

TRIKE TIPS

Did you know? In the UK Speed Limits do not apply to cyclists

Tire Liners - Having used tire liners for the past 9 years, I have been a big supporter of their ability to prevent flats. With the thousands of kilometers I have ridden over rough stuff, on tour & through construction sites, I have only had one puncture. Had I not become so complacent about my trike never giving me a flat, I could have prevented that one too. The constant click, click, click while riding I attributed to a twig caught somewhere in my drive line. Had I been a little more diligent in my examination I would have discovered a sheet metal screw stuck in my tire tread. Due to my carelessness & suffering from a bad case of 'getaroundtoit', that screw still took a week of riding to work its way past the tire liner & into my tube. At a cost of \$10. or less, Tire Liners are still my preferred flat prevention method. That was until I tried to buy them for Fat Tires. A set of 3 x 20 inch Fat Tire Liners seem to be about as valuable as gold. Priced at about \$50. each, I had to find an alternative. Why would 2 inch x 20's cost less than \$10. per tire & 4 inch x 20's cost 5 times that? A trip to my local plastics supply shop gave me an idea. The liners are made out of a dense polyethylene. Checking with a micrometer they came out to 3mm thick which didn't help much since plastic is measured in 'guage.' As the store personnel were not too helpful, I came home to learn what 'Guage' equates to. It turns out that I need 10 -12 guage polyethylene to come close to the thickness of my commercial tire liners. During my hunt for the correct thickness of plastic, I started comparing different off the shelf products to see how close I could come. The first item that I thought might work was vapour barrier but that required me to buy rolls 50 ft. long. Then I checked the Garden Department of Home Depot since similar plastic is used on greenhouses but it was too brittle. Then the light bulb came on - Shower Curtains. You can buy a shower curtain for less than \$20.& it is a soft flexible Polyethylene. Now, if it only has reasonable puncture resistance..... which it didn't. I guess they don't encounter that many screws in the shower. The package the curtain came in was perfect though. At least now I knew it was available, I just had to find where I could find small quantities to use as my Fat Tire liners. I did get close. I found a clear tabletop cover that is supposed to be 10 guage thickness. Taking the diameter of my fat tires at 21.5 inches multiplying by pi gives me the circumference needed for the length of the liners. I was 1/2 inch short. Not to be beaten, I simply added 2 layers of liner with each 1/2 inch gap at opposing ends of the tire. This is simply an experiment to see if it will offer protection from all the blackberry thorns in this area. One weeks riding on the new Fat Trikes without the tire liners & I already had a flat.



Multiply tire diameter by Pi to find your length.



Measure out your 4" wide strips



Carefully cut out your strip lengths



Checking the Liner Puncture resistance



Inserting a test strip



Did you know we are now Authorized Distributors for TerraCycle Products?



2019 Catrike Trail with Power Assist. One of the most popular models from Catrike & showing 400 kms on the odometer so it's barely broken in. Nicely equipped with a 48 volt/750 watt Bafang Mid-Drive, rear rack, fenders, headrest plus more. **\$4500.**

For Sale -



2020 Trident E Trekker - Brand New! \$6500. Straight out of the box so you get a nice discount on a top of the line Trident Fat Trike. Folding model with Rear Suspension, factory 500 watt Power Assist, 15 amp/hr. Battery, Rear Rack, Fenders, Thumb Throttle, BB 7's, Custom Flag, Mirrors & Trident Warranty.

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A but they can be charged with 'Cycling Furiously.'