

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

6 Best Kid Bikes for Every Stage and Size

Buying a bike suited for your child's age and stage can give them the best learning and riding experience.

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Learning to ride a bike is such a fun milestone, but it's one I put off with my first child. In conversations with friends and coworkers, I encountered plenty of other people who never got their preschooler a balance bike, never taught their kindergartner how to ride and who subsequently realized their school kid, age 6 or older, needed a bike — and lessons.

I did better with my second. He started on a balance bike at age 3 and was pedaling by age 5. They are both grown now, and all told, I think I purchased three bikes for him and two for my first. So I learned that, just like with [strollers](#), you rarely get through parenthood buying just one bike.

"Bikes need to be replaced as kids grow," says Steve Finkelstein, founder of [ProfessorPedals.com](#), which offers bike tutors in New York state. "You can trade or share bikes with siblings or neighbors. But remember, if your kid loves biking, gets

exercise through it and therefore spends time away from screens, then buying a new one feels that much better."

The [Good Housekeeping Institute](#) regularly tests and reviews bikes, including ones for kids. After our list we have a robust shopping guide, but if you don't get to it, here's the top advice: Buy the best bike you can afford, and be sure it is your child's current size, so they have a great riding experience.

BEST OVERALL

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\$439 AT AMAZON