

Inside The Pros' Bikes

Ross Schnell's Trek Remedy

Ross Schnell, from Grand Junction, Colorado, is 29 years old and won his first mountain bike national in 2008 (the short-track at Brian Head, Utah). But Ross didn't gain widespread recognition until he raced the 2008 Downieville Classic, putting an end to Mark Weir's seven-race winning streak and dropping the course record by over two minutes.

The bike that he will use for events like the Downieville Classic (in essence, a cross-country downhill or Super D) will be this highly modified Trek Remedy 9.

1. Trek Remedy 9, aluminum frame, extra-large, custom paint.

"You can't understand the Active Braking Pivot (ABP) feature until you ride one. It's a night-and-day difference. The ABP allows the rear suspension to work and be active while descending and braking, instead of stiffening up and losing traction. Along with this, you have the EVO Link and Full-Floater suspension design. This basically stiffens the rear end considerably while giving you that "bottomless" suspension feel. The bike rips, no doubt about that! The number one thing about this bike is that I can enjoy a ride that includes big climbs and big descents. I think most people can really appreciate this—you want one bike that does it all."

2. RockShox Lyrik fork, 6.3 inches of travel, 20-millimeter Maxle thru-axle, with lockout and travel adjust U-Turn.

"The Lyrik Fork is a great balance between something that you can pedal uphill and something you can rip a descent on. It feels at home doing both. With the Maxle thru-axle, the fork feels super stable and laterally stiff at high speed. That's really important to me."



Weight: 31 pounds
Price as equipped: \$6000

3. RockShox Monarch 4.2 high-volume shock.

"It's very adjustable and has a platform for pedaling, so you can lock out the rear end and pedal very efficiently."

4. SRAM X.0 trigger shifters.

"The SRAM X.O components have a great feel. The shifting is super crisp and very precise, due to the 1:1 actuation ratio. They're also extremely lightweight and durable. This means a lot when I'm hours away from civilization and want something that's going to get me home and shift flawlessly every ride."

5. SRAM cassette (11-34).

"It's nice having the 34 in the back. It gives you a little more for going up the steep climbs. My front chainring is pretty big, so it's nice to have that climbing gear."

6. SRAM X.0 short-cage rear derailleur.

7. Avid Elixir brakes, seven-inch front rotor and six-inch rear.

"They're extremely powerful brakes with superior modulation. Definitely the most impressive brakes I've ridden in a long time."

8. Bontrager XXX Lite Carbon Bar.

"The 25.5-inch-wide Race XXX Lite handlebars are just wide enough for me to really handle the bike. I'm also really comfortable with its sweep. For as much and as hard as I've ridden these carbon bars, I've had nothing but a reliable and solid experience!"

9. Truvativ Carbon Noir crankset, 175-millimeter length.



10. MRP G2 chainguide.

"I believe simple is better. My bikes are so simple and easy to maintain when there's one chainring and no shifter/derailleur/cable/housing. Another great benefit to using a single-ring chainguide setup is that the chain is shorter. This amounts to crisper shifting and increased weight savings."

11. Truvativ 38-tooth, non-ramped, front chainring.

"This is all I ride. It works great for most situations."

12. Crankbrothers Acid 3 pedals.

"The Crankbrothers Acid 3's are great all-mountain pedals. They've got a large pedal platform and are light and reliable."

13. Crankbrothers Iodine wheelset.

"This is a light and very stiff wheelset. The rims aren't drilled out, so they're stronger, stiffer, and tubeless without having to utilize any type of rim strip. They feature huge, 25-millimeter, oversized sealed bearings, which translate to greater stiffness and more precision while cornering. One cool feature is that the front hub can be used as a 20-millimeter thru-axle or converted to a standard quick release."

14. Bontrager FR3 2.35-inch tires.

"Continuous surface contact means faster rolling resistance. Corner knobs have plenty of bite, which means more control."

15. Bontrager 80-millimeter Race X Lite stem, seven-degree rise.

"The Bontrager stem is light and simple, which is what a stem should be. It's also white, which is pretty hot!"

16. Fizik Gobi saddle with titanium rails.

"It's light and comfortable."

17. Crankbrothers Joplin seatpost with remote lever.

"This is a must for anyone interested in descending faster with more confidence. I am absolutely sold on this seatpost. Period." □