover:

- 1 Normal wear and tear.
- 2 Any damage, failure or loss caused by accident, misuse, neglect, abuse, failure to follow instructions or warnings in this owner's manual or manuals supplied with the bike referring to original equipment fitted.
- 3 Any damage, failure or loss caused by use of bicycles for stunt riding, acrobatics or other similar activities, or in any other manner for which they were not designed. Bending of frames, forks, handlebars, seat posts, or wheel rims can be a sign of misuse or abuse.
- 4 Any damage, failure or loss caused by the use of bicycles not intended for such use as, power driven vehicles.
- 5 The original owner shall pay all labour charges connected with the repair or replacement of all parts. Under no circumstances does this limited warranty include the cost of shipment or transportation to or from an authorised Ridgeback dealer or the distributor.

Useful product life cycle

Every Ridgeback bicycle and frame set has a useful life cycle. This useful life cycle is not the same as the warranty period. The warranty identifies the period of time that Ridgeback will replace the product if this becomes necessary. When Ridgeback provides a lifetime warranty, this does not guarantee that the product will last forever. The length of the useful life cycle will vary depending on the type of bike, riding conditions and care the bike receives. Any non-standard use can substantially shorten the useful product life cycle of a Ridgeback bicycle or frame set. All Ridgeback bicycles and frame sets should be annually checked by an authorised Ridgeback stockist for indications of potential failures including cracks, corrosion, dents, deformation, paint peeling and any other indications of potential problems, inappropriate use or abuse. These are important safety checks and very important to help prevent accidents, bodily injury to the rider and shortened useful product life cycle of a Ridgeback bicycle frame set.

Limitations

Proof of purchase from an authorised Ridgeback stockist is required for any limited warranty replacement or repair. The foregoing warranties are in lieu of and exclude all other warranties not expressly set forth herein, whether express or implied by operation of law or otherwise, including but not limited to any warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Ridgeback shall in no event be liable for incidental or consequential losses, damages or expenses in connection with its bicycle products. Ridgeback's liability hereunder is expressly

limited to the replacement of goods not complying with this warranty or, at Ridgeback's election, to the repayment of an amount equal to the purchase price of the product in question. Liability is not limited or excluded for any bodily injury or death caused by the negligence of Madison Cycles or any of its employees.

Procedures

- Warranty service will be performed by Ridgeback or a Ridgeback authorised dealer. Proof of purchase must be provided. Transportation to and from the Ridgeback authorised dealer is the responsibility of the purchaser.
- Ridgeback will have the option of either repair or replacement at no charge for any defective product, or repayment of an amount equal to the purchase price of the product.
- In the event Ridgeback elects to replace a defective frame, a new frame of equal or greater value will be provided. The new frame may not be the exact model purchased. Ridgeback is not responsible for dealer labour charges for component changeovers when a frame is replaced after one year from the date of original retail purchase.
- If you elect to repair a defective product yourself or use the services of someone other than a Ridgeback authorised dealer, Ridgeback will not be liable for any damage, failure or loss caused by the use of such unauthorised service or parts.

Effective July 1, 2007.



Scoot: Baby Pink



Scoot: Silver



Scoot: Lime



Scoot: Electric Blue

SCOOT[®]

The First Steps to Cycling

A Scoot beginner bike encourages the learning of balance on two wheels by allowing a child to ride confidently without the added distraction of pedalling. Children riding a Scoot beginner bike in their early days of cycling learn faster, ride more confidently and are far less likely to experience any 'taking off the stabilizers' wobbles.

The child sits on the saddle with their feet comfortably on the floor. The transition between walking and freewheeling / steering is simple and the balance required to ride a bike is learned quickly. When a child can confidently build up speed, steer to maintain balance or negotiate a corner, often within only a few hours of use, they have learned the balance technique required. From here it is a small step to move onto a bike with pedals, without the need for stabilizers.

The first step is to set the saddle to a height that allows the child to comfortably walk or push themselves along whilst seated.

Before they ride **Sizing and Fitting**



Saddle height and starting to ride

A saddle that is too high or too low will make riding uncomfortable and unstable. Saddle height is adjusted by using a Quick-Release clamp – for safety reasons ensure that you know how to operate this Quick Release lever properly by following the instruction shown in 'Things to check every time they ride – quick releases'.

To find the optimum saddle height, raise or lower the saddle to offer an approximately-correct position that allows the child to be seated sit upright ensuring their feet are flat or almost flat on the floor. If the saddle height is not correct, re-adjust by a half inch / 15 mm or so and try again. The child's feet should not be on extended tip-toes as this will not offer stability required. With the saddle at the correct height, they should be able to walk along and steer whilst seated comfortably.

Walking is the first step. The child will naturally start to push themselves along at a brisk speed that then allows feet-up freewheeling as their confidence grows.



All Scoot beginner bikes are supplied with an additional, longer seat post (270mm) to allow for growing room and a wider fit range. Consult your Ridgeback stockist if you need to swap the seat post as incorrect fitting could cause slippage which is potentially dangerous.

Handlebar Stem

The stem of a Scoot beginner bike is adjustable for height (a) and the shape of the handlebars allows further position adjustment when rotated back or forth in the stem clamp (b). Both of which can easily be adjusted if required using a 6mm allen key. The handlebar should be positioned to allow the child to sit upright in a comfortable and confident position with easy access to the brake lever.



A loose stem or handlebar can cause a serious accident – ensure that any loose bolts are tightened before the bike is ridden by physically checking the bar and stem security. Consult your Ridgeback stockist before riding if there is any doubt that the stem is done up correctly.



Tightening the stem height bolt



Tightening handlebar clamp bolt

Before riding **Things to check every time they ride**



Maximum adjustments



When adjusting the saddle and stem height bike, for safety reasons ensure that maximum height / extension markers (indicated below) are not exceeded.

The Scoot stem (a) and seat post (b) have markers to indicate the maximum height / extension level. Do not exceed these markers – if the marker is visible it means the stem or saddle is too high.



Maximum stem height marker



Seat post maximum height adjustment mark

Pre-Delivery Inspection

Your dealer will have given the bike a thorough Pre-Delivery Inspection so that you can let your child ride right away, safe in the knowledge that everything has been newly adjusted and tightened. Although unnecessary upon collection, we do recommend that a Scoot beginner bike is regularly checked before riding. Mechanical adjustments made in time can also save repairs in the future.

Before riding Things to check every time they ride



Quick Release Levers

Saddle Adjustment



Always double check that quick release levers are done up tightly.



NOTE that a quick release is NOT a nut and bolt mechanism - it is a cam action device. As the lever rotates to a closed position, tension is applied to the clamp band. The amount of clamping force is controlled by the tension adjusting nut. Having undone the cam lever, turning the tension adjusting nut (on the other end of the quick release skewer) clockwise whilst keeping the cam lever from rotating increases the clamping force when the cam lever is closed. Turning it anticlockwise reduces the clamping force. Less than half a turn of the adjusting nut can make the difference between safe and unsafe clamping force – as a guide, if the adjusting nut is finger tight when the lever is half-closed, the tension when fully closed will be correct.



If you are at all unsure about the use of quick release mechanisms, please ask your Ridgeback stockist to show you the correct method. It is simple once the correct method of use is understood.



Failure to use a quick-release lever correctly can result in saddle slippage and loss of stability.



Open Quick-release lever. ONLY if required – loosen / tighten tension adjusting nut



Adjust saddle height



Close lever. Ensure lever requires force to close fully

Before riding Things to check every time they ride



Ridgeback recommends that you always wear a helmet while cycling.

Bars and stem

Check the security of the bars and stem with a sharp pull or twist. If they're loose, tighten them carefully. If you notice the bars moving in relation to the stem, stop using your Scoot beginner bike immediately and tighten them. Riding with a loose handlebar or stem may cause an accident.

Brakes

Give the brakes a quick squeeze before use. It's easy to forget to reconnect brake cables after repairing a flat tyre. Make sure that the brake blocks aren't worn and that they contact the rim properly. If in doubt, ask your Ridgeback stockist for reassurance.

Wheels

Spin the wheels and make sure they're not binding on the brake blocks and that the brake blocks fully clear the tyre at all times. A brake block rubbing on the tyre sidewall will cause a sudden jamming or a blow-out if not corrected. Sometimes this can be fixed by adjusting the brake balance, but any interference between rim, tyre and the brake blocks needs to be fixed by an experienced mechanic.

Tyres

Give your tyres a squeeze to check the pressure (or use a tyre gauge if you have one). For general use, tyres should be pumped up to the pressure written on the sidewalls, around 30-35 psi for the tyres fitted. For use on rougher ground such as a woodland trail or cycle path, a lower pressure of around 25-30 psi may aid control and comfort but increase the risk of punctures if under-inflated. Always be guided by the recommended figures on the tyre sidewall and check them before use.

Helmet and gloves

Although wearing a helmet won't make anyone invincible, it can dramatically reduce damage to your head in event of a fall. Children's helmets are available in a vast array of styles and colours and we recommend that your child wears a helmet when riding any bike – just as you might wear a seat belt while driving. While learning to ride should not be dangerous, tumbles are inevitable and wearing a helmet is good practice as well as a good habit to get into for future cycling years.

Gloves are always a good idea as hands naturally go out to break a fall and mitts or gloves will protect against gravel rash.

How things work **Simple maintenance**



Headset

Although the bearings of a headset don't rotate as frequently as the other bearings on a bike, they are among the most important, as they control the accurate steering of a bike. A loose headset can quickly damage a bike making it harder to control. Check the headset regularly for smooth rotation. To check headset tightness, rock the bike back and forth or raise the front wheel a little then drop it down. If you feel a knocking or looseness, the headset or stem is probably loose. There are two types of headset – a Scoot beginner bike uses a conventional headset, adjusted with headset spanners.

Adjustment of the headset

Conventional headsets have two threaded nuts that tighten and lock the headset bearings. The handlebar stem, which fits inside the fork (and headset) is totally separate component and is not involved in the headset adjustment procedure.

Headset adjustment needs special headset spanners. When set correctly, the headset should remain adjusted for some time and given the relatively high cost of the spanners, you might want to leave this job to your dealer. However if you intend to be fully equipped, it is best to get the Ridgeback stockist to show you the correct way of adjusting the headset when you buy the spanners. The idea is to tighten the lower nut so that the play in the bearings is taken up, but not so tight that the fork will not turn freely. The top locknut is then tightened onto the lower one to keep it in place.

Handlebar Stem

The stem of a Scoot beginner bike is adjustable for height and the shape of the handlebars allows further position adjustment when rotated back or forth in the stem clamp. Both of which can easily be adjusted if required using a 6mm allen key. The handlebar should be positioned to allow the child to sit upright in a comfortable and confident position with easy access to the brake lever.



A loose stem can cause a serious accident – ensure that any looseness here is resolved before the bike is ridden, and consult a Ridgeback stockist before riding if there is any doubt that the stem is done up correctly. A loose headset will cause damage during use however it is not safety-critical.

How things work **Simple maintenance**



V-Brakes

A Scoot beginner bike is equipped with 'direct pull' or 'V' brakes. Small hands cannot provide much braking power but learning to operate a brake is a vital safety skill, and the braking power provided will quickly slow a young rider down.

To disconnect the brakes (to remove a wheel for example), you need to release the curved metal tube (the lead pipe or noodle) from the slotted retainer connected to the brake arm (b). Grab both brake arms with one hand and squeeze the brakes on to the rim. There should now be enough slack in the cable to unhook the lead pipe from its retainer (c) allowing the brake arms to move apart for easy wheel removal - if not, use the barrel adjuster (a) on the brake lever to add a little slack, **but remember to take up this slack at the barrel adjuster before riding.**



A fully functioning and safe braking system is vital to safety – please ensure you read this section and if in doubt consult your local dealer.

The brake pads on V brakes have grooves in them to clear water from the rim. The pads must be replaced before the pad is worn to the bottom of these grooves. Most pads can simply be unbolted and replaced. When unbolting pads to replace them, be sure to keep the many washers and shims in the correct order. Slip these on to the post of the new pad. Hold the pad flat against the rim and tighten up the allen bolt. Double check the pad hits the rim squarely without overlapping the edge of the rim and give the allen key fixing bolt one final turn or partial turn to ensure pad is totally secure.

To reconnect the brake, squeeze the brakes against the rim and hook the lead pipe back into the retainer. Make sure that the lead pipe is correctly located and that the outer cable is properly seated in the brake lever (the outer cable can often 'pop out' of the brake lever during the disconnecting of the cable at the brake arm end of the system).

The brake pads on a Scoor beginner bike will have a far longer lifespan than those used on an adult's bike. As the pads wear, you can take up additional cable slack with the barrel adjuster on the brake lever. Keep an eye on the pads though, make sure they're not too worn and that they still hit the rim squarely. Uneven pad wear may create ridges that can cause the pad to stick or jam against the rim - it only takes a moment to correct it and it may avoid problems later. Use quality brake pads for replacement.

a



Brake cable barrel adjuster (below) and reach adjustment screw (above)

b



Sliding the dust cover away from lead pipe

c



Unhooking the lead pipe from its slotted retainer

How things work **Simple maintenance**



Brake levers

A Scoot beginner bike has a reach-adjustable brake lever suitable for small hands. It can be adjusted to reduce the reach if required. This is done with a small screw indicated below (a). The barrel adjuster is for adding or removing cable tension (moving the pads closer to or further from the rim) to ensure correct operation of the brake.



It is vital that the brake pads come into contact with the rim with some force before the lever travel is stopped by the handlebar grip – try the brake yourself and remember small hands aren't very strong!



Brake cable barrel adjuster (below) and reach adjustment screw (above)

Tyres / Punctures

Always keep the tyres inflated to the correct pressure. Check the tyre periodically for cuts, cracks and embedded thorns and debris. Should you have a puncture out on the trail, the simplest thing to do is to replace it with a spare tube, repairing the punctured tube at home. In all cases, whether trailside or back home, always follow the instructions on the puncture kit and never rush the job. 'Glueless' puncture kits are common these days and the simple to use self-adhesive patches make puncture repairs a much easier job than ever before. If using a conventional repair kit always allow the glue to dry fully before applying the patch.

Free 30-Day Check-up

This is offered on all Ridgeback bikes, and though there is little to check on a Scoot beginner bike, it is advisable to have it checked over after 30 days normal use. Please call to pre-book a time to drop in to your local Ridgeback stockist who will carry out a quick inspection (and adjustments if necessary) to ensure optimum safety and correct set-up.

Your Ridgeback stockist may carry out the inspection whilst you wait if you request this when booking the bike in, however circumstances at your Ridgeback stockist may require you to leave your bike and return later. This check is limited to the original purchaser and is only available from the Ridgeback stockist where the bike was bought. Proof of purchase may be required.

Should any replacement parts be required, your Ridgeback stockist will advise you accordingly. Replacement parts and any additional labour to fit replacement parts will be charged for.



Ridgeback's first check-up service is not an alternative to regular mechanical attention. Please refer to the advice above. Do not attempt maintenance you are unfamiliar with as a poorly maintained or adjusted cycle could cause damage or injury. If in doubt consult an authorised Ridgeback dealer.