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Retrospec Dart 20

Retrospec Dart Kids Bike 20-inch User Manual

Model: Dart 20

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Retrospec Dart Kids Bike. This 7-speed hybrid bicycle is designed for young riders aged 6-11, offering a blend of comfort, durability, and performance for various terrains. This manual provides essential information for the safe assembly, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your new bicycle. Please read this manual thoroughly before assembly and first use, and retain it for future reference.



Figure 1.1: Retrospec Dart 20-inch Kids Bike (Blue Tang)

2. Safety Information

Your safety and the safety of others are paramount. Always follow these safety guidelines when riding or maintaining the bicycle.

- **Helmet Use:** Always wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet that meets safety standards (e.g., CPSC certified).
- **Pre-Ride Check:** Before each ride, check tire pressure, brake function, handlebar and seat tightness, and ensure all quick releases and bolts are secure.
- **Traffic Laws:** Obey all local traffic laws, signals, and signs. Ride predictably and signal turns.
- **Visibility:** Use front and rear lights when riding in low-light conditions. Wear bright clothing.
- **Braking:** Practice braking in a safe area. Apply both front and rear brakes smoothly and simultaneously. Avoid sudden, hard braking, especially with the front brake, which can cause loss of control.
- **Riding Conditions:** Avoid riding in adverse weather conditions (heavy rain, snow, ice) or on slippery surfaces.
- **Adult Supervision:** Young riders should always be supervised by an adult, especially when learning to ride or in

new environments.

3. What's in the Box

Carefully unpack all components and check against the list below. If any parts are missing or damaged, contact Retrospec customer support.

- Bicycle Frame with Rear Wheel and Drivetrain
- Front Wheel
- Handlebar Assembly
- Seat Post with Saddle
- Pedals (Left and Right)
- Kickstand
- Reflectors (Front, Rear, Wheel)
- Owner's Manual (this document)
- Assembly Tools (may vary)

4. Setup and Assembly

Assembly typically requires basic tools such as Allen wrenches and a crescent wrench. If you are unsure about any step, seek assistance from a qualified bicycle mechanic.

4.1. Handlebar Installation

1. Loosen the stem bolts on the top of the fork steerer tube.
2. Insert the handlebar stem into the fork steerer tube, ensuring it is aligned straight with the front wheel.
3. Tighten the stem bolts securely. Ensure the handlebars are at a comfortable height and angle for the rider.



Figure 4.1: Handlebar Assembly

4.2. Front Wheel Installation

1. Remove any protective packaging from the front fork and wheel axle.
2. Insert the front wheel into the fork dropouts, ensuring the axle is fully seated.

3. If equipped with V-brakes, ensure the brake pads are clear of the rim.
4. Secure the wheel using the axle nuts or quick-release lever according to the manufacturer's instructions. Ensure it is centered and spins freely.



Figure 4.2: Front Wheel and Fork Detail

4.3. Pedal Installation

Important: Pedals are side-specific. The left pedal is marked 'L' and has a left-hand thread (tightens counter-clockwise). The right pedal is marked 'R' and has a right-hand thread (tightens clockwise).

1. Apply a small amount of grease to the pedal threads.
2. Carefully thread the 'R' pedal into the right crank arm (chainring side) and tighten clockwise with a pedal wrench.
3. Thread the 'L' pedal into the left crank arm and tighten counter-clockwise with a pedal wrench.
4. Ensure both pedals are securely tightened to prevent them from loosening during use.

4.4. Seat Post and Saddle Adjustment

1. Insert the seat post into the frame's seat tube. Ensure the minimum insertion mark on the seat post is not visible above the frame.
2. Adjust the saddle height so the rider can comfortably touch the ground with their toes while seated. For optimal pedaling efficiency, the rider's leg should have a slight bend at the knee when the pedal is at its lowest point.
3. Tighten the seat post quick-release lever or bolt securely.

4.5. Final Checks

- Confirm all bolts and quick releases are tightened.
- Check tire pressure (recommended pressure is usually on the tire sidewall).
- Test brakes for proper function and adjustment.
- Ensure gears shift smoothly through all 7 speeds.

▶ **Watch video online**
Product Overview Video

Video 4.1: Product Overview - Demonstrates key features and adjustments of the Retrospec Dart Kids Bike.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1. Adjusting Seat Height

The adjustable seat height accommodates growing riders. To adjust, open the quick-release lever on the seat post clamp, move the seat to the desired height, and close the lever firmly. Ensure the minimum insertion mark on the seat post remains inside the frame.

5.2. Gear Shifting (7-Speed)

Your Retrospec Dart bike is equipped with a 7-speed Shimano RevoShift system. This allows riders to select different gears to match terrain and effort.

- **To Shift Up (Harder Gear):** Rotate the shifter grip towards you (higher number). This is for flat terrain or downhill riding.
- **To Shift Down (Easier Gear):** Rotate the shifter grip away from you (lower number). This is for climbing hills or starting from a stop.
- Always pedal lightly while shifting to ensure smooth gear changes and prevent damage to the drivetrain.



Figure 5.1: Shimano RevoShift Gear Shifter

5.3. Braking (V-Brakes)

The bike features responsive V-brakes. The right lever typically controls the rear brake, and the left lever controls the front brake. Always use both brakes simultaneously for effective and safe stopping.

- Squeeze both brake levers gently and progressively to slow down or stop.
- Avoid sudden, hard application of the front brake, especially at high speeds, as this can cause the front wheel to lock up and lead to a fall.
- Ensure brake levers are within easy reach of the rider's hands.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your bicycle.

6.1. Daily/Pre-Ride Checks

- **Tires:** Check tire pressure and inspect for cuts or punctures.
- **Brakes:** Ensure brake levers are firm and brake pads make full contact with the rim.
- **Quick Releases/Bolts:** Confirm all quick releases and critical bolts (wheels, handlebars, seat) are tight.
- **Chain:** Check for excessive slack or rust.

6.2. Monthly/Regular Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Wash the bike with mild soap and water, then rinse and dry thoroughly. Avoid high-pressure washers.
- **Chain Lubrication:** Apply bicycle-specific chain lubricant to the chain, then wipe off excess.
- **Brake Pad Wear:** Inspect brake pads for wear. Replace if worn down to the wear indicators.
- **Cable Inspection:** Check brake and shifter cables for fraying or corrosion. Replace if necessary.
- **Bolt Torque:** Periodically check the tightness of all bolts, referring to a bicycle torque guide if available.

7. Troubleshooting

Here are some common issues and their potential solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Brakes feel spongy or weak	Loose cable, worn pads, misaligned pads	Tighten brake cable, replace pads, adjust pad alignment
Gears not shifting smoothly	Derailleur out of adjustment, dirty chain, bent hanger	Adjust derailleur, clean and lubricate chain, inspect hanger
Tire goes flat quickly	Puncture, leaky valve stem, low pressure	Inspect tire and tube for punctures, replace tube, check valve, inflate to correct pressure
Creaking noise when pedaling	Loose pedals, bottom bracket, or chainring bolts	Tighten pedals, check bottom bracket and chainring bolts

For issues not listed or if you are unsure how to perform a repair, consult a professional bicycle mechanic.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Bike Type	Kids Hybrid Bike
Model Name	Dart 20
Age Range (Recommended)	6-11 years (Big Kid)
Wheel Size	20 inches
Number of Speeds	7-Speed
Frame Material	Carbon Steel
Suspension Type	Front
Brake Style	Cantilever (V-Brakes)
Gear Shifter Type	Trigger (Shimano RevoShift)
Minimum User Height	42 inches
Maximum Weight Recommendation	150 pounds
Item Weight	25.9 pounds
Included Components	Kickstand

9. Warranty and Support

The Retrospec Dart Kids Bike comes with a Limited Warranty. Please refer to the warranty documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Retrospec website for full details regarding coverage, terms, and conditions.

For technical support, parts, or warranty claims, please contact Retrospec customer service through their official website or the contact information provided with your purchase. When contacting support, please have your model

name (Dart 20) and purchase information ready.

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