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The tape that keeps on gripping. 1

fi'zi:k dual tape bar tape

Once again my borderline obsessive compulsive trait has turned toward bar tape. It used to be that I really didn't care what the tape looked like or how it felt. Recently, however, the tape has consumed my every being making me ponder whether my life could have been different had I just chosen the right stuff. While cork tape may be the knee-jerk for most, I am partial to the rubbery, grippy kind. This tape has a feel like no other whether you wear gloves or not. Its foam padding provides excellent comfort and shock absorption. It also conforms and adapts to your paws, is also breathable, washable, doesn't stretch and has enough color options to suit the pickiest of color freaks. **COLORS:** Black/Blue (shown); Black/Grey; White/Blue; White/Red; Black/Red **PRICE:** \$21.50 **CONTACT:** fizik.com



1

Be like the Garmin guys... Kind of. 5

Pearl Izumi replica team jersey

Admit it, you like the Garmin Slipstream Argyle kit. Back when it came out you were cursing it, but now you've turned around. You like it, you really like it! I do. I think it's tasteful and clean and void of any annoying, ridiculous colors that drive me cuckoo. So here's your chance to get a high-quality team jersey for a downright silly price. Features: direct vent side, underarm and back neck panels, three big rear pockets, and a sweat proof rear electronics pocket and cable portal. Choose the traditional team look or the Irish take. The Irish jersey is a race fit, meaning it will be a bit more snug than the traditional fit of the standard team design jersey. The main body is 100% Polyester while the direct vent panels are 100% Polyester, 3D mesh. Check out all the other cool team gear like shirts and caps too! **PRICE:** \$100 **CONTACT:** pearlizumi.com



2

Release the power of the toe. 2

Northwave Aerlite S.B.S.

Not another rant about how I have a shoe fetish and my feet are like that of a caveman. I know you're thinking that. Stop it Skippy. In my opinion, Northwave makes some of the stiffest boots in the business. No matter what you think of Boonen, the kid won a bunch on Northwave. And since he has crazy, mad power, they must have been stiff enough for that dude. They have a gnarly cage for power and a wooden arch support that also aides in the aeration, so your feet don't get too hot. Two Velcro straps and a buckle with an adjustable strap keep you fitted perfectly along with the anatomic foot bed. **COLORS:** White/Silver (shown); White/Red; Red/White/Black **PRICE:** About \$260 **CONTACT:** northwave.com



3

If 202 and 404 had a love child. 6

Zipp 303 carbon tubular wheelset

Sitting right in between the lovely 202's and 404's the 303's incorporate all the style, sophistication and design that Zipp is known for. Behind the good looks is a workhorse that is bullet proof in all elements. The 303 includes Zipp's new 88 front and 188 rear hubs that feature oversize 17mm axles, higher flanges, and adjustable bearing preload. Steel skewers, 18 front and 24 rear Sapim CX-Ray spokes, and Swiss steel bearings more precise than many ceramic upgrades complete the package. Just because they're sexy doesn't mean they are fragile. They are ridiculous strong and stiffer than anything. **SPOKES (F/R):** 18/24 **PRICE:** \$2285 **WEIGHT:** 1182g (pair) **CONTACT:** zipp.com



4



You know you want this stuff. 3

Rapha Classic jersey, arm warmers and bibs

You get what you pay for. I believe it's true in ever situation and certainly with bike clothes. Before you go out and snag that \$10 jersey and weak bibs, consider that you will sit in cheapness and kicking yourself and cursing your judgement the next day. Save a few bucks and buy the Rapha stuff. It's constructed with the serious cyclist in mind meaning it considers everything like a pump pocket, fully lined zip with lockdown puller, a bite grip to zip without losing control of your rig, and a zipped, waterproof valuables pocket. The material is Sportwool (40% Merino/60% Polyester). They come with the arm warmers and you may as well complete the kit with the bibs shorts. Nice! **PRICES:** \$See website **CONTACT:** rapha.cc

A fresh pedal alternative. 7

Xpedo Thrust Ti

The knee-jerk pedal decision always seems to lead us to the companies we are most familiar with in the world of pedal (ohm). While the more notable companies continue to make great product, the smaller fellas are starting to develop stuff that's equally as nasty. The Thrust Ti at just 190g is right up there with all the other light guys. It sits there saying "Look at me, I'm light and interesting too." Aside from the light factor, the Thrust has a nice, large footprint, a magnesium body, three cartridge bearings, and single-sided adjustable release. It does have a 185lb. rider weight limit, so if you're like Neil eating Waffle House every chance he gets, you may want to roll the chromoly version (232g). **PRICE:** \$146 (Ti spindle) **CONTACT:** xpedo.com [R]

Pump in style. 4

Lezyne Classic Floor Drive pump

There are like a bajillion floor pumps out there and most have the cool little gizmo feature like a bottle opener. Seriously? Why? Lezyne makes stuff that is practical, but with a design that is second-to-none. Their stuff is industrial and cool looking and functions just as well. They certainly aren't one of those companies that makes cool looking gear that works like crap. This floor pump looks like it's from the 1950s when things were neat. The Classic has an aluminum foot; steel piston and barrel, a varnished wood handle (yep varnished wood!), a 47inch/120cm extra-long, premium-grade hose, alloy Flip-Thread chuck threads securely to both Presta and Schrader valves, long travel piston with reduced barrel diameter and an oversized 2.5 inch diameter gauge assembly. It pumps great and to 160psi! Throw away your junkie old pump and get this one. **PRICE:** \$60 **CONTACT:** lezyne.com

