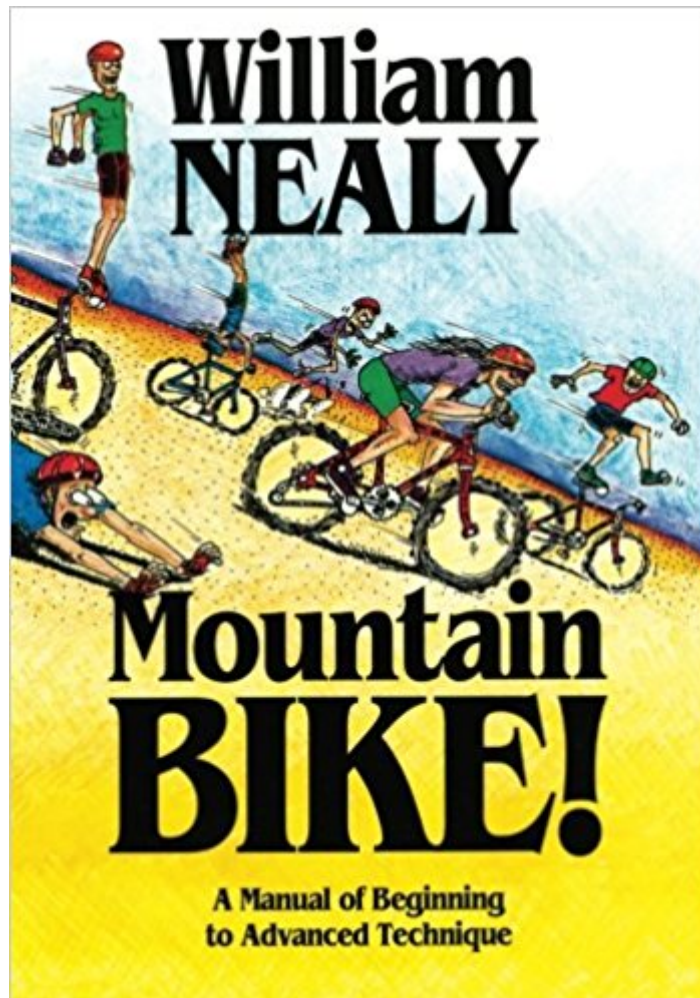




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Mountain Bike!: A Manual Of Beginning To Advanced Technique



Synopsis

If you're looking for the ultimate mountain bike guide for the totally honed, welcome to William (Not Bill) Nealy's world. Nealy's expertise (acquired through years of crash and burn) enables him to translate hard-learned reflexes and instinctive responses into easy-to-understand drawings: drawings that will make you a much better rider. Nealy's cartoon illustrations combine insight with humor and knowledge with humiliation. So, if you are ready to shorten the learning curve and master the advanced techniques of mountain biking, get ready to have some laughs and log a few miles with William Nealy.

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Customer Reviews

At first glance, you may think that Nealy isn't serious about teaching riding skills. The hand-printed pages--colored with hilarious animations--give the guide a comic-book appearance. But instead of assaulting his readers with dry chapters on technique, Nealy leads his readers on an entertaining tour of the mountain-biking world and how to survive it. He explains how to bunny hop, how to downhill, how to ride powerfully, and how to crash with style. He also includes a "Stupid Bike Tricks" section. One trick, The Invisible Mountain Biker, explains how to jump off of your bike and let it glide, unmanned, across the path of frightened hikers. Note that Nealy advises against heaving your bike into a crowd of hikers. Existing laws prohibit it. Whether you're a pro who's ready to soar through flaming hoops, or the neophyte who's merely searching for the pedals, Nealy's guide is bound to be fun--and isn't that what mountain biking is all about? --Ben Tiffany

If you're looking for the ultimate mountain bike guide for the totally honed, welcome to William (Not Bill) Nealy's world. Nealy's expertise (acquired through years of crash-and-burn) enables him to translate hard-learned reflexes and instinctive responses into easy-to-understand drawings: drawings that will make you into a much better rider. Nealy's cartoon illustrations combine insight with humor and knowledge with humiliation. So, if you are ready to shorten the learning curve and master the advanced techniques of mountain biking, get ready to have some laughs and log a few miles with William Nealy. (7 x 10, 176 pages, illustrated)

I haven't been mountain biking yet, but I like this book. Referencing issues addressed by other reviewers. It is somewhat dated. I could tell from looking at the helmets in the pictures and the author talking about his worst crash among other smaller references. I was not put off by the text and the fact it's a cartoon makes it really easy, quick read. Although, I have no way of knowing whether the advanced techniques are outdated, I wanted an introduction. I think the basic concepts are explained pretty well and I am not the quickest study. I also appreciated his suggestions for practicing falls, suggested dismounts, and learning in your own backyard. I think the use of humor brings the sport alive, and appreciate the look into the "culture" of the sport. I am a pretty ambitious skier so I can relate to it for the most part. I mean, if you're going to do something dangerous, you want to feel like you are going to have fun and fit in with the other "fun hogs" on mountain. I thought this book was funny, and it made me want to give this sport a try. In my opinion, some of the more "technical manuals" lack this quality. As with any book about sports, you can't develop the motor skills from the book (although I seriously wish such a skiing text existed). It just gives you some idea of what you will be doing on the mountain. I was actually thinking of writing the author to tell him how much I enjoyed the book, but unfortunately he has been dead for more than a decade, which is probably why there has been no update. The copy I received was from the 13th printing, and I feel that says something about this book, despite the fact it lacks new information. Obviously, it should be supplemented with another book or voracious reading of internet posts related to mountain biking, but for being the most entertaining sports manual I have ever read, - 5 stars.

Heavy on cute cartoons, digressions and light on facts. I got more out of 5 pages of Ned Overend's Mountain Bike Like a Champion than I did in reading 40 pages of this book. Waste of time and annoying that there's so much fluff and so little facts.

This is a fun beginners mtb book. Advanced guys aren't going to get much out of it. This more

oriented on telling you what not to do. A lot of examples from the authors experience mtb and his injuries. Here's a clue from my experience. Don't try catch yourself with your leg when you are going down. You'll get a nasty break and be out of action for six months.

If you don't have this book nor have read any of William Nealy's other books and like cartoon drawings and good stories about how to and how not to do then this book is a good read..I have his Kayaking books and added this one just because.. the information is practical and is jam packed with just about everything..

I would have looked at the publishing date and dismissed this book entirely (and unfairly). I have not ridden single track in over ten years, and mostly got by on general good shape back then. This book is a godsend. 90% of the information and tips inside are timeless. No, it doesn't go into the advances in gear since it was written, but the basic fundamentals are spot on perfect. Do not let the publishing date turn you off, if you are trying to go beyond just rails to trails and into a bit more off road, this is a great resource. It may not be the only book you need, but it is a great starting point.

Great book for teaching all fundamentals of mt biking. I would give this book 5 stars but the only problem its all cartoons and I am not much a fan for illustrated cartoon graphics. But otherwise the information that William presents is invaluable and I would recommend this to any beginner or novice mt biker to learn about the sport and enhance their mt biking skills.

This is the perfect book when you want to learn how to ride better, but not in the traditional, bland manner. Filled with witty phrases that make for interesting and funny reading, the author has found an interesting way to communicate while keeping the reader enthused.

Enjoyably funny read.

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