

# Table of Contents



## **1 - Quick Start**

It's easy to use your new bike.

**page 3**

## **2 - Riding Your Bike**

Basic operation of everything except the console.

**page 7**

## **3 - The Display**

Describes each key and data display feature.

**page 17**

## **4 - Manual and Pre-Set Programs**

Details on basic exercise modes.

**page 23**

## **5 - Heart Rate Control**

Foolproof heart rate feedback workouts.

**page 31**

## **6 - Creating an Exercise Plan**

Advice on using your bike in a rewarding exercise program.

**page 39**

## **7 - Care and Maintenance**

Keeping your bike in the best shape.

**page 51**

## **8 - Important Safety Instructions**

Be sure to familiarize yourself with this section.

**page 55**

## **9 - Bike Specifications**

Operational and physical attributes of your bike.

**page 61**





# Quick Start

*In This Chapter:*

*Just Get on and Ride!*

*Starting Up*

*Change Workouts Any Time You Want*

*Pausing Your Workout*

*Change the Data Display*

**CHAPTER 1: Quick Start**

CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike

CHAPTER 3: The Display

CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs

CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control

CHAPTER 6: Designing an Exercise Program

CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance

CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions



CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications



**JUST GET ON AND RIDE!** | The best way to learn to use the Z7 Bike is to keep pressing keys to see what happens — explore it at your own pace.

---

**STARTING UP** |

- ◆ Begin pedaling.
- ◆ The display will wake up and prompt for your weight, workout selection, and workout time.
- ◆ Enter your workout parameters and press , or immediately press  for a quick start into a manual workout.

---

**CHANGE WORKOUTS AT ANY TIME** | At any time during your workout, change workouts by pressing a program key.

---

**PAUSING YOUR WORKOUT** | The bike will retain your workout data for about 15 seconds after you stop pedaling.

---

**CHANGE THE DATA DISPLAY** | Press the Change Display key  to change the workout data display.

---





# Riding Your Bike

*In This Chapter:*

*Getting Comfortable*

*Using Your Heart Rate to Exercise*

*Using the Chest Strap*

*Using Contact Heart Rate*

*Getting the Best Results Possible*

CHAPTER 1: Quick Start

**CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike**

CHAPTER 3: The Display

CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs

CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control

CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan

CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance

CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions

CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications





### SETTING YOUR WEIGHT

Set your weight before every workout. This allows the Z7 Bike to control your workout more effectively.

The body weight setting does not affect the calorie expenditure calculation. Unlike treadmills or other weight-bearing exercises, calories burned during exercise biking does not change with different body weights.

*Variations in human exercise efficiency are another potential source of error, with differences of plus or minus 10% common in the population.*

### SEAT ADJUSTMENT



Adjust the seat so that when your leg is fully extended with your feet in the pedals, your knee is slightly bent.



### UPRIGHT BIKE SEAT ADJUSTMENT

While standing next to the bike, pull out the seat adjust knob and lower the seat to the lowest position. Next, get onto the bike with one leg fully extended in a pedal, supporting most of your weight. Grasp the horn of the seat and pull it up under you to a snug fit, letting the ratcheting mechanism lock the knob and pin in place.

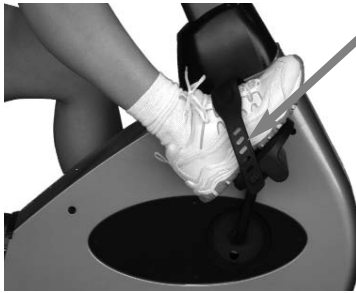
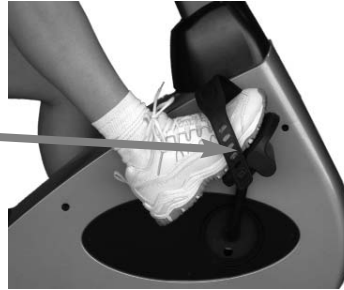


# Riding Efficiently and Comfortably

RIDING YOUR BIKE

## FOOT POSITION

Riders are most efficient if they place the ball of their foot in the center of the pedal.



Other riders are more comfortable if the arch of their foot is against the pedal. Riders are encouraged to be as efficient as possible, but use your own judgement in the comfort/efficiency tradeoff.

Most riders will find a comfort/efficiency sweet spot at a pedal cadence around 80 rpm. More serious riders desiring maximum performance typically pedal at around 100 rpm. For electromechanical and safety reasons, the bike will not provide the fully requested workload when your pedal cadence falls below 55 rpm. It will, however, accurately display the workload it does provide.

## PEDAL CADENCE

Breathe in a regular and relaxed manner. Many exercisers do not breathe enough, which reduces their exercise capacity and comfort. You might want to try breathing deeper and more frequently to see if it helps your exercise regime.

## BREATHING

RIDING YOUR BIKE

## MONITORING YOUR HEART RATE

The Z7 Bike has two ways of monitoring your heart rate:

...By using a chest strap that transmits your heart rate to the bike via radio...



...or by using the metal contact heart rate pads on the handlebars.



Upright HRC Pads



Recumbent HRC Pads

Although your bike functions fine without using the heart rate monitoring feature, this kind of monitoring gives you valuable feedback on your effort level. Chest strap monitoring also allows you to use Heart Rate Control, which is the most advanced exercise control system available.

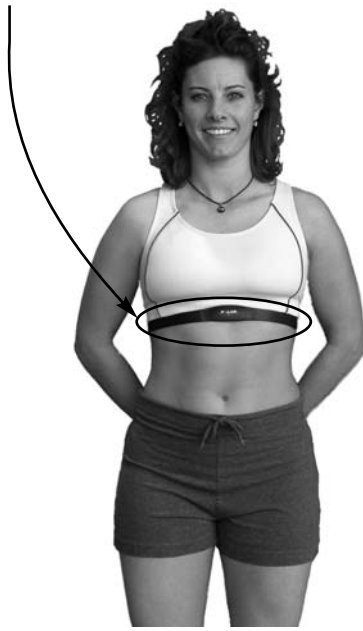
# Using The Chest Strap Monitor

RIDING YOUR BIKE

When you wear a Polar® or compatible transmitter strap, the bike will display your heart rate as a digital beats-per-minute (bpm) readout.

The transmitter strap should be worn directly against your skin, about one inch below the pectoral muscles/breast line (see picture below). Women should be careful to place the transmitter below their bra line.

RIDING YOUR BIKE



**Examples of Heart Rates Found in Daily Life**

*An average 30-year-old might have a resting heart rate, when sitting totally still for several minutes, of **65**. During hard exercise that can be sustained for 10 to 15 minutes it might be around **140** continuously. A maximum heart rate that requires maximal exercise for several minutes to attain is **185**.*

*A 30-year-old in good shape might have a resting heart rate near **55**, and might exercise for 20 minutes at a heart rate of **160**.*

*A world-class distance runner or professional cyclist might have a resting heart rate near **45**.*

CHEST STRAP  
HEART RATE  
MONITORING

Some moisture is necessary between the strap and your skin. Sweat from your exercise works best, but ordinary tap water may be used prior to your workout if desired.

## CONTACT HEART RATE (CHR)

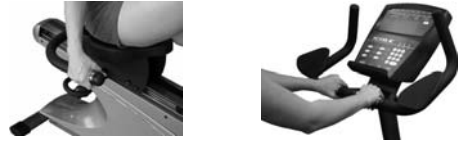
The contact heart rate system lets you monitor your heart rate without wearing a strap.

### *A Note on CHR Accuracy*

*CHR monitoring may be a bit less accurate than a chest strap, since the heart rate signals are much stronger at the chest.*

*About 5% of the population cannot be picked up by any CHR system. This is because their heart is positioned in a more up-and-down manner in their chest, as opposed to leaning over to one side.*

Gently grasp the contact heart rate pads as shown below.



When the system detects your hands, a red heart will appear in the Heart Rate field of the data display and will flash in time with your heart beat. During this time, the system is analyzing and locking in your heart rate. Within about 15 seconds, your digital heart rate in beats per minute (bpm) should be displayed.

# For Best Results

## RIDING YOUR BIKE

### FOR BEST RESULTS:

1. Exercise with smooth body motions. Avoid excessive body motion, especially in your arms and upper body.
2. Breathe smoothly and regularly, and avoid talking. (Talking will cause unrepresentative heart rate spikes of 5 to 10 bpm.)
3. Grip the pads lightly, not tightly.
4. Make sure your hands are clean, free of both dirt and hand lotions.

When using a Heart Rate Control (HRC) workout, it is best to use chest strap monitoring. These workouts work best with the extra accuracy gained from a chest-contact heart rate monitoring system.









# The Display

*In This Chapter:*

*Your Display*

*The Upper Panel*

*The Lower Panel*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display**
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications



### YOUR DISPLAY

The bike display has two jobs: to let you control the bike operation, and to give you feedback about your workout. The controls are simple and designed to be foolproof; it's hard to press a "wrong" key. You can monitor eight different kinds of physiological data, and your workout progress is tracked graphically with the center matrix display



# The Upper Panel

## THE DISPLAY

**Time:** The amount of time remaining in your workout. If you press **CLEAR** RESET, this becomes elapsed time: how long you've been working out so far.\*

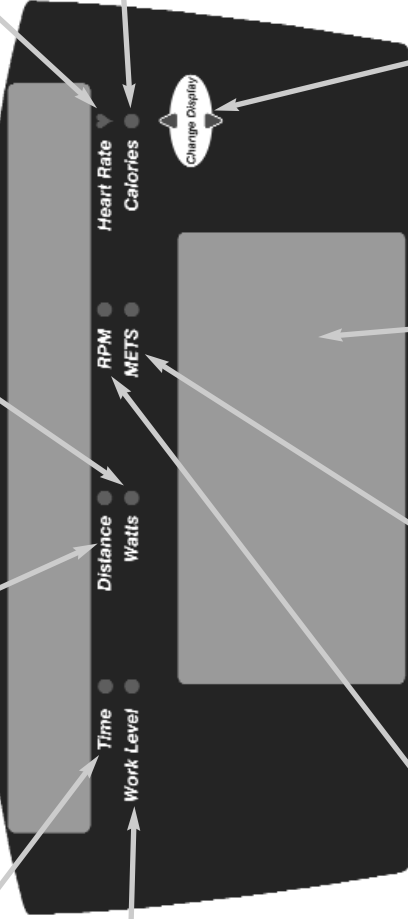
**Distance:** An estimate of how far you would have traveled on an outdoor road bike.\*

**Watts:** The amount of mechanical power the bike is receiving from your exercise. This is not the same as the amount of power your body is using, since the average person is only about 20% efficient at generating mechanical power.\*

**Heart Rate:** In beats per minute (bpm).\*

**Work Level:** The selected workout level.

**Calories:** An estimate of your calories burned. This doesn't include your basal metabolic rate, which is about 72 calories per hour for a 150-pound person.\*

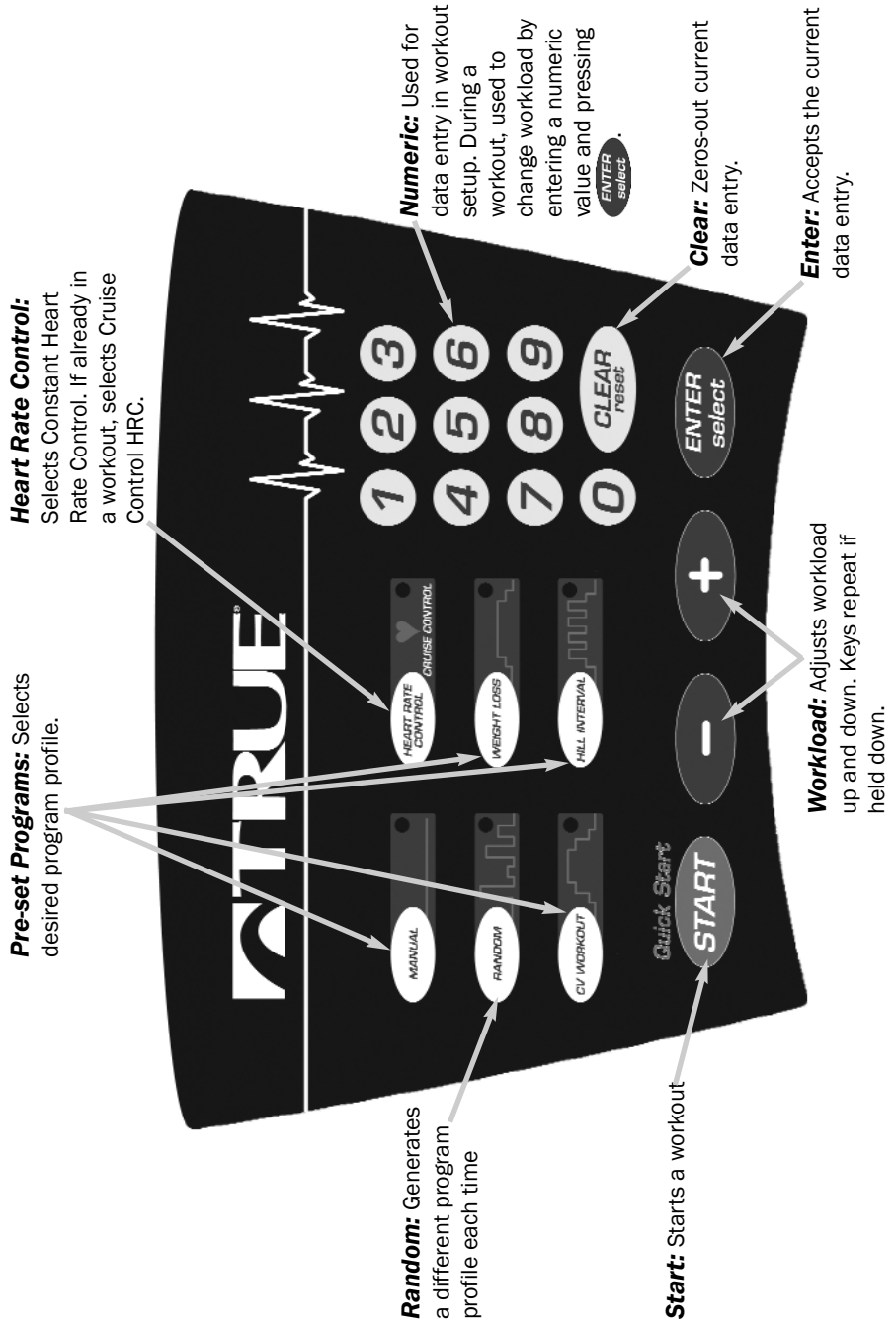


**RPM:** Your pedal cadence. \* **METS:** Your METs rate.\*

\*Pressing the "Change Display" key switches the readout from the top values to the bottom values and will light up the LEDs of the values now being displayed. If you press and hold the "Change Display" key for one second, the display will enter "Scan Mode" and switch between the two sets of values.

**Progress Display:** Shows your progress and workload profile through your workout.

**Change Display:** Changes data readouts from one set of four to the other set. Press and hold for two seconds to automatically have the two sets alternate back and forth every five seconds.\*







# Manual and Pre-Set Programs

*In This Chapter:*

*How These Modes Work*

*Program Profiles*

*How Your Bike Controls Your Workout*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs**
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications





# How These Modes Work

## MANUAL AND PRE-SET PROGRAMS


**MANUAL MODE** Manual control mode changes workload in 10-watt increments. The workload stays the same at any pedal cadence (called constant power control) unless you drop below 55 rpm. Below 55 rpm, workload is reduced along with pedal cadence, to prevent the sensation of the pedals "locking up."

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### PRE-SET PROGRAMS

Three different preset programs are available:

- **C-V Workout**, with the workload gradually rising until you reach the middle of your workout time, then gradually decreasing to the end.
- **Weight Loss**, with a warmup stage increasing to a steady-state workload for the majority of the workout, then a cool-down at the end.
- **Hill Interval**, with four work intervals separated by four rest intervals.

The Random program creates a different program profile each time you press the  key.

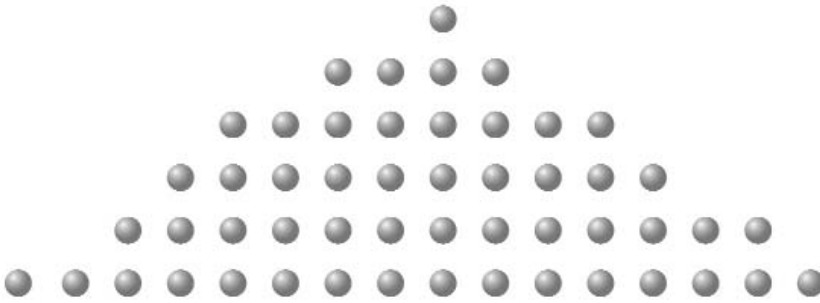
Sixteen different levels are available to change the difficulty of a program. The workload intensities expand and contract depending on the level.

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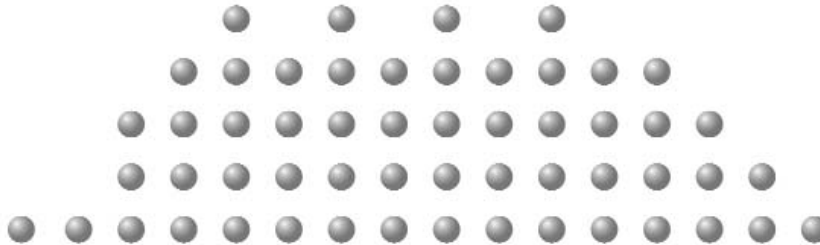
# Program Profiles

MANUAL AND PRE-SET PROGRAMS

PROGRAM  
PROFILES

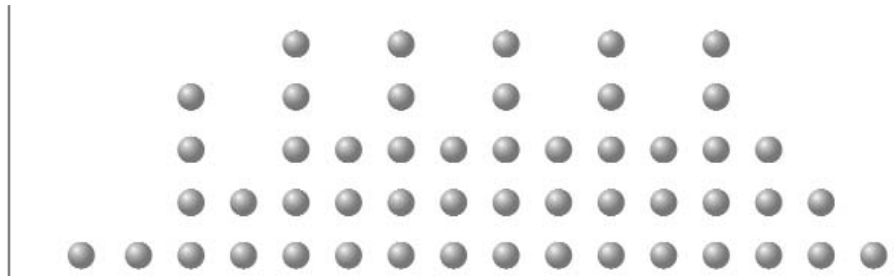


**C-V Workout**



**Weight Loss**

MANUAL AND PRE-SET  
PROGRAMS



**Hill Interval**

# How Your Bike Controls Your Workout

## MANUAL AND PRE-SET PROGRAMS

The Z7 Bike closely controls how hard you're working, so that you get just the workout you're looking for. It does this by keeping track of both how fast you're pedaling and how hard you're pressing on the pedals. At any given level in a workout program, the Z7 Bike will keep your exercise intensity constant, no matter how fast you pedal. Technically, this kind of workload control is called *constant power*.

For comfort reasons, if your pedaling speed goes below 55 rpm, the Z7 Bike reduces the resistance on the pedals, so they won't feel like they are "locking up."

## HOW THE Z7 BIKE CONTROLS YOUR EXERCISE







# Heart Rate Control

*In This Chapter:*

*Constant HRC*

*HRC Options and Information*

*Target Heart Rate Chart*

*Heart Rate Control Programs*

*Important Points About HRC*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control**
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications





### CONSTANT HRC

True's heart rate control (HRC) workout lets the bike monitor your relative exercise intensity by way of your heart rate, then automatically adjust the workload to keep you at your desired exercise intensity.

Your heart rate is a good measure of your body's exercise stress level. It reflects differences in your physical condition, how tired you are, the comfort of the workout environment, even your diet and emotional state. Thus, using heart rate to control workload takes the guesswork out of your workout settings.

Consult your physician before using heart rate controlled workouts for advice on selecting a target heart rate range. Also, it is important to use the bike for several workouts in the manual mode while monitoring your heart rate. Compare your heart rate with how you feel to ensure your safety and comfort.

You need to wear a heart rate monitoring chest strap to use heart rate control. See the "Monitoring Your Heart Rate" section in *Chapter 2* for a guide to proper usage. *Note that it is not recommended that you use the contact heart rate system for heart rate control workouts.*



# HRC Options and Information

## HEART RATE CONTROL

### TYPES OF HRC

The Z7 Bike has two types of heart rate control:

- **Constant:** pick a target heart rate, and the bike will control your workout from the very beginning so that you reach your target within five to seven minutes.
- **Cruise Control:** while in any program, set your current heart rate as your target by pressing a single key.

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Remember to check with your physician before beginning any exercise program. She can help determine an appropriate target heart rate. Medications often affect heart rate.

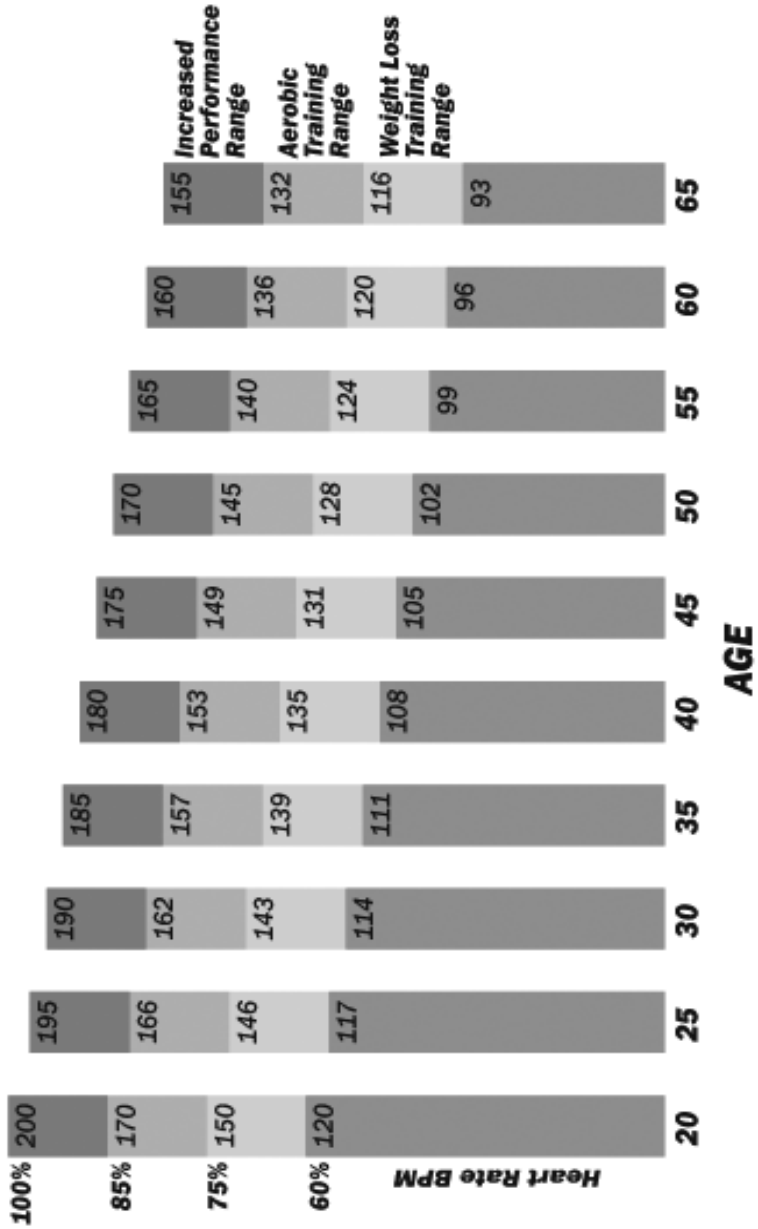
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### MAXIMUM HEART RATE AND TARGET HEART RATE

# Target Heart Rate Chart

HEART RATE CONTROL

## TARGET HEART RATE CHART



# Heart Rate Control Programs

## HEART RATE CONTROL

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Constant HRC is the best-known type of HRC, and is the easiest to use. The bike will gradually raise your heart rate so that you reach your target within five to seven minutes.

Note that as you tire during your workout, especially in the last third, workload will usually have to be reduced to keep you at a steady target heart rate.



---

### CONSTANT HRC

Cruise Control is the simplest way to enter Constant HRC training. While in manual or any program you can enter Constant HRC by simply pressing the Heart Rate Control key. Your current heart rate will be set as the target.

For best results, you should be at least five minutes into your workout and warmed up. This will allow Cruise Control to more accurately control your heart rate.

Remember, you must be wearing a chest strap, and your heart rate should be displayed in the Heart Rate window.

To change your target heart rate press Heart Rate Control. Edit the target using  /  or numeric keys and press

### CRUISE CONTROL



### IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT HEART RATE CONTROL

The heart rate monitor transmitter strap should be worn according to the guidelines in *Chapter 2*.

If the transmitter strap is adjusted or moved while exercising, heart rate monitoring may be temporarily affected.

If communication is lost for 30 seconds, the bike will exit the HRC workout into a manual workout.

The transmitter strap sends a low-level radio signal to the bike, so interference from other radio and sound waves (including everything from cordless telephones to loudspeakers) is possible. The good news is that this interference is usually quite brief. If you continue to have intermittent heart rate display problems, consult your local service technician, as the transmitter strap batteries may be low.

Make sure you breathe smoothly and regularly.

Talking during your workout usually causes heart rate spikes of five beats per minute or more, so avoid talking as much as possible.

Maintain a smooth walking or running motion.

Two users wearing the same kind of transmitter at the same time and in close proximity may cause false heart rate display readings.





# Creating an Exercise Program

*In This Chapter:*

*The F.I.T. Concept Defined*

*Utilizing the F.I.T. Concept*

*Beginning Your F.I.T. Program*

*Establishing and Maintaining Fitness*

*Weight Management*

*A Sports Training Program*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan**
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications





### WHAT IS THE F.I.T. CONCEPT?

The workout portion of your exercise program consists of three major variables: Frequency, Intensity, and Time.

#### **Frequency: How Often You Exercise**

You should exercise three to five times a week to improve your cardiovascular and muscle fitness. Improvements are significantly smaller with less frequent exercise.

#### **Intensity: How Hard You Exercise**

Intensity of exercise is reflected in your heart rate. Exercise must be sufficiently rigorous to strengthen your heart muscle and condition your cardiovascular system. Only your doctor can prescribe the target training heart range appropriate for your particular needs and physical condition.

Start with exercise that stimulates you to breathe more deeply.

Alternate days of moderate and easy exercise to help your body adapt to new levels of exertion without unnecessary strain.

If you are just beginning an exercise program, you may be most comfortable using your bike at low workloads. As you use your bike regularly, higher workloads may be more comfortable and more effective.

If you feel out of breath before you have exercised 12 minutes, you are probably exercising too hard.

As your fitness level improves, you will need to increase your workout intensity in order to reach your target heart rate. The first increase may be necessary after two to four weeks of

# More F.I.T. Concept Overview

## CREATING AN EXERCISE PLAN

regular exercise. Never exceed your target heart rate zone. Increase the workload on the bike to raise your heart rate to the level recommended by your doctor.

### *METs*

One MET is the amount of energy your body uses when you're resting. If a physical activity has an equivalent of six METs, its energy demands are six times that of your resting state. The MET is a useful measurement because it accounts for differences in body weight.

### **Time: How Long You Exercise**

Sustained exercise conditions your heart, lungs, and muscles. The longer you are able to sustain exercise within your target heart range, the greater the aerobic benefits.

To begin, maintain two to three minutes of steady, rhythmic exercise and then check your heart rate.

The initial goal for aerobic training is 12 continuous minutes.

Increase your workout time approximately one or two minutes per week until you are able to maintain 20-30 continuous minutes at your training heart rate.



### USING THE F.I.T. CONCEPT

The F.I.T. concept is designed to help you begin a program tailored to your needs. You may wish to keep an exercise log to monitor your progress.

---

### YOUR FITNESS PROGRAM

You can get valuable fitness benefits from your True Bike. Using the bike regularly may increase the ability of your heart and lungs to supply oxygen and nutrients to exercising muscles over an extended period of time. The bike will also help you develop added muscle endurance and balanced strength throughout your body.

---

### DETERMINING YOUR NEEDS

Calculate your maximum heart rate as a first step in developing your fitness program. One formula to calculate average maximum heart rate for one minute is:

$$220 - \text{Age}$$

To find your pulse, locate a vein on your neck or inside your wrist, then count beats for ten seconds, then multiply by six.

It's also important to know your target training zone or target heart rate. The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) suggests 55% to 65% for lower-conditioned users, 75% to 80% for moderately conditioned users, and up to 90% for well-conditioned users.

---

# Beginning Your F.I.T. Program

## CREATING AN EXERCISE PLAN

In addition to monitoring your heart rate as you exercise, be certain of how quickly your heart rate recovers. If your heart rate is over 120 beats per minute five minutes after exercising, or is higher than normal the morning after exercising, your exertion may be too strenuous for your current level of fitness. Reducing the intensity of your workout is recommended.

The age-adjusted target heart rates indicated in the chart in *Chapter 5* reflect averages. A variety of factors (including medication, emotional state, temperature, and other conditions) can affect the exercise heart rate appropriate for you.

**Warning:** Consult your doctor to establish the exercise intensity (target heart rate zone) appropriate for your age and condition before beginning any exercise program.

---

### Warm-Up: Slow and Deliberate Exercise

You are not warmed up until you begin to perspire lightly and breathe deeper. Warming up prepares your heart and other muscles for more intense exercise and helps you avoid premature exhaustion. Start slowly, exploring different workloads until you can comfortably sustain your exercise level. A good suggestion is a minimum of three minutes. Perspiration on your brow is a good indicator of a thorough warm-up. The older you are, the longer your warm-up period should be.

### **Workout: Brisk and Rhythmic Exercise**

The workout trains and conditions your heart, lungs, and muscles to operate more efficiently. Increase exercise in response to your heart rate to train and strengthen your cardiovascular system. Concentrate on exercising smoothly.

### **Cool-Down: Slow and Relaxed Exercise**

Cooling down relaxes your muscles and gradually lowers your heart rate. Slowly reduce your workload until your heart rate is below 60 percent of your maximum heart rate. The cool down should last at least five minutes, followed by some light stretching to enhance your flexibility.

### **Beginning a Fitness Program**

If you cannot sustain 12 continuous minutes in your target heart rate zone, exercise several times a day to get into the habit of exercising.

Try to reach and maintain 60-65 percent of your maximum heart rate. Alternate exercise with periods of rest until you can sustain 12 continuous minutes of exercise at 60-65 percent of your maximum heart rate.

Begin exercising in three to five minute sessions.

---

# Establishing and Maintaining Fitness

## CREATING AN EXERCISE PLAN

If you can sustain 12 but not 20 continuous minutes of exercise in your target heart rate zone:

Exercise three to five days a week.

Rest at least two days per week.

Try to reach and maintain 60-75 percent of your maximum heart rate with moderate rhythmic exercise.

Begin with 12 continuous minutes. Increase your time by one to two minutes per week until you can sustain 20 continuous minutes.

---

If you can sustain 20 continuous minutes in your target heart rate zone, begin to increase the length and intensity of your workout:

Exercise four to six days a week or on alternate days.

Try to reach and maintain 70-85 percent of your maximum heart rate with moderate to somewhat hard exercise.

Exercise for 20-30 minutes.

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**ESTABLISHING  
AEROBIC  
FITNESS**

**MAINTAINING  
AEROBIC  
FITNESS**

### MANAGING WEIGHT

Consistent aerobic exercise will help you change your body composition by lowering your percentage of body fat. If weight loss is a goal, combine an increase in the length of your workouts with a moderate decrease in caloric intake. For weight control, how long and how often you exercise is more important than how hard you exercise.

Exercise four to five times a week.

Try to reach and maintain 60-75 percent of your maximum heart rate with moderate exercise.

Exercise for 30-45 minutes at 60-65 percent of your target heart rate.

Here are some tips to achieving your weight management goal:

Consume most of your dietary calories at breakfast and lunch, and eat a light dinner. Do not eat close to bedtime.

Exercise before meals. Moderate exercise will help suppress your appetite.

Take exercise breaks throughout the day to help increase metabolism (calorie expenditure).

---

# A Sports Training Program

## CREATING AN EXERCISE PLAN

When you are training to improve strength and performance:

Exercise four to five days a week. Alternate exercise days and intervals of hard to very hard exercise with easy to moderate exercise.

Exercise for 30 minutes or longer.

**Warning:** these strategies are intended for average healthy adults. If you have pain or tightness in your chest, an irregular heartbeat, shortness of breath or if you feel faint or have any discomfort when you exercise, **STOP!** Consult your physician before continuing. Remember, every workout should begin with a warm-up and finish with a cool-down.

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# Care and Maintenance

*In This Chapter:*

*How to Care for Your Bike*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance**
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications



# Keeping Your Bike Clean

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

## HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR BIKE

Your Z7 Bike doesn't require any routine maintenance, not even lubrication. Keeping it clean is the most important task.

**After every workout:** Perspiration should be wiped from the control console, contact heart rate pads, shrouds, and seat.



**Weekly:** Wipe down your Z7 Bike once a week with a water-dampened soft cloth. On the contact heart rate pads, use a glass cleaning solution. Be careful not to get excessive moisture between the edge of the overlay panel and the console, as this might create an electrical hazard or cause the electronics to fail.



Expert service and maintenance at a reasonable cost are available through your factory-trained, authorized True Fitness dealer. The dealer maintains a stock of repair and replacement parts and has the technical knowledge to meet your service needs.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE





# Important Safety Instructions

*In This Chapter:*

*Review for Your Safety*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions**
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications





# Review for Your Safety

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

***When using this exercise bike, basic precautions should always be followed, including the following:***

Read all instructions before using this exercise bike.

Consult your physician before beginning any exercise program.

Do not use if you have an acute cold or fever.

**Warning:** to reduce the risk of burns, fire and electric shock and injury to persons, follow these instructions:

*If the bike is plugged in:*

**Danger:** To reduce the risk of electric shock, always unplug it immediately after use and before cleaning.

Unplug it from the outlet when not in use and before any service is performed.

Keep the power cord away from heated surfaces.

Never operate this exercise bike if it has a damaged power cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it has been damaged or dropped, or if it has been submerged in water. In these cases, the exercise bike should be examined by a qualified service technician.

# Review for Your Safety

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

---

### *Other safety precautions:*

Close supervision is necessary when this exercise bike is being used by or near children, or disabled persons.

Use this exercise bike only for its intended use as described in this manual.

Do not use attachments not recommended by the manufacturer.

Never drop or insert any object into any opening.

Do not allow animals on or near your exercise bike.

Use the exercise bike indoors only.

Never use your exercise bike near water or while wet. Using the exercise bike around a pool, hot tub or sauna will void the warranty.

Do not operate where aerosol (spray) products are being used or where oxygen is being administered.

Allow only trained personnel to service this equipment.

Avoid the possibility of bystanders being struck or caught between moving parts by making sure that they are out of reach of the exercise bike while it is in motion.

Allow only one person at a time on your machine.







# Bike Specifications

*In This Chapter:*

*Physical Specifications*

- CHAPTER 1: Quick Start
- CHAPTER 2: Riding Your Bike
- CHAPTER 3: The Display
- CHAPTER 4: Manual and Pre-Set Programs
- CHAPTER 5: Heart Rate Control
- CHAPTER 6: Creating an Exercise Plan
- CHAPTER 7: Care and Maintenance
- CHAPTER 8: Important Safety Instructions
- CHAPTER 9: Bike Specifications**



## SPECIFICATIONS

**Workload Range:** 30 - 450 watts.

**Weight:**

**Recumbent:** 180 pounds.

**Upright:** 160 pounds.

**Maximum User Weight:** 300 pounds.

**Workload Control System:**

**Z7:** self-generating electromagnetic braking.

**Z5:** electromechanically adjustable eddy current braking.