

Walking and Bicycling Resources

On-Bike Repair Kit



ESSENTIALS

- Patch kit – contains sandpaper, glue, and patches. You can use a pre-glued patch if you want to save space, but they don't last as long and may need to be replaced.
- Tire levers – these help you get the tire off the rim if you have a flat. You can get them reinforced with steel, but you shouldn't have to pry hard enough to break even the thinner plastic ones.



Patch Kit
www.cactusbike.com

- Pump – the first thing to know is if your bicycle tires have a Schrader or a Presta valve on them. Most hybrids and mountain bikes have Schrader, which is the same as car tire valves. Many pumps can take either, but double-check that it's right for your tires before hauling it around. Pumps come in many sizes and shapes, from the long thin frame pumps to short and stout ones that are easier to pack. Most are difficult to use; they either fill your tire with air quickly but become very difficult to use at higher pressures, or they take forever to fill your tire. Also, not all hand-pumps have a pressure valve, which lets you know how close to full your tires are. One specific pump that stands out is the Topeak Road Morph. It has a hose, so there's less chance of ripping the valve out of the tire; it has a gauge, and most importantly, it has a foot that allows it to be used like a floor pump.



Left: Presta valve, Right: Schrader valve



Bike Pump
www.REI.com

TOOLS

- Allen wrenches – you can get these on any multi-tool, as you will need several sizes. When choosing a tool, try screwing or unscrewing a bolt with it, as some of the smaller, compact tools are quite difficult to use.
- Phillips-head or flathead screwdriver – these may be on your multi-tool, or they may be unnecessary for your bike. Check the bolts for your fenders or rack to see if you need them.



Multi-Tool Kit
www.performancebike.com

- Electrical tape or zip ties – to secure your fender or rack, or anything that may break on a longer trip

EXTRAS

- Transit ticket – for when you don't have time, or the inclination, to fix your flat right away.
- Latex gloves – for keeping your hands clean when fixing flats
- Tire boot – for long trips, or if you know that your tires are on their last legs. Only for emergencies.
- Extra tube – you can pre-coat it in talcum powder and put it in a plastic bag to reduce the risk of pinch-flats.
- Seat-post bag – it can be nice to leave all these tools on your bike. Seat-post bags attach under the seat of your bike and vary in size according to your needs.



Seat-post Bag
www.REI.com